In ranking hazards for priority of risk management, following criteria should be considered:

1. From the point of view of ensuring the safety of food (risk-base)

1.1. Toxicity of the hazard of concern

- H: Tolerable intake (such as TDI/TWI/TMI) or other relevant toxicological endpoint (hereafter abbreviated as tolerable intake) shows high toxicity (i.e., small value) and irreversible adverse health effect(s) has(have) been identified
- M: Tolerable intake shows medium toxicity (i.e., medium value) value and irreversible adverse health effect(s) has(have) been identified;

 Tolerable intake shows high toxicity (small value) but adverse health effects are

reversible; or

Insufficient information available at the time of ranking.

L: Tolerable intake shows low toxicity (large value); or Tolerable intake shows medium toxicity (medium value) but adverse health effects are reversible

1.2. Occurrence of the hazard of concern in foods (including agricultural produce)

- H: Found in multiple groups of food at high concentrations Found in many groups of food at medium concentrations
- M: Found in multiple groups of food at medium concentrations Found only in one group of food at high concentrations Found in many groups of food at low concentrations Insufficient information at the time of ranking
- L: Found in a small number of groups of food at low concentrations Found only in one group of food at medium concentrations

1.3. Estimated exposure to the hazard

Exposure assessment conducted in Japan or estimation of exposure from the information on occurrence and toxicity

- H: High dietary exposure (e.g., ≥10% of tolerable intake)
- M: Medium dietary exposure (e.g., ≥1% and <10% of tolerable intake); or Insufficient data at the time of ranking
- L: Low dietary exposure (e.g., <1% of tolerable intake)

2. Concerns of stakeholders

Concerns expressed by stakeholders (including the general public) during risk communication

H: Very concerned

M: Concerned

L: Little concerned

3. International activities

- Development of a code of practice or maximum levels by the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods
- Risk assessment by the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) and/or other international scientific meetings
- Risk management in other countries
 - H: Codex or other international organization has made a certain risk management/assessment decision or currently is considering certain action
 - M: Some countries or region has made a certain risk management/assessment decision
 - L: No action by Codex, other international organizations or countries.