CONTENTS

Abbreviations used in the text v

Foreword vii

Preface ix

Acknowledgements x

Contributors xi

1. INTRODUCTION 1

1.1 Background 1

1.2 Hazard characterization in context 2

1.3 Purpose of the guidelines 3

1.4 Scope 4

2. THE PROCESS OF HAZARD CHARACTERIZATION 5

2.1 Context 5

2.2 Principles 6

3. PROCESS INITIATION 7

4. DATA COLLECTION AND EVALUATION 9

4.1 Human studies 9

4.1.1 Outbreak investigations 9

4.1.2 Surveillance and annual health statistics 12

4.1.3 Volunteer feeding studies 13

4.1.4 Biomarkers 14

4.1.5 Intervention studies 15

4.2 Animal studies 16

4.3 *In vitro* studies 17

4.4 Expert elicitation 18

4.5 Data evaluation 18

5. DESCRIPTIVE CHARACTERIZATION 21

5.1 Information related to the disease process 21

5.2 Information related to the pathogen 24

5.3 Information related to the host 24

5.4 Information related to the matrix 25

5.5 Dose-response relationship 26

6. DOSE-RESPONSE MODELLING 27
6.1 The infectious disease process 27
6.1.1 Exposure 28
6.1.2 Infection 29
6.1.3 Illness 29
6.1.4 Sequelae and mortality 30
6.2 Modelling concepts 30
6.2.1 Threshold vs non-threshold mechanisms 31
6.2.2 Independent action vs synergistic action 32
6.3 Selection of models 32
6.3.1 Dose-infection models 33
6.3.2 Infection-illness models 33
6.3.3 Dose-illness models 35
6.3.4 Sequelae and mortality 35
6.4 Extrapolation 35
6.4.1 Low dose extrapolation 35
6.4.2 Extrapolation in the pathogen-host-matrix triangle 36
6.5 Fitting dose response models to data 37
6.5.1 Fitting method 37
6.5.2 Selection of the best fitting model or models 38
6.5.3 Uncertainty analysis 39
7. REVIEW 41
7.1 Validation of dose-response models 41
7.2 Peer and public review 42
8. PRESENTATION OF RESULTS 45
9. REFERENCES CITED 47
APPENDIXES
A. Outline of information to include in a hazard characterization 51
B. Glossary 53