

## HISTORIES OF GUIDELINE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE FOURTH EDITION

### 12. Chemical fact sheets

#### 12.1 Chemical contaminants in drinking-water

##### **Glyphosate and AMPA**

##### ***History of guideline development***

The 1958 and 1963 WHO *International Standards for Drinking-water* did not refer to glyphosate, but the 1971 International Standards suggested that pesticide residues that may occur in community water supplies make only a minimal contribution to the total daily intake of pesticides for the population served. Glyphosate was not evaluated in the first two editions of the *Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality*, published in 1984 and 1993. In the addendum to the second edition of the Guidelines, published in 1998, a health-based value of 5 mg/l was derived for glyphosate using the ADI derived in the EHC monograph for glyphosate published in 1994. However, the health-based value was orders of magnitude higher than the concentrations normally found in drinking-water. Under usual conditions, therefore, the presence of glyphosate in drinking-water would not represent a hazard to human health, and it was not deemed necessary to establish a guideline value for glyphosate. It was noted that most AMPA, the major metabolite of glyphosate, found in water comes from sources other than glyphosate degradation. This assessment was brought forward to the third edition of the Guidelines, published in 2004, and the fourth edition of the Guidelines, published in 2011.