



# EU management of STEC findings in food

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# EU informal guidance

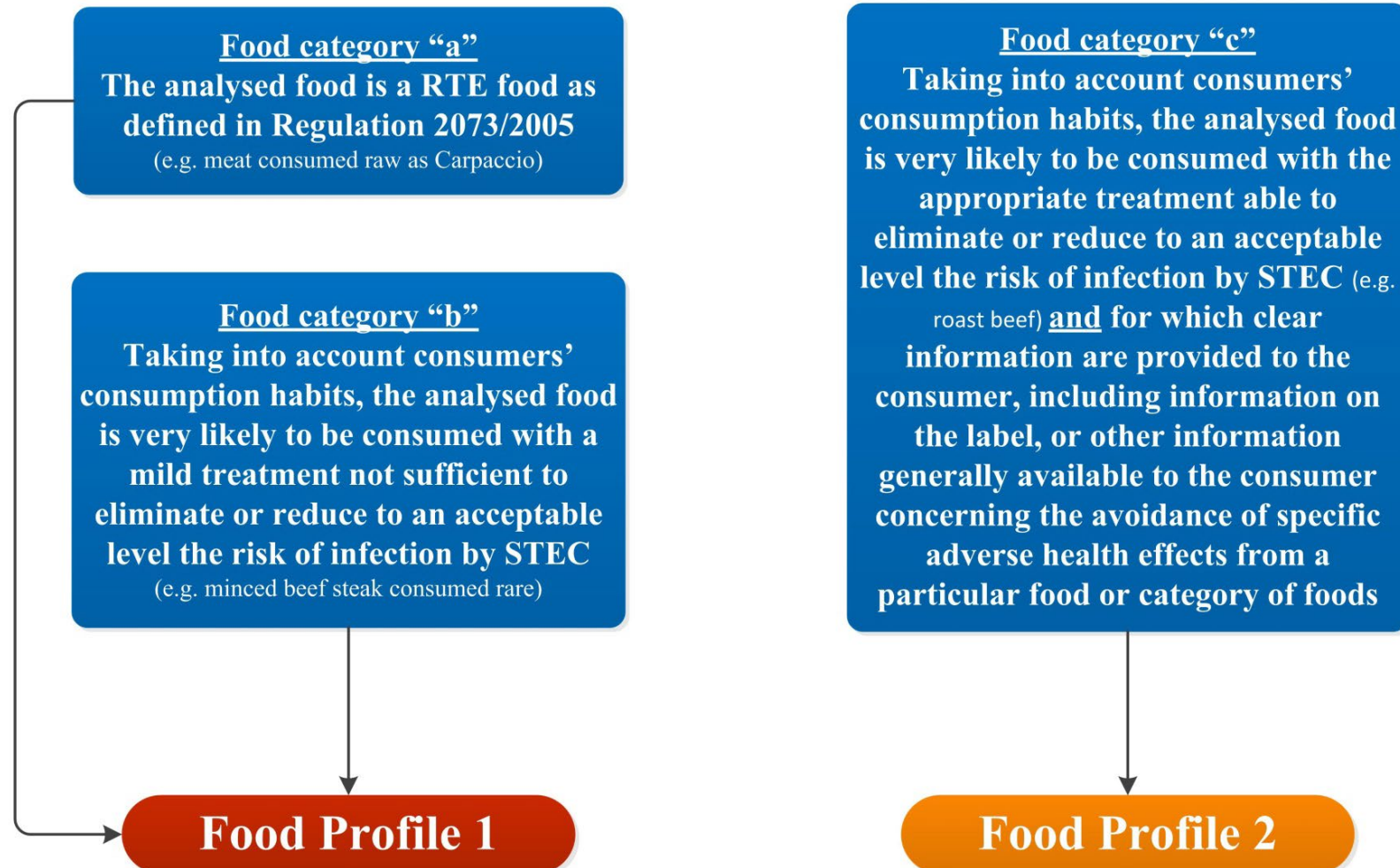
- Developed in 2013-2014 (aftermath of 2011 STEC crisis) to set up harmonised approach for STEC findings in food other than sprouts
- Based on 2013 EFSA scientific opinion (molecular approach) and EU general food law
- Discussed on several occasions with MS
- Two-step approach: (1) food profiling and (2) risk management based on food profile and hazard characterisation
- No consensus reached, draft guidance not approved but informally used

# EFSA molecular approach

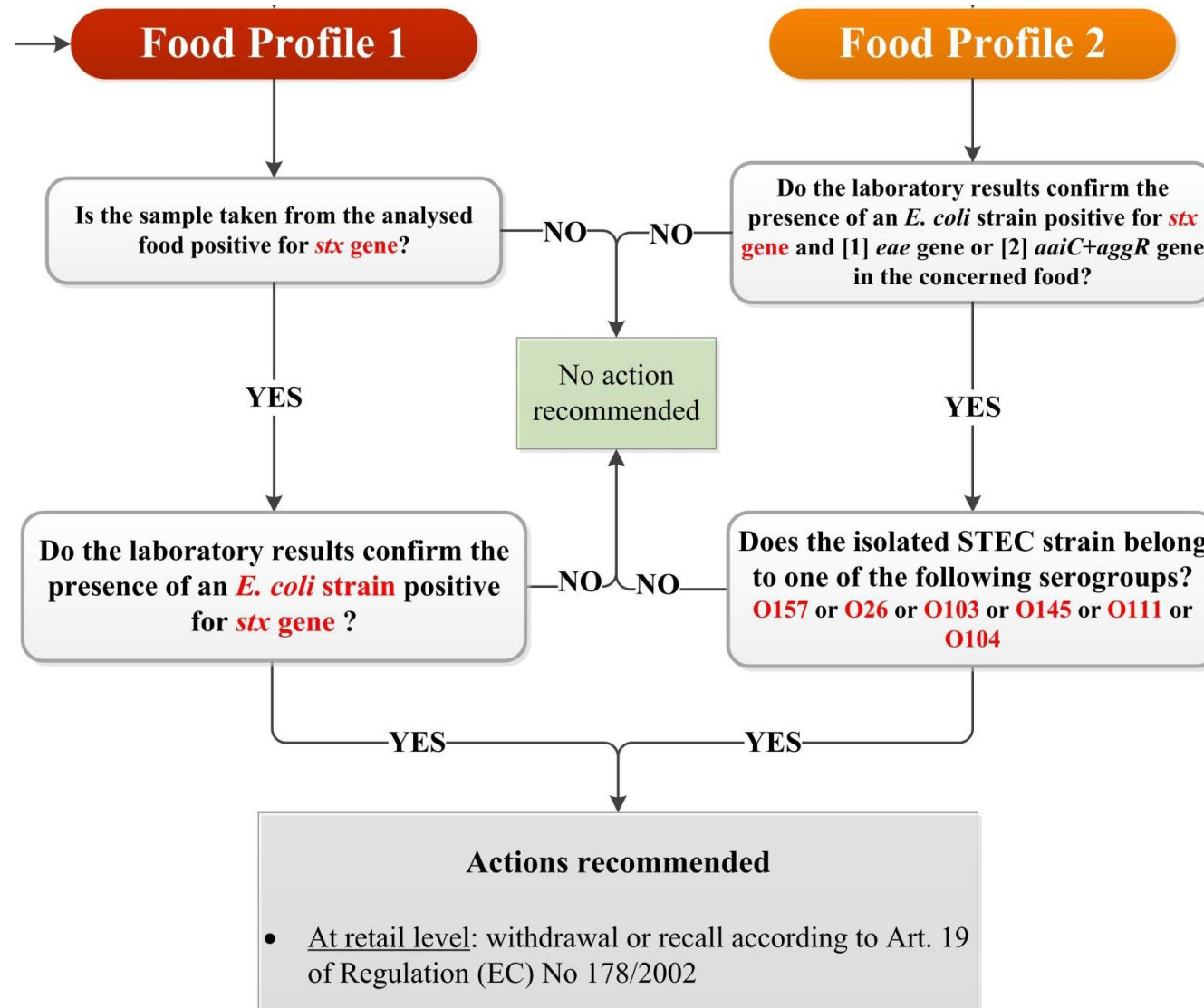
**Table 14:** Proposed<sup>(a)</sup> molecular approach for the categorisation of VTEC (*vtx* present)

Group	Genes <sup>(b)</sup>	Serogroups	Potential risk <sup>(c)</sup>	
			Diarrhoea	HUS/HC <sup>(d)</sup>
I	<i>eae</i> -positive or ( <i>aaiC</i> and <i>aggR</i> )-positive	O157, O26, O103, O145, O111, O104	High	High
II	<i>eae</i> -positive or ( <i>aaiC</i> and <i>aggR</i> )-positive	Any other	High	Unknown
III	<i>eae</i> -negative and ( <i>aaiC</i> plus <i>aggR</i> )-negative	Any other	Unknown	Unknown

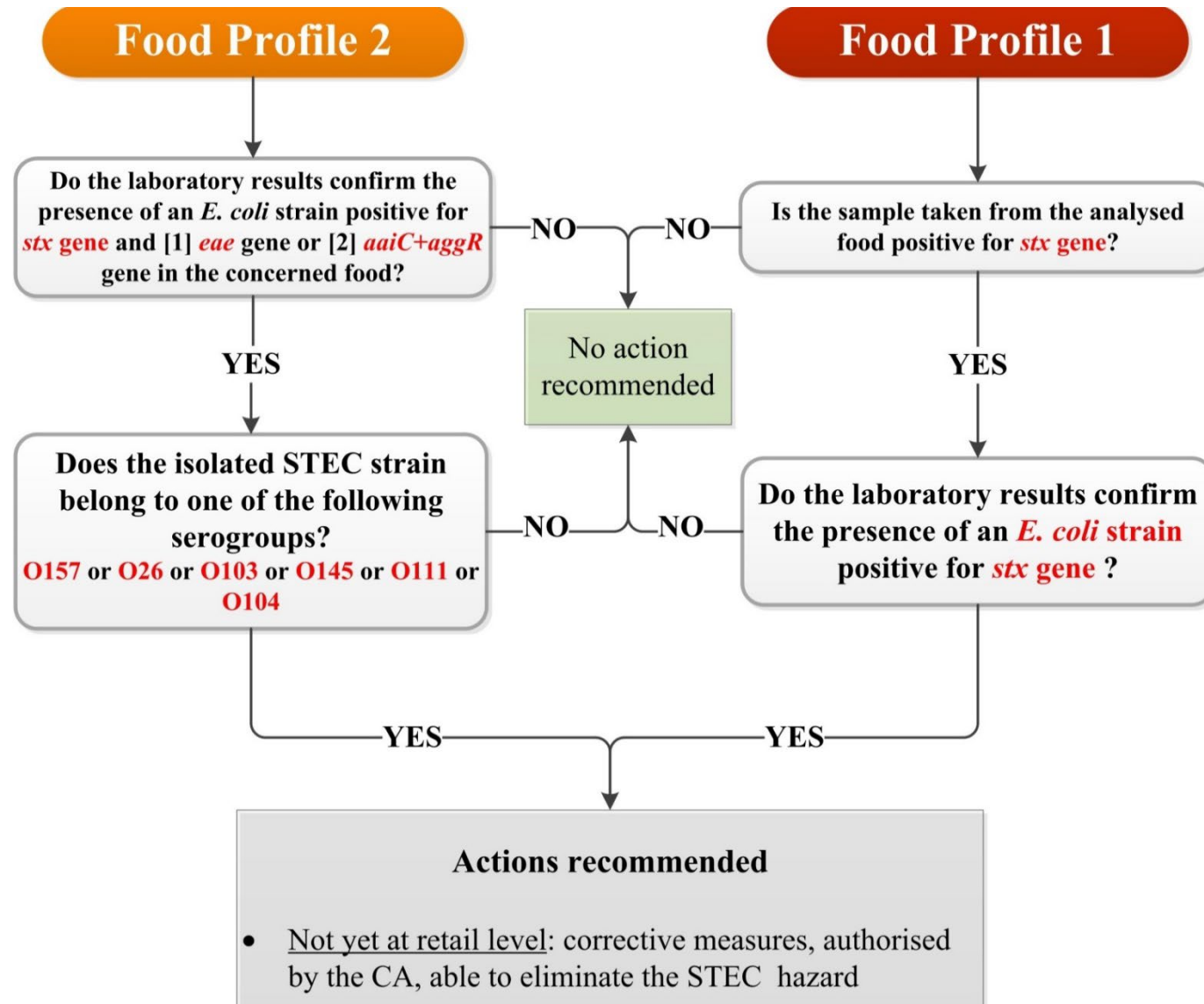
# Step 1: food profiling



# Step 2: recommendation for risk management (retail level)



# Step 2: recommendation for risk management (other level)



# Recent developments

- Increased MS experience (detection)
- EFSA opinion 2020: all STEC strains and subtypes pathogenic
- Codex work ongoing based on 2018 WHO/FAO report

# Next steps

- Food profile 1: EU draft guidance still appropriate
- Food profile 2: to be updated based on recent EFSA/FAO work?
- Set-up an EU food safety microbiological criterion for STEC: not envisaged so far



Questions?