FINAL REPORT OF THE 26th MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS WORKING IN THE FIELD OF METHODS OF ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING (INTER-AGENCY MEETING; IAM-28)

14.00 – 18.00h, Saturday, 20th February 2016

Present

AACCI	Anne Bridges
AACCI	Paul Wehling
AOACI	Erik Konings
AOACI	Darryl Sullivan
AOACI	Wayne Wargo
AOCS	Barry Tulk
AOCS	Richard Cantrill (Secretary)
CAC	Gracia Brisco
CAC	Verna Carolissen
CEN	Christoph von Holst
Eurachem	Steve Ellison
FCC	Kristie Laurvick
ICC	Stefan Wagener
ICUMSA	Roger Wood (Chair)
IDF	Harrie van den Bijgaart
IDF	Jaap Evers
IDF	Aurélie Dubois
IFU	David Hammond
ISO	Marcel de Vreeze (+ CEN Milk)
ISO	Marie-Noelle Bourquin
ISO	Sandrine Espeillac
IUPAC	Zoltan Mester
NFCSO	Arpad Ambrus
NFCSO	Andrea Zentai
NMKL	Hilde Norli

Apologies

John Szpylka
Roland Poms
Bert Poepping
Ralf Josefs
Duncan Arthur

The attendees were welcomed by Dr Wood (Chair) who thanked Dr Ambrus and Dr Zentai for kindly hosting the meeting at the Hungarian National Food Chain Safety Office. The Chair stressed the need to complete the discussions in a timely manner. There were no additions to the agenda.

1. Report of the Previous Meeting IAM-27, 2015

There were no corrections to the report of the 27th meeting.

2. Matters arising from the Previous Meeting not otherwise on the Agenda

The Chair referred to the Eurachem Fitness-for-purpose Guide and asked for a review of activities. The Eurachem representative responded with the suggestion that both explanatory notes and workshops may be developed to aid users.

The agenda for the meeting was adopted as presented.

3. Method Validation/Statistical Update Issues

3.1 AOAC Expert Review Panel Methods Progress – use of proficiency test data

The AOAC representatives shared information on two pilot projects. First AOAC has sourced 14 reference materials containing milk or soy proteins in both liquid and spray-dried powder format in sufficient quantities to develop a multi-round PT programme. Each material has been characterised by both the manufacturer and by multi-laboratory study, hence PT data arising from the programme could be used to develop reproducibility values which could be compare with those from collaborative study. A second study will use data from a PT study on chondroitin sulfate to obtain reproducibility data by statistical means. In both cases, data on the methods used will be collected and analysed, taking care to take into consideration that the method under trial was used.

Outcome: The IAM members noted positive progress in this field and looked forward to further information on the development of the AOAC procedures.

3.2 Use of the HorRat Values: Proposal to add language to the Codex Procedural Manual – re: Criteria Approach

Representatives from AOAC indicated that in the infant formula sector the SMPRs developed were much more stringent than the MLs and tolerances found in the Codex documentation and predicted from the HorRat values. The use of newer technologies with higher precision have been developed for application in this industry and thus exceed expectations from calculated HorRat values used in the Criteria Approach. In view of this development, participants discussed whether this issue should be reflected in the Codex Procedural Manual.

Outcome: The IAM members encouraged AOAC to produce a CRD reflecting this discussion for consideration by CCMAS.

3.3 International guidelines for the validation of qualitative methods – update

The CEN (previously IUPAC) representative noted there were two applications for this approach, one where the test gives a yes/no answer (dipsticks) and one where there is a numerical cut-off**.** A representative from AACCI noted that the AOAC had published the POD approach and went further to explain some basic differences between models. A draft Technical Specification is under development by ISO/TC 34/SC 16/WG 5 containing a number of model approaches and examples, since agreement cannot be reached among the approaches suggested. SO/TC 69 has made little progress in the development of a general background document on qualitative methods. A Eurachem document on stating uncertainties in qualitative analysis is in development but may not provide much guidance for validation of these types of methods.

Outcome: The IAM members will be informed on further progress on this item.

4. Revision of ISO 5725

Following the proposal to revise the existing standard part-by-part a revision of Part 5 is in preparation and may be available during 2016. Parts 1 & 2, most commonly used in the food sector, are not expected to change significantly during the revision process. It is envisaged that Part 3 will contain experimental designs.

Outcome: The IAM members will be informed on further progress on this item.

5. CCMAS papers

5.1 CX/MAS 16/37/2 - Matters arising from Codex committees

Comparison of methods for gluten

Participants noted that both R5 and G12 based procedures were in use to detect gluten in food products. Both methods have been validated and adopted by AACCI[1] with limited scopes based on the range of reference materials and matrices tested. It was not considered feasible for further validation to be performed without this being undertaken by the manufacturers of the test kits. Furthermore, the addition of further matrices and mixed matrices to the scope of application of the tests might be best carried out by the end-users of the tests where these products occur. IAM members indicated that an appropriate place to remind users of these matrix restrictions may be in section 5.2 of the appropriate standard.

Nitrogen conversion factors (NCF)

IAM members declined to discuss this item, having previously made submissions to CCMAS in CRDs.

[1] AACC Intl 38-50.01 (immunoassay procedure - validated using maize matrices) and AACC Intl 38-52.01 (immunoassay procedure - validated using rice matrices)

5.2 CX/MAS 16/37/3 - Endorsement of Methods of Analysis Provisions in Codex Standards

IAM members expressed no concerns on information contained in this document.

5.3 CX/MAS 16/37/4 - Development of procedures/guidelines for determining equivalency to Type I methods

The host of the meeting, Dr Ambrus, reminded IAM members that active participation in eWGs was required to progress documents through the Codex system. Members acknowledged that there exists many different approaches to determine equivalency, and it may be difficult to satisfy all critics even when applied to Type II and Type III methods. The application to Type I methods was laudable but needed to be treated on a case by case basis by the relevant SDO.

5.4 CX/MAS 16/37/5 - Criteria approach for methods which use a "sum of components"

Participants considered the current version of this document and acknowledged the difficulty in applying criteria. It was agreed that such this approach be considered then each analysis should be considered on a case by case basis.

5.5 CX/MAS 16/37/6 - Criteria for endorsement of biological methods to detect chemicals of concern

Participants noted that several of the methods listed in the Codex document were already superseded by chemical methods. It was considered that where such chemical methods were fit for purpose, they should replace the biological methods during the revision of Codex Stan 234.

5.6 CX/MAS 16/37/7 - Review and Update of Methods in CODEX STAN 234-1999

Participants noted the position of some SDOs requesting the retention of some methods within Codex standards instead of or as well as the collation of all methods in Codex Stan 234.

5.7 CX/MAS 16/37/8 Information document on Practical Examples on the Selection of Appropriate Sampling Plans

Participants questioned the usefulness and audience for this document.

5.8 CX/MAS 16/37/9 – Procedures for determining uncertainty of measurement results

The participants recognised the efforts made in making this document available. However, there were some reservations expressed and this was considered a brief summary of previous Eurachem documents. It was thought that there would be benefit from referring the document to relevant experts and comparing it with Eurachem and other ISO documents.

6. IAM Sampling Paper

The Chair regretted the slow progress on this document and hoped that IAM members would be able to provide comment. Delegates in the CCMAS plenary would also be invited to comment.

7. CEN Report - Information and Procedures for development and adoption of methods of analysis

The Chair had circulated a preliminary document discussing the above items. Members were asked to decide the usability of the information and the suggest revisions and additional information.

8. IAM Housekeeping/Standing Items

8.1 Exchange of Reports and Information/Concerns of Members

Members were concerned that there is no forum or mechanism for the exchange of information on ongoing project between individual organizations though it was noted that their websites often contained such information. In particular, the issue of inorganic arsenic determination was raised and methods/activties from AOACI, CCQM, CEN and USP were offered or reported on.

8.2 Website Update

AOCS has recently hosted the website. A renewal of the website is underway which will mean that the IAM website will be house on the INFORM|Connect information portal. When initiated, members of IAM will be able to access the their own work-group to exchange information and documents.

9. IAM Management

The secretary reminded the participants that the chair and secretary had served repeated annual appointments for many years now. Members were reminded that they could volunteer at any time. Although it was recognised that there would be 18 months before the next CCMAS meeting AOCS agreed to continue to hold the secretariat together with the Chair, Roger Wood for the next period.

10. Any Other Business.

There was no other business

11. Provisional Date and Place of Next Meeting

The next meeting of IAM will be held prior to the next meeting of CCMAS in October 2017.