**CRD 20 for 6 March 2014 for agenda item 4: Proposed wording**

**Principle 6: Fitness for purpose**

Sampling and testing procedures are fit for purpose in a given product assessment, if, when used in

conjunction with appropriate decision criteria, they have acceptable probabilities of wrongly accepting or wrongly rejecting a lot or consignment.

*In terms of developing a sampling plan and a decision criterion, the number of samples and decision criterion are determined by the risks. In this context****, fitness for purpose*** *means that the combination of the sampling plan and the decision criterion are commensurate with the risks posed to consumers from inappropriate acceptance of poor quality product and the risks posed to producers from inappropriate rejection of good quality product.*

*For example:*

*a.      Use of an AQL of 0.1% may be inappropriate for a compositional parameter such as fat in WMP because this is costly and difficult to achieve for the producer, and*

*b.      Use of an AQL of 6.5% may be inappropriate for a food safety hazard intended for a sensitive consumer because this does not adequately protect the consumer*

*Testing laboratories should adhere to the GUIDELINES FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF THE COMPETENCE OF TESTING LABORATORIES INVOLVED IN THE IMPORT AND EXPORT CONTROL OF FOOD (CAC/GL 27-1997) and to FOOD CONTROL LABORATORY MANAGEMENT: RECOMMENDATIONS (CAC/GL 28-1995. rev.1997).*