



**JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME**  
**CODEX COMMITTEE ON METHODS OF ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING**

**Thirty-fourth Session**

**Budapest, Hungary, 4 - 8 March 2013**

**COMMENTS OF THAILAND**

**Agenda Item 5: Discussion Paper on Considering Procedures for Establishing Criteria**

Thailand would like to express our appreciation for efforts of an electronic working group chaired by the United States of America for preparing "Discussion Paper on Considering Procedures for Establishing Criteria".

Our points of views on this matter are as follows:

**General comments**

We support CCMAS to establish criteria for multi-analyte methods to be guidance for endorsement of these methods.

**Specific Comment**

**PART III: Specification Requiring the Use of Toxic Equivalency Factors (TEFs)**

The toxic equivalency factors (TEFs) should be excluded from the consideration of establishing criteria for multi-analyte methods, because TEFs are not relevant with method of analysis. Moreover, TEFs is a new subject that involves rapid development. Therefore, Codex country members need time to study for clear understanding on this aspect.

**Agenda Item 6: Discussion Paper on Elaboration of Procedures for Regular Updating of Method**

Thailand would like to express our appreciation for efforts of an electronic working group chaired by Brazil for preparing "Discussion Paper on Elaboration of Procedures for Regular Updating of Method".

We would like to propose our comments on this matter as the followings:

1. We agree with the regular updating of methods of analysis, since Codex methods are recommended as reference methods when disputes are arisen. The updating of method should be initially conducted with methods that concern safety of consumers.
2. The period of 5 years proposed to review endorsed methods is considered too short for considering information and work will be handled by relevant Codex Committee and organization in a process of method updating.
3. The clear prioritization criteria should be established for the regular updating of method that includes a period of time to review methods as well as criteria for consideration (for example consumers' safety, method type, and accuracy of method information).
4. At present, it is premature to propose CCGP to revise the Procedural Manual as recommended by the electronic working group. CCMAS should establish the clear procedures for the regular updating of method before submitting to CCGP for the revision of the Procedural Manual.
5. The term "provision" should be retained, since it is pertinent to and consistent with Codex commodity standards.
6. For the topic "Single Source (Document, Database) for Methods of Analysis", it appears that "TABLE I: Information required in the methods of analysis standard" requires to identify only "Probability of Detection (POD)", meanwhile "TABLE II: Performance criteria required for provision determination" requires to identify both "Limit of Detection (LOD)" and POD. So, we would like to seek clarification for different needed information in the two tables.

**Agenda Item 7: Discussion paper on Sampling in Codex Standards**

Thailand would like to express our appreciation for efforts of an electronic working group chaired by the Inter-Agency Meeting (IAM) for preparing a “Discussion Paper on Sampling in Codex Standards”.

We support that a working group of CCMAS should be established to undertake the development of the appropriate sampling plan for Codex Commodity Committees as recommended by the electronic working group. In addition, it is recommended that CCMAS should consider a revision of the Codex General Guidelines on Sampling (CAC/GL 50-2004) to be the document that all the Codex Committees can use as guidance to develop the appropriate sampling plan. The sampling plan developed by the Codex Committees should be subsequently submit to CCMAS for endorsement.