



Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling 39th Session (CCMAS)

Last Meeting: 39th Session, 7 – 11 May 2018, Budapest, Hungary

Full Report of the 39th Session – [Link to Report & Agenda](#)

Next Meeting: 40th Session, TBA

NZ Delegation Report 39th Session:

New Zealand attended the 39th Session. Main outcomes of importance to NZ were as follows:

New Work: Revision of the General Guidelines on Sampling (CAC/GL 50-2004)

CCMAS agreed for the New Zealand-led new work proposal to go to CAC for adoption. This followed a presentation on Sampling (Roger Kissling) to the plenary, and a presentation on the Proposal for New Work (Susan Morris). These presentations included the principles of a science-based approach to sampling inspection, the use of an 'app' to do the calculations, as well as a prioritisation list for what needs to be included, and an outline of the proposed new GL 50.

There was strong support for what will be developed: an international standard for an understandable and useable science-based approach to sampling inspection for international trade. It will provide for statistical sampling plans developed for use to meet the key codex mandates:

- that fair and valid sampling procedures¹ are used when food is being tested for compliance with a Codex commodity standard
- fitness for purpose², i.e. the procedures, when used in conjunction with appropriate decision criteria, have acceptable probabilities of wrongly accepting or wrongly rejecting a lot or consignment¹.

That use was stated to be both codex commodity committees and wider, such as governments. The scope of the work was also recognised by the plenary as applying to commodities wider than those in the CCMAS remit.

New Zealand will continue to lead the work on this.

Review of dairy methods of analysis used in international trade

¹ See Codex Procedural Manual

² See CXG 83, Principle 6.



The key standard for methods of analysis for codex commodities (Codex STAN 234) is undergoing revision. New Zealand will co-chair an electronic working group with the USA to complete the identification and review of the dairy methods that are in the standard. This work follows a year of work by the Standards Development Organisations including the International Dairy Federation, to begin the process for the dairy methods adopted by Codex, for use in international trade.

New Zealand will co-chair this work with the USA.

New Work: Revision the Guidelines on Measurement Uncertainty (CAC/GL 54-2004)

For a number of years New Zealand has opposed a widely held, poorly understood view of application of MU to sampling – this having no scientific basis and contradicting a statistical basis for sampling inspection of a lot. New Zealand has opposed this non-scientific approach, and it is one that would harm our international trade.

We have argued over time to provide a science-based approach, and have now achieved that goal, with the outcome of this meeting, to revise the current guidelines, to illustrate:

- the use of measurement uncertainty in the interpretation of measurement results; and
- the relationship between the MU and sampling plans.

The new GL 54 will not include the use of MU in conformity assessment. Germany will lead this new work, and have asked for New Zealand to be actively involved.

Categorising biological methods

New Zealand has historically opposed this work. It involved a non-scientific approach to categorising biological methods with a focus on the Mouse Bioassay method (used for the determination of marine biotoxins).

This work was not progressed. This was supported by the EU and Quad countries.