



**Communication 24 March 2006**

Dear member of the ICC Task Force on Mycotoxins and Sampling,

**Subjects:**

- 1) Collecting information for the Data Base on (Rapid) Methods on Mycotoxin Analysis and Sampling
- 2) Establishing a Working Group on working out a cost-efficient and reliable validation protocol for rapid methods
- 3) Any other interesting documents or conferences/workshops
- 4) Just for your information: ISO/CEN/ICC/AACC workshop on sampling

First of all I would like to thank you for your participating in the ICC task force on mycotoxin analysis and sampling. I would also like to remind you of the launch of the ICC Task Force website at <http://www.icc.or.at/task/index.php>.

ad 1) Collecting information for the Data Base on (Rapid) Methods on Mycotoxin Analysis and Sampling

Over the past few months we have been collecting information on completed, on-going and planned validation studies for mycotoxin detection. We were especially interested in rapid methods. I would like to thank those of you, who have submitted some information, which can be viewed at <http://www.icc.or.at/task/index.php>. However, we had intended to complete this first phase of the work early this year and I would like to encourage you to submit your data and data you know of as soon as possible, but no later than April 31, 2006. Please find the template for data submission attached. Thank you for your cooperation!

ad 2) Establishing a Working Group on working out a cost-efficient and reliable validation protocol for rapid methods

As a second step of the work of the ICC Task Force we would like to revise some existing protocols for test kit/rapid method validation/performance testing and start the discussion on and the design of a protocol that is cost-efficient and will meet the criteria for reliable method validation. Most of all the protocol should meet the requirements to become as widely recognised as possible, beyond national and regional limits. For this reason I would like to invite parties of the Task Force, who think that they can contribute to this project, to reply to this mail by writing "test kit validation" in the subject. If you are interested in working on this subject, please submit your name no later than April 15, 2006, to the ICC Headquarters at [gen.sec@icc.or.at](mailto:gen.sec@icc.or.at). We would like to encourage especially test kit producers and providers, validation and standardisation bodies, and experts of ELISA, Dipstick, Biosensor, etc. to participate in this Working Group.

ad 3) Any other interesting documents or conferences/workshops

Please, take a look at <http://www.icc.or.at/task/index.php> and submit any useful documents, information and announcements for workshops/conferences on mycotoxins and/or sampling to the ICC Headquarters at [gen.sec@icc.or.at](mailto:gen.sec@icc.or.at). Links to validation and standardisation bodies working on analytical methods for mycotoxins will be added to the web site shortly.

ad 4) Just for your information: ISO/CEN/ICC/AACC workshop on sampling

Please be informed that ISO officially asked ICC and AACC Int. to organise a workshop on sampling (see [http://www.icc.or.at/task/ISO\\_response\\_sampling.pdf](http://www.icc.or.at/task/ISO_response_sampling.pdf)). This workshop is planned to take place in the last third of 2006 to involve all working groups of ISO and CEN dealing with sampling issues, in order to discuss the international harmonisation of sampling procedures. We will keep you updated on the progress of the dates and venue.

Thank you for your collaboration!

With kind regards

Roland Ernest Poms, ICC Secretary General