



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH & CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
Directorate E - Safety of the food chain
E3 - Chemicals, contaminants, pesticides

Brussels, 30th April 2010
M/463 EN

**MANDATE FOR STANDARDISATION
ADDRESSED TO CEN
for
METHODS OF ANALYSIS FOR FOOD CONTAMINANTS**

1. MOTIVATION.

- 1.1 This mandate falls within the framework of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules¹.

This Regulation provides that sampling and analysis methods used in the context of official controls shall comply with relevant European Union rules or if no such rules exist, with internationally recognised rules or protocols, for example those that the European Committee for Standardisation (CEN) has accepted.

Council Regulation (EEC) No 315/93 of 8 February 1993 laying down Community procedures for contaminants in food² is the legal basis for implementing measures on contaminants. On basis of Art. 2 (3) of Council Regulation (EC) No. 315/93 Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1881/2006 of 19 December 2006 setting maximum levels for certain contaminants in food³ was established.

- 1.2 The establishment of standardised methods of analysis is of utmost importance to guarantee a uniform application and control of the European legislation in all Member States and to guarantee a high degree of food safety.

¹ Official Journal of the European Union, L 165, 30.04.2004, p. 1. Corrigendum published in OJ L 191, 28.5.2004, p. 1)

² Official Journal of the European Communities, L 37, 13.2.1993, p. 1

³ Official Journal of the European Union, L 364, 20.12.2006, p. 5

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE MANDATED WORK

The Commission invites CEN to establish European Standards/Technical Specifications that provide standardised methods of analysis of chemical substances that are present in food, or are generated during food processing, and that have a potential deleterious effect on human health. The methods of analysis requested by this mandate are those listed in the table in the Annex. Column 4 of the table indicates what type of deliverable (European Standard or Technical Specification) is requested.

3. BODIES TO BE ASSOCIATED.

The elaboration of the deliverables should be undertaken in co-operation with the broadest possible range of interested groups, including international and European level associations, including the main industrial associations concerned (associations representing food manufacturers, trade associations, etc) and representatives of European regulatory bodies.

As appropriate, CEN will invite the representative organisations of consumers' interests (ANEC), environmental protection (ECOS), workers (ETUI) and small and medium-sized enterprises (NORMAPME) to take part in the standardisation work.

4. EXECUTION OF THE MANDATE

- 4.1 The mandate will be carried out before December 2016 according to the programme described in the Annex. The programme itself could be adapted and/or completed depending on the progress made. CEN will transmit amendments to this programme to the Commission, which will consult or inform the Committee on standards and technical regulations as appropriate.
- 4.2 CEN will present the European standards/Technical Specifications mentioned above by the date specified in column 3 of the table in the Annex.
- 4.3 CEN will keep the Commission informed of the measures taken to execute this mandate and of any difficulties, which arise in the process. By 30 November each year following the acceptance of the mandate, CEN will submit a progress report on the activities of the various working parties concerned by this mandate and will indicate the persons and bodies participating in the working parties' meetings and activities.

Annex: STANDARDISATION PROGRAMME

ANNEX

METHODS OF ANALYSIS TO BE MANDATED

N.	Title	Deadline	Requested deliverable
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1	Determination of acrylamide in potato-based products, cereal based products and coffee with LC-ESI-MS/MS	31/12/2013	EN
2	Determination of acrylamide in potato-based products, cereal based products and coffee with GC-MS	31/12/2016	EN
3	Determination of furan in coffee ⁴ with HS GC-MS	31/12/2013	EN
4	Determination of benzo(a)pyrene, benzo(a)anthracene, chrysene and benzo(b)fluoranthene in foodstuffs with GC-MS	31/12/2013	EN
5	Determination of benzo(a)pyrene, benzo(a)anthracene, chrysene and benzo(b)fluoranthene in foodstuffs with HPLC-FD	31/12/2013	CENTS
6	Determination of ethyl carbamate in stone fruit spirits, fruit marc spirits and other alcoholic beverages	31/12/2015	EN
7	Determination of benzene in soft drinks, juices and baby food	31/12/2015	EN
8	Determination of melamine and cyanuric acid in foodstuffs with LC-MS/MS	31/12/2015	EN
9	Determination of mineral oil in vegetable oils and foodstuffs on basis of vegetable oils	31/12/2016	EN

⁴ If validation data on furan in baby food or other heat treated foodstuffs become available, these matrices should also be included in the standard