

28 June 2022

CODEX COMMITTEE ON METHODS OF ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING

European Union Reply to CL 2022/23/OCS-MAS

Rules for the selection of Type II methods from multiple Type III methods

Mixed Competence

Member States Vote

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) congratulate Switzerland for proposing rules to select a Type II from several appropriate Type III methods. The described approach is consistent and considers relevant criteria for making the selection.

The EUMS are of the opinion that the availability of Type III methods next to Type II methods in CXS 234 is an advantage since they give analysts more freedom in selecting a method for control, inspection or regulatory purposes that suits their specific needs and measurement capabilities.

The prerequisites for inclusion in Codex standards for Type III chemical or physical methods are clearly described in the document and follow an inherent and internationally agreed logic. The same is true for the selection of a Type II method from several Type III methods for a given commodity – provision combination. The proposed decision rules allow to select from several Type III methods a method that can be considered as a reference (= Type II).

The EUMS support the inclusion of the rules in the information document regarding the guidance for the process of submission, consideration and endorsement of methods for inclusion in CXS 234.

The EUMS are aware that Commodity Committees are free to choose between typing of available methods of comparable (equivalent) performance or using the criteria approach, depending on the specificities of the commodity. However, CCMAS may wish to develop generic guidance to assist Commodity Committees in making an informed choice.