CODEX COMMITTEE ON METHODS OF ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING (39th Session)

Budapest, Hungary, 7 – 11 May 2018

European Union Comments on

Agenda item 6

Mixed Competence Member State Vote

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE GUIDELINES ON MEASUREMENT UNCERTAINTY (CXG 54 – 2004)

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) would like to thank Germany for the work done and for leading the eWG.

The EUMS welcome the recommendations made by the eWG and support the project document for the new work on the revision of CXG 54-2004 with the general aim to improve the readability for the intended audience of the current version of the standard. The EUMS also agree and the proposed changes of the current version. Measurement uncertainty, selection of sampling plans, and lot conformity assessment are interlinked particulars and the proposed amendments illustrates well those links.

The EUMS would like to propose the following suggestions for editorial changes to the Proposed Draft of the Revised Guidelines on Measurement Uncertainty.

The EUMS propose to condense the information document and make more use of published guidance documents and standards just by referencing them (e.g. ISO 13528, ISO 5725, EURACHEM Guideline, etc). Proposed editorial changes:

It is unclear whether the uncertainty given in Figure 2 (and the associated text) is the standard uncertainty (u) or the expanded uncertainty (U). If it is u, than the expanded uncertainty (U, k=2) will amount to +/- 36 which is larger as the reported value (27). As this seems to be confusing, it is recommended to choose a more appropriate value for u.

The incomplete definition of the measurand is not an uncertainty source (page 9) but a shortcoming of the work instruction or the analyst.

"Sampling, e.g. selecting from a huge lot of samples" (Figure 3) should be rephrased (... from a lot).

CCMAS agreed to use only the last edition/revision of standards; therefore, ISO/IEC 17025:2005 should be cited as ISO 17025 (page 9).

In Figure 4 the Commission Decision 2002/657/EC should be deleted and replaced by CAC/GL 49-2003 (Harmonized IUPAC Guidelines for Single-Laboratory Validation of Methods of Analysis).