

**CODEX COMMITTEE ON METHODS OF
ANALYSIS AND SAMPLING
(38th Session)**

Budapest, Hungary, 8 – 12 May 2017

European Union Comments on

Agenda item 8

**PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE GUIDELINES ON
MEASUREMENT UNCERTAINTY (CAC/GL 54-2004)**

Mixed Competence

Member States Vote

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) acknowledge the excellent work of the eWG under the lead of Germany.

The current version of CAC/GL 54-2004 is a lean document which describes in plain language what measurement uncertainty is, why it has to be determined, how to use to assess conformity of an inspected lot with provisions of a STAN, and how it can be determined (by way of references to published guidance/standards).

The main assignment for the work of the eWG was to identify areas in CAC/GL 54-2004 which need improvement, in particular with a view to procedures for the determination of measurement uncertainty including uncertainty contributions from sub-sampling and sample processing.

The proposed revision goes well beyond this and takes additionally into account the plenary discussion at CCMAS in 2010. It does not only identify areas of improvement but provides a revised guideline. The proposal of the eWG integrates the main text CAC/GL54-2004 and its explanatory notes into a comprehensive document, with additional explanation on sampling and subsampling issues in connection with conformity assessment. It gives rather detailed procedures for estimating measurement uncertainty which can affect the readability of the proposed draft standard. These detailed explanations on how to estimate measurement uncertainty, including sources such as sub-sampling and sample processing, are needed instead of references to published guidance. However, the more technical details, especially with respect to the estimation of the

measurement uncertainty, may impart the readability. They should be summarised in an information document outside of a revised CAC/GL 54-2004. With such a restructuring the main text highlights the important aspects without distraction by the detailed description of estimation of the measurement uncertainty.

The EUMS propose to forward the draft, after restructuring at step 5 for member state comments.