



# Establishing a Section of AOAC INTERNATIONAL in the Arab Region

14 March 2022

AOAC INTERNATIONAL Board of Directors Meeting



# Introduction: Arab Region

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❑ Countries of the League of Arab States

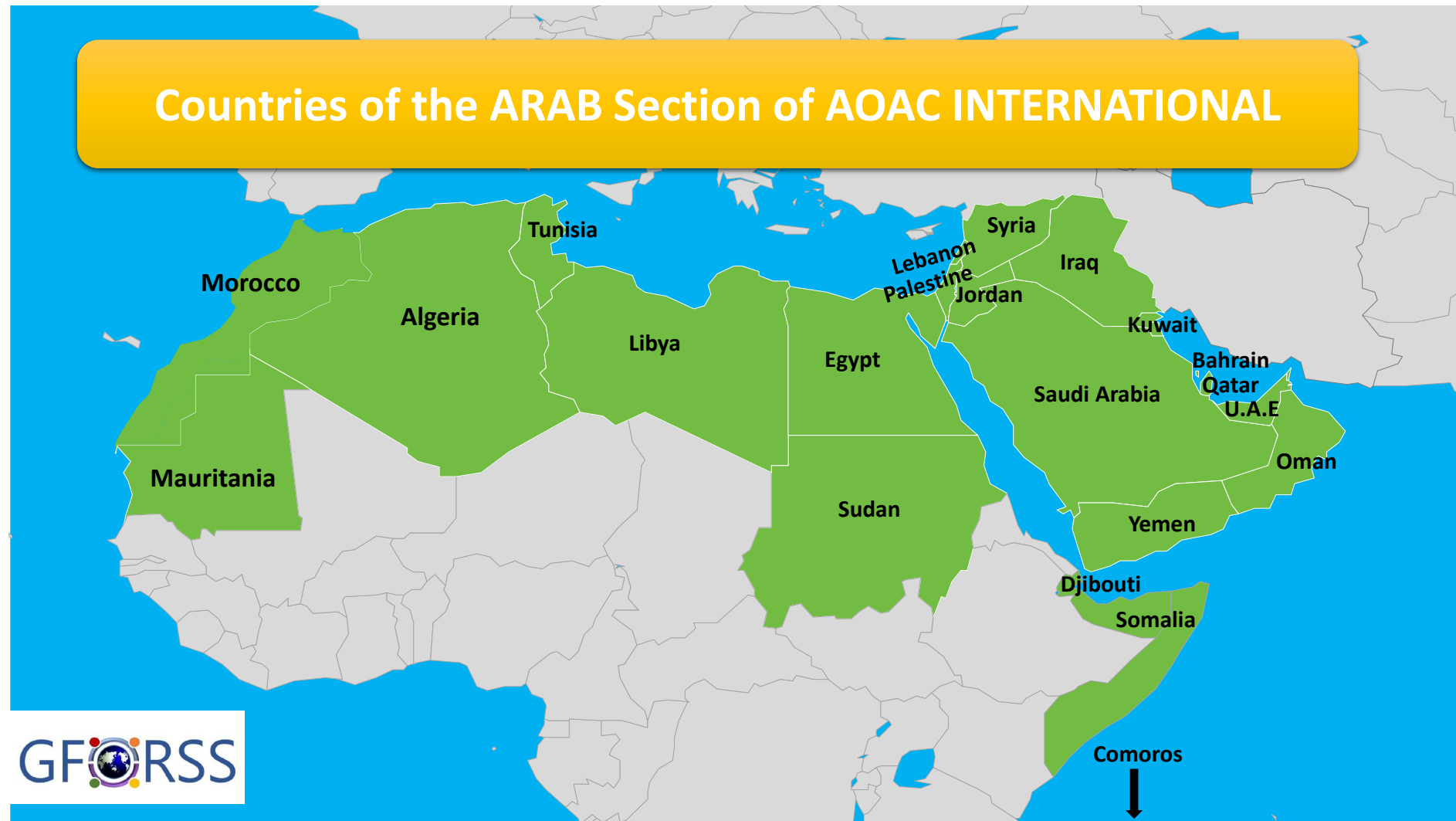
❑ Overlap with Geopolitical Entity:

Mauritania, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Sudan, Djibouti, Somalia, Comoros Islands, Saudi Arabia, Palestine, Qatar, UAE, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, Yemen, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Syria



# Introduction: Arab Region

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# Momentum for Food Regulatory Transformation

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## ❑ Strong support from key institutions in the Region

- Jordan Food and Drug Authority, (JFDA) and
- Qatar Ministry of Public Health (MoPH)
- Bureau of Food Safety Morocco (ONSSA)
- Centre Technique de l'Agro Alimentaire (Tunisia)
- Ministry of Public Health, Lebanon, Several Research and Academic Institutes e.g., LARI
- National Food Safety Authority – NFSA (Egypt)
- Standardization Organization (Libya)
- Ministry of Health, Government of Palestine
- **Dubai Municipality**





# Standardization Organizations Involved

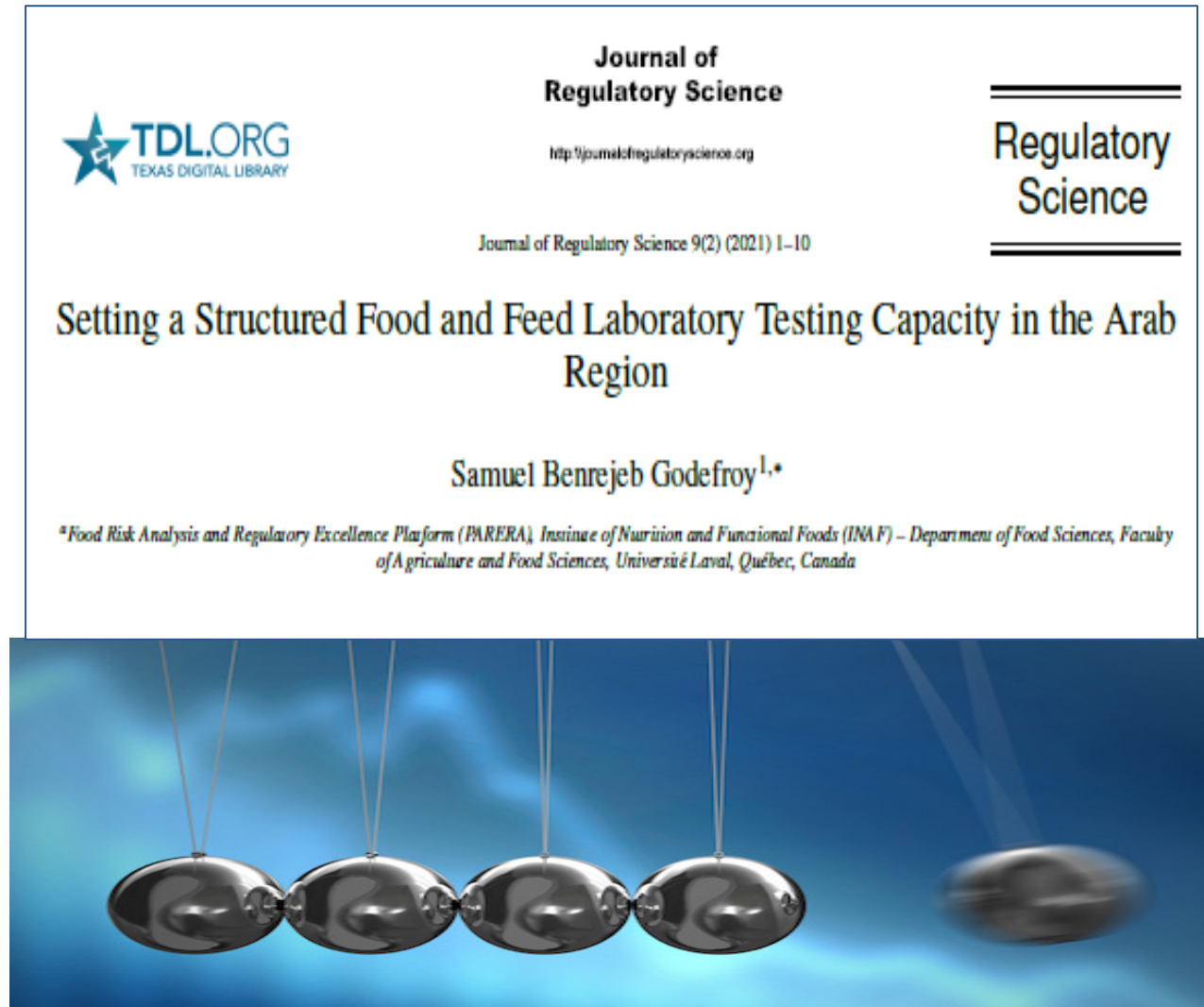
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# Maintaining Momentum

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- ❑ Mobilization of resources from ULaval – the Food Risk Analysis and Regulatory Excellence Platform – to cover AOAC membership in the Region for up to 3 years
- ❑ Memberships in Targeted countries Morocco, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Yemen – 50 members for 3 years.
- ❑ Current level of membership (prior to recent investment – 19 members



# Vision for the development of the Section

## Promote Food Laboratory Science, Membership and Harmonization in Food Laboratory Methods

- ❑ Cooperation with the Sub-Saharan Africa Section
- ❑ Support and Empower Standardization Organizations: AIDMSO, GSO
- ❑ Development the Academic Base of the Membership
- ❑ Address the Region's Needs in Method Development, Validation and Promotion of Good Laboratory Practices in Food Analysis (for regulatory purposes)





# Model of Operations

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**Hosting by**



- ❑ To Address difficulty of creation of legal entity hosting a non-for-profit in the region
- ❑ To leverage funding provided by other sources in areas of food regulatory science
- ❑ To Leverage relationships established in the region with key regulators



# Decision of the Board of Directors

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يحدث الآن

AOAC INTERNATIONAL

مجلس ادارة AOAC INTERNATIONAL  
قد صادق على استحداث  
القسم العربي لـ AOAC

14.03.2022, 09.42 am EST

كل التوفيق

A new initiative from: GFORSS

Supported by: UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences parera Food Risk Analysis and Regulatory Excellence Platform

Happening NOW

AOAC INTERNATIONAL

The BOD of AOAC INTERNATIONAL  
Just approved the creation of  
THE ARAB SECTION

14.03.2022, 09.42 am EST

CONGRATULATIONS

A new initiative from: GFORSS

Supported by: UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences parera Food Risk Analysis and Regulatory Excellence Platform

# Recent Engagement in the Region

## 1ST GLOBAL FOOD REGULATORY SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM 2021

**17 and 20-22 November 2021 | Dubai, United Arab Emirates**  
**Hybrid Format – in Person and Virtual**

The Symposium will include several workshops that cover various areas of food regulatory scientific disciplines – i.e. disciplines that underpin food regulatory programs and decisions – in line with the objectives of GFORSS to support knowledge dissemination and transfer, as well as, competency enhancement, in the various relevant disciplines, globally.

The Symposium is open to all stakeholders working in areas related to Food Regulatory Science and is free of charge for participants joining Virtually.

Participation in person, is managed through the registration system of the Dubai International Food Safety Conference (DIFSC).

For more information, please visit us:

[1st Global Food Regulatory Science Symposium 2021](#)

**GFORSS** | GLOBAL FOOD REGULATORY SCIENCE SOCIETY

بلدية دبي  
DUBAI MUNICIPALITY

parera  
Food Risk Analysis and Regulatory Excellence Platform

Co-Sponsor: r-biopharm

Co-Conveners: AOAC INTERNATIONAL

هيئة التقييس  
لدول مجلس التعاون لدول الخليج العربية  
GCC Standardization Organization

**1<sup>ST</sup> GLOBAL FOOD REGULATORY SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM**  
 17 and 20 – 22 November 2021 | Dubai, United Arab Emirates

DIFSC  
15<sup>th</sup> Dubai International Food Safety Conference

حلول ابتكارية لنظم غذائية مستدامة  
 CREATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS

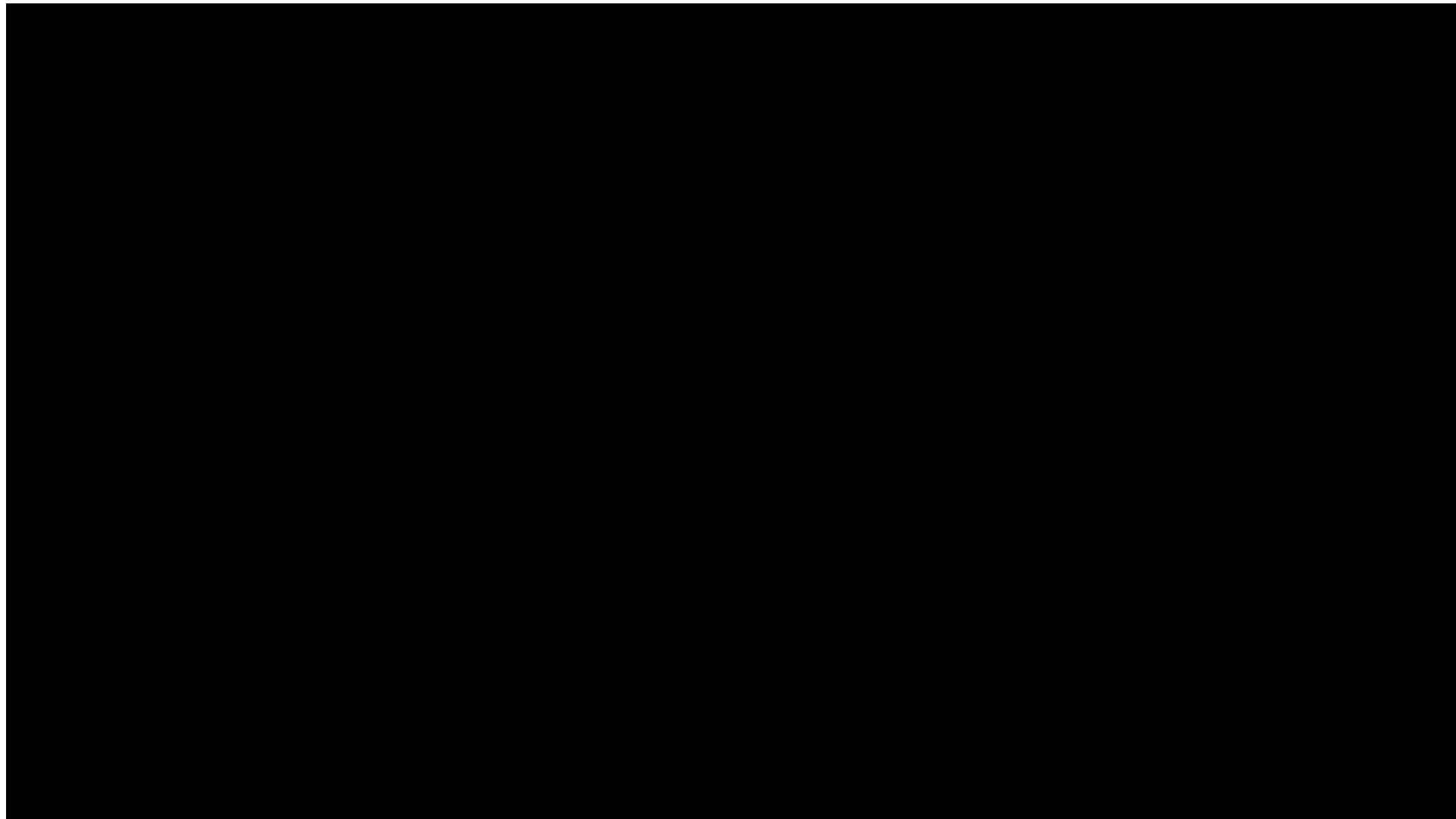
مؤتمر دبي العالمي الخامس  
 عشر لسلامة الأغذية

18-23 November, 2021

15<sup>th</sup> DUBAI INTERNATIONAL FOOD SAFETY CONFERENCE

# Areas of Priority

- ❑ Support to Efforts of Validation and Accreditation of Laboratories:
  - Reference Material
  - Proficiency Testing Programs
- ❑ Specific Areas of interest / testing:
  - Heavy metals, Mycotoxins, Radionuclides
  - POPs
  - Food Allergens, Authenticity Testing, Halal related testing
- ❑ Creation of Centres of Excellence / Reference Laboratories
- ❑ Promoting food laboratory science as part of the disciplines of interest





# Future Events

- Presentation at the Arab League High Commission of Standardization and Metrology 20 March 2022 – Riyadh
  - ✓ MoUs with GSO and AIDSMO
- Kick off Virtual Meeting : May 2022
- Physical / Hybrid Meeting : November 2022 – In conjunction with the Dubai International Food Safety Conference

# Board of Directors

- ❑ President: Dr. Amine Kassouf, Lebanon
- ❑ President Elect: Eng. Ahmed Al-Basha, Yemen (GSO)
- ❑ Secretary: Mrs. Narjes Mhajbi (Tunisia)
- ❑ Treasurer: Dr. Amal Al-Rashdane (Kuwait)
- ❑ Vice President / Representative of GFoRSS on Board: Prof. Samuel Godefroy
- ❑ Other Officers / (at large) and ex officio members will be invited to join

# To Join Us

[www.arabaoac.org](http://www.arabaoac.org)



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