



THE ARAB SECTION OF AOAC INTERNATIONAL

Enhancing Harmonization and Coordination in
the Arab Food Analytical Community

Second Symposium of the Arab Section of
AOAC INTERNATIONAL

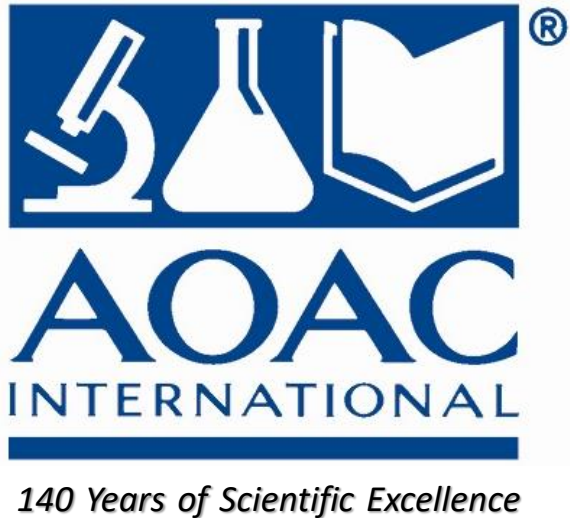
*7 May 2024 – Amman
Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan*



Support to the Creation of an Arab Food and Agriculture Analytical Community ²

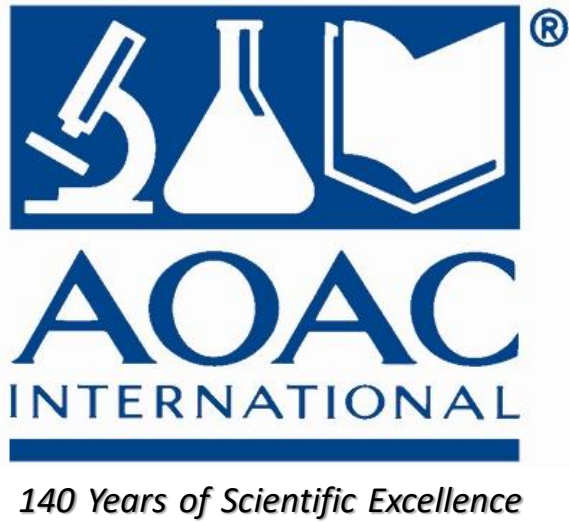


In Food & Agriculture, We Set the Standard



- ✓ 1884: The Association of Official Agricultural Chemists
- ✓ Formed in 1884 at USDA, later part of FDA, AOAC became independent in 1970s
- ✓ Consensus Builder
- ✓ Global Trade Facilitator
- ✓ International Membership Association
- ✓ Academic, Industry & Regulatory Collaboration.
- ✓ 2020: The Association of Official Analytical Collaboration
- ✓ Close to 2300 Members





VISION

Global confidence in consensus based analytical solutions for food safety, food integrity, and public health.

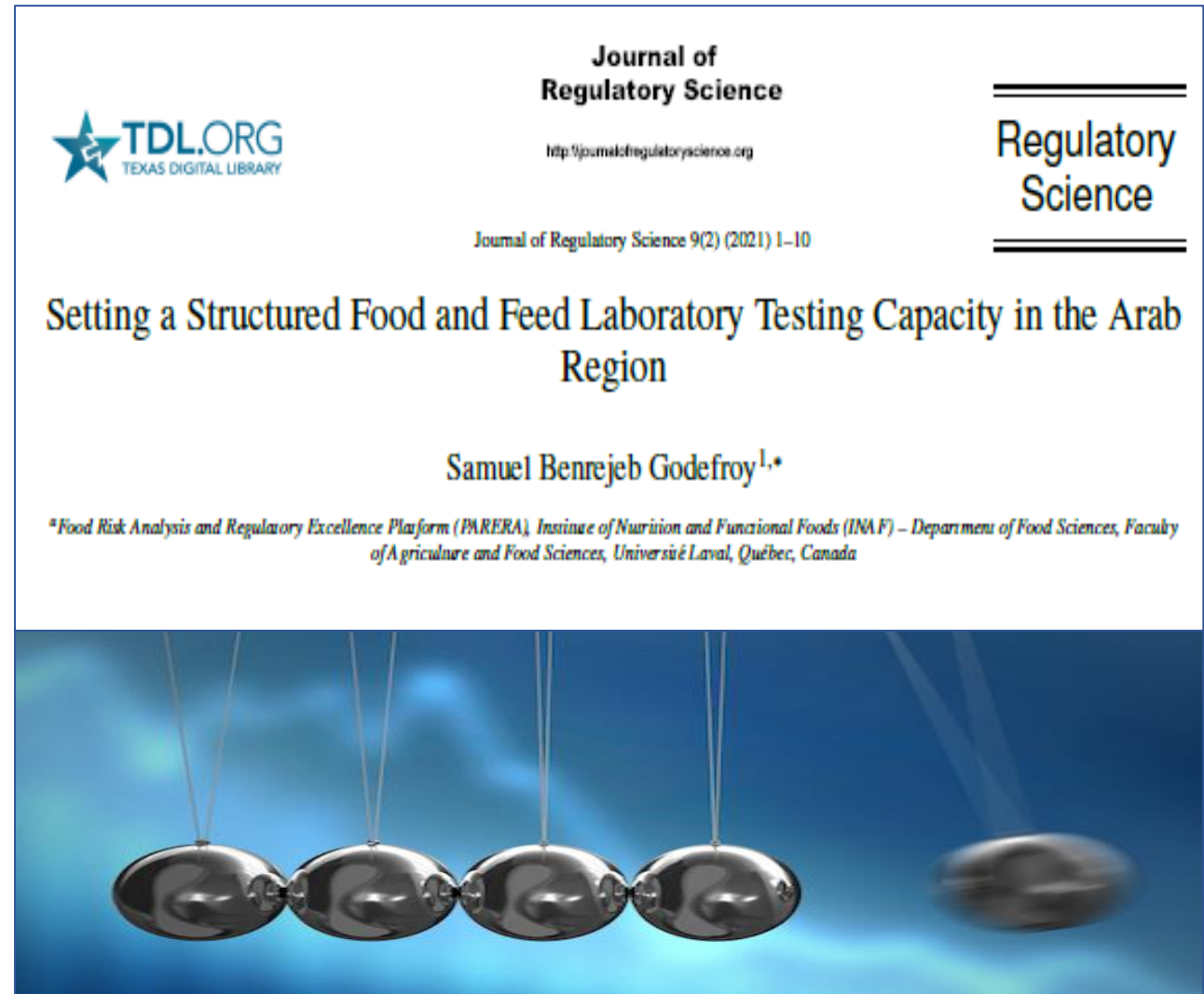


MISSION

AOAC INTERNATIONAL ensures the safety and integrity of foods and other products that impact public health by convening government, industry and academia to develop and validate standards, methods and technologies.



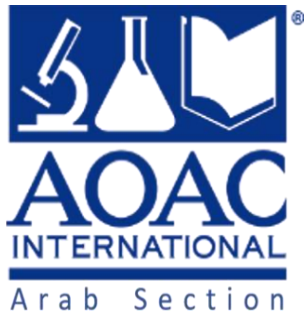
Contribution to structuring food laboratory capacity in the Arab region



The Creation of the Arab Section

The 19th regional section

During the AOAC INTERNATIONAL Board-of-Directors meeting – March 14th, 2022



AOAC INTERNATIONAL
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ICYMI: The AOAC Board approved the Arab Section as AOAC's newest Regional Section earlier this week! #AOAC2022MYM attendees can tune in at 3 PM EDT today for a presentation on the creation of and goals for this new section.

NEW AOAC INTERNATIONAL SECTION

Arab Section

- Algeria · Bahrain · Comoros · Djibouti
- Egypt · Iraq · Jordan · Kuwait · Lebanon
- Libya · Mauritania · Morocco · Oman
- Palestinian Territories · Qatar
- Saudi Arabia · Somalia · Sudan · Syria
- Tunisia · United Arab Emirates · Yemen

The Creation of the Arab Section



The 19th regional section

<https://www.aoac.org/membership/sections/>

Arab Section (new in 2022!)

Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestinian Territories, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen

aoacarab.org

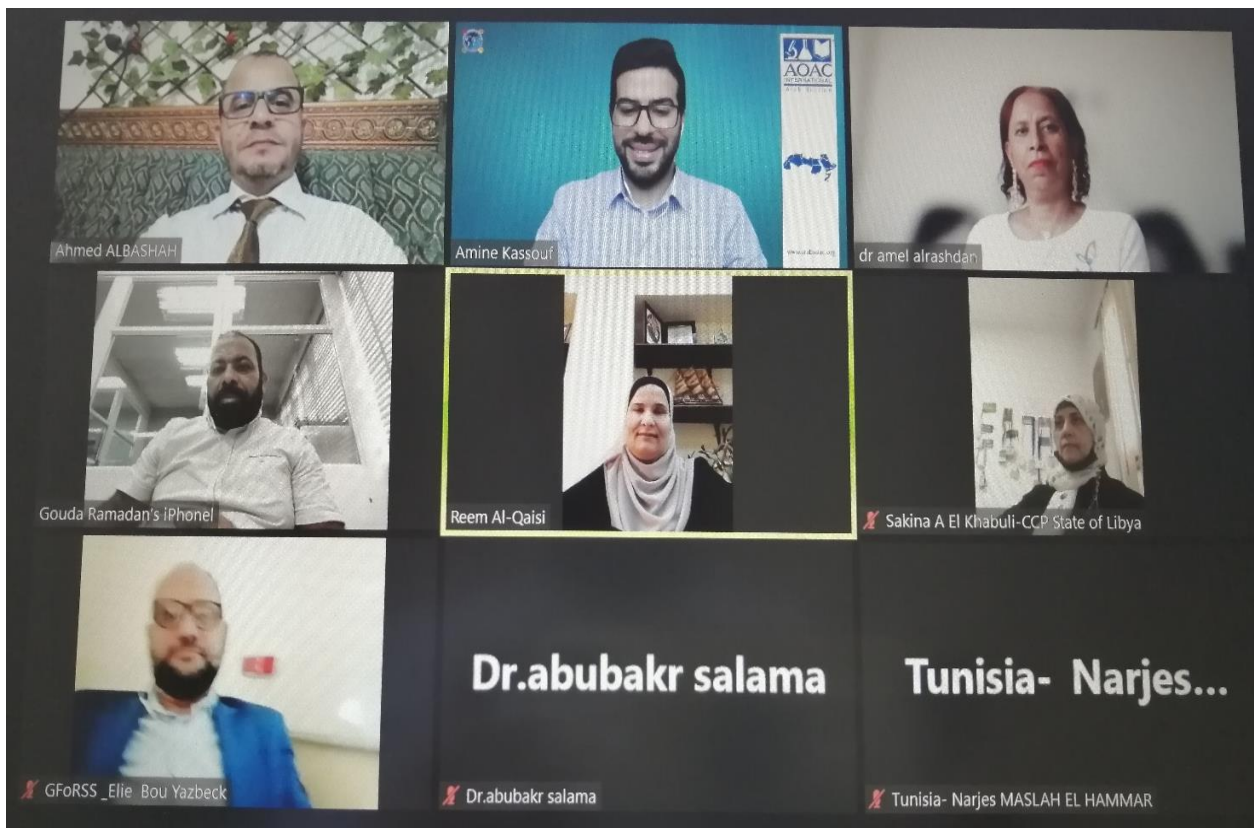
President: Amine Kassouf, PhD, Research Scientist, Global Food Regulatory Science Society (GFoRSS)



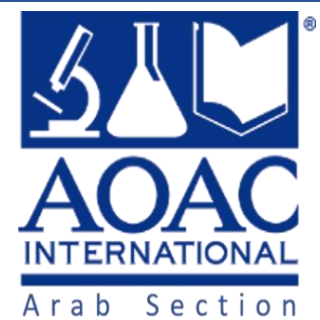
The Arab Section: Leadership

Creation of the Executive Committee of the Arab Section

12 members with a broad geographical representation of the Arab region.



The Arab Section: Purpose and Objectives



The Section shall promote quality measurements and methods validation in the analytical sciences” by:

- Promoting **interest and participation** in the AOAC INTERNATIONAL purpose and programs;
- Providing a **regional focus and forum for the AOAC INTERNATIONAL** and its members and for addressing analytical needs in the Arab region;
- Providing a **means of increasing the knowledge and technical** skills of food and agriculture analytical scientists, especially through seminars, forums, workshops and other similar technical updates;
- Providing a means to **improve communications with the AOAC INTERNATIONAL membership;**
- Identifying and communicating with appropriate non-member laboratories, organizations, educational institutions, firms and individuals in the Arab region in order to encourage their participation in Section and AOAC INTERNATIONAL programs; and
- Developing **cooperative relationships with educational institutions, government, industry,** and other organizations in the Arab region with an interest in analytical method development and validation.

The Arab Section Foundations



MISSION

To strengthen the contribution of Arab Countries in food conformity assessment activities through active participation in the development and validation of standard analytical methods.



VISION

To become a leader of analytical excellence, bringing together scientists from government, industry, and academia to establish standard methods of analysis that ensure the safety and integrity of foods and other products that impact public health in the Arab Region.



CORE VALUES

We aim to achieve our mission through encouraging the growth of our membership, rich in its diversity and by striving to ensure all our members feel rewarded in belonging to the Arab Section of AOAC INTERNATIONAL.

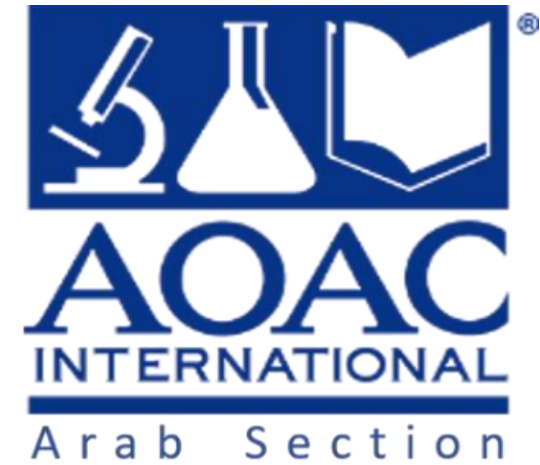
Strong Participation in Regional Events

12-13 June 2023 : Oman International

Food Safety Conference – Muscat

Launching the Arab Food Allergen

Management Initiative



**ARAB SECTION
OF AOAC INTERNATIONAL:
1st ANNUAL MEETING 2022**

*Towards Building a Food Analytical
Community in the Arab Region*

Location: World Trade Center – Dubai, United Arab Emirates (Hybrid Event)
Date: 31 October 2022 from 9:00 to 17:00

Organized by:
GFORSS | GLOBAL FOOD REGULATORY SCIENCE SOCIETY

For registration: www.gforss.org/networks/aoac-arab/

The poster also includes logos for AOAC International, the GCC Standardization Organization, and the Dubai Municipality. A photograph on the right shows a person in a lab coat and gloves using a pipette to transfer liquid into a flask. Social media icons for Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and LinkedIn are at the bottom right.

- What the method used by Relator **X** in the Arab Region ?
- Is it aligned with International Practices
- Is it Accessible to Producers ? To Service Providers ?
- What can be Used to Ascertain Performance



Promote Harmonization in Food Laboratory Methods

- ❑ Identification of Priorities
- ❑ Leveraging Efforts of AOAC International
- ❑ Develop Transparent and Reliable Guidance
- ❑ Create a Compendium of Official Analytical Methods for the Arab Region:



[Journal of Official Food Analytical Methods – Arab Region \(JOFAMAR\)](#)

مجلة الطرق التحليلية الرسمية للأغذية بالمنطقة العربية

Strong Partnership from the Region

**Development of Clear Guidelines for
Acceptance of Methods**

Pilot Approaches



Momentum for Initiative 1

INITIATIVE 1: CONVERGENCE IN ANALYTICAL METHODS FOR PESTICIDE RESIDUES IN FOOD

Reviewing methods currently being used for regulatory purposes

Agree on Reference Methods to be submitted for endorsement by the Arab Standardization Organization (AIDSMO) and the GCC Standardization Organization GSO

Capacity Building and Competency Enhancement on the Retained Methods



Momentum for Initiative 2

INITIATIVE 2: REVIEW AND CONVERGENCE OF ANALYTICAL METHODS TARGETING AFLATOXINS IN FOOD

Review methods currently being used for regulatory purposes, including Rapid Methods

Characterize Performance of Select Methods

Agree on Reference Methods to be submitted for endorsement by the Arab Standardization Organization (AIDSMO) and the GCC Standardization Organization GSO

Capacity Building and Competency Enhancement on the Retained Methods



INITIATIVE 3: AWARENESS RAISING OF FOOD ALLERGEN AND GLUTEN METHODS

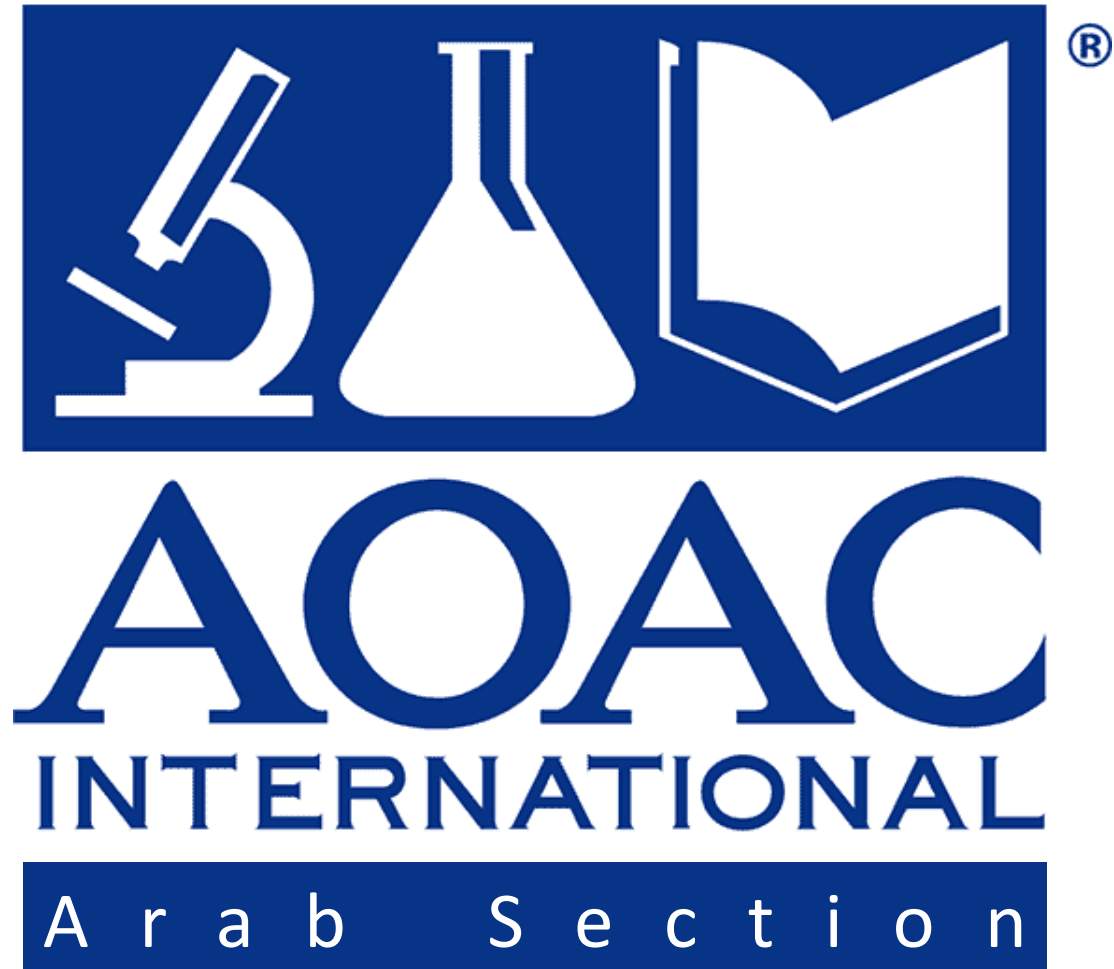
*Review methods currently being used for
Gluten Free Testing*

*Develop Guidance For Method Performance
and Acceptance*

*Capacity Building and Competency
Enhancement on the Retained Methods*



- ❑ On-Going Focus
- ❑ Facilitate Access to Proficiency Testing in the Arab Region, including opportunities to “localize” Programs
- ❑ Facilitate Access to Reference Material and Verification Samples in the Region
- ❑ Competency Enhancement in Food Laboratory Analysis



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A O A C
Arab Network



