



Meeting between the Arab Section of AOAC INTERNATIONAL and AOAC Southeast Asia Section

Record of Discussions

03 October 2024 – 11AM GMT+1

On Thursday, October 03, 2024, a virtual meeting was held via Zoom to discuss the potential collaborative initiatives between the Arab Section and Southeast Asia Section of AOAC INTERNATIONAL.

The meeting featured representatives from both the SEA AOAC Section and the Arab Section of AOAC INTERNATIONAL.

Meeting Participants:

Southeast Asia Section	Erik Konings	Mentor SEA Section
	Xinping Hou	President SEA Section
GForSS/Arab Section	Samuel Godefroy	President GForSS/IUFoST Vice President Arab Section
	Hajar Tiglifet	Secretary Arab Section
	Amine Kassouf	President Arab Section

The meeting was initiated with a brief overview by Prof. Samuel Godefroy, who presented the series of webinars organized by GForSS as a part of its knowledge dissemination strategy. An emphasis was made on the upcoming sessions, particularly the webinar on “Halal testing”. He also highlighted the significant role played by the Arab Section of AOAC INTERNATIONAL in supporting these webinars, particularly those related to analytical and laboratory sciences.

Dr. Xinping Hou expressed the full support of SEA AOAC Section to the webinar series particularly the webinar to be organized on November 12 on “Methods of Analysis Supporting Halal Food Certification”. Dr. Hou indicated also their willingness to disseminate information through their social media channels as appropriate.

Moreover, Dr. Hou highlighted three key initiatives within the Southeast Asia Section:

- Pesticide Residues in Herbs and Spices
- Cyanide in Cassava
- Mineral Oil Hydrocarbons (MOSH and MOAH) in Food

As explained by Dr. Hou, these initiatives were highlighted through consultation activities with the section's stakeholders and appropriate working groups were established to work on these topics. Dr. Hou invited the Arab Section to collaborate on these topics to advance inter-sectional work for the benefit of both sections' analytical communities.

Dr. Erik expressed gratitude for the opportunity and emphasized the importance of collaboration between the two sections as a key goal, leveraging existing networks to enhance the impact of both sections' activities.

Dr. Amine outlined the process for the forthcoming webinar titled "Methods of Analysis Supporting Halal Food Certification", which will be organized in partnership with the SEA AOAC section. He suggested to the SEA Section to name a speaker for the webinar, especially that the SEA region holds significant expertise in the field of Food Halal testing. Dr. Kassouf presented also some of the key initiatives that the Arab Section is currently implementing in the Arab region, supported by its partners, the Arab Industrial Development, Mining and Standardization Organization (AIDSMO), host of the Section and the GCC Standardization Organization (GSO) and other national partners. He emphasized on the interest of collaborating with the SEA section particularly on initiatives tackling Proficiency Testing (PT), pesticides residues and developing guidelines for analytical results interpretation, especially measurement uncertainties.

Conclusion

The meeting was a productive step towards establishing collaboration between the Arab and Southeast Asia Sections of AOAC INTERNATIONAL, focusing on shared goals in the field of analytical sciences.

