

## Core Team

### Test Methods for Halal Food Certification

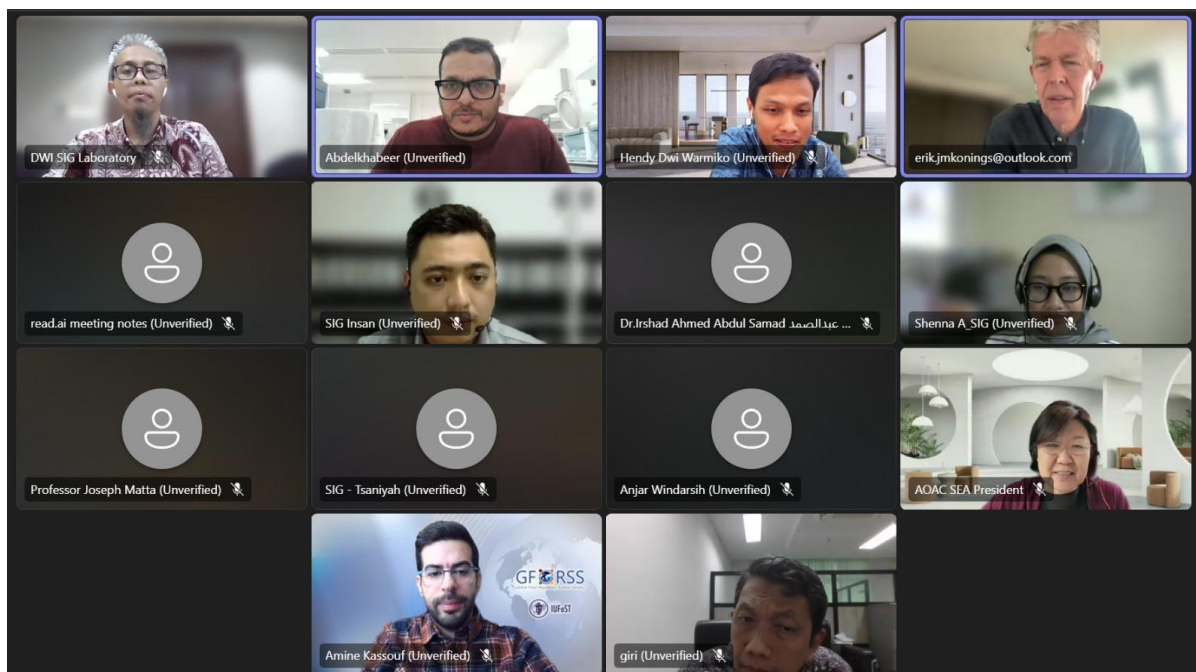
*1<sup>st</sup> Meeting*

### Minutes of Meeting

Thursday 22 January 2026

Virtually

5 PM (GMT+8)



Member	Organization	Country	Present	Regrets
Erik J.M. Konings, Ph.D.	AOAC International	Netherlands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Xinping Hou	AOAC Southeast Asia Section	Singapore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Amine Kassouf, Ph.D.	AOAC Arab Section	Lebanon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dwi Yulianto Laksono, S.Si.	SIG Laboratory	Indonesia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Irshad Ahmed	Ministry of Public Health	Qatar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Mahmoud Abdelkhabeer	Ministry of Public Health	Qatar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Giri Cahyono, S.Si., M.AP.	BPJPH	Indonesia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prof. Joseph Matta	Industrial Research Institute (IRI)	Lebanon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Associate Professor Asep Saefumillah, Ph.D.	Universitas Indonesia (UI)	Indonesia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hendy Dwi Warmiko, S.Si., M.M.	Corpora Science	Indonesia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Apt. Anjar Windarsih, M.Pharm.Sci., Ph.D.	BRIN	Indonesia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shenna Ayuningtyas, S.Si.	SIG Laboratory	Indonesia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Insan Patria Tiastadia, S.TP.	SIG Laboratory	Indonesia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## 1. General Notes

1. The meeting was the kickoff meeting involving experts from Southeast Asia and the Arab region. The main focus of the discussion was the technical and regulatory challenges in food testing to support halal certification.
2. Method Harmonization: There is an urgent need to harmonize testing methods (such as PCR for DNA and LC-MS/MS for peptides/proteins) across regions to avoid differences in test results that could hamper product imports and exports.
3. Technical Challenges: Participants discussed the difficulties in testing derivative products such as gelatin due to DNA degradation, so peptide-based methods (proteomics) were

considered more effective but more complex in terms of sample preparation and biomarker identification.

4. Indonesia currently focuses on alcohol, DNA, and peptide testing for supporting Halal certification; however, standardized methods utilizing LC-MS/MS or HRMS have not yet been established
5. Certification Issues in Indonesia: Mr. Giri from BPJPH highlighted disputes over halal test results related to peptide analysis and emphasized the need for standard reference methods in Indonesia.
6. Availability of Reference Materials: The team identified the lack of Certified Reference Materials (CRM) as a major obstacle to method validation in the laboratory.
7. Group Name: A proposal was made to use more scientific terminology, such as "Authenticity" rather than simply "Halal", to maintain the group's focus on global scientific aspects. This project aims to produce an internationally recognized guidance document or Official Methods to support the integrity of halal certification worldwide.

## **2. Next Steps and Coordination**

1. Stakeholder Questionnaire: Develop and distribute a questionnaire to regulators and laboratories in both regions to map method needs and existing regulatory barriers.
2. Review: Experts will review the draft questionnaire and provide input on the topic priorities. (All Members)
3. The next meeting is scheduled for February 26 to finalize the questionnaire before global dissemination. (All Members)