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para la
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y la
Alimentación

The FAO Regional Training Workshop: “Design and Evaluation of Mycotoxin Sampling Protocols”

**“Support to Capacity Building and Implementation of International Food Safety
Standards in ASEAN Countries” (GCP/RAS/280/JPN)
Metropolitan Manila, 11-12 September 2014, Philippines**

INFORMATION NOTE

Background

The FAO Regional project “Support to Capacity Building and Implementation of International Food Safety Standards in ASEAN Countries” GCP/RAS/280/JPN was launched on December 2011 as a five-year regional project for strengthening the capacities of ASEAN countries in contributing to Codex Standards-setting and Implementing the adopted Codex Standards.

The project has already organized two regional workshops; an inception workshop “Principles and further Activities for Codex Implementation” in September 2012 in Bangkok and a training workshop “Food Recall and Traceability -Application in National Food Safety Control” in February 2013 in Chiang Mai, and two regional training course “Strengthening Capacity of Data Collection and Generation for Food Safety Risk Analysis” in June 2013 in Tokyo and “Establishment and Application of Microbiological Criteria” in November 2013 in Hanoi.

Mycotoxins are toxic and/or carcinogenic metabolites produced by several fungi that can grow on grains, nuts, and many other agricultural crops. The subsequent impacts of mycotoxin contamination of agricultural commodities on human and animal health as well as on national and international trade are increasingly concerning both developing and developed countries.

It is important to be able to detect and quantify the mycotoxin concentration in foods and feeds destined for human and animal consumption and remove lots from the supply chain when the estimated lot concentration exceeds maximum levels established by food/feed regulatory agencies.

FAO recently developed a Mycotoxin Sampling Tool for designing sampling plans on different mycotoxin/commodity combinations regarding impacts of mycotoxin contamination.

This Mycotoxin Sampling Tool provides support in analysing performance of sampling plans, and determining the most appropriate plan to meet user's defined objectives:

- The user can evaluate the effect of varying sampling plan design parameters, such as sample size, on the performance of the sampling plan.
- Using the performance information, the user can determine the most appropriate mycotoxin sampling plan to minimize risk of misclassifying lots considering available resources.

Adapting and effective use of this tool is very beneficial to member countries and based on requests received, FAORAP is organising this training workshop for clear understanding and proper use the tool for enhancing capacity of stakeholders in ASEAN country under the activity of the project.

Objectives

The general objective of the training workshop is to enhance capacity of expected users of Mycotoxin sampling tool. Specific objectives are as follows;

- 1) To understand the role of sampling and testing in modern food control
- 2) To understand the definition of sampling protocol and theory of sampling
- 3) To understand the specific challenges related to mycotoxins sampling in food commodities
- 4) To understand functions and features of FAO mycotoxin sampling tool
- 5) To enhance the capacity to use the tool through hands on training using practical examples
- 6) To understand the possibility of future application of the tool

Training Course Methodology

The training workshop methodology will be consist of lectures, practice on using the tool including hands-on training using practical examples.

Expected Outputs

- 1) Enhanced knowledge of sampling and testing in modern food control
- 2) Enhanced knowledge of mycotoxins sampling in food commodities
- 3) Understanding of the FAO mycotoxin sampling tool and capacity developed to use the same

Profile of Participants

Participants should preferably be involved in food safety control at national and/or international level, the work of Codex Alimentarius, and represent national agencies involved in food control management. Participants are expected to have basic knowledge of mycotoxins and other aspects of microbiological risk assessment particularly data sampling and collecting. Participants are requested to bring their own personal computers (PCs) with installed necessary software which will be intimated in advance.

As the training course will be conducted in English, all those attending must be fluent in that language. Female candidates are encouraged.

Travel Arrangement

FAO will provide the air ticket and accommodation for two selected participants from the ASEAN countries in line with FAO's rules and regulations on travel, which includes:

- 1) One economy class airplane return ticket (least cost and most direct route). Air ticket will be provided through FAO Representations in the countries of the participants or FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific for the participants where there is no FAO Representations.
- 2) Accommodation
Accommodation at the venue of the training workshop will be arranged for the participants during 10-13 September 2014. The organiser will arrange on a single room basis for each participant. Breakfast and lunch from 11-12 September will be provided at the venue of the training workshop.
- 3) Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) and En-Route Expenses
Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) will only be provided during FAO training workshop 11-12 September 2014. This will be paid through FAO Representations in the participants' countries prior to their travel to Metropolitan Manila. Those participants from the countries which have no FAO Representation will be paid upon their arrival in Metropolitan Manila.

En-route expenses of a fixed amount as per FAO Rules will be provided which covers costs such as visa application (if necessary), transportation from/to airport

For any question, please address these to Ms Luisa Kosaisaevee, Project Assistant/Secretary to the workshop at Luisa.Kosaisaevee@fao.org.