



Who Are We?

A Forum of Stakeholders
Who Come together to
Develop Science-based Solutions



■ What Kinds of Methods

- Foods (honey, seafood, produce, water...)
- Trace Level Chemical Analysis
- Quick screens and Confirmatory
- Veterinary Drugs
- Pesticides
- Metals
- Industrial Chemicals
- Dyes
- Unknowns
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CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS AND RESIDUES IN FOOD

- **Members**



- International Stakeholders
- Food Industry Representatives
- Trade Organizations
- Export / Import Distributors
- Instrument / Kit Manufacturers
- Private laboratory Scientists
- Government Regulators
- Academic Scientists
- AOAC Volunteers and Methods Experts



CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS AND RESIDUES IN FOOD

- **How do you become a Member?**

- Complete application
- Submit to Chairs
- Chairs' approval based on:
 - Complete information
 - Relevant profession / experience
 - Expertise in chemical contaminants
- Acceptance via e-mail
- Member data maintained by Chairs
- Member data available to other members
- Member list provided to AOAC Board of Directors annually



CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS AND RESIDUES IN FOOD

- Terms of Reference

- Approved by Board of Directors, August 2007
- Describes Policies & Procedures of the Community
- Does not say "how"



CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS AND RESIDUES IN FOOD

- Mission

- To reach consensus on
 - methods needs
 - performance criteria
 - level of validation for methods
 - validation study design
- contribute to methods development and validation



■ Responsibilities

- Establish international stakeholder forum
- Establish consensus-based system of governance
- Ensure active participation of community members
- Identify & advance stakeholder sponsored projects
- Stay on track and within mission
- Work with AOAC-appointed method experts
- Work with AOAC staff



■ Responsibilities

- Prioritize most needed methodologies
- Identify & work with stakeholder sponsors
- Form balanced subgroups of industry, government and academia
- Call for methods
- Work with expert review panels
- Plan, evaluate and report on Community activities

■ Composition

- Community Co-Chairs
- Community members
- Subgroups and subgroup Chairs
- Community Voting members
- AOAC-appointed methods advisors
- AOAC staff support

■ Co-Chairs

- AOAC members, appointed by President, may not be AOAC methods experts
 - Represent own stakeholder interests
 - Establish system of governance
 - Assure fair, transparent & defensible decisions by consensus
 - Appoint other community officers
 - Appoint subgroup chairs
 - Approve community & subgroup members
 - Report on Community activities

■ Community members

- **Approved by the Chairs**
 - Meetings open to all interested parties
 - Share contact information
 - Actively participate
 - Respond to communications
 - Follow through on assignments
 - Prepare for meetings
 - Attend meetings

■ Subgroup Chairs

- members of the Community
appointed by Community Chairs
- Recommend subgroup members
 - Recommend two subgroup members as voting members to the community
 - Assure consensus based governance
 - Report subgroup activities to subgroup and Community Chairs

■ Subgroups

- Meetings open to all interested parties
 - Identify & prioritize methods needs
 - Achieve consensus on needed performance criteria
 - Work with AOAC methods experts
 - Recommend needed level of validation
 - Recommend validation study design
 - Work with AOAC methods experts
 - Recommend methods for full collaboration

■ Voting Members

- Two members from each subgroup
 - Two year renewable term
 - Six to ten community members at large
 - Approve subgroup recommendations
 - Requires 2/3 agreement on motions
 - Recommend studies for Committee consideration

AOAC-appointed methods advisors

- If AOAC official method needed
- After needs and performance criteria established
- Guide and advise on good scientific practices in methods development, design and validation
- Stakeholders recommend performance criteria, design and validation level

AOAC-assigned staff

- Arrange meetings
- Arrange conference calls
- Maintain e-communities
- Maintain website
- Assist at meetings
- Facilitate communication
- Provide administrative assistance