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Международное агентство по атомной энергии
Organismo Internacional de Energía Atómica

**Joint FAO/IAEA Division
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FAO/IAEA Training and Reference Centre for Food and Pesticide Control

PROSPECTUS for a Train-the-Trainers Workshop on Screening/Post-screening Techniques for Veterinary Drug Residues

Place: FAO/IAEA Agriculture and Biotechnology Laboratory, IAEA Laboratories,
Seibersdorf, Austria

Date: 12–23 October 2009

Background to the workshop:

In recent years, the issue of veterinary drug residues in animal-derived foods has become increasingly important in many developing countries. Concerns over veterinary drug usage and residues are primarily related to food safety, human health and the need to meet requirements for international trade. The control of veterinary drug residues is achieved through the regulation of veterinary pharmaceuticals and the application of good farming/production practices, in combination with effective surveillance systems and follow-up strategies. Analytical laboratories play an important role in the verification of the quality of the food commodity, in feeding back information on the effectiveness of control programmes and in the provision of information services to farmers and producers, either directly or through extension services.

Current international guidelines and regulations require that countries intending to export foods of animal origin must have programmes in place to ensure that food products do not contain residues of banned drugs, or concentrations of legally used drugs exceeding national or international maximum residue limits, and that the laboratories certifying compliance with regulatory levels must implement appropriate quality control and quality assurance systems. These programmes are important not only with regard to international trade, but also to guarantee the safety, quality and security of domestic food supplies.

In order to effectively implement surveillance programmes, laboratory staff must be familiar with the appropriate screening and quantitative techniques, as well as with the principles of ISO Standard 17025.

Objectives:

To provide information and strengthen the awareness of scientists and laboratory middle-management of the relevant guidelines and regulations and the theoretical and technical aspects of screening and post-screening techniques for the detection of veterinary drug residues; including radio-assay, microbial inhibition, immunological, thin layer chromatographic (TLC) and high-performance liquid chromatographic (HPLC) techniques; to introduce the quality assurance/quality control principles according to ISO Standard 17025 that are relevant to veterinary drug residue analysis; and to discuss

the various possible roles of quality assured laboratories in monitoring the effectiveness of good farming practices. The workshop will not address mass spectrometric confirmatory methods.

The information and training material provided is intended to facilitate further training by the workshop participants of personnel in their home countries.

Language: Presentations will be in English.

Participation:

The course is open to analysts from Member States of FAO or the IAEA. The analysts should come from laboratories involved in monitoring veterinary drug residues in food commodities for food safety and to comply with national or international regulations or guidelines.

Preconditions for participation:

Candidates must be nominated by a relevant government department.

Qualifications: The minimum requirements are: BSc degree in chemistry, biochemistry or a related relevant subject, or qualifications deemed by the organizers to be equivalent, 2 years' experience in a food contaminants/residues laboratory, and sufficient knowledge of English to be able to communicate and to take an active part in the programme of the course.

Commitment of nominated participants:

- Participants are requested to complete the questionnaire, attached to this prospectus,
- Participants are requested to pass a medical examination and submit a health certificate
- Participants should be prepared to make a short presentation (about 5 minutes, maximum 5 slides) during the first week of the workshop. The presentation should focus on the roles and activities of the participant's laboratory within the national programme on food safety and the implementation of good farming practices. Further details will be provided to candidates selected to participate in the workshop.

Application dossier:

The application dossier should consist of:

- an official nomination letter (including request for funding if appropriate – see below)
- a completed questionnaire (see attached document)
- a Language Proficiency Certificate, issued by a language school or cultural institution or the British Embassy
- a medical certificate

The International Atomic Energy Agency requires potential candidates for the training workshop to be officially nominated by their governments. This means that Government Officials (i.e. Heads of the Governmental Institutions) should prepare an official letter addressed to the IAEA, stating the name of the potential candidate and providing information on the financial support (see below) of the candidates. The nomination letter should be sent either directly to the IAEA (see address below) or through the local FAO Representative, the FAO National Committee, or the National Atomic Energy Authority.

The application dossier should be returned to:

Mr Andrew Cannavan
International Atomic Energy Agency
Wagramer Strasse 5, PO Box 100
1400 Vienna, Austria
Fax: +43 1 26007
Email: Official.Mail@iaea.org

with reference to: FAO/IAEA Train-the trainers Workshop on Screening/Post-screening Techniques for Veterinary Drug Residues.

Advanced nominations by facsimile or email are encouraged.

Deadline for submitting the **application dossier:**

13 July 2009

Acceptance of nominations:

The nominating institutions will be informed about the selection of participants approximately 2 months before the workshop.

Administrative and financial arrangements:

The 3-week training programme will be provided free of charge by FAO and the IAEA. The accommodation, living expenses and the travel cost of the participants shall be borne by the nominating governments. Limited funds are available to support the participation of analysts from least developed countries. Requests to benefit from this support should be made by the respective governments in writing and submitted along with the candidate's nomination. Health and accident insurance in connection with the workshop will be borne by the Sponsoring Organizations during the participants' stay in Austria.

The organizers of the workshop do not accept liability for the payment of any cost or compensation that may arise from damage to or loss of personal property, or from illness, injury, disability or death of a participant while he/she is travelling to and from Austria. The Governments nominating participants should undertake responsibility for such coverage.

Programme:

The programme comprises on site lectures and laboratory work in the following subjects:

- Codex standards, guidelines and recommended international codes of practice for the control of the use of veterinary drugs
- Veterinary drug residue testing in the context of food safety
- Sample preparation
- Screening techniques (radio-assay, microbial inhibition tests, immunoassay)
- Chromatographic theory and practical applications of TLC & HPLC
- Statistical treatment and interpretation of analytical results
- Quality assurance systems and quality assurance/quality control measures in analytical laboratories
- Laboratory accreditation and mutual recognition
- Method validation and principles of estimation of uncertainty of results
- The role of analytical laboratories related to good farming practices

Training Certificate:

A certificate will be presented to participants who successfully complete the programme.