

# **Briefing on Outsourcing of Food Tests: Review and Way Forward**

**Government Laboratory  
November 2025**



政府化驗所  
Government Laboratory

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# National Security and Authenticity Checks



# National Security

- The Government reserves the right to disqualify a Service Provider on the grounds that the Service Provider has engaged, is engaging, or is reasonably believed to have engaged or be engaging in acts or activities that are likely to cause or constitute the occurrence of offences endangering national security.

# Authenticity Checks and Contract Management

- Legal status and authorisation, e.g. company registry
- Adverse background checking
- Authenticity of submitted documents, e.g. HOKLAS accreditation
- Laboratory inspection
- Quality check samples
- Special attention to new comers



# **Food Monitoring and Handling of Test Results**



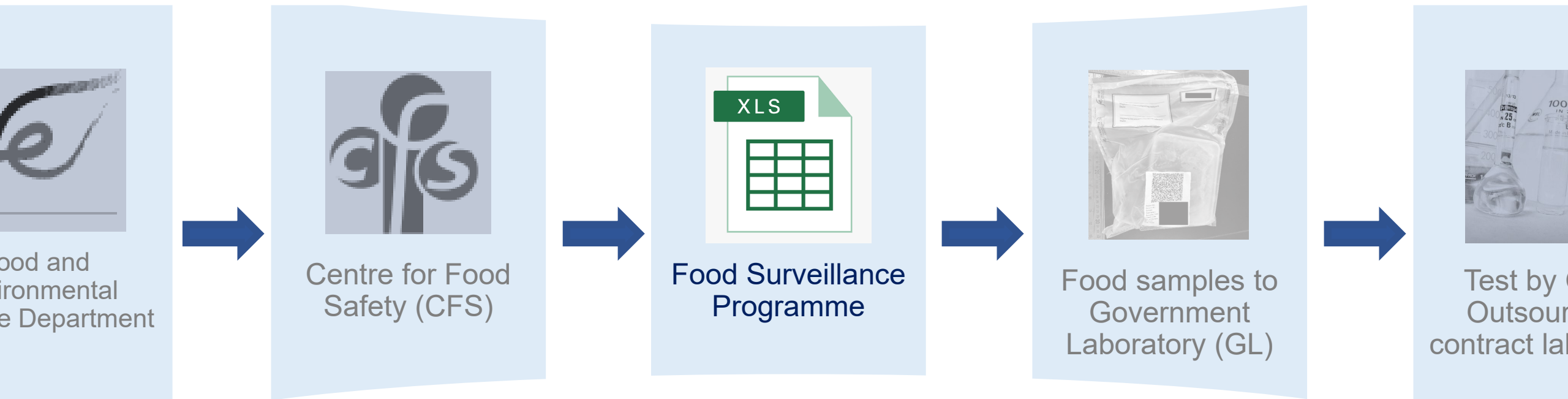
# Food Monitoring



# Food Monitoring



# Food Monitoring



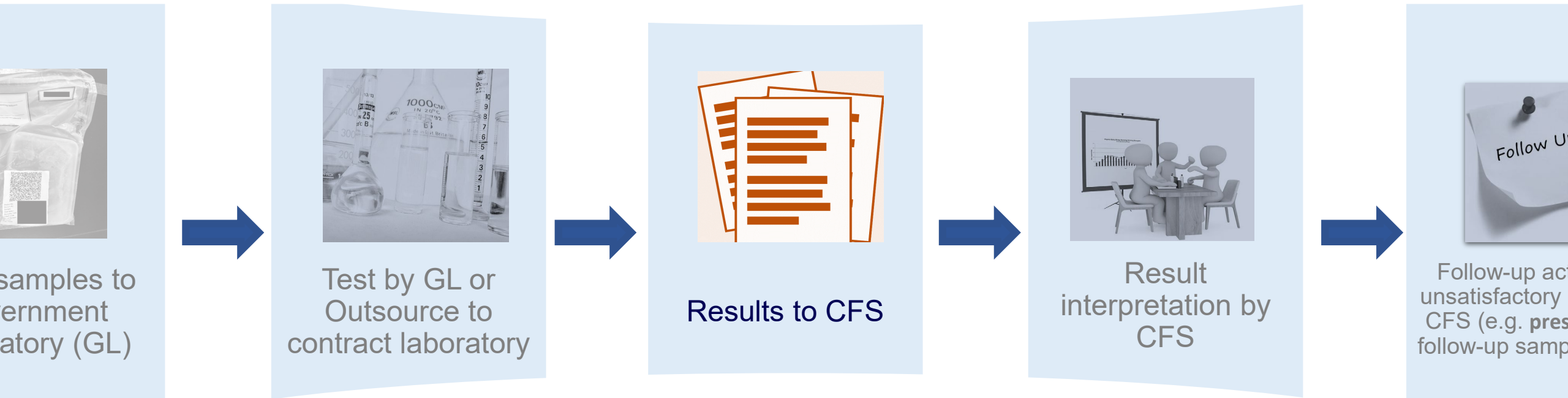
# Food Monitoring



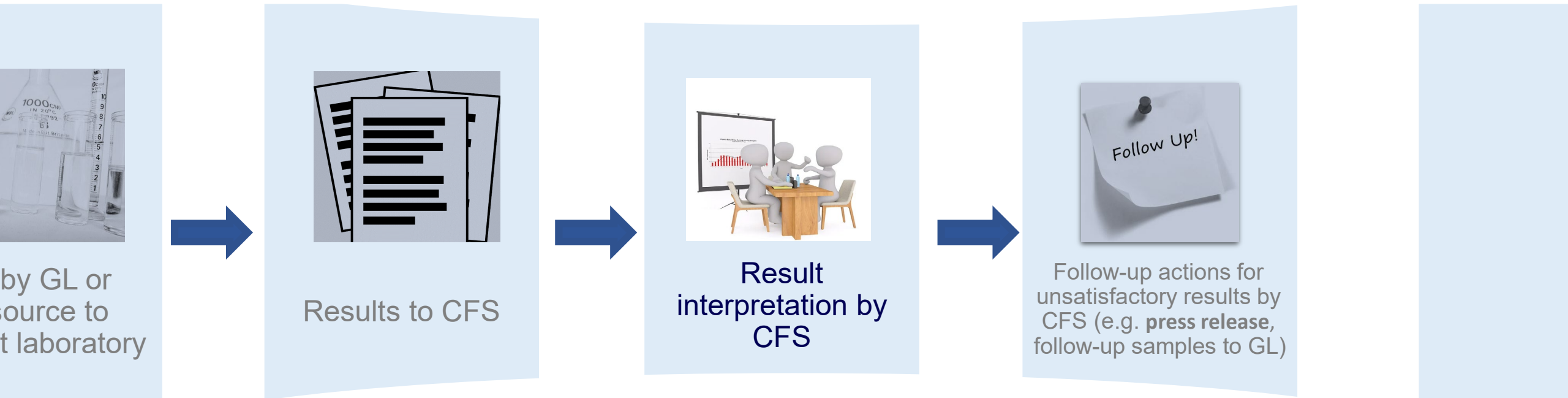
# Food Monitoring



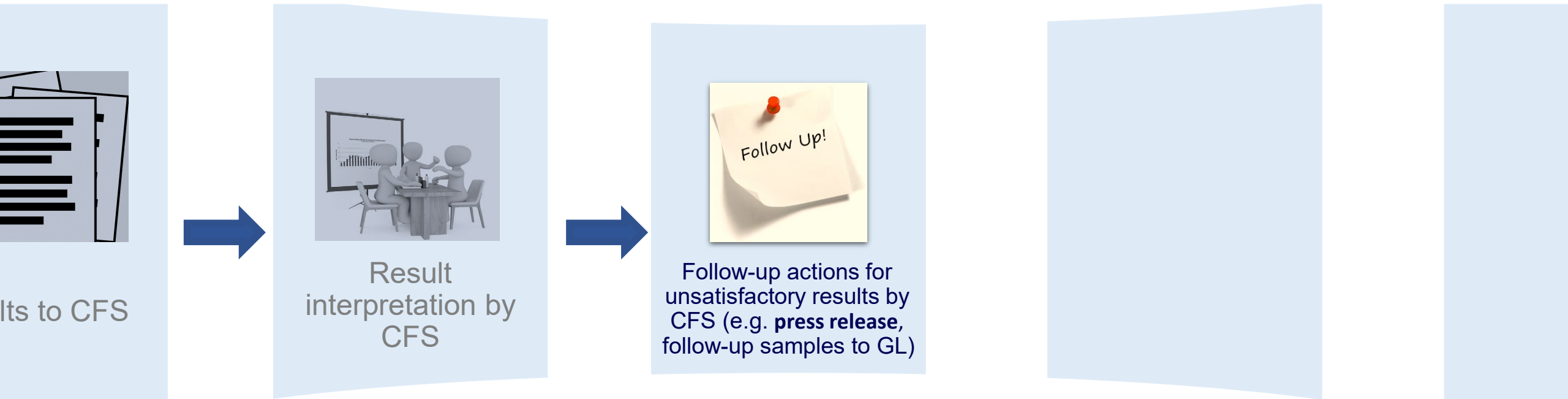
# Food Monitoring



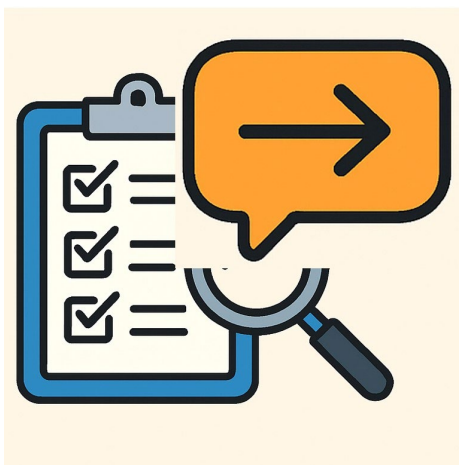
# Food Monitoring



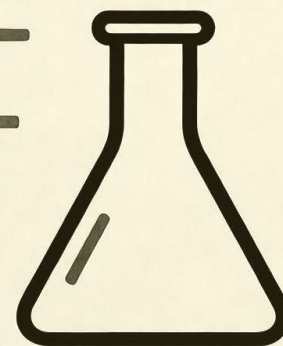
# Food Monitoring



# Handling of test results from contract laboratories



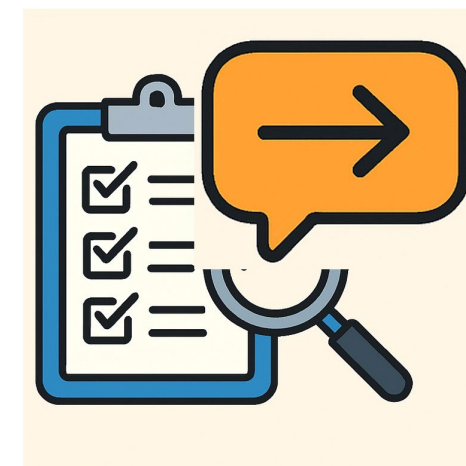
## Test report



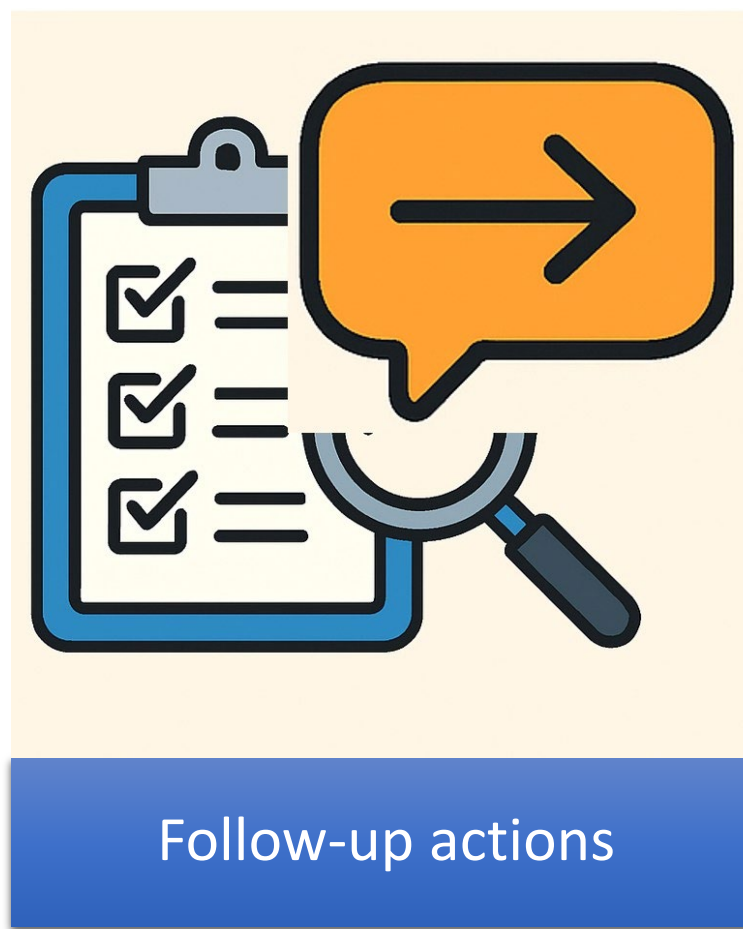
Review Test Report



# Handling of test results from contract laboratories



# Handling of test results from contract laboratories



# Handling of test results from contract laboratories

- Test reports and test results
  - HOKLAS endorsed reports or reports endorsed by an accreditation body recognised by HKAS under a mutual recognition arrangement (MRA)
  - Signed by an approved signatory
  - Sample information, test data and other relevant particulars
  - Test results in Excel file (template provided by GL)



# Handling of test results from contract laboratories

- QC and other relevant information
  - Quality control data
    - Method blank, matrix spike, duplicate, laboratory control samples, CRM (if applicable), etc.
  - Information (e.g. photos) on the appearance, labelling (esp. important for samples containing sulphur dioxide) and the packaging of the sample
  - Relevant raw data in electronic file
    - Including instrumental printout, worksheets for test samples and quality control data



# Handling of test results from contract laboratories

- Follow-up
  - Measurement uncertainty
  - Repeated analysis
  - Confirmation (by second technique or changes of instrumental conditions, e.g. another column). Some contracts (e.g. aflatoxins) require MS/MS for confirmation)
  - Return remaining samples to GL



# Handling of test results from contract laboratories

- Follow-up
  - Other requirements specified in regulations (Example)
    - Food Adulteration (Metallic Contamination) Regulations (Cap. 132V):
      - Section 3 (2) (b): “.... *specified food that has gone through a process of drying, dehydration or concentration ....*”
      - Section 3 (4): “.... *If all ingredients of a compounded food are specified food, the maximum level of a specified metal in the compound food is the sum of the maximum level of the specified metal in each ingredient multiplied by the proportion ....*”

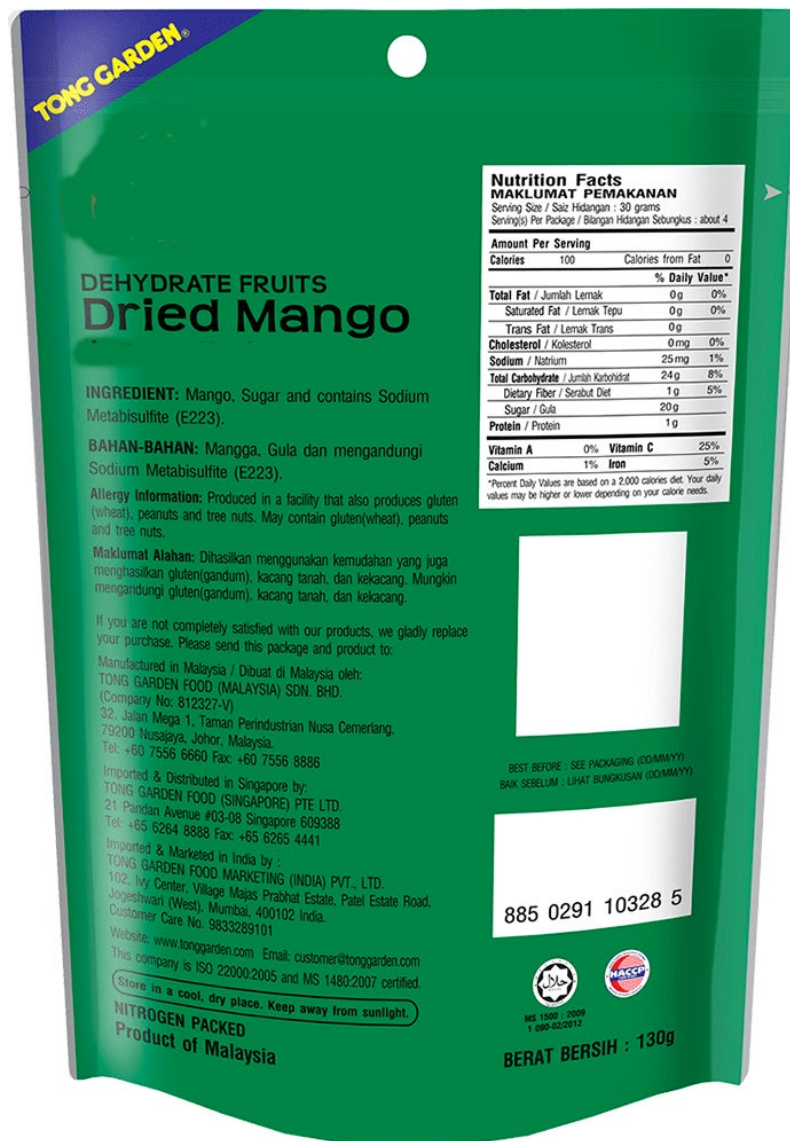


# Handling of test results from contract laboratories

- Follow-up
  - Other requirements specified in regulations (Example: Sulphur dioxide)
    - Preservatives in Food Regulation (Cap. 132BD) :
      - *Specific preservatives/antioxidants not exceeding the maximum permitted level are allowed to be used as food additives in the corresponding foods in Hong Kong.*
    - Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) Regulations (Cap. 132W) :
      - *If the food contains sulphite (sulphur dioxide) in a concentration of 10 parts per million or more, the name and functional class of the sulphite shall be specified in the list of ingredients.*

Reference : [https://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/faq/faq\\_03.html](https://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/faq/faq_03.html)







# Salient Points

- Accredited in corresponding tests
  - Maintaining accreditation status (i.e. scope and reporting limit) from application to the end of contract period
- Test parameters in specified matrices
- Specified reporting limits
- Delivery time of results
  - 3 – 15 working days
- Testing capacity
  - 20 – 150 samples per week



# Salient Points

- Test sample collection
  - within 1 working day upon notification
  - GL Headquarters at Homantin
- Retention of remaining test samples
- Past performance will be taken into account when future quotations are evaluated



# Review of Outsourcing Contracts in 2025-26

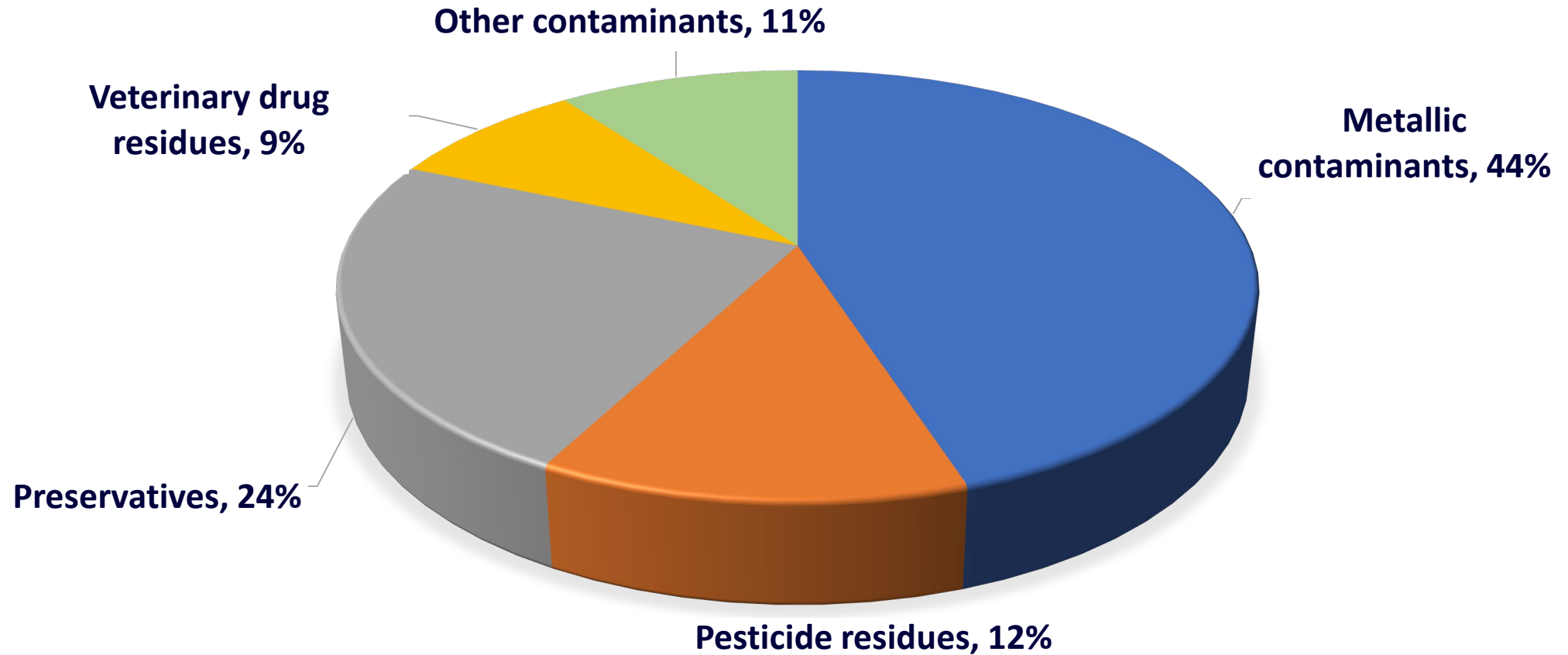


# Outsourcing in 2025-26

- 22 contracts
  - Total about 129,600 tests
  - Contract period: from 5 months to 1 year
  - Quotation exercises ended in September 2025
- Invitations to quotation
  - Phase I , January 2025 (8 contracts)
  - Phase II, February 2025 (8 contracts)
  - Phase III, May 2025 (3 contracts)
  - Phase IV, June 2025 (2 contracts)
  - Phase V, September 2025 (1 contract)



# Sample Distribution in 2025-26



# Cap. 132 Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance

- Cap. 132H Colouring Matter in Food Regulations
- Cap. 132V Food Adulteration (Metallic Contamination) Regulations
- Cap. 132W Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) Regulations
- Cap. 132AF Harmful Substances in Food Regulations
- Cap. 132BD Preservatives in Food Regulation
- Cap. 132CM Pesticide Residues in Food Regulation



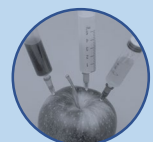
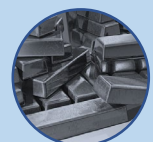
# Issued Contracts (Preservatives)

- Sulphur dioxide and other preservatives
  - 1 contract (12 months) for SO<sub>2</sub> in general foodstuffs
  - 1 contract (12 months) for SO<sub>2</sub>, 3 acids (benzoic acid, sorbic acid, salicylic acid) and parabens in general foodstuffs
  - 1 contract (6 months) for SO<sub>2</sub>, 2 acids (benzoic acid, sorbic acid) and parabens in general foodstuffs
  - Reporting limits: 8 mg/kg for SO<sub>2</sub>, 30 mg/kg for parabens and 50 mg/kg for acids



# Issued Contracts (Preservatives)

- Nitrite (as  $\text{NaNO}_2$ ) and nitrate (as  $\text{NaNO}_3$ )
  - 1 contract (12 months) in meat and dairy products
  - Reporting limits: 5 mg/kg for nitrite (as  $\text{NaNO}_2$ ) and 30 mg/kg for nitrate (as  $\text{NaNO}_3$ )
- Propionic acid
  - 1 contract (6 months) in flour confectionery
  - Reporting limit: 50 mg/kg



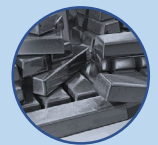
# Issued Contracts (Pesticides)

- Pesticide residues
  - Pesticide Residues in Food Regulation (Cap. 132CM)
  - 6 contracts (5-12 months): Lists 25A, 25B, 25C, 25D, 25E, 25F
  - Matrices: Fruit, vegetables (including bulb vegetables) and cereal grains
  - Residue definitions in accordance with Cap. 132CM
  - Reporting limit: according to maximum residue limit (MRL) on quotation documents



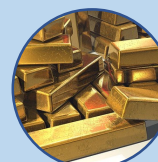
# Issued Contracts (Veterinary Drug Residues)

- Chloramphenicol
  - 1 contract (12 months) in meat and aquatic products
  - Reporting limit: 0.3 µg/kg
- Malachite green
  - 1 contract (12 months) in aquatic products
  - Malachite Green (MG) and Leucomalachite Green (LMG)
  - Reporting limit: MG and LMG: 0.5 µg/kg each



# Issued Contracts (Metallic Contaminants)

- Metallic contaminants
  - 3 contracts (each 12 months) on total heavy metals (As, Sb, Cd, Cr, Pb, Hg, Sn)
    - Heavy metals (1-7M) in general foodstuffs
    - Heavy metals (1-6M) in general foodstuffs (No Sn)
    - Heavy metals in miscellaneous foods
  - 2 contracts (each 12 months) on elemental speciation
    - Methylmercury in fish
    - Inorganic arsenic in rice and aquatic products



# Issued Contracts (Metallic contaminants)

Reporting Limits (mg/kg)	Heavy metals (1-7M) in general foodstuffs e.g. vegetables, sauces, compound foods	Heavy metals (1-6M) in general foodstuffs e.g. cereals, rice, flour	Heavy metals in miscellaneous foods e.g. meat, fish, fruits, canned foods
Arsenic (as total As)	0.1	0.1	0.1
Antimony	0.2	0.2	0.2
Cadmium	0.02	0.02	0.02
Chromium	0.2	0.2	0.2
Lead	0.05	0.05	0.1
Mercury (as total Hg)	0.01	0.01	0.03
Tin	10	----	10



# Issued Contracts (Other Contaminants)

- Methylmercury

- 1 contract (12 months) in fish
- Reporting limits: 0.5 mg/kg

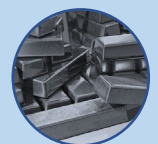
- Inorganic arsenic

- 1 contract (12 months) in rice and aquatic products
- Reporting limit: 0.1 mg/kg



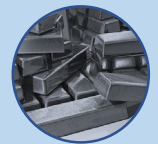
# Issued Contracts (Other Contaminants)

- Sudan dyes
  - 1 contract (12 months) in general foodstuffs
  - Sudan I, II, III, IV, Sudan Orange G, Sudan Red 7B, Dimethyl Yellow
  - Reporting limits: 10 µg/kg each
- Melamine
  - 1 contract (12 months) in general foodstuffs and liquid infant formula
  - Reporting limit: 1 mg/kg (General foodstuff)
  - Reporting limit: 0.15 mg/kg (Liquid infant formula)



# Issued Contracts (Other Contaminants)

- Boric acid
  - 1 contract (6 months) in general foodstuffs
  - Reporting limit: 50 mg/kg
- Aflatoxins
  - 1 contract (12 months) in oils, nuts and cereals
  - Reporting limit: 0.5 µg/kg each of aflatoxin B1, B2, G1, G2



# Way Forward: Outsourcing Contracts in 2026-27



# Outsourcing Contracts in 2026-27

- Around 130,000 tests
- Some contracts begin in April 2026
  - Invitations to quotation will be sent in January / February 2026
- Contract period
  - From 5 months to 1 year



# Technical Specifications (Entry requirements)

## PART 5

### TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

- (a) All requirements stated below in the clause or sub-clause(s) within such clause are mandatory requirements. **If the Service Provider indicates non-compliance with any mandatory requirement in the Technical Specifications, its quotation will not be considered further.**
- (b) Service Providers must indicate below, point by point, whether their offered service complies fully with the specifications. Details must be given if the offer deviates from our requirements. Please use a separate sheet with clear indication, if there is not enough space.

Detailed Mandatory Requirements		Compliance (tick as appropriate)	
Item	Description	Yes	No
1.	Service Provider shall be able to provide laboratory services in Hong Kong.		
2.	<p>Service Provider shall be accredited by Hong Kong Accreditation Service (HKAS) under Hong Kong Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (HOKLAS) or by an accreditation body recognised by HKAS under an MRA, before the Quotation Closing Date, with the Scope of Accreditation including the testing of Arsenic, Antimony, Cadmium, Chromium, Lead, Mercury and Tin in general foodstuffs.</p> <p>Name of accreditation body: _____</p> <p><u>Note:</u> Please provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) a copy of notification letter / accreditation certificate(s) and relevant page(s) of official document issued by the accreditation body (e.g. assessment report) indicating the accredited reporting limit(s) pertaining to the test scope as in Clause 3 of Terms of Quotation;</li> <li>(ii) a summary of test methods accredited by the accreditation body for the provision of service, including the reporting limits and measurement uncertainties of all test parameters as given in the Services Specifications;</li> <li>(iii) contact information (e.g. email address) of the accreditation body, if other than HKAS, as the Government Representative may verify the accreditation status of the Service Provider with the accreditation body; and</li> <li>(iv) other relevant documents deemed necessary for quotation evaluation.</li> </ul>		



Detailed Mandatory Requirements		(tick as appropriate)	
Item	Description	Yes	No
1.	Service Provider shall be able to provide laboratory services in Hong Kong.	✓	
2.	<p>Service Provider shall be accredited by Hong Kong Accreditation Service (HKAS) under Hong Kong Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (HOKLAS) or by an accreditation body recognised by HKAS under an MRA, before the Quotation Closing Date, with the Scope of Accreditation including the testing of Arsenic, Antimony, Cadmium, Chromium, Lead, Mercury and Tin in general foodstuffs.</p> <p>Name of accreditation body: <u>          H K A S          </u></p> <p><u>Note:</u> Please provide:</p> <p>(i) a copy of notification letter / accreditation certificate(s) and relevant page(s) of official document issued by the accreditation body (e.g. assessment report) indicating the accredited reporting limit(s) pertaining to the test scope as in Clause 3 of Terms of Quotation;</p> <p>(ii) a summary of test methods accredited by the accreditation body for the provision of service, including the reporting limits and measurement uncertainties of all test parameters as given in the Services Specifications;</p> <p>(iii) contact information (e.g. email address) of the accreditation body, if other</p>	✓	

**Government Laboratory – Analytical and Advisory Services Division**

政府化驗所 – 分析及諮詢事務部

7/F, Homantin Government Offices, 88 Chung Hau Street, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

香港九龍何文田忠孝街八十八號何文田政府合署七樓

Food 食品			
ITEM TESTED OR MEASURED 測試或量度項目	SPECIFIC TEST OR PROPERTY MEASURED 特定測試或量度的特性	SPECIFICATION, STANDARD METHOD OR TECHNIQUE USED 規範、標準方法或應用技術	LOR
General foodstuff	Preservatives :-		(ppm)
	- Benzoic acid, sorbic acid, salicylic acid, methyl p-hydroxybenzoate, ethyl p-hydroxybenzoate and propyl p-hydroxybenzoate	In-house Method GL-AD-5(A)	20
			20
			20
			20
	- Benzoic acid and sorbic acid	In-house Method GL-AD-5(B)	20
	- Methyl p-hydroxybenzoate, ethyl p-hydroxybenzoate and propyl p-hydroxybenzoate	In-house Method GL-AD-5(C)	20
			20
			20

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**Food 食品**

ITEM TESTED OR MEASURED 測試或量度項目	SPECIFIC TEST OR PROPERTY MEASURED 特定測試或量度的特性	SPECIFICATION, STANDARD METHOD OR TECHNIQUE USED 規範、標準方法或應用技術	LOR
General foodstuff	Preservatives		(ppm)
	- Benzoic acid, sorbic acid, salicylic acid, methyl p-hydroxybenzoate, ethyl p-hydroxybenzoate and propyl p-hydroxybenzoate	In-house Method GL-AD-5(A)	20
	- Benzoic acid and sorbic acid	In-house Method GL-AD-5(B)	20
	- Methyl p-hydroxybenzoate, ethyl p-hydroxybenzoate and propyl p-hydroxybenzoate	In-house Method GL-AD-5(C)	20

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Food 食品			
ITEM TESTED OR MEASURED 量度項目	SPECIFIC TEST OR PROPERTY MEASURED 特定測試或量度的特性	SPECIFICATION, STANDARD METHOD OR TECHNIQUE USED 規範、標準方法或應用技術	LOR
General foodstuff	Preservatives :-		
	- Benzoic acid, sorbic acid, salicylic acid, methyl p-hydroxybenzoate, ethyl p-hydroxybenzoate and propyl p-hydroxybenzoate	In-house Method GL-AD-5(A)	(ppm) 20
	- Benzoic acid and sorbic acid	In-house Method GL-AD-5(B)	20
	- Methyl p-hydroxybenzoate, ethyl p-hydroxybenzoate and propyl p-hydroxybenzoate	In-house Method GL-AD-5(C)	20

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ITEM TESTED OR MEASURED 測試或量度項目	SPECIFIC TEST OR PROPERTY MEASURED 特定測試或量度的特性	SPECIFICATION, STANDARD METHOD OR TECHNIQUE USED 規範、標準方法或應用技術	LOR
General foodstuff	Preservatives :-		
	- Benzoic acid, sorbic acid, methyl p-hydroxybenzoate, ethyl p-hydroxybenzoate and propyl p-hydroxybenzoate	In-house Method GL-AD-5(A)	(ppm) 20
			20
			20
			20
	- Benzoic acid and sorbic acid	In-house Method GL-AD-5(B)	20
	- Methyl p-hydroxybenzoate, ethyl p-hydroxybenzoate and propyl p-hydroxybenzoate	In-house Method GL-AD-5(C)	20
			20
			20

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ITEM TESTED OR MEASURED 測試或量度項目	SPECIFIC TEST OR PROPERTY MEASURED 特定測試或量度的特性	SPECIFICATION, STANDARD METHOD OR TECHNIQUE USED 規格、標準方法或應用技術	LOR
General foodstuff	Preservatives :-		
	- Benzoic acid, sorbic acid, salicylic acid, methyl p-hydroxybenzoate, ethyl p-hydroxybenzoate and propyl p-hydroxybenzoate	In-house Method GL-AD-5(B)	(ppm) 20
	- Benzoic acid and sorbic acid	In-house Method GL-AD-5(B)	20
	- Methyl p-hydroxybenzoate, ethyl p-hydroxybenzoate and propyl p-hydroxybenzoate	In-house Method GL-AD-5(C)	20 20 20

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General foodstuff	Preservatives :-		
	- Benzoic acid, sorbic acid, salicylic acid, methyl p-hydroxybenzoate, ethyl p-hydroxybenzoate and propyl p-hydroxybenzoate	In-house Method GL-AD-5(A)	(ppm) 20
	- Benzoic acid and sorbic acid	In-house Method GL-AD-5(B)	20
	- Methyl p-hydroxybenzoate, ethyl p-hydroxybenzoate and propyl p-hydroxybenzoate	In-house Method GL-AD-5(C)	20

No.	Pesticide	Residue definition	Column 4	Column 5	Compliance (tick as appropriate)	
			Required Reporting Limit (mg/kg)	Service Provider's Reporting Limit (mg/kg)	Yes	No
1	Acephate	Acephate	0.1			
2	Acetamiprid	Acetamiprid	0.01			
3	Aldicarb	Sum of aldicarb and its sulphoxide and sulphone, expressed as aldicarb	0.02			
4	Ametryn	Ametryn	0.05			
5	Atrazine	Atrazine	0.1			
6	Benalaxyl	Benalaxyl	0.02			
7	Bitertanol	Bitertanol	0.5			
8	Bromopropylate	Bromopropylate	0.5			
9	Cadusafos	Cadusafos	0.005			
10	Carbaryl	Carbaryl	0.1			
11	Carbofuran	Sum of carbofuran and 3-hydroxycarbofuran, expressed as carbofuran	0.02			
12	Carbosulfan	Carbosulfan	0.05			
13	Chlorimuron ethyl	Chlorimuron ethyl	0.02			
14	Chlorpropham	Chlorpropham	30			
15	Chlorpyrifos	Chlorpyrifos	0.01			
16	Chlorpyrifos methyl	Chlorpyrifos methyl	0.06			
17	Clomazone	Clomazone	0.05			
18	Cyhalothrin	Cyhalothrin (sum of all isomers)	0.01			
19	Cymoxanil	Cymoxanil	0.05			
20	Cyprodinil	Cyprodinil	0.2			
21	Diazinon	Diazinon	0.1			
22	Dichlorvos	Dichlorvos	0.1			



No.	Pesticide	Residue definition	Column 4	Column 5	Compliance (tick as appropriate)	
			Required Reporting Limit (mg/kg)	Service Provider's Reporting Limit (mg/kg)	Yes	No
1	Acephate	Acephate	0.1	<b>0.05</b>	✓	
2	Acetamiprid	Acetamiprid	0.01	<b>0.01</b>	✓	
3	Aldicarb	Sum of aldicarb and its sulphoxide and sulphone, expressed as aldicarb	0.02	<b>0.02</b>	✓	



# Technical Specifications (Entry requirements)

- At least one **Proficiency Test** in the **past 12 months** (calculated from closing date of quotation)
  - *Proficiency Test* shall be organized by a proficiency test provider accredited in accordance with ISO/IEC 17043 or equivalent
- **Satisfactory positive results** in the PT
  - Results that were **correctly quantified** with z-scores within the range of  **$\pm 2.0$**  in Proficiency Tests
- Within test scope of Service Specifications



# Other General Requirements

- Maintain accreditation status
  - Maintaining the accreditation status (i.e. scope and reporting limit) from application to the end of contract period
- Test sample collection
  - within 1 working day upon notification
  - at specified locations
- Report results within specified period
- Retention / return of remaining test samples

# Outsourcing: Test Areas

- Preservatives
- Pesticide residues
- Veterinary drug residues
- Metallic contaminants
- Other contaminants



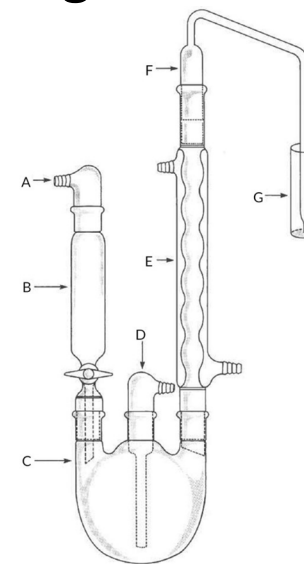
# Contracts on Preservatives

- Sulphur dioxide and other preservatives
  - About 3 contracts
  - Three combinations of :
    - $\text{SO}_2$
    - $\text{SO}_2$  + 2 or 3 acids (benzoic acid, sorbic acid, with or without salicylic acid) + 3 parabens
  - Reporting limits: 8 mg/kg for  $\text{SO}_2$ , 30 mg/kg for parabens and 50 mg/kg for acids
  - Contract durations: 6 months to 12 months



# Contracts on Preservatives

- Use titrimetric method for reporting sulphur dioxide results
  - When sulphur dioxide is found to exceed the reporting limit of 8 mg/kg, the test result based on **titrimetric / titration method** shall be reported. Upon request, the Contractor shall provide all test data including those obtained from alternative techniques where applicable.
  - Preferably confirmed by **gravimetric method**.



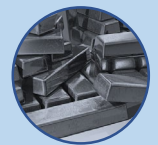
# Contracts on Preservatives

- Propionic acid in flour confectionary
  - Contract period: July 2026 to December 2026
  - Reporting limit: 50 mg/kg
- Nitrate / nitrite in meat, meat products and dairy products
  - Contract period: April 2026 to March 2027
  - Reporting limit: 30 mg/kg as  $\text{NaNO}_3$  and 5 mg/kg as  $\text{NaNO}_2$



# Contracts on Pesticide Residues

- About 6 contracts planned for FY 2026-27
- Contract durations: 5 months to 12 months
- Cover residues definition (unless otherwise stated in service specifications)
- Reporting limit: according to MRL on quotation documents
- Depend on testing capability of service providers at time of launch



# Contracts on Pesticide Residues

- Lists 26 A, B, C, D, E, F
  - List 26A (~74 pesticides) in fruit and vegetables
  - List 26B (~32 pesticides) in fruit and vegetables (can be separated by GC)
  - List 26C (~62 pesticides) in cereal grain
  - List 26D (~40 pesticides) in bulb vegetables
  - List 26E (~71 pesticides) in fruit and vegetables
  - List 26F (~66 pesticides) in fruit and vegetables



# Contracts on Veterinary Drug Residues

- Chloramphenicol in meat and aquatic products
  - Contract period: April 2026 to March 2027
  - Reporting limit: 0.3 µg/kg
- Malachite green in aquatic products
  - Contract period: April 2026 to March 2027
  - Malachite Green (MG) and Leucomalachite Green (LMG)
  - Reporting limit: MG and LMG: 0.5 µg/kg each



# Contracts on Metallic contaminants

- Three contracts on heavy metals (total) from one to seven metals
  - As, Sb, Cd, Cr, Pb, Hg, and Sn
- One contract on inorganic arsenic
- One contract on methylmercury
- Contract period: April 2026 to March 2027



# Contracts on Metallic contaminants



Heavy metals (1-7M) in  
general foodstuffs



Heavy metals (1-6M) in  
general foodstuffs



Heavy metals in  
miscellaneous foods

# Contracts on Metallic contaminants



- Heavy metals (1-7M) in general foodstuffs
- 1-7 heavy metals
- Vegetables, sauces, compound foods, etc.
- Lower RL for mercury (0.01 mg/kg)



# Contracts on Metallic contaminants



Heavy metals (1-7M) in  
general foodstuffs



Heavy metals (1-6M) in  
general foodstuffs



Heavy metals in  
miscellaneous foods

# Contracts on Metallic contaminants



- Heavy metals (1-6M) in general foodstuffs
- 1-6 heavy metals (no Tin)
- Cereals, rice, flour
- Lower RL for and mercury (0.01 mg/kg)



# Contracts on Metallic contaminants



Heavy metals (1-7M) in  
general foodstuffs



Heavy metals (1-6M) in  
general foodstuffs



Heavy metals in  
miscellaneous foods

# Contracts on Metallic contaminants



- Heavy metals in miscellaneous foods
- 1-7 Metallic contaminants
- Meat, fish, fruits, canned foods, etc.
- Higher RL for mercury (0.03 mg/kg)
- Lead RL updated: ~~0.1 mg/kg~~ → 0.05 mg/kg

# Contracts on Metallic contaminants

## Reporting Limits

Reporting Limits (mg/kg)	Heavy metals (1-7M) in general foodstuffs	Heavy metals (1-6M) in general foodstuffs	Heavy metals in miscellaneous foods
Arsenic (as total As)	0.1	0.1	0.1
Antimony	0.2	0.2	0.2
Cadmium	0.02	0.02	0.02
Chromium	0.2	0.2	0.2
Lead	0.05	0.05	<del>0.1</del> → 0.05
Mercury (as total Hg)	0.01	0.01	0.03
Tin	10	----	10



# Contracts on Metallic contaminants

- Inorganic arsenic in rice and aquatic products
  - Contract period: April 2026 to March 2027
  - Reporting limit: 0.1 mg/kg
- Methylmercury in fish
  - Contract period: April 2026 to March 2027
  - Reporting limit: 0.5 mg/kg
  - Note: 0.5 mg/kg for fish (other than those fish specified in this item), **fish balls** and **fish cakes** under the Food Adulteration (Metallic Contamination) (Amendment) Regulation 2025



# Contracts on Other Contaminants

- Sudan dyes in general foodstuffs
  - Contract period: April 2026 to March 2027
  - Sudan I, II, III, IV, Sudan Orange G, Sudan Red 7B and Dimethyl Yellow
  - Reporting Limit: 10 µg/kg each



# Contracts on Other Contaminants

- Melamine in general foodstuffs and liquid infant formula
  - Contract period: April 2026 to March 2027
  - Reporting limit: 1 mg/kg for general foodstuffs; and
  - Reporting limit: **0.15 mg/kg** for liquid infant formula
  - 3 working days



# Contracts on Other Contaminants

- Aflatoxin in oils, nuts and cereal
  - Aflatoxin B1, B2, G1, G2
  - Contract period: April 2026 to March 2027
  - Reporting limit : 0.5 µg/kg each
  - Confirmation by MS/MS technique
- Boric acid in general foodstuffs
  - Contract period: July 2026 to December 2026
  - Reporting limit: 50 mg/kg



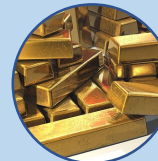
# The Preservatives in Food (Amendment) Regulation 2024 (Cap. 132BD)

- Came into effect: 30 December 2024
- Transitional Period: 24 months
- Transitional Period end on: 29 December 2026
- [https://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/whatsnew/whatsnew\\_fstr/whatsnew\\_fstr\\_Proposed\\_Amendments\\_Preservatives\\_Food\\_Regulation.html](https://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/whatsnew/whatsnew_fstr/whatsnew_fstr_Proposed_Amendments_Preservatives_Food_Regulation.html)



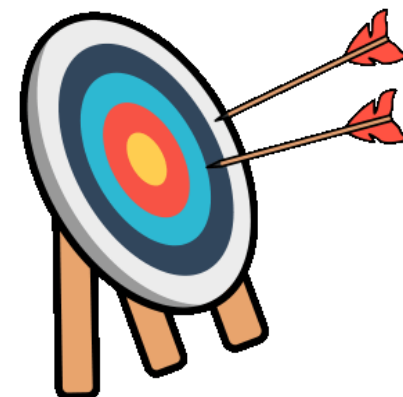
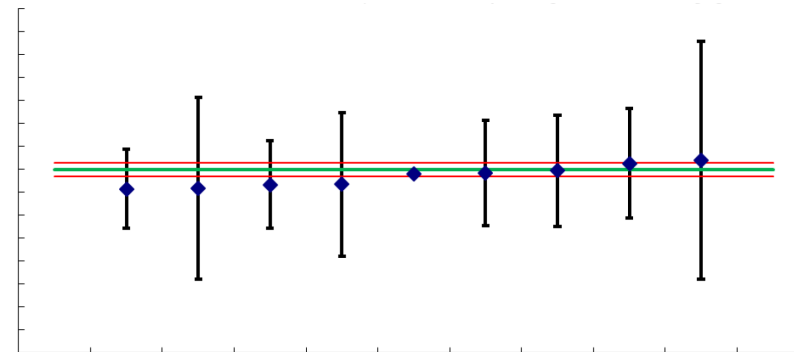
# The Food Adulteration (Metallic Contamination) (Amendment) Regulation 2025 (Cap. 132V)

- Came into effect: 5 September 2025
- Grace Period: 18 months
- Lapse of the grace period: 5 March 2027
- [https://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/whatsnew/whatsnew\\_fstr/whatsnew\\_fstr\\_PA\\_Food\\_Adulteration\\_Metallic\\_Contamination\\_2.html](https://www.cfs.gov.hk/english/whatsnew/whatsnew_fstr/whatsnew_fstr_PA_Food_Adulteration_Metallic_Contamination_2.html)



# GL's proficiency test (PT) programmes

- PT programmes
  - Boric acid in food
  - Propionic acid in flour confectionery
  - Salicylic acid in food
- [https://www.govtlab.gov.hk/en/our\\_work/proficiency\\_testing\\_programmes.html](https://www.govtlab.gov.hk/en/our_work/proficiency_testing_programmes.html)



# Laboratory Safety

- GL appreciates the contractor's commitment to ensuring the safety of employees working in the laboratory:
  - wear personal protective equipment (e.g. gloves & lab coats);
  - proper use of fume hoods;
  - maintain records of usage of reference materials and calibration standards;
  - beware of toxicity of chemicals used;
  - provide spillage kits and first-aid kits which shall be readily accessible.

# ISO 14001 Certification

- GL has since 1998 established, implemented, maintained and continually improved an environmental management system (EMS) in accordance with ISO 14001 standard.
- GL appreciates the contractor's dedication to ensuring that all generated chemical wastes were disposed of appropriately.
- Maintenance of waste disposal records and EPD's trip ticket records.

# Thank You



政府化驗所  
Government Laboratory