

**MEASUREMENT OF  
RADIOACTIVE  
CONTAMINANTS IN FOOD**



**PROFICIENCY TESTING  
PROGRAMME**

**GLHK PT 13-04**

**FINAL REPORT  
SUMMARY**

**June 2014**



Proficiency Testing Programme  
Measurement of Radioactive Contaminants in Food  
GLHK PT 13-04

## Summary of Results

1. The purpose of this proficiency testing programme is to demonstrate the qualitative measurement capability of participating laboratories on identification of radionuclides in food using their Contamination Monitoring Systems (CMS).
2. Two types of test materials of tea leaves were prepared for this proficiency testing programme. One test material was prepared from a sample previously submitted by the Centre of Food Safety and was confirmed to contain the radionuclides of  $^{134}\text{Cs}$  and  $^{137}\text{Cs}$ . The other test material was purchased from the local market and was confirmed to contain no detectable radionuclides. Two test samples were prepared from each material by packing the material into 1L 133N-E Marinelli beakers. The samples were distributed to participants in sequence for measurement. Participants were not informed of the source of the samples.
3. A total of 19 participants registered for the programme. The sample was sent to participants in sequence. 17 of them returned their results to the organiser.
4. The assessment of participants' performance was by means of (i) comparing their reported results with the target results as obtained by GL and (ii) evaluating whether their reporting / detection limits, if reported, are fit for the screening purpose of identifying the contaminated samples in their routine operation.
5. The following is a summary of participants' results:

<i>Performance Assessment</i>	<i>No. of Participants</i>
<b>Satisfactory</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Unsatisfactory</b>	<b>5</b>