

Sep 2023

Announcement for Inter-laboratory Comparison on Mercury and Chloride in Water (2023)

Introduction

We hereby announce the 5th Inter-laboratory Comparison on Water Quality Analysis, which is focused on the Proficiency Testing of Mercury and Chloride in Water. This activity is open to academic, regulatory as well as commercial laboratories world-wide, especially those from developing and emerging economies. The organizers of this project are CAS-TWAS Centre of Excellence for Water and Environment (CAS-TWAS CEWE) and Water Quality Analysis Laboratory, which both are established at the Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences (RCEES), Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS). This project is supported by the Certification and Accreditation Administration of the People's Republic of China (CNCA) and the Alliance of International Science Organizations (ANSO).

A draft report will be available at the end of April 2024, and the final report will be available to the participants by June 2024. All the participants who obtained satisfied results will receive a certificate of participation in the activity.

Participants

We encourage all laboratories working in this field to participate and assess their analytical performance. To do this, participants are requested to completely fill out the Registration Form and mark the desired samples that you intend to determine.

Test Samples

The test samples for Mercury are in concentrations of 100 μ g/L~1000 μ g/L with 3% HNO₃ as matrix.

The test samples for Chloride are in concentrations of 100mg/L~1000mg/L with H₂O as matrix.

The samples will be distributed by an international courier service to the participating laboratories.

Please Note:

In order to avoid delay or retention of the samples at customs, please inform us if there are import restrictions in your country for any of the samples.

Instructions for analysis and reporting

Further detailed instructions and reporting forms will be sent by e-mail simultaneously with the dispatch of the samples in November 2023.

In short, the participating laboratories should:

- pay attention to the logistics information of samples in order to avoid retention or loss
- use your own standard operation procedures for pre-treatment and instrumental determination
- use your own reference standards for identification and quantification
- report one single concentration for each testing sample in each water matrix

Time Schedule

Announcement	September 5 th , 2023
Return of registration form	October 31 st , 2023
Shipment of test material	November 2023
Confirmation of receipt of test material by participant	Within 7 days after receipt
Reporting of test results	Within 30 days after receipt
Publication of draft report on web-site	April 2024
Final report available to all participants	June 2024

Participation Fee

The participation fee for any combination of the analytes in one item **is free**.

All recipients of this invitation are sincerely welcome to participate in the Inter-laboratory Comparison, and are encouraged to spread the activity to possibly interested laboratories!

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