



## **Summary Report on “Food Allergen Labelling Management and Detection Technology Workshop”**

**October 27 ~ 28, 2009, Guangzhou, China**

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Currently, China’s major trading nations publish regulations and standards about food allergen labeling respectively, which has great impact on Chinese import/export businesses in the agricultural sector. On the one hand, many foods exported from China are blocked just because of a lack of food allergen labeling; on the other hand, stakeholders in the food supply chain are learning little about food allergen labeling which may lead to food safety problems. Therefore, food allergen labeling management has become an important part of food safety management in China.

During Oct.27-28, 2009, with the support of CCOA, Guangdong Inspection and Quarantine Technology Centre (IQTC) held the “Food Allergen Labeling Management and Detection Technology Workshop” in Huatai Hotel, Guangzhou, China. Around 80 participants from national inspection and quarantine system, universities, food companies and the industry, including 3 international experts, attended the workshop.

Zhong Yuqing, deputy director of IQTC, introduced the harmfulness of food allergens and the situation of detection technology and relevant standards in China. Afterwards, experts from IQTC delivered lectures on “Food Allergen Labeling Management—CAC standards and EU Regulation System”, “Food Allergen Labeling Management”, “Food Allergen Labeling Technology ” and “Food Allergen Detection methods”, ect. Besides, 3 experts from Germany gave reports on “HACCP Concept—Allergen Management”, “Rapid Detections of Food Allergen” and “Gluten and Peanut Detection in Food”. Additionally, there was a practice session about allergen detection. Finally, all the participants visited IQTC.

On behalf of MoniQA, Li Fang from CCOA gave a presentation on the “MoniQA Network of Excellence and the Food Allergen Workshop” in the workshop. MoniQA roll-ups were exhibited during the two days. Meanwhile, CCOA delivered MoniQA dissemination materials in a Chinese edition (external flyer, external newsletter, Summary 2008, Fact sheet No.1 and Fact sheet No.3.) and exchanged ideas.

Through these actions, participants from industry and authorities gained an impression about MoniQA and its underlying concepts. IQTC and CCOA reach a consensus that both sides will cooperate more closely on food allergen issues, for examples, to support each other in workshops, relevant research, etc. Additionally, IQTC is interested in becoming a MoniQA associated partner.