



SAMM CIRCULAR 1/2015

**POLICY ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
SPECIFIC CRITERIA FOR ACCREDITATION IN THE FIELD OF
MICROBIOLOGICAL TESTING (SC 1.3)**

1. Introduction and scope

This circular provides further elaboration on **Clause 5.2.6** of Specific Criteria for Accreditation in the Field of Microbiological Testing (SC 1.3), Issue 1, 28th June 2011.

This circular applies to the microbiology laboratories that are currently accredited by Standards Malaysia, applicant laboratories and those intending to apply for microbiology testing under SAMM.

2. Failure to comply with the requirements of SC 1.3

Based on Standards Malaysia letter to all its microbiological testing laboratories dated 12 August 2011, beginning **1st August 2013**, nonconformity (NC) will be raised should the laboratories fail to comply with the SC 1.3 document.

3. Approved Signatory

The requirements outlined in SC 1.3 is applied to nominated signatory for microbiology scope approved on and after **1st August 2013**. These requirements shall be read in conjunction with any other legal requirements relating to the signatory of test report.

3.1 Approved Signatory for Water & Food Testing under Microbiology Scope

Where decisions were made on the approval of signatory before **1st August 2013**, the signatory status of the approved signatory for microbiology scope remains, with conditions, as follows:

- a) For **Water Testing** under Microbiology Scope
 - i) Chemist who has been approved as signatory is only allowed to sign microbiology test report for the scope of water testing (simple diagnostic

water test). Water testing allowed is limited to the following parameters only:

- **Total Coliform Test**
 - **E. Coli**
 - **Total Plate Count**
- ii) The chemist shall also attend training course related to fundamental or principle of microbiology as required by Standards Malaysia.
- iii) The condition specified in i) and ii) **do not apply** to applicant laboratories.

b) **For Food Testing under Microbiology Scope**

Signatories shall be considered meeting the requirement of the SC 1.3, if the requirements of the **Food Analysts Act 2011 (Act 727), Section 18 (1)** as follows, are met:

No person shall be registered as a food analysts under this Act unless -

a) he holds -

- i) a degree in food science or food technology or food science and technology from any higher educational institution as may be approved by the Council; or*
- ii) any other degree in science in any related fields as may be approved by the Council;*

b) he produces to the Council evidence to the satisfaction of the Council -

- i) that he has been selected for employment under the supervision of any registered food analysts or registered chemist; or*
- ii) that he has two years of working experience in food analysis if he holds a degree in food science or food technology or food science and technology, or four years of working experience in food analysis if he holds any degree in science in any related field; and*

c) he is not less than eighteen years of age.

4. Technical Assessor for Microbiological Field

Microbiological testing shall only be assessed by technical assessor who has qualification in microbiology or related field.