To: **Open call for laboratories to participate in interlaboratory studies**

Action: **Reply, before the deadline of 29 June 2022**

Subject: **Open call for laboratories to participate in interlaboratory studies for the validation of 25 European Standards in support of the European Fertilising Regulation (EU 2019/1009)**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The European Committee for Standardization (CEN) has been requested by the European Commission to draft European standardization deliverables in support of the European Fertilising Product Regulation (FPR; EU 2019/1009). The FPR aims to promote an increased use of recycled nutrients to further aid the development of a circular economy and allow a more resource efficient general use of nutrients, while reducing the dependency of nutrients from countries not within the European Union. It lays down rules on the requirements of different sorts of fertilising products. Fertilising products bearing CE marking may freely be traded within the European Union. As different kinds of fertilising products warrant different product safety and quality requirements, suitable to their intended uses, fertilising products have been classified into different product function categories (PFCs). A global overview of the PFCs defined in the FPR are listed in Table 1.

Table 1 – Global overview of product function categories (PFCs) defined in the Fertilising Product Regulation (EU 2019/1009).

Number	Product function category
1	Fertilisers
2	Liming materials
3	Soil improvers
4	Growing media
5	Inhibitors
6	Plant biostimulants
7	Fertilising product blends

To enable the market to justify the use of the CE mark, CEN is requested by the European Commission to develop a series of European Standards described in Standardization Request M/564 amendment 1. These European Standards will enable the implementation of the FPR; the commercialisation of the soil improvers, growing media and other fertilising products listed in Table 1 within the EU Single market; and provide a uniform and reliable way of assessing the compliance to the requirements laid down in the FPR. The deliverables under this standardization request are handled by three CEN Technical Committees (TCs):

- CEN/TC 223 ‘Soil improvers and growing media’
- CEN/TC 260 ‘Fertilizers and liming materials’

- CEN/TC 455 'Plant biostimulants'

Interlaboratory studies

This call concerns 25 European Standards for which the performance characteristics of the methods need to be determined by means of interlaboratory studies for PFC 3 (soil improvers) and PFC 4 (growing media), which fall under the responsibility of CEN/TC 223 'Soil improvers and growing media'[1]. These 25 European Standards are developed under the working groups listed below (see also Table A1.1).

- CEN/TC 223/WG 3 'Sampling'
- CEN/TC 223/WG 4 'Analytical methods'
- CEN/TC 223/WG 5 'Microbiology'
- CEN/TC 223/WG 8 'Physical contamination'

Several other standardization deliverables in support of Standardization Request M/564 amendment 1 are being developed by the working groups of CEN/TC 223 (CEN/TC 223/WG 6 'Harmonization' is the only one not mentioned above), but are not included in this call since no validation is required for these standardization deliverables.

During the interlaboratory studies, the draft protocols are validated for their use with different soil improvers and growing media. The draft protocols are enclosed in the ZIP-file for your information.

Note 1 regarding the draft documents:
Please bear in mind that the enclosed protocols are drafts. It is possible that changes can be made before the official start of the interlaboratory study. Your laboratory will be provided with the formal protocol for validation in due time before the execution of the experiments in the interlaboratory studies. Furthermore, these drafts will be altered where necessary after execution of the interlaboratory study, the CEN Enquiry and CEN Formal Vote.

Note 2 regarding the draft documents:
Please note that for project 2020-02.45 'Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of volume of plugs' no first draft is available yet. Once it is available, the first draft will be communicated to the participating laboratories.

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[1] The Dutch Royal Standardization Institute (NEN) detains the secretariat of CEN/TC 223 'Soil improvers and growing media' and all underlying working groups, except for the secretariat of CEN/TC 223/WG 4 'Analytical methods' which is detained by the Austrian standardization institute (ASI). The secretariat is in charge of the administrative management during the development and maintenance of standardization. Furthermore, NEN is responsible for the subcontracting of the laboratories participating in the interlaboratory studies.

The aim is to obtain results from a maximum of 12 laboratories, so at least 8 valid datasets will be obtained per European Standard mentioned in Annex 1, allowing statistical analysis on the performance characteristics of the methods.

Materials

For the validation of these methods, series of selected soil improvers and growing media will be used. Your laboratory will be provided with these materials by means of a collaborative effort of the members of CEN/TC 223 'Soil improvers and growing media'. Each laboratory is requested to perform the experiment four times. An indicative planning for the preparation of materials, shipment of materials and execution of experiments is described in Annex 1.

Note regarding the detection of* Salmonella *spp. (deliverable number 2020-02.23):
Several materials will be spiked with Salmonella *spp. before shipment. When needed (depending on the regulations in your country), the participating laboratory shall provide an import permit for importing* Salmonella *strains. The materials will be packed and shipped in accordance with IATA Regulations UN3373 ('Biological substances category B').*

Requirements for participating laboratories

Participating laboratories shall:

- properly conduct the analysis described in the supplied protocol(s)
- possess expert knowledge on the subject dealt with in the interlaboratory study for which the laboratory wishes to participate
- cooperate with the project leader, working group convenor, working group secretary and working group members in order to solve potential problems arising during the conduction of the ILS
- participate in meetings covering topics regarding the interlaboratory study.

Laboratories can participate in multiple interlaboratory studies simultaneously, provided that for every two interlaboratory studies one technician is available during the requested timeframe. Furthermore, laboratories are expected to have equipment, materials and consumables at their disposal which are required for the execution of these methods (see indications in draft protocols enclosed in the ZIP-file) .

Financial allowance and selection of participants

A financial allowance for the participation of the interlaboratory study studies is available for the participating laboratories through the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA). Laboratories will be selected (or excluded) based on the criteria described in Annex 2. The selection committee will consist of the working group convenor specific for that project, secretary of the working group specific for that project, chair of CEN/TC 223 and the secretary of CEN/TC 223 –

provided that none of those is in a condition of a conflict of interest with the applicant to be selected.

Submission of results

The results of the participating laboratories have to be submitted per email to the project leader, with the convenor of the working group and the secretary of the working group in copy before the date mentioned for that project in Annex 1.

Note regarding contact details:
Only the contact details of the secretary of the working group is enclosed in Annex 1, since the project leader per project and the of convenors for the working groups are currently being selected. You will be provided with all required contact details in due time.

How to show interest for participation in one or more interlaboratory studies?

Interested participants are kindly requested to indicate their interest by returning a completely filled application form (Annex 3) as soon as possible, but no later than 29 June 2022 per email to the secretary of CEN/TC 223 'Soil improvers and growing media' (Lara van der Woude; lara.vanderwoude@nen.nl).

In case you need additional information, I will be glad to be of assistance.

Yours sincerely, on behalf of all involved with the development of these European standards,

Lara van der Woude (lara.vanderwoude@nen.nl)
Secretary of CEN/TC 223 'Soil improvers and growing media'
NEN, www.nen.nl | P.O. Box 5059, NL-2600 GB Delft | T +31 (0)15 2 690 511 | M +31 (0) 6 2520 0216

Annex 1

Overview of European Standards up for validation by means of interlaboratory studies for which this call is launched

Table A1.1 shows an overview of the European Standards that require validation by means of interlaboratory studies under development in CEN/TC 223 'Soil improvers and growing media' (and for which this call is launched).

Table A1.1 – Overview of the European Standards that require validation by means of interlaboratory studies. The title, responsible working group, the planning of the project and contact information per project is listed.

Deliverable number	CEN work item reference	Envisioned European standard title	Working group	Planning[2]	Contact details secretary working group[3]
2020-02.3	00223099	Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of organic matter content and ash	CEN/TC 223/WG 4	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***July 2023:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	Lisa Katrin Filzmaier: l.filzmaier@austrian-standards.at
2020-02.4	00223100	Soil improvers and growing media — Sample preparation — Part 1: Sample preparation for chemical and physical tests, determination of dry matter content, moisture content and laboratory bulk density	CEN/TC 223/WG 4	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***July 2023:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)*	Lisa Katrin Filzmaier: l.filzmaier@austrian-standards.at

[2] Please note that the planning before the deadline to submit your results is an indicative planning. The project leader will provide you with communication about the exact timeline concerning that specific project (regarding the timeline before the deadline to submit the ILS-results).
[3] The contact details of the secretary of the working group is enclosed here since the project leader per project and the of convenors for the working groups are currently being selected. You will be provided with all required contact details in due time.

Deliverable number	CEN work item reference	Envisioned European standard title	Working group	Planning[2]	Contact details secretary working group[3]
				December 2024: *Publication*	
2020-02.5	00223101	Soil improvers and growing media — Digestion by aqua regia for subsequent determination of elements	CEN/TC 223/WG 4	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***July 2023:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	Lisa Katrin Filzmaier: l.filzmaier@austrian-standards.at
2020-02.6	00223104	Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of the aerobic biological degradation rate of organic matter — Part 2: Self-heating test for compost	CEN/TC 223/WG 4	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***July 2023:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	Lisa Katrin Filzmaier: l.filzmaier@austrian-standards.at
2020-02.8	00223106	Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of nitrogen — Part 2: Dumas method	CEN/TC 223/WG 4	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***July 2023:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	Lisa Katrin Filzmaier: l.filzmaier@austrian-standards.at
2020-02.9	00223107	Soil improvers and growing media — Extraction of calcium chloride/DTPA (CAT) soluble nutrients and elements	CEN/TC 223/WG 4	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials*	Lisa Katrin Filzmaier: l.filzmaier@austrian-standards.at

Deliverable number	CEN work item reference	Envisioned European standard title	Working group	Planning[2]	Contact details secretary working group[3]
				26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results ***July 2023:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	
2020-02.10	00223108	Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of nitrogen — Part 1: Modified Kjeldahl method	CEN/TC 223/WG 4	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***July 2023:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	Lisa Katrin Filzmaier: l.filzmaier@austrian-standards.at
2020-02.11	00223109	Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of the aerobic biological degradation rate of organic matter — Part 1: Oxygen uptake rate (OUR)	CEN/TC 223/WG 4	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***July 2023:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	Lisa Katrin Filzmaier: l.filzmaier@austrian-standards.at
2020-02.13	00223111	Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of total organic carbon (TOC) by dry combustion	CEN/TC 223/WG 4	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***July 2023:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	Lisa Katrin Filzmaier: l.filzmaier@austrian-standards.at

Deliverable number	CEN work item reference	Envisioned European standard title	Working group	Planning[2]	Contact details secretary working group[3]
2020-02.14	00223112	Compost and digestate — Determination of the content of macroscopic impurities	CEN/TC 223/WG 8	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***July 2023:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	Anne Doeksen: anne.doeksen@nen.nl
2020-02.15	00223113	Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of the inorganic arsenic content	CEN/TC 223/WG 4	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***July 2023:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	Lisa Katrin Filzmaier: l.filzmaier@austrian-standards.at
2020-02.16	00223114	Soil improvers and growing media — Enumeration of *Escherichia coli*	CEN/TC 223/WG 5	***Present:*** *Optimization protocol described in draft standard based on consensus* ***Q4 2022/Q1 2023:*** *Preparation of materials* ***March/April 2023:*** *Shipment of materials* **1 October 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***April 2024:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2025:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2025:*** *Publication*	Lara van der Woude: lara.vanderwoude@nen.nl
2020-02.17	00223115	Organic soil improvers — Determination of organic nitrogen	CEN/TC 223/WG 4	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results**	Lisa Katrin Filzmaier: l.filzmaier@austrian-standards.at

Deliverable number	CEN work item reference	Envisioned European standard title	Working group	Planning[2]	Contact details secretary working group[3]
				July 2023: *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	
2020-02.18	00223116	Compost and digestate — Determination of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH_{16}) by gas chromatography (GC) and high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC)	CEN/TC 223/WG 4	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***July 2023:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	Lisa Katrin Filzmaier: l.filzmaier@austrian-standards.at
2020-02.19	00223117	Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of phosphonates content	CEN/TC 223/WG 4	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***July 2023:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	Lisa Katrin Filzmaier: l.filzmaier@austrian-standards.at
2020-02.21	00223119	Soil improvers and growing media — Enumeration of *Enterococcaceae*	CEN/TC 223/WG 5	***Present:*** *Optimization protocol described in draft standard based on consensus* ***Q4 2022/Q1 2023:*** *Preparation of materials* ***March/April 2023:*** *Shipment of materials* **1 October 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***April 2024:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2025:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2025:*** *Publication*	Lara van der Woude: lara.vanderwoude@nen.nl

Deliverable number	CEN work item reference	Envisioned European standard title	Working group	Planning[2]	Contact details secretary working group[3]
2020-02.22	00223120	Digestate — Determination of the residual biogas potential	CEN/TC 223/WG 4	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***July 2023:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	Lisa Katrin Filzmaier: l.filzmaier@austrian-standards.at
2020-02.23	00223121	Soil improvers and growing media — Detection of *Salmonella* spp.	CEN/TC 223/WG 5	***Present:*** *Optimization protocol described in draft standard based on consensus* ***Q4 2022/Q1 2023:*** *Preparation of materials* ***March/April 2023:*** *Shipment of materials* **1 October 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***April 2024:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2025:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2025:*** *Publication*	Lara van der Woude: lara.vanderwoude@nen.nl
2020-02.24	00223122	Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of chromium(VI)	CEN/TC 223/WG 4	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***July 2023:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	Lisa Katrin Filzmaier: l.filzmaier@austrian-standards.at
2020-02.25	00223123	Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of the mercury content	CEN/TC 223/WG 4	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results**	Lisa Katrin Filzmaier: l.filzmaier@austrian-standards.at

Deliverable number	CEN work item reference	Envisioned European standard title	Working group	Planning[2]	Contact details secretary working group[3]
				July 2023: *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	
2020-02.27	00223xxx	Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of aqua regia soluble elements	CEN/TC 223/WG 4	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***July 2023:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	Lisa Katrin Filzmaier: l.filzmaier@austrian-standards.at
2020-02.40	00223102	Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of electrical conductivity	CEN/TC 223/WG 4	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***July 2023:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	Lisa Katrin Filzmaier: l.filzmaier@austrian-standards.at
2020-02.41	00223103	Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of pH	CEN/TC 223/WG 4	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***July 2023:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	Lisa Katrin Filzmaier: l.filzmaier@austrian-standards.at

Deliverable number	CEN work item reference	Envisioned European standard title	Working group	Planning[2]	Contact details secretary working group[3]
2020-02.43	00223xxx	Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of the chloride content	CEN/TC 223/WG 4	***Present:*** *Preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***July 2023:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	Lisa Katrin Filzmaier: l.filzmaier@austrian-standards.at
2020-02.45	00223xxx	Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of volume of plugs	CEN/TC 223/WG 3	***Present:*** *Preparation of draft standard, preparations for interlaboratory study and preparation of materials* ***October/November 2022:*** *Shipment of materials* **26 February 2023: Deadline to submit ILS-results** ***July 2023:*** *Start of CEN Enquiry (public consultation)* ***August 2024:*** *Start of Formal vote (internal enquiry)* ***December 2024:*** *Publication*	Anne Doeksen: anne.doeksen@nen.nl

Annex 2

Selection and exclusion criteria for participating laboratories

The selection criteria and their respective weights used during evaluation of the tenders of laboratories are shown in Table A2..

Table A2.1 – Selection criteria that need to be addressed by laboratories replying to this call for participants with percentages mentioned of the assessment. The weights are shown in the right column.

PROFILE	**50 %**
Years of laboratory experience	10 %
Years of experience in food, feed, cosmetic, fertilizer, soil improver or growing media analyses (at least 5)	25 %
Accreditation for ISO 17025:2017 and/or GLP certification	8 %
Number of technicians available per ILS (at least 1 every two ILSs)	3 %
Availability of equipment, materials and consumables required for the execution of the ILS	4 %
VALIDATION OF METHODS	**45 %**
Experience in the development and validation of methods	30 %
Number of projects (at least 3)	*12 %*
Number of years (at least 3)	*5 %*
Number of projects validated and accredited according to ISO 17025 or according to GLP certification	*13 %*
Experience in the participation of interlaboratory studies	15 %
Number of total interlaboratory studies that the laboratory participated in	*4 %*
Number of interlaboratory studies concerning the topic up for validation via this call	*8 %*
Number of years (at least 3)	*3 %*
ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS	**5 %**
English level of the contact person	2 %
Participation to events/working group meetings in English	3 %
TOTAL	**100 %**

Laboratories replying to this call for participants shall score at least 65 % of the selection criteria mentioned in Table A2.. After evaluation, the replies to this call will be ranked using the equation below to determine which replies offer best value for money, in which quality defines 70 % and the price defines 30 % of the total score for the tender.

$$\text{Score for tender X} = 0{,}3\left(\frac{\text{cheapest price}}{\text{price of tender X}}\right) + 0{,}7\left(\frac{\text{points awarded to tender X according to Table A2.1}}{100}\right)$$

The following exclusion criteria are in place:

- The total score of the tender is lower than 65 %
- The offer was received after the deadline

- The offer is not complete and/or not sufficiently detailed (see the elements requested in Annex 3)
- The tenders are subject to a conflict of interest
- The applicants are in any of the situations described in the exclusion criteria of the Guide for tenderers Submitting bids in response to a *call for tenders published by the Office for Infrastructure and Logistics – Brussels (OIB)*[4].

A maximum of 12 laboratories will be accepted for each ILS.

[4] https://ec.europa.eu/oib/doc/tenders-submission-guide_en.pdf

Annex 3

Application form to show interest in participation in (a) interlaboratory study(/ies)

Please fill in the grey areas of the form below, and submit it **before 29 June 2022** per email to the secretary of CEN/TC 223 'Soil improvers and growing media' (Lara van der Woude; lara.vanderwoude@nen.nl).

A.	**Contact details of the expert**	
	Name	
	Position	
	Phone number	
	Email address	
	Personal website (if any)	
B.	**Information about the organisation where the expert is working**	
	Name	
	Website	
	Contact person	
	Phone	
	Email	
	Scope / general information	
C.	**Please provide a short curriculum vitae (CV) of the laboratory manager and/or technical supervisor(s)**	
D.	**Please indicate for which project(s) you would like to participate in the interlaboratory study by filling in the table below.**	
	Project reference	***Interested to participate (Yes or No)?***
	2020-02.3: 00223099 'Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of organic matter content and ash'	
	2020-02.4: 00223100 'Soil improvers and growing media — Sample preparation — Part 1: Sample preparation for chemical and physical tests, determination of dry matter content, moisture content and laboratory bulk density'	
	2020-02.5: 00223101 'Soil improvers and growing media — Digestion by aqua regia for subsequent determination of elements'	
	2020-02.6: 00223104 'Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of the aerobic biological degradation rate of organic matter — Part 2: Self-heating test for compost'	
	2020-02.8: 00223106 'Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of nitrogen — Part 2: Dumas method'	
	2020-02.9: 00223107 'Soil improvers and growing media — Extraction of calcium chloride/DTPA (CAT) soluble nutrients and elements'	
	2020-02.10: 00223108 'Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of nitrogen — Part 1: Modified Kjeldahl method'	

	2020-02.11: 00223109 'Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of the aerobic biological degradation rate of organic matter — Part 1: Oxygen uptake rate (OUR)'	
	2020-02.13: 00223111 'Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of total organic carbon (TOC) by dry combustion'	
	2020-02.14: 00223112 'Compost and digestate - Determination of the content of macroscopic impurities'	
	2020-02.15: 00223113 'Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of the inorganic arsenic content'	
	2020-02.16: 00223114 'Soil improvers and growing media — Enumeration of *Escherichia coli*'	
	2020-02.17: 00223115 'Organic soil improvers — Determination of organic nitrogen'	
	2020-02.18: 00223116 'Compost and digestate — Determination of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH_{16}) by gas chromatography (GC) and high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC)'	
	2020-02.19: 00223117 'Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of phosphonates content'	
	2020-02.21: 00223119 'Soil improvers and growing media — Enumeration of *Enterococcaceae*'	
	2020-02.22: 00223120 'Digestate — Determination of the residual biogas potential'	
	2020-02.23: 00223121 'Soil improvers and growing media — Detection of *Salmonella* spp.'	
	2020-02.24: 00223122 'Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of chromium(VI)'	
	2020-02.25: 00223123 'Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of the mercury content'	
	2020-02.27: 00223xxx 'Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of aqua regia soluble elements'	
	2020-02.40: 00223102 'Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of electrical conductivity'	
	2020-02.41: 00223103 'Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of pH'	
	2020-02.43: 00223xxx 'Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of the chloride content'	
	2020-02.45: 00223xxx 'Soil improvers and growing media — Determination of volume of plugs'	
E.	**Please specify the following items for each project you would like to participate in the interlaboratory study:** • **Expected man-days per task foreseen (including a description of the foreseen tasks)** • **The total amount of man-days foreseen (should be the sum of the foreseen tasks as described)** • **Daily rate per man-day** • **Any costs for equipment and/or consumables (if applicable; including a description of the required equipment and/or consumables)** • **Any other costs (if applicable)**	

F.	**Please indicate if you conform to the criteria described below AND provide evidence in a short description for each described criterium.**			
	Yes	***No***	***Criterium***	***Short description evidencing meeting the criterium***
			PROFILE	
			Years of laboratory experience	
			Experience in soil improver, growing media, fertilizers, food, feed or cosmetic analyses	
			Accreditation for ISO 17025:2017 and/or GLP certification	
			Number of technicians available per ILS (at least 1 every two ILSs)	
			Availability of equipment, materials and consumables required for the execution of the ILS	
			VALIDATION OF METHODS	
			Experience in the development and validation of methods	
			Number of projects (at least 3)	
			Number of years (at least 3)	
			Number of projects validated and accredited according to ISO 17025 or according to GLP certification	
			Experience in the participation of interlaboratory studies	
			Number of total interlaboratory studies that the laboratory participated in	
			Number of interlaboratory studies concerning the topic up for validation via this call	
			Number of years (3 years)	
			ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS	
			English level of the contact person	
			Participation to events/working group meetings in English	
G.	**Please provide a signed declaration certifying you (and your organization) are not in any of exclusion criteria described in Annex 2.**			
H.	**I certify that all documents provided are veracious and in conformity with reality and certify not to be in any situation described below:** • **Subject of a non-likely judgement of recourse for a professional infringement** • **To be in an irregular tax situation or in an irregular special tax situation** • **To provide with incomplete or erroneous information**			

I also certify that I had no conflict of interest by submitting the present offer and I am not concerned by any exclusion criteria (see below).

Candidates or tenderers are excluded from participation in procurement procedures if:

a. **They are bankrupt or being wound up, are having; their affairs administered by the courts, have entered into an arrangement with creditors, have suspended business activities, are the subject of proceedings concerning those matters, or are in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations;**
b. **They have been convicted of an offence concerning their professional conduct by a judgement which has the force of res judicata;**
c. **They have been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means which the contracting authority can justify;**
d. **They have not fulfilled obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions or the payment of taxes in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which they are established or with those of the country of the contracting authority or this of the country where the contract is to be performed;**
e. **They have been the subject of a judgement which has the force of res judicata for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organisation or any other illegal activity detrimental to the European Union's financial interests;**
f. **Following another procurement procedure or grant award procedure by the Community budget, they have been declared to be in serious breach of contract for failure to comply with their contractual obligations.**

Date	
Name	
Signature	