



Institut luxembourgeois de la normalisation  
de l'accréditation, de la sécurité et qualité  
des produits et services

## ILNAS-EN ISO 17468:2023

### **Microbiology of the food chain - Technical requirements and guidance on the establishment or revision of a standardized reference method (ISO**

Microbiologie de la chaîne alimentaire -  
Exigences et recommandations  
techniques pour le développement ou la  
révision d'une méthode de référence

Mikrobiologie der Lebensmittelkette -  
Technische Anforderungen und Leitfaden  
zur Einführung oder Überarbeitung von  
genormten Referenzverfahren (ISO

11/2023



## National Foreword

This European Standard EN ISO 17468:2023 was adopted as Luxembourgish Standard ILNAS-EN ISO 17468:2023.

Every interested party, which is member of an organization based in Luxembourg, can participate for FREE in the development of Luxembourgish (ILNAS), European (CEN, CENELEC) and International (ISO, IEC) standards:

- Participate in the design of standards
- Foresee future developments
- Participate in technical committee meetings

<https://portail-qualite.public.lu/fr/normes-normalisation/participer-normalisation.html>

### **THIS PUBLICATION IS COPYRIGHT PROTECTED**

Nothing from this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any mean - electronic, mechanical, photocopying or any other data carries without prior permission!

ILNAS-EN ISO 17468:2023

EUROPEAN STANDARD **EN ISO 17468**

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

November 2023

ICS 07.100.30

Supersedes EN ISO 17468:2016

English Version

**Microbiology of the food chain - Technical requirements  
and guidance on the establishment or revision of a  
standardized reference method (ISO 17468:2023)**

Microbiologie de la chaîne alimentaire - Exigences et  
recommandations techniques pour le développement  
ou la révision d'une méthode de référence normalisée  
(ISO 17468:2023)

Mikrobiologie der Lebensmittelkette - Technische  
Anforderungen und Leitfaden zur Einführung oder  
Überarbeitung von genormten Referenzverfahren (ISO  
17468:2023)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 29 September 2023.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and United Kingdom.



EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION  
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels**

| Contents               | Page |
|------------------------|------|
| European foreword..... | 3    |

ILNAS-EN ISO 17468:2023 - Preview only Copy via ILNAS e-Shop

## European foreword

This document (EN ISO 17468:2023) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 34 "Food products" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 463 "Microbiology of the food chain" the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by May 2024, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by May 2024.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes EN ISO 17468:2016.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users' national standards body/national committee. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and the United Kingdom.

## Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 17468:2023 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 17468:2023 without any modification.

---

---

**Microbiology of the food chain —  
Technical requirements and guidance  
on the establishment or revision of a  
standardized reference method**

*Microbiologie de la chaîne alimentaire — Exigences et  
recommandations techniques pour le développement ou la révision  
d'une méthode de référence normalisée*

**COPYRIGHT PROTECTED DOCUMENT**

© ISO 2023

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, or required in the context of its implementation, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized otherwise in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, or posting on the internet or an intranet, without prior written permission. Permission can be requested from either ISO at the address below or ISO's member body in the country of the requester.

ISO copyright office  
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8  
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva  
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11  
Email: [copyright@iso.org](mailto:copyright@iso.org)  
Website: [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org)

Published in Switzerland

# Contents

Page

|                                                                                                                                                                              |           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Foreword</b> .....                                                                                                                                                        | <b>iv</b> |
| <b>1 Scope</b> .....                                                                                                                                                         | <b>1</b>  |
| <b>2 Normative references</b> .....                                                                                                                                          | <b>1</b>  |
| <b>3 Terms and definitions</b> .....                                                                                                                                         | <b>1</b>  |
| <b>4 Technical procedure for standardizing a new reference method</b> .....                                                                                                  | <b>3</b>  |
| 4.1 General.....                                                                                                                                                             | 3         |
| 4.2 Technical steps.....                                                                                                                                                     | 3         |
| 4.2.1 Step 1: Method(s) selection (mandatory) .....                                                                                                                          | 3         |
| 4.2.2 Step 2: Method(s) optimization (optional) .....                                                                                                                        | 4         |
| 4.2.3 Step 3: Method(s) evaluation study (recommended).....                                                                                                                  | 4         |
| 4.2.4 Step 4: “Real life” study (recommended).....                                                                                                                           | 5         |
| 4.2.5 Step 5: Selection of one candidate reference method for further validation<br>(mandatory).....                                                                         | 5         |
| 4.2.6 Step 6: Interlaboratory study (mandatory).....                                                                                                                         | 5         |
| <b>5 Technical procedure for revising a standardized reference method</b> .....                                                                                              | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>Annex A (informative) Flow chart on technical steps for the establishment or revision of a<br/>standardized reference method</b> .....                                    | <b>9</b>  |
| <b>Annex B (informative) Guidance on optimization studies to compare two options in the<br/>development of a new standardized reference method or for its revision</b> ..... | <b>10</b> |
| <b>Bibliography</b> .....                                                                                                                                                    | <b>13</b> |