

2.6.4 Fortification of Samples

No fortification (or "spiking") in the form of the addition of fortified or blank samples, took place either in the field or in the base camp. This was done in Canada (see section 2.7.4).

2.7 Sample Transportation to the Laboratory

2.7.1 Two Batches of Samples and Chronology

Two batches of samples were dispatched to the analytical laboratory. The first and much larger batch departed the host country on 15 April. Fortified and blank samples were added in Canada on 16 April, and the lot was delivered to the analytical laboratory on 17 April. All samples were refrigerated during the stopover at the home base, after which they were re-packed in the coolers for onward transportation under escort to the analytical laboratory. The coolers were unpacked on 18 April in the presence of the escort and laboratory analyst, and all samples were found to be in order and undamaged. In this batch there were 269 blood samples (259 field samples plus 10 controls) and 267 urine samples (256 field samples plus 11 controls).

The second batch consisted of the 11 blood samples collected 16-17 April. They were handled in the host country in the same manner as indicated in section 2.6. The second