



International Accreditation Forum Report
47th Meeting of the
International Committee of Legal Metrology (CIML)
01-02 October 2012
Bucharest, Romania

1. IAF Membership

The number of IAF members now totals 91, with 66 Accreditation Body Members, 17 Association Members, 4 Regional Groups with Special Recognition: EA (European Cooperation for Accreditation), IAAC (InterAmerican Accreditation Cooperation), PAC (Pacific Accreditation Cooperation) and SADCA (Southern African Development Community in Accreditation) and 4 Observer Members.

Since the last liaison report in October 2011, applications have been received from the African Accreditation Cooperation (AFRAC), the Accreditation Body of Serbia (ATS), International Accreditation Japan (IAJapan), the National Centre for Accreditation – Kazakhstan (NCA), the Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment (SLAB) and the World Food Safety Organization Ltd (WFSO). There have also been expressions of interest from several other bodies.

2. New Secretariat Team

John Owen resigned as the full time IAF Secretary effective 31 January 2012, but agreed to assume a part-time role as a member of the new IAF Secretariat team effective 01 February. He provides support and mentoring to the new team, and has assumed primary responsibility for secretariat services to the MLA and User Advisory Committees. The other Secretariat Team Members include: Elva Nilsen as the new IAF Secretary, Joan Brough-Kerrebyn, who provides secretariat services to the Technical and Developing Support Committees, and Rick Parsons, (former Director of Finance at SCC), who provides Treasurer and Accounting services.

3. IAF Directors

Current IAF Directors are Mr Randy Dougherty (ANAB), the IAF Chair; Mr Xiao Jianhua (CNAS), IAF Vice-Chair; Dr Thomas Facklam (DAkKS), the Director representing Accreditation Body Members located in High Income Economies; Mr. Ekanit Romyanon (NSC Thailand), the Director representing Accreditation Body Members located in Low and Medium Income Economies; and Mr Roger Bennett (IIOC), the Director representing Conformity Assessment Body Association Members. The Director representing Industry and User Association Members is currently vacant.

The Terms of a number of Directors and Committee Chairs will expire at the Annual Meeting in Rio in October 2012; nominations are currently being sought for available positions.

4. International Accreditation Day 2012 and 2013

June 9th 2012 marked World Accreditation Day, a global initiative jointly established by IAF and ILAC to raise awareness of the importance of accreditation-related activities. As in previous years, World Accreditation Day 2012 was celebrated across the world with the hosting of national events, seminars, and press and media coverage, to communicate the value of accreditation to government, regulators and the leaders of the business community. The theme for 2012 focused on how accreditation can be used to support safe food and clean drinking water, which is of particular interest to government and regulators.

The proposed 2013 International Accreditation Day theme, to be discussed further in Rio de Janeiro, is "Accreditation Facilitating World Trade".

5. IAF Publications

Publications since October 2011:

- (1) IAF ID 4:2012 Market Surveillance Visits to Certified Organizations
- (2) IAF/ILAC A5:03/2011 IAF/ILAC Multi-Lateral Mutual Recognition Arrangements (Arrangements): Application of ISO/IEC 17011:2004
- (3) Accreditation Body Assessor Job Task Analysis Report
- (4) [IAF ID 3:2011](#) Informative Document for Management of Extraordinary Events or Circumstances Affecting AB's, CAB's and Certified Organizations
- (5) IAF PR4: Structure of IAF MLA and Endorsed Normative Documents
- (6) IAF PR6: 2011: Assignment of IAF Liaisons
- (7) IAF Representatives, Liaisons and Contacts Dec. 2011
- (8) IAF Public Document Responsibility May 2011
- (9) IAF/ILAC A5:07/2012 IAF/ILAC Multi-Lateral Mutual Recognition Arrangements (Arrangements): Application of ISO/IEC 17011:2004
- (10) PL5: 2012 Structure of the International Accreditation Forum, Inc.
- (11) PR2: 2012 General Procedures for the Development of IAF Documents

Documents currently out for ballot:

- (1) Revision of IAF ML3: 2004 Procedure for Responding to Inquiries on IAF MLA Signatory Equivalence – ballot closing 17 August 2012
 - (2) Revision of IAF ML4: 2011 Policies and Procedures for a Multilateral Recognition Arrangement on the Level of Single Accreditation Bodies and on the Level of Regional Groups – ballot closing 17 August 2012
 - (3) Revision of MD5: 2009 Duration of QMS and EMS Audits – ballot closing 13 September 2012
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6. Signing of Memoranda of Understanding

A Memorandum of Understanding amongst IAF, ILAC, and ITU was signed by Randy Dougherty, the Chair of IAF; Peter Unger, the Chair of ILAC; and Malcolm Johnson, Director, Telecommunication, Standardization Bureau, of the ITU on May 14, 2012. A copy of the MOU is available on the IAF website under Publications, Documents for General Information.

IAF, ILAC and IEC will sign a revised MOU during the Annual Meetings in Rio.

7. Joint IAF-ILAC Mid-Term Meetings – Frankfurt, Germany

The Mid-Term joint IAF-ILAC meetings were held in Frankfurt, Germany, from 27 April to 05 May 2012. The majority of Committees met during this time, with the exception the Development Support and the User Advisory Committees. The Meetings included an ISO/IEC 17024 Workshop held 27 April.

Three draft resolutions were produced by the IAF Technical Committee as follows and will be further reviewed in October in Rio, prior to their consideration at the IAF General Assembly:

- The General Assembly, acting on the recommendation of the Technical Committee, resolves that the transition period for ISO/IEC 17065 be three years from the date of publication.
- The General Assembly, acting on the recommendation of the Technical Committee, resolves that a two year (from publication) transition for the implementation of all relevant newly published ISO/CASCO conformity assessment standards will be the norm unless overridden by the need to produce a specific guidance document as agreed by the IAF Technical Committee.
- The General Assembly, acting on the recommendation of the Technical Committee, resolves that interpretations of IAF documents reached by local, national or regional groups should be confirmed by the relevant IAF Working Group or Task Forces.

8. Joint Annual IAF-ILAC Meetings – Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

The Joint Annual meetings of IAF and ILAC will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from the 16th of October to the 26th of October, hosted by CGCRE. A link to registration and accommodation details can be found on the IAF website (iaf.nu) under News and Events, Annual meetings. The majority of IAF Committees, Sub-Committees, Working Groups and Task Forces will meet during this time. The meetings will also include an ISO 13485 Medical devices -- Quality management systems -- Requirements for regulatory purposes Workshop to be held Tuesday 16 October 2012, along with a JWG A Series Peer Evaluator Workshop for invited participants.

9. Future IAF and ILAC Meetings

The 2013 Joint IAF/ILAC Mid-Term Meetings will be held either in Frankfurt or Amsterdam from the 27th of April to the 3rd of May, 2013. It is expected that the location and meeting schedule will be confirmed during the Joint Executive meeting in Rio de Janeiro.

Both IAF and ILAC have accepted an invitation by the Korea Accreditation System (KAS) and KOLAS to host the 2013 IAF-ILAC Annual Meetings in Incheon, South Korea. They will take place from the 16th of October to the 25th of October 2013. It was also agreed to accept the invitation by the National Standardization Council of Thailand (NSC) to host the 2014 IAF-ILAC Annual Meetings in Bangkok, Thailand.

For further information about IAF please go to the IAF web site at <<http://www.iaf.nu>>, or contact the Secretariat at email <secretary@iaf.nu>.

Prepared by the IAF Secretary – August 2012.
