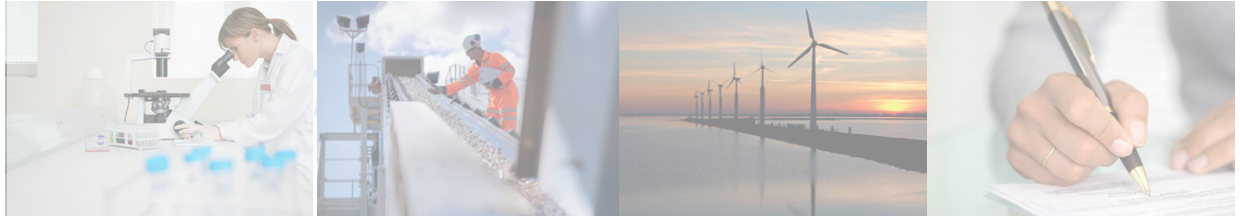


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The Association

By end of June 2017, EA has 36 Full Members and 13 Associate Members, among which 34 Full and 5 Associate Members are signatories to the EA MLA.

The last national accreditation body (NAB) having joined the EA membership is ARMNAB, the NAB of Armenia, which became an EA Associate Member in November 2016.

At the end of January 2017, Geir Samuelsen left NA, the Norwegian national accreditation body, terminating at the same time his mandate as the EA Vice-Chair.

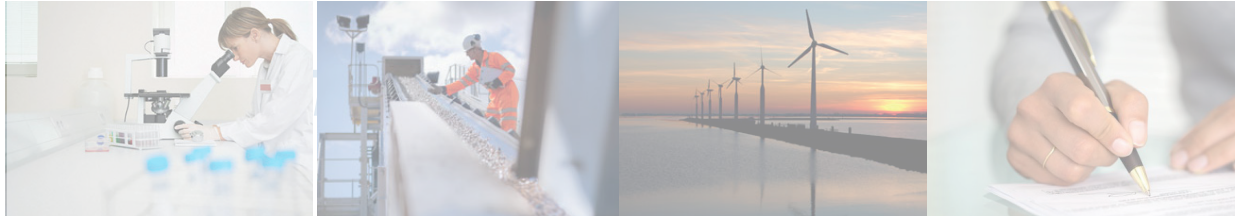
Regular **elections** took place at the 39th EA General Assembly on 23-24 May 2017 to renew the Executive Committee in full. A new tandem as EA Chair and Vice-Chair was elected, as well as the following Committee Chairs elected or re-elected for a two-year mandate starting on 1 January 2018:

EA Chair:	Peter Strömbäck, SWEDAC
EA Vice-Chair (taking over as of 23 May 2017):	Ignacio Pina, ENAC
EA Multilateral Agreement Council Chair:	Paulo Tavares, IPAC
EA Horizontal Harmonization Committee Chair:	Gabriel Zrenner, DAKKS
EA Communications & Publications Committee Chair:	Lucyna Olborska, PCA
EA Laboratory Committee Chair:	Laurent Vinson, COFRAC
EA Certification Committee Chair:	Kevin Belson, UKAS
EA Inspection Committee Chair:	Rolf Straub, SAS
Four additional members of the Executive Committee:	Maria Papatzikou, ESYD Emanuele Riva, ACCREDIA Jiří Růžička, CAI Ed Wieles, RvA

In May 2017, the EA General Assembly endorsed the decision of the Executive Committee to offer EA Recognised Stakeholder status to **European Sensory Science Society (E3S)** and **GLOBALG.A.P.**, entering into an agreement with each of them in accordance with EA-1/15 A: 2014 - EA Policy for Relations with Stakeholders. EA has now a total of 19 EA Recognized Stakeholders.

The last EA General Assembly also confirmed the launch of the **EA MLA for accreditation of Proficiency Testing Providers (PTP) according to EN ISO/IEC 17043**. Twelve EA NABs (ACCREDIA, CAI, COFRAC, DANAK, ENAC, ESYD, FINAS, NA, PCA, RvA, TURKAK and UKAS) have been accepted under the new MLA scope, as decided by the MLA Council in its April 2007 meeting.

The implementation plan of **EA Strategy 2025**, adopted in November 2016, has been approved in May 2017 by the EA General Assembly, which mandated the EA Executive Committee to monitor the implementing actions entrusted to specific TFGs. The Strategy will involve all EA Committees, EA's stakeholders through the EA Advisory Board and the Secretariat.



To be a world reference for accreditation that enables an open and global market for competitive business and provides reassurance to consumers in a sustainable society, EA has to ensure confidence in accredited conformity assessment results through harmonised operation of accreditation activities, in support of European and global economies. To achieve EA's vision and mission, 3 strategic objectives based on core values have been defined to support the implementation of the EA Strategy, enabling the EA Membership to speak with one voice and reach the desired position in 2025. EA's core values, which highlight the expected behaviours and skills on which all EA's work is based such as responsibility, competence, harmonisation and confidence, should be presented to EA Members and stakeholders at the EA General Assembly in November 2017 with the aim to reach their commitment to follow them on every level.

In relation to EA Strategy 2025, EA is negotiating the next **Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA)** with European Commission/EFTA for the period 2018-2021. The objective is to get the EC/EFTA financial support to back up the development of EA's new profile and objectives as set out in the Strategy.

EA Members contributed to promoting the 2017 World Accreditation Day through national workshops, conferences and websites.

Moreover, EA has been taking an active part in the organisation of the **18th International Congress of Metrology (CIM)** to be held in Paris on 19-21 September 2017. EA notably should co-organise and facilitate a round table dedicated to "Measurement and conformity declaration: ISO 17025, what's new?" on 19 September. Both the EA LC Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively Laurent Vinson (COFRAC, the French NAB) and Trevor Thompson (UKAS, the UK NAB), will be key contributors to the discussions.

Both events are examples of EA's promotion activities for which Audrey Malacain, the new EA Marketing and Communications manager, is now responsible from April 2017.

As a reminder, EA and the Standards Council of Canada (SCC) signed a bilateral cooperation agreement in 2016 to implement the Conformity Assessment Protocol provided for in the **Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)**, allowing for the mutual acceptance by Canada and the EU of test results and product certifications delivered by each other's recognized bodies. This will help facilitate trade and open doors for EU and Canadian companies. The EA Executive Committee appointed a project steering group to manage relations with SCC to monitor CETA implementation. The pilot project, dedicated to the EU directive ATEX and Canadian regulation Hazloc, is on good track and assessments observed by EA and SCC have been carried out. A joint brochure is being prepared to promote the agreement, its mechanisms and benefits for the European and Canadian economies.

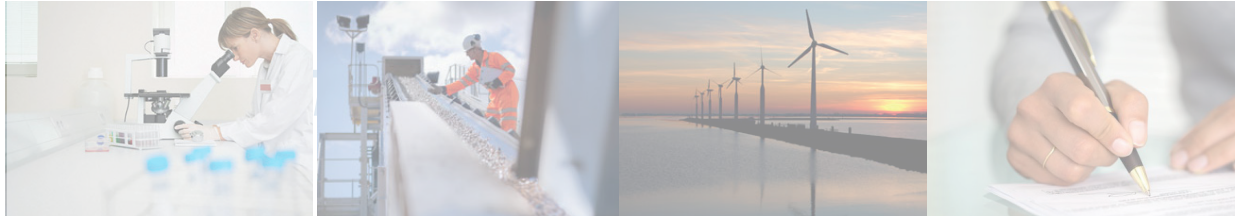
The MLA Council (MAC)

The **EA MLA Report 2016** that highlights the outcome and actions achieved through the EA MLA during 2016 was released on 23 May 2017 and published on the EA website at:

<http://www.european-accreditation.org/brochure/ea-mla-report-2016-4>

The MAC which manages the peer-evaluation process and decides on MLA signatories, held his last meeting on 26-27 April 2017 in Sofia, Bulgaria, where the following decisions have been made, coming into effect as of 27 April 2017:

- ESYD, the NAB of Greece, remains an EA-MLA signatory status in the fields of testing including medical examinations according to ISO 15189, calibration, inspection, management systems, products certification, certification of persons and GHG verification.



- GAC, the NAB of Georgia, becomes a BLA signatory in the fields of testing (excluding medical examinations according to ISO 15189), calibration, inspection, persons and products certification.
- DANAK (NAB of Denmark), COFRAC (NAB of France) and PCA (NAB of Poland) remain EA MLA signatories in the fields of calibration, testing (including medical examinations according to ISO 15189), inspection, products certification, management systems certification and certification of persons and GHG verification.
- FINAS (NAB of Finland), NA (NAB of Norway) and UKAS (NAB of United Kingdom) remain EA MLA signatories in the fields of calibration, testing, (including medical examinations to ISO 15189), inspection, products and persons certification, management systems certification and GHG verification.
- NAH (NAB of Hungary) becomes an MLA signatory in the field of inspection, after NAH was accepted as a signatory in the fields of calibration, testing (including medical examinations according to ISO 15189), products and persons certification, management systems certification and GHG verification
- TURKAK (NAB of Turkey) remains an EA MLA signatory in the fields of calibration, testing (including medical examinations according to ISO 15189), inspection, products certification, management systems certification and certification of persons.
- ACCREDIA, CAI, COFRAC, DANAK, ENAC, ESYD, FINAS, NA, PCA, RvA, TURKAK and UKAS become the first 12 signatories of the EA MLA for the accreditation of Proficiency Testing Providers (EN ISO/IEC 17043).

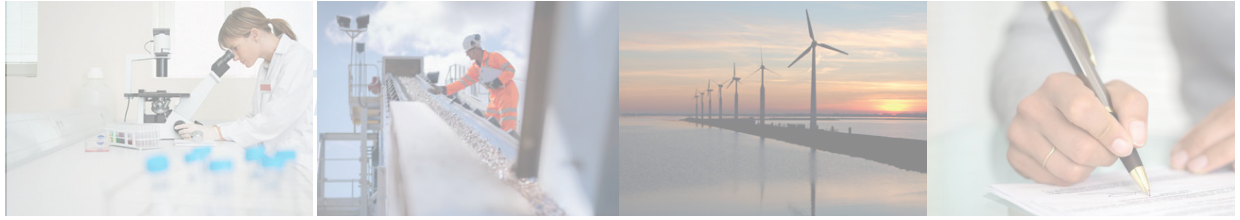
A new application has been received from the national accreditation body of **Azerbaijan** on 31 January 2017. It is under review by the Secretariat. A recommendation of the Executive Committee could be submitted to the General Assembly at its 40th meeting in November 2017 after consideration in the Executive Committee in September.

Further to the revision of the EA Articles of Association, EA Associate Members having joined the EA MLA through a bilateral agreement are allowed to vote at MAC meetings. The terms of reference (ToR) of the MAC have been revised accordingly and endorsed by the General Assembly in November 2016. The EA Rules of Procedure have been reviewed to introduce the voting rules to be used in the MAC and circulated for comments until mid-April 2017. The revised RoP were circulated for voting until 14 June 2017 and have been eventually approved.

The MAC agreed to accept observers from the US Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) in EA peer evaluations subject to prior agreement with the NAB under evaluation. Contacts are active with NEI representatives to finalise the relevant arrangements for the activities planned in 2017. In broader terms, the EA General Assembly, acting upon recommendation from the MAC, agreed upon the EA MAC position and procedure regarding observers (stakeholders) in peer evaluations as set out in a specific MAC document, whose both content and public availability will be reconsidered in light of implementation of EA Strategy 2025.

The EA General Assembly in May 2017, acting upon the recommendation from the MAC, agreed to reformulate the designation of the EA MLA Level 2 conformity assessment activity previously described as «GHG Verification» to «**Validation and Verification**».

EA is being peer-evaluated by ILAC/IAF for extension of its MLA/MRA signatory status to accreditation of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) verifiers and Proficiency Testing providers (PTP). The relevant onsite and witnessing activities are being completed by summer 2017. The ILAC/IAF evaluators were in Paris on 25-26 May 2017 for the evaluation of the Secretariat. In parallel, the application process for IAF management systems sub-scopes has been reopened. The full re-evaluation of EA by ILAC/IAF should normally be planned in 2018.



Actions for the **EA MLA extension to accreditation of Reference Materials Producers (RMP)** are nearing the goal. A survey has been carried out in January-February 2017 to collect data on activity performed by NABs in the field and to estimate the potential number of applications.

In May 2017, the EA General Assembly, acting upon the recommendation from the Executive Committee and considering EA Resolution 2010(25)13, approved to expand the scope of the EA MLA for RMP as new level 2 conformity assessment activity using EN ISO 17034 as a new level 3 normative document. Subsequently, acting upon the recommendation from the EA MAC, the EA General Assembly also approved the launching of the EA MLA for RMP during the MAC meeting in April 2019, provided that at least three members were successfully peer-evaluated by that date.

The EA Laboratory Committee (LC) organized a workshop on RMP accreditation against ISO 17034:2016 on 30 and 31 May 2017 in Milan, Italy, where it was hosted by ACCREDIA, the Italian NAB. This workshop, intended to support the expansion of the EA MLA to include ISO 17034, was specifically targeted to potential ISO 17034 peer evaluators.

Finally, the EA General Assembly in May 2017, acting upon the recommendation from the EA MAC, agreed that EA applies to ILAC for extending the scope of EA as a recognized region for the scope "Reference Material Producers – ISO 17034".

The **MAC re-engineering project** continues to progress. At its April 2017 meeting, the MAC appointed 10 TFGs to further develop the proposals agreed at the meeting.

The issue of evaluator resource is currently a priority issue on the MAC agenda. In order to support further development of the EA pool of evaluators, the MAC decided to set up an additional newcomer session in June 2017. The session will complete a 2017 training plan, which already covers refresher activities to be performed in December during two distinct workshops dedicated to new ISO/IEC 17011. The 2018 plan has also been reinforced. How to improve monitoring of transition to standards, how to better manage the process for dealing with changes notified to the MAC by ABs' members, how to translate the IAF resolution made in New Delhi on peer evaluation of IAF sub-scopes in the EA peer evaluation system was discussed in the MAC in April.

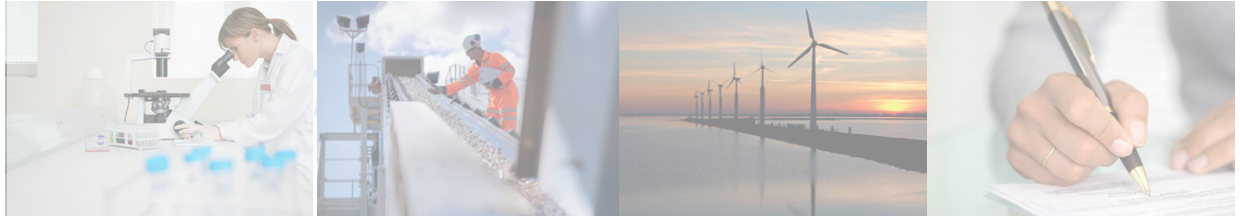
The next EA MAC meeting will take place on 4-5 October 2017 in Bucharest, Romania.

The Horizontal Harmonisation Committee (HHC)

On 28-29 March 2017 in Brussels, the EA Horizontal Harmonisation Committee held its 17th meeting, whose second day was dedicated to a workshop on the EA procedure for evaluation of conformity assessment schemes.

The workshop generated vivid discussions by the 56 attendants, keen to share their experience and questions on how to deal with schemes and scheme owners in their daily activities. Practical aspects were reviewed; in particular, how to proceed when assessing and validating a scheme according to EA-1/22, the EA document setting out the evaluation procedure, was discussed based on a presentation by RvA highlighting best practices. In parallel, a work is ongoing at the HHC level to collect examples from NABs with a view to establish harmonised best practice in the field.

Another key issue of common interest is the process at the EA level, notably when consensus cannot be reached by EA Members during the first steps of the scheme evaluation. This was reviewed and explained in detail by Karine Vincent (COFRAC), the HHC Vice-Chair. She also described the subsequent process between scheme owners and their home ABs when schemes evolve after having been successfully evaluated.



The exchange during the workshop highlighted a number of points for improvement in EA-1/22 and its supporting processes. Action will be taken at the EA Secretariat level for management aspects and giving easy access to scheme documentation.

During the first day of the HHC meeting, a significant amount of time was dedicated to the **questions** raised by HHC members. It is worth noting that, as the EA Certification, Inspection and Laboratory Committees have been doing for a long time, the HHC reiterated its will to maintain its FAQ list to be referred to by NABs in their daily operations.

Further to the IAF resolution on **use of the accreditation symbol/mark** by accredited CBs, and in order to update the rules where required, the HHC appointed a TFG led by Leopoldo Cortez (IPAC) to revise EA-3/01 Conditions for use of accreditation symbols, text reference to accreditation and reference to EA MLA signatory status. The TFG will have to translate the so-called “transparency” concept which aims to ensure that the customer, when asking explicitly for an accredited service, gets the relevant document with the relevant evidence given by the mark.

Revision of **EA-2/13 EA Cross Border Accreditation Policy and Procedure for Cross Border Cooperation between EA Members** was also considered. Performed by a TFG led by Lorraine Turner (UKAS), this revision is based on the results of a survey made to collect feedback on use of EA-2/13. A first report is expected at the HHC meeting in September 2017.

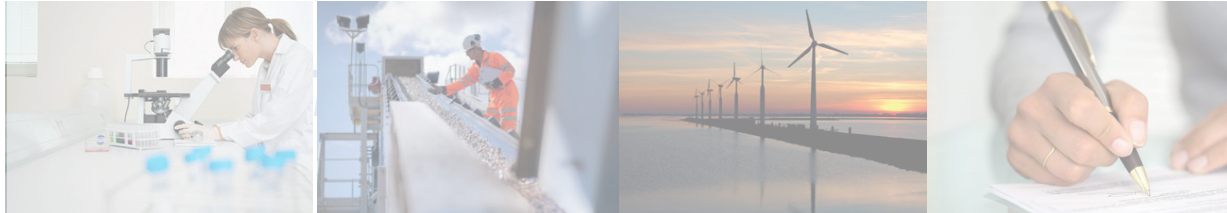
Ignacio Pina (ENAC), the HHC Chair, informed that the Committee would get actively involved in the implementation of the **EA Strategy 2025** to address specifically two points concerning: 1) cooperation with schemes; and 2) EA speaking with “one voice”. Document EA-2/17 that encapsulates the list of preferred standards to be used for directives and modules was a major result of the Accreditation for Notification (AfN) project in 2016 in order for EA to have “one voice” in the notification field. The HHC contributed to this successful outcome with the publication of EA-2/17 and is determined to further reinforce its role in support of sustainable harmonisation of accreditation practices.

Progress of the CASCO work on **revision of ISO/IEC 17011** was also discussed in the HHC. The Committee was informed of the postponed publication of the final draft. Transition measures were considered in the light of ILAC/ IAF discussions. The HHC decided to set up a specific workshop during its March 2018 meeting.

The next EA HHC meeting should be held on 19-20 September 2017 in Brussels, Belgium.

The Communications and Publications Committee (CPC)

The focus of the 31st CPC meeting held on 8-9 March 2017 in Prague, Czech Republic, was to transform the new EA strategy into **SMART communication objectives** and an ambitious communication plan. The CPC Vice-Chair, Knut-Thomas Sjölie from the Norwegian accreditation body (NA), led almost a full day workshop elaborating on SMART communication objectives. It was a very active group of participants that strived to develop Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Timely objectives. “*This is not an easy exercise, but the more effort you can put in, the better and easier the rest of the process in developing specific projects and activities gets,*” said K.T. Sjölie. The CPC Chair, Peter Kronval from the Swedish NAB (SWEDAC), pursued: “*Now we have a very good platform to build our communication plan on.*”



CPC Members endorsed revised **EA-1/14: Procedure for the Development and Approval of EA Documents and the Adoption of ILAC/IAF Documents**, which was sent out for ballot among EA Members until 24 May 2017. Further to a positive outcome approving the document, new EA-1/14 has been published on the EA website.

Quite long time was spent on discussing the EA website. The EA website has been developing over time and the EA Secretariat regularly analyses traffic on its pages through the Google Statistics report facility. The latest website statistics demonstrate stable visitor rates.

The Secretariat will continue to carry out frequent and regular surveillances of the traffic on the EA website, especially after the publication of news, e-news or tweets. This information will be used to further improve the website within the current Content Management System (CMS). Indeed the present EA website has been around for some years and a major revision is needed. This project is planned to start in 2018 and will be an important work item for the CPC next year.

Discussions are ongoing with Audrey Malacain, the new EA Marketing and Communications manager, to review the distribution of tasks between CPC and the Secretariat in order to ensure the most efficient cooperation in developing and reinforcing EA's Communication and Marketing.

Finally Peter Kronvall, the CPC Chair, said that he was happy with the development of the work within the CPC, especially since more accreditation bodies now attend the meetings. In the last meeting in Prague, 21 accreditation bodies attended, i.e. 2 more EA members are now represented in the CPC. "Hopefully we can have some more stakeholders attending our CPC meetings in future!"

The next meeting will take place on 13-14 September in Dublin, Ireland.

The Laboratory Committee (LC)

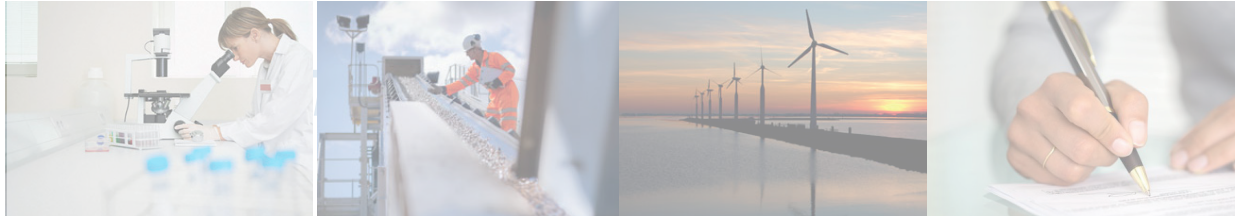
The EA Laboratory Committee met on 8-9 March 2017 in Paris, France. With the same regular attendance of 60 delegates representing 41 NAB members and stakeholders, the EA LC had a busy meeting.

A number of documents had been reviewed before submitting recommendations to the General Assembly which agreed in May 2017 that the EA LC should start a new work item to revise **EA-4/17: EA position paper on the description of scopes of accreditation of medical laboratories** and **EA-4/20: Guidance for the Assessment of Laboratories against EN ISO 15189 and EN ISO 22870 Point-of-Care Testing (POCT)**.

Still acting upon recommendation from the Laboratory Committee, the General Assembly also agreed that the LC should start a new work item to elaborate a guidance document for the Accreditation of **Pesticide Residues Analysis in Food and Feed**.

Revision of **EA-3/04: Use of proficiency testing as a tool for accreditation in testing** as a joint effort with the EEE-PT WG, as well as revision of **EA-4/14: Selection and use of reference materials** to be led by EURACHEM with a representative of the EA LC in the drafting group, were also considered.

There were also discussions about the development of a new guidance document on **measurement audit requirements** together with the EEE-PT WG.



Recognizing the value of the work undertaken by the EA LC WG ILCs in calibration and testing, the EA Executive Committee resolved, based on the position stated by the MAC, that **highlighted** (international) **ILCs** will not be considered under the framework of the peer-evaluation process anymore. As a consequence, **EA-2/14: Procedure for Regional Calibration ILCs in Support of the EA MLA** and **EA-INF/12: Benefits and importance of the participation in EA highlighted PT schemes** have been withdrawn in May 2017 by the EA General Assembly upon recommendation from the EA LC. Besides, EA-1/06: EA MLA – Criteria for Signing – Policy and Procedures for Development will be revised accordingly.

The LC endorsed new **EA-INF/15 Joint EA - EDQM Communication regarding Cooperation** when carrying out (joint) audits/assessments in Official Medicines Control Laboratories. The document is now available from the EA website as a tool to make EA/EDQM more efficient for the benefit of all involved, including and above all laboratories.

Revision of ISO/IEC 17025 was again a major topic on the agenda. A presentation was made on latest developments in the drafting of the new standard. The Committee agreed to plan:

- a break-out session for LC members in September 2017. LC delegates will be divided into groups and will work on a specific chapter of the revised standard before reporting back to the delegates.
- a train-the-trainer workshop for NAB staff in January 2018.

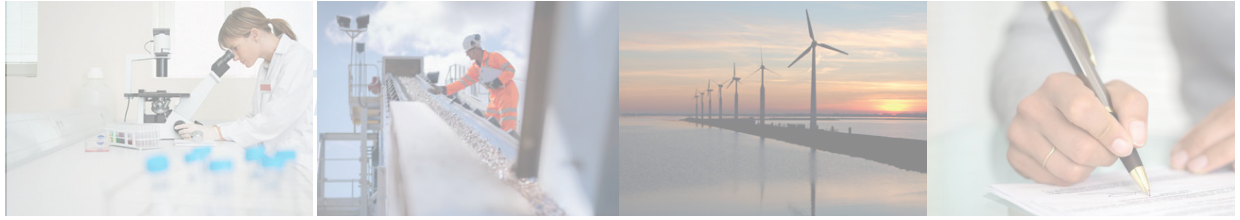
An impact analysis of the new standard is to be carried out by a LC TFG just appointed under the convenership of the LC Chair and Vice-Chair. EUROLAB will contribute to the work. A deep review of LC-owned documents will be carried out when the final draft of the future standard is available.

The mandate of the current **LC Management Group** will end in 2017; the Committee will have to elect a new Vice-Chair and new conveners of the LC technical networks and WGs at its September 2017 meeting. Then, how to work for the next term and in the longer run with the two WGs ILC in Calibration and Testing will be discussed with the aim to come up with a recommendation for the General Assembly in November 2017.

Concerned about its stakeholders' interests and needs, the LC confirmed liaison with the **EEE-PT WG** by appointing Hans D. Jensen (DANAK) as the new LC representative and Sergio Guzzi (ACCREDIA) as the reporter to LC on the activities and discussions of the ILAC Accreditation Committee (AIC).

EA/EURAMET cooperation continues to be active. A new meeting will take place on 21 September 2017 on the margins of the 2017 International Congress of Metrology (CIM 2017) held on 19-21 September in Paris and devoted to measurement in industry. Laurent Vinson (COFRAC) and Trevor Thompson (UKAS), respectively EALC Chair and Vice-Chair, and Erik Oehlenschlaeger (DANAK), Chair of the ILAC AIC, will attend on the European side. On 19 September, Laurent Vinson will be one key speaker in the CIM round table facilitated by EA on accreditation, which will focus on "ISO/IEC 17025:2017, measurements and conformity declaration".

The next meeting will be held on 26-27 September in Berlin, Germany.



The Certification Committee (CC)

The last meeting of the EA Certification Committee took place on 15 and 16 March 2017 in Antalya, Turkey. The discussions at the 33rd EACC meeting were led by the EACC Chair, Kevin Belson from the UK NAB (UKAS).

Notable outcomes included:

- further to the EA Executive Committee's approval and the EACC's development of clear rules for the Committee's members to submit, answer and publish questions, it was agreed to start publishing **EACC Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)** on the EA website with those discussed at the meeting in September 2016 in order for them to be used by NABs as advice and recommendation by the EACC. The FAQs series is deemed to be updated after each EACC meeting. Since May, EACC FAQs are available on the EA website, section Publications (www.european-accreditation.org/faq), where readers' careful attention is drawn on the fact that the answers, which give the consensus view of the Committee, are intended for informational purposes and should not be used as official guidance for the implementation of the requirements of the standards concerned.
- after the comments round within EA by December 2016, EACC WG Environment has presented a final revised EA-7/04: Legal Compliance as a Part of Accredited ISO 14001: 2004 Certification, which was endorsed by the CC in March. This final version went through a positive 30-day ballot within EA before being published in late May 2017.

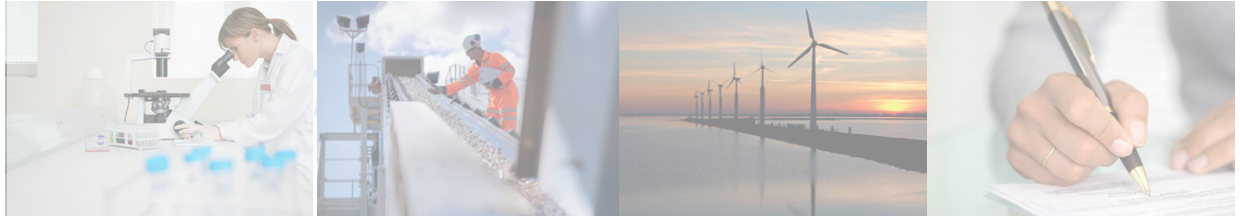
The full morning of the meeting's second day was dedicated to a strategic group discussion aimed at consolidating the outcome and feedback from discussions held in September 2016 on consultancy and certification. EACC members were divided into 6 groups to discuss and answer the following 3 questions:

- Can a CB publish a list of consultants? If yes, what kinds of controls are necessary?
- At what point does a CB cross the line and break the rules?
- Specifics – Rules for Training, Sales activities, Consultants' Role during an audit, what else can a CB do that is not consultancy.

A lot of common ground emerged from plenary oral reports and discussions, even if some sectors appeared to be rather specific. The only controversial issue is whether or not publishing a list of consultants is marketing; the point will be forwarded to IAF for further discussions and opinion.

Many other discussions took place with good progress on numerous ongoing work items, some of which will continue at the next meeting on 12-13 September 2017:

- **EA-6/03:** *EA Document for Recognition of Verifiers under the EU ETS Directive*, still being revised by EA Network Group EU ETS, should be presented to the EACC in September 2017 for endorsement by the Committee.
- further to the elaboration and adoption of a new work item in late 2016, revision of **EA-6/04:** *EA Guidelines on the Accreditation of Certification of Primary Sector Products by Means of Sampling of Sites* is being started by EACC WG Food.
- an EA common position on **energy audits** reached by EACC WG ENV was endorsed by the whole Committee as an EACC recommendation to be widely disseminated within EA.



- regarding **guidance documents**, discussions need to be further progressed with regard to the development of guidance documents for selection of Conformity Assessment standards, as well as for application of ISO/IEC 17065, EN 15224 and, to lesser extent, ISO/IEC 17024.
- because it was agreed that EA/IAF and NACE codes need harmonisation, a specific discussion will be held at the next meeting, in advance of which CC members will be asked to answer a short survey for fruitful input to the meeting discussions.
- other important issues to be followed up in September 2017 are: how to remind CBs' customers of transition periods, validity of certificates after withdrawal of the EA MLA status, and need for harmonization activities, notably about new ISO/IEC 17021 series.

Finally, further to its recent publication and upon the EACC's recommendation made in March, the EA General Assembly in May 2017 endorsed the mandatory application of ISO /IEC TS 17021-3:2017 as Level 4 standard for all EA Members.

The Inspection Committee (IC)

The 33rd meeting of the EA Inspection Committee was held on 14 March 2017 in Antalya, Turkey.

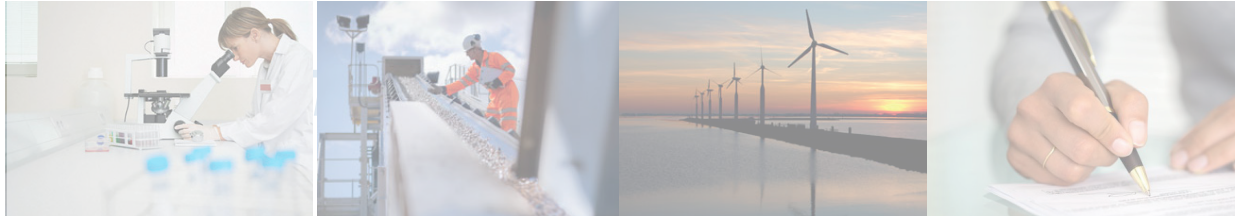
The EAIC Chair, Rolf Straub from SAS, the Swiss national accreditation body (NAB), led many buoyant discussions, which started when the outcome of workshop held in September 2016 on ISO/IEC 17020: 2012 & ILAC P15: 2014 was considered, especially regarding **independence and impartiality** issues.

Different national views were acknowledged about identification of Type A, B, C inspection bodies (IBs) and the way in which they are allowed to act on the market. Allowed third-party activities and presentation of accreditation scopes are different. The most important is actually the rationale behind accreditation. These national particularities influence very much the way NABs accredit. This lack of harmonisation can explain why it is rather impossible to compare and find similarities among national accreditation scopes.

A brief overview was also given of the outcome of the recent ILAC survey on independence & impartiality. On average, 70% of accredited IBs are of Type A; 26% are Type C and 4% are Type B. Particular cases emerge, like in Sweden where 99% of accredited IBs are of Type C. Other countries like Mexico, the UK and Ireland have also a high percentage of Type C IBs. The detailed results were presented and discussed in ILAC IC in April in Frankfurt, Germany to decide on how to deal with them and go further this autumn in the ILAC IC meeting in Vancouver. Feedback will be given at the September meeting of the Committee.

Consequently to the discussions above, and further to a previous survey on **inspection scopes for accreditation**, the Chair will draft a specific case study together with questions to be answered by IC members, in order to better compare and discuss at the next meeting how they present inspection scopes on accreditation certificates for both pressure vessels and lifts. Discussions will also cover the degree of flexibility, which may differ depending on the way scopes are presented without introducing formally a flexible scope.

Other lively discussions concerned **IAF MD 20: 2016 Generic Competence for AB Assessors**. Most members expounded that IAF MD 20 included most crucial points. ABs have to be very challenging because the document does affect how they will have to work in the future. Certainly, the document is only for certification purposes now, but it can very soon be taken over by ILAC (or by ABs to uniform the requirements of their AB assessors) and



become applicable for accreditation of IBs as well. The EA IC finally agreed to be reluctant to use IAF MD 20 for inspection in its present form. The Chair should present a short note for the Frankfurt ILAC IC meeting to raise ILAC's awareness on the lack of relevance of the document which is considered not to be appropriate for inspection activities.

The EAIC Vice-Chair, Tomas Holm from SWEDAC, the Swedish NAB, reported on the latest developments in the **EAIC Technical Network Car Inspection**, of which he is the convener. He informed that requirements for technical services for car type approval (TA) had been included into the new EC regulation so as for ISO/IEC 17011 to be complied with by TA authorities, stressing however that this should be avoided because ISO/IEC 17011 is for accreditation bodies. SWEDAC was still discussing with Swedish national authorities (NAs) to try and improve the situation; other NABs were strongly invited to discuss with their own NAs.

Besides the Vice-Chair reported that, as requested and argued in their report submitted to the EA General Assembly in November 2016, the **International Motor Vehicle Inspection Committee (CITA)** wanted to intensify their cooperation with EA in the field of car inspection in order to develop specific guidance based on branch specific interpretations of requirements in ISO/IEC 17020. For that purpose, T. Holm emphasized the need to have some small active WG, or TFG, within TN Car Inspection in order to work in closer cooperation with CITA. The Chair urged IC members to volunteer, as well as for the TN convenorship which T. Holm would leave in late 2017. A couple of volunteers have since demonstrated their interest before nominations are made in September.

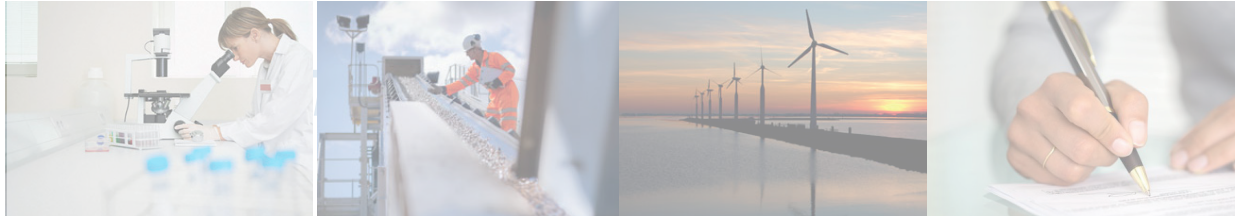
Finally, Kelvin Belson from UKAS, the UK NAB, explained UKAS/EA concerns about the role of conformity assessment in accordance with Regulation (EC) 765/2008 in Directive 2009/15/EC on common rules and standards for **ship inspection** and survey organisations and for the relevant activities of maritime administrations, especially regarding the role of the "independent quality assessment and certification entity" and their relationship with accreditation. An agreement reached on the best approach has still to be confirmed by the relevant UK Regulator. Moreover Orbay Evrensevdi from TURKAK made a thorough and attractive presentation of how accreditation of ship inspection was managed in Turkey, based on national regulations. TURKAK's presentation of their national-oriented accreditation scheme demonstrated that ship inspection was a very delicate issue either to perform inspection or to assess such IBs in depth. It is notably difficult to find competent technical assessors with enough appropriate knowledge, which should often be called for in other countries with similar harbour activities.

The **next workshop** to be held during the EAIC meeting on 14-15 September 2017 will be dedicated to 3 topics: sub-contracting and franchising; multisite IBs; and how to organize work to meet regulators' needs.

The EA Advisory Board (EAAB)

The EAAB meeting in April has been postponed until 12 October 2017 when several important issues, such as the implementation of EA Strategy 2025, can be more deeply reported and discussed after their finalization by EA, notably at the EA General Assembly held in May 2017.

In the meanwhile, all issues needing the EAAB's consultation, notably EA new work items and new applications for being granted the EA Recognised Stakeholder status, were electronically circulated among the Board's Members, who confirmed their support, before approval at the EA General Assembly in May.



EA Training Plan 2017

Harmonisation trainings

Training on the Delegated Act to the Regulation (EU) 2015/757 on the **monitoring, reporting and verification of carbon dioxide emissions from maritime transport**

2-3 February 2017 in Hamburg, Germany

Managed by the Certification Committee

Workshop on the use and implementation of revised **EA-1/22: EA Procedure and Criteria for the Evaluation of Conformity Assessment Schemes by EA Accreditation Body Members** published in November 2016

29 March 2017 in Brussels, Belgium

Managed by the Horizontal Harmonisation Committee

ISO/IEC 17034 for RMP

30-31 May 2017

Hosted by ACCREDIA in Milan, Italy

Managed by the Laboratory Committee

ISO 22003 Food Safety Management Systems

15 June 2017

hosted by ACCREDIA in Milan, Italy

Managed by the Certification Committee

Peer evaluator trainings

Newcomer session

13-15 June 2017

Hosted by RvA in Utrecht, Netherlands

Managed by the MAC

Refresher sessions for Team Leaders (TL), Deputy TL and potential TL/DTL on new **ISO/IEC 17011**

6-7 December 2017

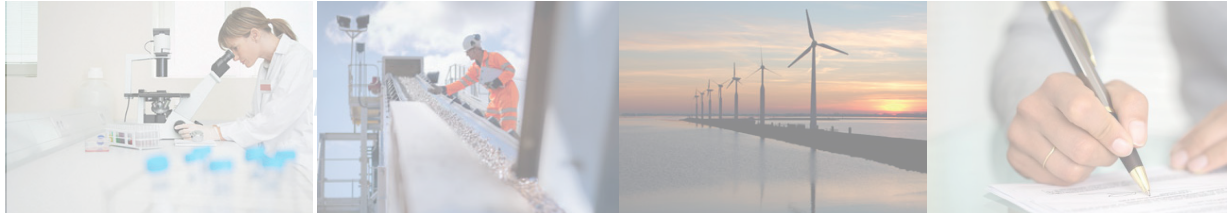
in Utrecht, Netherlands - Location to be confirmed

Managed by the MAC

14-15 December 2017

in Madrid, Spain - Location to be confirmed

Managed by the MAC



EA Publications – Update on withdrawn, revised, developed and adopted documents

Withdrawn	Under revision	Under development	Published since January 2017
EA-2/14 Procedure for regional calibration ILCs in support of the EA MLA	EA-1/06 EA MLA. Criteria for Signing. Policy and procedures for development.	New document: EA-XX Guidance document for the Accreditation of Pesticide Residues Analysis in Food and Feed	EA-0/07 Procedure for application for EA membership and application form
EA-INF/12 Benefits and importance of the participation in highlighted PT schemes	EA-1/17 S3 EA Procedure for the Investigation and Resolution of Complaints and Appeals		EA-1/17 A Rules of Procedure
	EA-2/02 Procedure for evaluation of an EA NAB		EA-1/17 S4 EA Rules of Procedure - Proxy Procedure
	EA-2/13 EA Cross Border Accreditation Policy and Procedure for Cross Border Cooperation between EA Members		EA-1/14 Development of EA publications and adoption of ILAC/IAF documents
	EA-3/01 Use of Accreditation marks and reference to MLA signatory status		EA-4/09 Accreditation for Sensory Testing Laboratories
	EA-4/17 EA position paper on the description of scopes of accreditation of medical laboratories		EA-7/04 Legal compliance as part of accredited ISO 14001 certification
	EA-4/20 Guidance for the Assessment of Laboratories against EN ISO 15189 and EN ISO 22870 Point-of-Care Testing (POCT)		
	EA-6/03 EA Document for Recognition of Verifiers under the EU ETS Directive		
	EA-6/04 EA Guidelines on the Accreditation of Certification of Primary Sector Products by Means of Sampling of Sites		



**For more information,
please contact :**



**European cooperation for Accreditation
75 avenue Parmentier
F-75544 PARIS Cedex 11 - FRANCE**

**Email:
secretariat@european-accreditation.org**

Tel: +33 (0)1 40 21 24 62

www.european-accreditation.org