

## Advisory Committee for Inspection in Zimbabwe Holds its 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting

The Advisory committee for Inspection in Zimbabwe held its 5<sup>th</sup> meeting at the Standards Association of Zimbabwe's Headquarters on 17 September 2015. The meeting which was attended by 17 members was chaired by Mr Ngoni Chirinda who was appointed chairman at the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting held in 2014. The purpose of the meeting was to provide update on developments in SADCAS especially developments in the Inspection Bodies Accreditation Program, to update members on the revisions of SADCAS AP 12: Part 2: Accreditation of inspection bodies operating in the regulatory/voluntary area, to discuss draft 1, Issue 1 of SADCAS TR 13: Criteria for the accreditation of inspection bodies performing inspection of metallic tanks in Zimbabwe and to consider other scopes for extension for the program.

A minute of silence was observed at the beginning of the meeting in remembrance of Mr Rogers Dhliwayo, Director Occupational Health and Safety who represented National Social Security Authority (NSSA) on the Committee who passed on in June 2015. Mr Dhliwayo was instrumental in pushing for the use of accreditation as an assurance for the competence of inspection bodies operating under the factories and Works Act which culminated in the Memorandum of Understanding between SADCAS and NSSA the delegated authority for occupational health and safety issues in Zimbabwe.

The draft SADCAS TR 13 was developed based on a draft prepared by a Working Group (WG) established for that purpose in 2013. The Working Group draft was considered at the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Advisory Committee held on 29 October 2014 following which and taking into account the comments raised was revisited and WG draft 2 was prepared. The document was reviewed by the delegated regulatory authority in Zimbabwe, the National Social Security Authority (NSSA) who proposed some changes to the document which thereafter was forwarded to SADCAS on 29 April 2015. SADCAS considered the draft document and presented it in the SADCAS format. SADCAS TR 13, draft 1, Issue 1 was circulated to all the Advisory Committee members on 4 August 2015 for comment by 18 August 2015. Comments received were then considered during the 5<sup>th</sup> Advisory Committee meeting held on 17 September 2015. The draft was discussed clause by clause and a number of changes were made to focus the document on metallic tanks.

Regarding scope extension to cover lifting equipment, the Chief Inspector of Factories Mr Mutswatiwa advised that there was no progress on the regulations for lifting equipment. Members then discussed the possibilities of extending the accreditation program scope to cover lifting equipment as a voluntary activity and for which the composition of the Advisory Committee would have to be extended to include the interested parties. A proposal was made to also consider extending the scopes to cover non- metallic tanks and verification activities which the meeting agreed to consider developing the necessary technical requirements documents in future meetings. On other topics for discussion in future meeting the Committee agreed to discuss the fine line between NDT activities and inspection activities a matter which is also under discussion at international level.

The Document Working Group which was established to review international documents was reminded to submit comments on ILAC document on Guidance on measurements performed as part of an inspection process whose deadline for comment was set at 7 October 2015 to allow SADCAS enough time to collate comments and submit them to ILAC by 14 October 2015.

SADCAS TR 13 has since been finalized and published by SADCAS and is available on the website.