

# World Accreditation Day 2016

## Runner/Advertorial



## World Accreditation Day

9 June 2016

**Accreditation: A global tool to support Public Policy**

June 9, marks World Accreditation Day (WAD) as a global initiative jointly established by the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) to raise awareness of the importance of accreditation-related activities. The inaugural WAD was celebrated in 2008.

The theme for 2016 World Accreditation Day is “**Accreditation: A global tool to support Public Policy**” and focuses on the support accreditation delivers as a tool for all areas in the public sector – national and local government, regulators. Accreditation is a global tool that helps to address local, national and international needs for governments. Standards, conformity assessment and accreditation are all market-based tools that can be used by Government policy makers to deliver better regulation, environmental protection, public safety, fraud prevention, fair and efficient markets and public trust. The theme this year also supports the promotion of the [Public Sector Assurance website](http://www.publicsectorassurance.org) which was developed by ILAC, IAF, ISO, IEC and IIOC.

As in previous years, the day will be celebrated across the world with the hosting of major national events, seminars, and press and media coverage, being undertaken in order to raise awareness on the importance of accreditation and to communicate the value of accreditation to Government, Regulators and the leaders of the business community.

The SADC region has been commemorating World Accreditation Day since 2009. Commemoration activities in the region have ranged from seminars/conferences to press releases, television to radio interviews and street marches to targeted marketing visits. World Accreditation Day provides an excellent opportunity for the accreditation community to extend its influence and demonstrate how accreditation can be applied to a wide variety of assessment, approval or evaluation tasks that can be used to address a wide range of sectors. We are operating in a region where raising awareness on the benefits and importance of accreditation is still key.

SADCAS therefore encourages all SADC Member States it services to commemorate 2016 WAD on 9 June 2015. To find out what is happening locally, please contact your **National Accreditation Focal Point** for further details.