

SADCAS CEO Appointed as APLAC Evaluator



Mrs Maureen P Mutasa, the SADCAS CEO was appointed as a Peer Evaluator by the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation Mutual Recognition Arrangement (APLAC MRA) Council at its recent meeting held at the Intercontinental Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand in conjunction with the Joint APLAC PAC Annual General meetings held from 16 to 24 June 2017. The APLAC is a cooperation of accreditation bodies in the Asia Pacific region.

The APLAC MRA Chairman, Dr Llewellyn Richard in the letter of appointment noted that Mrs Mutasa's promotion to an evaluator is in acknowledgement of her extensive training and good preparation and participation in her first evaluation for APLAC in February 2017. APLAC recognize that Mrs Mutasa contributions as an evaluator will enable APLAC to maintain a reliable and credible and widely accepted MRA amongst its members.

Mrs Mutasa is also a registered AFRAC peer evaluator and has so far undertaken 5 peer evaluations 2 for APLAC and 3 for AFRAC in the scopes inspection and certification.

Mrs Maureen Mutasa has over 35 years' diverse and extensive experience in the food industry, lecturing and agricultural research, standards development and management, conformity assessment and accreditation. Mrs Mutasa joined SADCAS in June 2008 as its first Chief Executive Officer. Prior to joining SADCAS, Mrs Mutasa was with the Standards Association of Zimbabwe (SAZ) for 20 years, eight of which she was the Director General. She also worked as the National Quality Assurance Manager for a dairy manufacturing Company in Zimbabwe, lectured in Food/Animal Microbiology and Biochemistry at graduate and post graduate level at the University of Zimbabwe and worked in agricultural and food research. Mrs Mutasa has a first class BSc Honours, Degree in Biological Sciences (Biochemistry and Microbiology) from the University of Wolverhampton (UK) and MSc Food Science with Distinction from the University of Zimbabwe. A "Beit Scholar", she attended management development and leadership training programmes in Singapore as a Singapore International Foundation Scholar and in the USA as an Eisenhower Fellow.

Mrs Mutasa has held various leadership positions regionally and internationally including being Chair of ISO Policy Committee for Developing Countries (ISO DEVCO) and a member of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Joint Implementation - Accreditation Panel and Clean Development Mechanism – Accreditation Panel. She is currently an Executive member of the SADCAS Board of Directors, Vice Chairman of the AFRAC, serves on the SADCA and AFRAC Executive Committees and represents SADCAS in ILAC/IAF and represents AFRAC on the IAF executive Committee.