

SADCAS HOLDS HALF-DAY WORKSHOP ON ISO CASCO ACTIVITIES, ISO/IEC 17029:2019 AND THE OIML CERTIFICATION SCHEME BASED ON ISO/IEC 17065:2012

SADCAS held a half-day virtual workshop on 31 March 2021 that was facilitated by Mr Reinaldo Figueiredo, a renowned international expert in Standardization, Conformity Assessment and accreditation and the Chair of ISO CASCO and by Mr Paul Dixon, Assistant Director International Bureau of Legal Metrology (BIML) and the Executive Secretary of the OIML Certification Scheme (OIML-CS).

The objectives of the workshop were to:

- Provide an overview of ISO/CASCO activities and the ISO/CASCO tool box; Introduce the ISO/IEC 17029: 2019, a recently published international standard on *Conformity Assessment – General Principles and Requirements for Validation and Verification Bodies*; and
- Be informed about the OIML Certification Scheme (OIML-CS) that is based on ISO/IEC 17065: 2012 on *Conformity Assessment – Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and Services*.

The workshop was opened by the SADCAS Chief Executive Officer, Mrs Maureen Primrose Mutasa who welcomed participants, outlined the objectives of the workshop and introduced the speakers. Mr Reinaldo Figueiredo then presented on ISO/CASCO activities that included the recent CASCO Main events, the ISO/CASCO Toolbox with work in progress such as the *ISO/IEC 17060 – Conformity Assessment – Code of Good Practice*, under development through the Revision of ISO/IEC Guide 60. The ISO CASCO Chair, Mr Figueiredo in his second presentation gave an introduction to *ISO/IEC 17029: 2019 - Conformity Assessment – General Principles and Requirements for Validation and Verification Bodies*. Mr Figueiredo submitted the March 2021 ISO/CASCO Report for sharing with all participants and invited members to continue participating in ISO/CASCO activities through the mirror committees established by the National Standards bodies.



[Mr Figueiredo presenting on ISO/IEC 17029](#)

Mr Paul Dixon presented the OIML structure; OIML publications that form the basis of Legal Metrology Technical Regulations and the requirements of the OIML Certification System that encompasses ISO/IEC 17065/ ISO/IEC 17025 criteria complied with by OIML approved accredited Certification Bodies (Issuing Authorities)/Testing Laboratories of measuring instruments used for legal metrology purposes. Mr Dixon encouraged workshop participants to contribute to the OIML technical work that leads to the development of OIML recommendations and participate in OIML-Certification Scheme as Utilizing Authorities and continue to develop their capabilities to become accredited OIML Issuing Authorities in the future.

The workshop which included a discussions and questions session on the presentations was facilitated by Mr Victor Rodreck Mundembe, the SADCAS Scheme Coordinator for the Legal Metrology Advisory Scheme (LMAS) who also summarized the discussions before vote of thanks and closure by Mrs Pinkie Malebe, the SADCAS Technical Manager.



Mr Dixon presenting on the OIML Certification Scheme

The workshop participants were drawn from SADCAS Advisory Committee of the Legal Metrology Advisory Scheme (AC.08); SADCAS Management and staff; SADCAS Assessors and Technical Experts; SADC Cooperation in Accreditation Technical Committee (SADCA TC) members; Representatives from other Accreditation Bodies in the SADC region (SANAS and MAURITAS); Legal Metrology Authorities, Service Providers and Experts drawn from all over Africa including SADC Cooperation in Legal Metrology (SADC MEL) and Intra-Africa Metrology System (AFRIMETS). Mr Martin Kaiser a Consultant with PTB Germany also participated at the workshop. All the 74 participants and presenters were drawn from 14 ISO member bodies, 5 ISO corresponding members from Africa and mostly from 13 out of the 14 SADC Member States serviced by SADCAS.



Screenshot of some of the participants at the Workshop

The participants benefitted through the understanding of the ISO/CASCO activities and the requirements of the ISO/IEC 17029 and ISO/IEC 17065 standards, the OIML structure, OIML publications and the OIML Certification System thus providing a basis for the implementation of the international standards, and OIML requirements that form part of the criteria for accreditation of Legal Metrology service providers. All presentations were shared with all participants after the workshop.

SADCAS and the participants are looking forward to the next workshop on the Requirements of **ISO/IEC 17029**, scheduled to be held virtually in July 2021, following which the SADCAS Legal Metrology Advisory Committee (AC.08) will meet and advise on the way forward regarding Legal Metrology Accreditation criteria to be adopted by SADCAS. SADCAS looks forward to continued cooperation with ISO/CASCO, the OIML and PTB Germany.

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