

## SADC Countries Commemorate World Accreditation Day 2011

Various activities were held throughout the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region to commemorate world accreditation day on 9 June 2011. World accreditation day is a global initiative jointly established by the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) in 2008 to raise awareness on the importance of accreditation. World accreditation day is celebrated each year on 9 June. The theme for this year's world accreditation day is "Supporting the work of regulators" which is inextricably linked to the role of accreditation in assuring technical competence.



Within the SADC region consisting of 15 countries, world accreditation day commemorations started in 2009 with the issuance of press releases. In 2010 apart from the press releases, radio and television interviews and conferences were held in Botswana, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Seychelles. This year, press releases on world accreditation day were widely circulated to stakeholders in all the SADC countries, radio and television interviews were held in some of the countries and conferences were held in 7 SADC countries namely Botswana, DRC, Lesotho, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. Remarking about the increased world accreditation commemorations activities within the region, the SADCAS Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Mrs Maureen Mutasa said "We have graduated from just issuing press releases on world accreditation day to successfully hosting many national conferences".

**In Botswana**, the ISO/IEC 17025 Forum hosted a half day workshop in Gaborone on 9 June 2011 which was attended by 50 delegates and during which a SADCAS' representative, Ms Jeanne Ranorovelo made a presentation on the "Role of SADCAS in supporting the work of regulators". This was

followed by a preliminary report on the survey of conformity assessment bodies in Botswana, a survey undertaken by SADCAS through the network of National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFPs) in all those countries that are serviced by SADCAS. The delegates were also updated on the latest developments in the establishment in Botswana of the National Testing Laboratory System whose mission is to provide access to quality testing services to industry and the public in general.

*Continued to p 2*

Accreditation in the Regulatory Sector	4	Malawi Appoints First NAFP Officer	14
SADCAS Accredits its Fourth Facility	5	SADC/EU SQAM Trained and Qualified Assessors Registered	14
Meeting with Factories and Works Inspectorate Zimbabwe	5	SADCAS Launches New Set of Accreditation Training Courses	16
SADCAS Establishes First Advisory Committee	5	National Blood Services Zimbabwe Trained on ISO 15189	17
Trademark Registered in Democratic Republic of Congo	7	Seychelles Bureau of Standards Staff Undergo Training on ISO/IEC 17020	17
Gunnar Holm Visits SADCAS Office	8	SADCAS CEO Attends Peer Evaluator Course	18
SADCAS Visits Diagnofirm Medical Laboratories	9	Highlights from the ILAC PTCG Meeting in Montreux, Switzerland	19
SADCAS Website Based Directory now Functional	10	Status of key Accreditation Standards/ Guides under Development	22
Integration of the Pan African Quality Infrastructure	12	Diary of Upcoming Events	24
Mozambique Embraces Accreditation	13		

*Continued from p1*

**In DRC**, a half day conference which was attended by 73 participants was held in Lubumbashi on 9 June 2011 to commemorate world accreditation day. Mrs Feza Matata and Mr Viki Mbuya Kanama the NAFF Officers for DRC, made presentations on the role of SADCAS in support of the work of regulators and in facilitating trade and regional integration within SADC.

**In Lesotho**, a workshop was held on 9 June 2011 during which a senior government official opened the conference emphasizing the importance of accreditation and reflected on the establishment of SADCAS as a major regional achievement in its efforts to eliminate technical barriers to not only intra regional trade but also inter regional trade. This was followed by a presentation by Mr Azael Makara the NAFF-Lesotho who laid out the foundation for the guest speaker and a representative of SADCAS Mr Cyprian Mokhoru. Mr Mokhoru is a member of the SADCAS Board of Directors and he spoke on the "Role of SADCAS in supporting the work of regulators". The workshop which was hosted the NAFF-Lesotho was attended by more than forty delegates mainly from energy, roads, food, water regulators etc.

**In Seychelles**, a half day conference hosted by the NAFF – Seychelles was held to mark world accreditation day. The conference which was held on 9 June at the Standard House, in Providence, Mahe and was attended by 41 participants Government officials, Seychelles Bureau of Standards Board members and staff, regulators, consumer organizations and leaders of the business community. The conference was followed by a tour of the Seychelles Bureau of Standards laboratories by participants. A press release on world accreditation day was published in the Nation, a Seychelles daily newspaper whilst an article on the conference was subsequently published in the same newspaper on 10 June 2011.

**In South Africa**, the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) hosted a conference which was attended by over 250 delegates including delegates from a number of African Accreditation bodies, who had attended a peer evaluator course organized by the African Accreditation Cooperation (AFRAC) and delivered by the Asia Pacific Laboratory Cooperation (APLAC) trainers Mrs Roxanne Robinson and Mr Barry Ashcroft. Mr Ron Josias, the SANAS CEO, made the welcoming remarks whilst Mr Prags Govender, the Chairman of the SANAS Board of Directors, gave an overview of accreditation in South Africa. The key note address and opening of the conference was made by the Minister of Trade and Industry, Honourable Dr Rob Davies and followed by presentations by Mrs Roxanne Robinson on the recognition of the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement/IAF Multilateral Arrangement in the USA, Mrs Maureen Mutasa on the role of SADCAS in supporting the work of regulators, Ms Hanlie Badenhorst on the role of laboratories in assisting the regulators and a final presentation by Mr Tibor Szana from the Department of Labour on the benefits of accreditation in the regulatory domain. The conference ended with assessor recognition ceremony during which SANAS assessors were recognized for their contributions to accreditation. The conference ended with a vote of thanks from Mr Mpho Phaloane Senior Manager SANAS.

**In Tanzania**, the NAFF hosted a one day seminar to commemorate world accreditation day. The seminar which was held on 8 June 2011 at the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) headquarters in Dar Es Salaam was attended by 30 stakeholders mainly from testing/calibration laboratories, certification and inspection bodies. The seminar was officially opened by Mr Charles Ekelege, the Director General of the TBS who in his remarks urged governments to use accredited conformity assessment bodies. He further encouraged conformity assessment bodies to utilize SADCAS services. This was followed by various presentations on accreditation including a paper on the role of accreditation bodies in supporting the work of regulators. Interviews were held with two of the most popular television channels in Tanzania to explain the role of accreditation in supporting the work of regulators.

**In Zimbabwe**, a half day world accreditation day conference was held on 10 June 2011 in Harare under the banner "Supporting the work of regulators". The conference was attended by delegates drawn from accreditation stakeholders including regulators, conformity assessment bodies, government officials, consumers organization representatives, the academia and the media amongst others. The conference was opened by the Deputy Minister of Industry and Commerce, Honourable M C Bimha with presentations being made by the SADCAS CEO Mrs Maureen Mutasa, the SADC SQAM Expert Dr Oswald Chinyamakobvu, the SADCA Committee member for Zimbabwe and SADCAS Board member, Mrs Eve Gadzikwa, the Chief Inspector of Factories, Mr John Mutswatiwa and representatives of the National Laboratory Association of Zimbabwe (NLAZ). Over 96 participants attended the conference which was hosted by the NAFF-Zimbabwe. Prior to the conference six press releases were flighted in four weekly newspapers and two daily newspapers in order to create awareness on World Accreditation Day as well as to promote SADCAS services. All the delegates that

*Continued to p 3*

*Continued from p 3*

attended the conference were each issued with commemoration regalia consisting of golf shirts and caps branded with the SADCAS trademark and bearing this year's world accreditation day theme. By wearing the regalia, the delegates were in commemoration mood and became accreditation ambassadors after the conference thus spread the message. Zimbabwe intends to roll out similar activity to the remaining nine provinces in the near future in order to increase awareness on the importance of accreditation.



Participants at World Accreditation Celebrations in Lesotho



World Accreditation Day Celebrations in Zimbabwe



World Accreditation Day Celebrations in South Africa



Democratic Republic of Congo Celebrations

## SADCAS Value Proposition

- ✓ **Delivering confidence**
- ✓ **Assuring competency**
- ✓ **Guaranteeing quality**

## Accreditation in the Regulatory Sector

In the 20<sup>th</sup> century accreditation was predominantly seen as a voluntary activity mainly required for export purposes. Accreditation has even a larger role to play within a country's domestic economy. In the regulatory sector, government authorities implement laws covering the approval of products/services for reasons of safety, health, environment protection or market fairness. Regulators have functioned largely as inspectors operating in the field and checking whether companies comply with legal requirements. The resource demands in terms of human, financial and equipment requirements are too much of an expense today to pass onto the taxpayer. This is why in most developed countries governments are now using private conformity assessment bodies instead of government inspectors and supervision. Thus more and more government authorities are looking at private conformity assessment bodies as a reliable tool in helping them discharge their work aimed at protecting the safety of the public, plants, animals, property and the environment.

When they do so, they need a fair and meaningful basis for identifying competent conformity assessment service providers. Accreditation provides that declaration of competence. Accreditation is also a safeguard for the accuracy, reliability and reproducibility of the certification/inspection/test results issued by conformity assessment bodies. Accreditation increases the confidence in the data used in decision making. It reduces uncertainties associated with decisions that affect the protection of human health and the environment.

Here again global acceptance of accredited certificates is key in providing regulators with the confidence that products entering the market conform to specifications, meet legal and regulatory requirements and will therefore serve to protect public interests in general.

The use of accreditation is expanding both in terms of greater reliance by regulators and business. Accreditation is also expanding into new sectors such as healthcare, forensic science, climate change, food safety etc.



*Health Care*



*Forensic Science*



*Climate Change*



*Food Safety*

In many economies now accreditation has been embraced by governments as a mandatory activity in many regulated areas because of the benefits accreditation brings to help governments meet their responsibilities and safeguard the public.

In the **Asia Pacific region**, accreditation underpins the ASEAN (the Association of South East Asian Nations) sectoral mutual recognition arrangement for electrical and electronic equipment as a means of meeting mandatory requirement of each member. Accreditation is used to support the implementation of the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA).

**In Europe**, a legal framework for the provision of accreditation services across Europe is written into regulation which recognizes the benefits of accreditation by legislating that it be used as a means to show compliance with the mandatory requirements. The new regulation came into effect in January 2010.

**In the Americas** regulators and governments are increasingly relying on results from accredited laboratories. In the US, the Consumer Product Safety Commission for toy testing, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for the nuclear area and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for food safety have all made accreditation a core element of their policy making strategy.

*Continued to p 5*

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According to a survey carried out by ILAC in 2010 acceptance levels of accredited services by regulators reached 77% in the 55 economies which participated in the survey, representing a 36% increase over the levels reported in the 2002 survey. The international accreditation network is also increasing with more than 137 bodies covering 90 different economies. The number of accredited laboratories has also increased significantly in the last five years with approximately 39,000 accredited laboratories, a growth of 40% since 2004 and over 6,800 accredited inspection bodies compared to 1,842 in 2004 representing a growth of 269% since 2004. This growth demonstrates that the end users, business and governments are relying more and more on accreditation in assuring technical competency of conformity assessment bodies across the world.

Whilst the use of accreditation is expanding both in terms of regulators and businesses in developing countries, the wider adoption of accreditation by regulators in the **SADC region** is still an issue requiring attention. Developments in Zimbabwe and South Africa where accreditation has been embraced in the regulatory sector are most welcome. For example, in Zimbabwe and so as to have confidence in the data generated by inspection bodies in the country, the National Social Security Authority (NSSA) under which the Factories and Works Inspectorate, a regulator, falls, now requires all inspection bodies to be accredited in order to be registered as an inspection authority. A number of SADC countries recognizing the importance of laboratory services as an integral part of the health delivery system, have in their policies embraced accreditation as a strategy for the competence of medical laboratories. Programmes are also in place to assist medical laboratories to implement ISO 15189 the accreditation standard for medical laboratories.

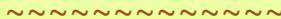
Governments and regulators within the SADC region are therefore encouraged to embrace accreditation and make accreditation work for them.



## SADCAS Accredits its Fourth Facility!!

The Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) is proud to announce the accreditation of the Seychelles Bureau of Standards' (SBS) Environmental Laboratory in the scope of water testing. The accreditation covers tests for conductivity, pH, nitrate, sulfate and nitrite. The accreditation is effective from 18 July 2011. This is the first testing laboratory that SADCAS has accredited. The SBS Environmental Laboratory has therefore been granted the unique accreditation number TEST-8 0001 indicating that it is now a SADCAS accredited testing laboratory.

This brings the total number of SADCAS accredited facilities to 4 including the 3 facilities accredited in November 2010. At the same time, SADCAS has 24 accreditation applications at the various stages of processing 8 of which fall under the testing laboratories program, 8 under the inspection bodies accreditation program, 4 under the calibration laboratories accreditation program, 3 under the medical laboratories accreditation program and one under the certification bodies accreditation programme. In terms of countries, 14 of the applications being processed are from Zimbabwe, 3 from Botswana, 3 from Tanzania, 2 from Namibia, one from Zambia and one from outside the SADC region.



## Meeting with Factories and Works Inspectorate Zimbabwe

SADCAS and SANAS met with the Zimbabwe Chief Inspector of Factories Mr J Mutswatiwa on 1 April 2011. The meeting was attended by SADCAS Chief Executive Officer, Mrs Maureen Mutasa, SANAS Senior Manager Mr Mpho Phaloane, SANAS Field Manager Mr Solomon Mahlangu. The purpose of the meeting was to forge an understanding of the Factories and Works Inspectorate's requirements following a number of accreditation applications received by SADCAS from inspection bodies in Zimbabwe.

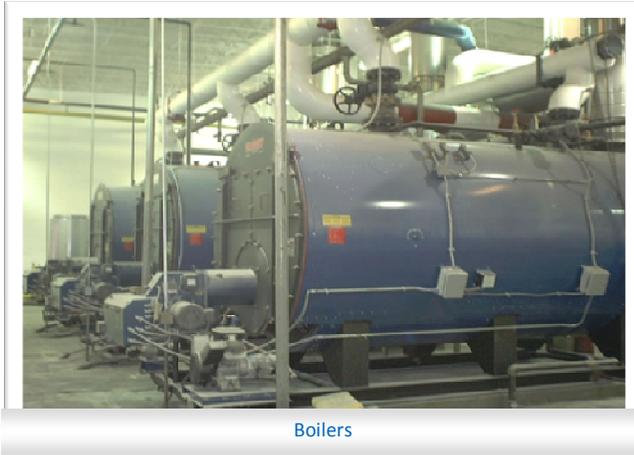
In order to have confidence in the data generated by inspection bodies in Zimbabwe, the National Social Security Authority (NSSA) under which the Factories and Works Inspectorate, a regulator, falls, now requires all inspection bodies to be accredited in accordance with ISO/IEC 17020 in order to be registered as an inspection authority. The meeting proceedings were based on an agenda circulated to all prior to the meeting. Following welcome remarks by Mr Mutswatiwa and

*Continued to p 6*

*Continued from p 5*

introductory remarks by Mrs Mutasa and Mr Phaloane, Mr Mutswatiwa presented the regulatory requirements for inspection bodies in Zimbabwe. Mr Phaloane shared with the meeting the South African experience in the regulatory domain. Mr Mahlangu outlined the SADCAS/SANAS accreditation process whilst Mrs Mutasa presented a status report on the various accreditation applications that had been received from inspection bodies in Zimbabwe by SADCAS.

In ensuing discussions the meeting identified priority areas for accreditation of inspection bodies in Zimbabwe and was advised of the criteria for pressure vessels and boilers.



Boilers



Pressure Vessels

Subsequent to the meeting, the Factories Inspector provided SADCAS with copies of six other supporting regulations Statutory Instrument (SI) 263, 264, 278, 279, 302 and 303 which cover competence of personnel involved in regulatory inspections. The meeting was also an opportunity to clarify certain issues which will be considered during the assessments and to distinguish the applicable standards for the accreditation of NDT and Inspection activities. The meeting was very fruitful in that it set out a sound platform for a good relationship with the Factories and Works Inspectorate Zimbabwe.



## SADCAS Establishes First Advisory Committee

SADCAS has established its first Advisory Committee following a meeting with stakeholders in Zimbabwe. The meeting which was attended by 26 delegates mainly inspection bodies, representatives of the Factories and Works Inspectorate (FWI), SADCAS and SANAS, and the NAFP for Zimbabwe, was held on 27 July 2011 at the NSSA House in Harare, Zimbabwe.

The meeting started with welcome remarks by Mr J Mutswatiwa, the Chief Inspector of Factories followed by a series of presentations on an overview of SADCAS by Mrs Maureen Mutasa, the SADCAS CEO, the role of accreditation in the regulatory sector by Mr Mpho Phaloane, SANAS Senior Manager and a presentation on the requirements of ISO/IEC 17020 the international accreditation standard for inspection bodies by Mr Eben Smit, SANAS Acting Field Manager Inspection. Mr Phaloane then outlined the inspection bodies' accreditation process followed by two presentations once again by Mr Phaloane and Ms Jeanne Ranorovelo, SADCAS Technical Manager on the need and importance of Advisory Committees. The sessions which were chaired by the Chief Inspector of Factories and Mr Christopher Ngwenya, the NAFP - Zimbabwe resulted in lively discussions with delegates wanting to hear more about the accreditation process and sought clarifications on a number of issues applicable to inspection bodies' accreditation.

*Continued to p 7*

Continued from p 6

Following the presentations and discussions, the meeting then proceeded to establish an Advisory Committee on inspection issues in Zimbabwe. Eleven members comprising of representatives of inspection bodies, FWI, Standards Association of Zimbabwe (SAZ), stakeholders using the services of inspection bodies in Zimbabwe and SADCAS were identified to serve on the Advisory Committee.

Advisory Committees are a fundamental and vital component of any accreditation system. Amongst other things, Advisory Committees guide technical policy and provide important support in technical matters to the assessment process within a specified area of accreditation. The meeting also resolved that as a priority, the Advisory Committee should elaborate on the national criteria for inspection bodies. The meeting further noted and endorsed the regulator's prioritized scopes of pressure vessels and boilers for accreditation in Zimbabwe. The Advisory Committee is set to meet in September 2011 to develop the national criteria. Meanwhile, a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SADCAS and the FWI is under consideration. The main objective of the MOU is to provide for a structured cooperation between SADCAS and the FWI in order to manage their relationship in respect of collaboration on accreditation.



## Trademark Registered in Democratic Republic of Congo



The SADCAS trademark which forms the core of the SADCAS accreditation mark has now been registered in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The trademark has been registered in class 35 following a process which was greatly facilitated by Mr Viki Mbuya Kanama the NAFP for DRC and Honorable Simon Mboso Kiamputu, the then Minister of Industry. The process took 5 months from the date of filing to registration and issuance of the certificates numbers 1057/2010 for the name and 1057/2010 for the logo. Class 35 covers advertising.



This brings the number of countries in which the SADCAS Trademark has been registered to twelve (12) namely Botswana, DRC, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Angola with the latter having issued an interim certificate. The registration process is still underway in Seychelles and has been initiated in Madagascar.



### Vision

SADCAS vision is to be a leading, regionally accepted and internationally recognized regional accreditation body aimed at supporting and enhancing industry and government's efforts and to be at the cutting edge of accreditation.

### Mission

SADCAS mission is to provide internationally recognized cost effective, regional accreditation services for SADC member states aimed at supporting regional and international trade, enhance the protection of consumers and improve the com-

### Values

- Impartiality
- Non-discriminatory
- Transparency
- Integrity

## Gunnar Holm Visits SADCAS Office

Mr Gunnar Holm the Counselor at the Norwegian Embassy in Pretoria, South Africa visited the SADCAS offices in Gaborone, Botswana on Thursday 19 May 2011. The visit was part of his mission to Botswana, to follow up on various projects which are funded by the Norwegian Government one of which is the SADCAS project.

Mr Holm was welcomed to SADCAS office by Mrs Maureen P Mutasa, the SADCAS CEO and introduced to all SADCAS staff. Following the introductions, Mrs Mutasa and Mr Holm held a meeting during which Mr Holm was updated on developments in SADCAS and advised of the survey of conformity assessment bodies being undertaken in the region by SADCAS and designed to feed into the strategic planning process, a session which was held on 30 June 2011. The meeting also discussed other issues including the upcoming project mid-term review to evaluate the SADCAS project outcomes.

The meeting also discussed the future funding of SADCAS beyond 2012 during which Mr Holm outlined the operational relationship between the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) and the Embassy. NORAD has decentralized its operations with project decisions now being made at the embassy level. He emphasized that any future funding of SADCAS will be considered after the mid-term review as this process should bring out the status of the project and the project's future requirements.

After the meeting, with Mrs Mutasa took Mr Holm on a tour of the SADCAS' offices then proceeded to lunch and joined by Ms Ranorovelo.

SADCAS set up and operationalization is being funded by the Norwegian Government through NORAD as part of the program for regional development, removal of technical barriers to trade and enhanced collaboration amongst Member States to ensure economical growth through accreditation. SADCAS was set up in 2008, launched in 2009 and started offering services in October 2009. SADCAS has so far accredited 4 facilities and has 24 accreditation applications at the various stages of processing. SADCAS has also successfully held 17 training courses in various countries within the SADC region.



*Mr Gunnar Holm (right) posing for a photo during his visit to SADCAS with Mrs Maureen P Mutasa (left) and Ms Jeanne F Ranorovelo (middle)*

### SADCAS Value Proposition

- ✓ **Delivering confidence**
- ✓ **Assuring competency**
- ✓ **Guaranteeing quality**

## SADCAS Visits Diagnofirm Medical Laboratories

As part of its marketing and promotional activities the SADCAS CEO Mrs Maureen Mutasa and the SADCAS Technical Manager, Ms Jeanne Ranorovelo visited Diagnofirm Medical Laboratories in Gaborone, Botswana on 6 July 2011. The purpose of the visit was to introduce SADCAS to the company, update them on developments in SADCAS and to establish the Company's accreditation needs. The SADCAS team was received by Mrs Leslie Rayman, the Quality Manager.

The visit started off with a meeting with the Diagnofirm's Quality Manager, the Laboratory Manager, Mr N Bozongwana and the Finance and Administration Manager, Mr Maran Senthil. During the meeting the SADCAS CEO thanked the host for the opportunity to meet and outlined the purpose of the visit. She then introduced the SADCAS Technical Manager and in turn, Mrs Rahman introduced her team from Diagnofirm. This was followed by an overview of SADCAS and progress with the set up and operationalization of SADCAS including the latest update on the number of accreditations to date and the applications being handled by SADCAS through the Twinning Partnership Arrangement (TPA) with SANAS. Mrs Mutasa then presented the joint communiqué issued by SANAS and SADCAS regarding SADCAS readiness to offer accreditation services. She further gave Diagnofirm copies of a letter written by SANAS also encouraging SANAS accredited facilities to transfer from SANAS to SADCAS' accreditation. The meeting then discussed Diagnofirm's training needs and accreditation transfer logistics.

After the meeting, the SADCAS team went on tour of Diagnofirm's laboratories which cover a wide range of medical disciplines such as microbiology, cytology, histology, haematology etc.

Diagnofirm provides medical laboratory services to all healthcare professionals and their patients. With many awards to their name on their professionalism, Diagnofirm provides quality, accurate medical services. The company has over 8 branches covering the entire country. Diagnofirm is accredited by SANAS to ISO/IEC 17025 under the clinical pathology discipline.



Tour of Diagnofirm Laboratories



Flow Cytometric



Clinical Microbiology





## SADCAS Contact Details for Communicating with Clients

### 1. APPLICATION FOR ACCREDITATION

Clients submit application forms and quality documents (Manual policy, procedures, forms, other support documents) to SADCAS.

Ms Jeanne Françoise Ranorovelo  
 Technical Manager  
 Tel: +267 3132909/3132910 – Ext 112  
 Mobile: +267 72495508  
 Email: [jfranorovelo@sadcas.org](mailto:jfranorovelo@sadcas.org)

### 2. QUOTATIONS

Any queries on accreditation quotations

Ms Jeanne Françoise Ranorovelo  
 Technical Manager  
 Tel: +267 3132909/3132910 – Ext 112  
 Mobile: +267 72495508  
 Email: [jfranorovelo@sadcas.org](mailto:jfranorovelo@sadcas.org)

### 3. INVOICES

Any queries on accreditation invoices

Mrs Laureen Gudo  
 Financial Administrator  
 Tel: +267 3132909/3132910 – Ext 108  
 Mobile: +267 71470424  
 Email: [lrgudo@sadcas.org](mailto:lrgudo@sadcas.org)

### 4. TRANSPORT AND ACCOMMODATION

All arrangements for assessors

Ms Linda Dirorimwe  
 Accreditation Administrator  
 Tel: +267 3132909/3132910 – Ext 108  
 Mobile: +267 75051525  
 Email: [ldirorimwe@sadcas.org](mailto:ldirorimwe@sadcas.org)

### 5. DOCUMENTATION REVIEW

Any queries on accreditation documentation review

Ms Jeanne Françoise Ranorovelo  
 Technical Manager  
 Tel: +267 3132909/3132910 – Ext 112  
 Mobile: +267 72495508  
 Email: [jfranorovelo@sadcas.org](mailto:jfranorovelo@sadcas.org)

### 6. ASSESSMENT

To be done by the assessment team (Lead assessor and Technical assessors)

Ms Jeanne Françoise Ranorovelo  
 Technical Manager  
 Tel: +267 3132909/3132910 – Ext 112  
 Mobile: +267 72495508  
 Email: [jfranorovelo@sadcas.org](mailto:jfranorovelo@sadcas.org)

### 7. CLEARANCE OF FINDINGS

Submission of corrective actions reports and processing of corrective actions

Ms Linda Dirorimwe  
 Accreditation Administrator  
 Tel: +267 3132909/3132910 – Ext 108  
 Mobile: +267 75051525  
 Email: [ldirorimwe@sadcas.org](mailto:ldirorimwe@sadcas.org)

### 8. ACCREDITATION DECISION

Any queries on accreditation decision

Mrs Maureen P Mutasa  
 Chief Executive Officer  
 Tel: +267 3132909/3132910 – Ext 112  
 Mobile: +267 75051426  
 Email: [mputasa@sadcas.org](mailto:mputasa@sadcas.org)

### 9. ACCREDITATION CERTIFICATE

Any queries on accreditation certificates

Ms Jeanne Françoise Ranorovelo  
 Technical Manager  
 Tel: +267 3132909/3132910 – Ext 112  
 Mobile: +267 72495508  
 Email: [jfranorovelo@sadcas.org](mailto:jfranorovelo@sadcas.org)

### 10. TRAINING

Any inquiries on training services

Ms Linda Dirorimwe  
 Accreditation Administrator  
 Tel: +267 3132909/3132910 – Ext 108  
 Mobile: +267 75051525  
 Email: [ldirorimwe@sadcas.org](mailto:ldirorimwe@sadcas.org)

## Integration of the Pan African Quality Infrastructure

Integration remains a key strategy for Africa to transform itself from a continent of mainly least developed and developing countries to a strong united block of developed nations and a global force. Integration also applies to the quality infrastructure. Quality infrastructure is a term now used for everything that is needed to ensure satisfactory quality and safety of products and services and the protection of the environment and health.

Standards, quality assurance, accreditation and metrology (SQAM) are the essential pillars of any quality infrastructure. Both the World Trade Organization's (WTO) Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) and the Sanitary Phyto Sanitary (SPS) Agreements rely on the efficient functioning of quality infrastructure at whatever level, national, regional and international.

Up to now, African developing countries have not fully exploited the advantages offered by globalization due to the underdeveloped quality infrastructure and unfavourable framework conditions for the private sector. With increasing globalization of markets, international standards have become critical to the trading process and in ensuring a level playing field for exports and ensuring that imports meet internationally recognized levels of performance and safety. The WTO TBT Agreement encourages the use of international standards where appropriate. Compliance with standards is verified through conformity assessment procedures such as testing, inspection and certification which offer assurance that the products /services fulfill requirements as specified in standards. But barriers to trade may occur when conformity assessment requirements in countries differ, making products subject to repetitive or multiple testing/inspection/certification which imposes further costs on the exporter.



From left to right: Mr Hassan Shaarawi—Head of Egyptian Accreditation Council, EGAC; Mrs Maureen Mutasa—SADCAS CEO and Mr Ron Josias—SANAS CEO during discussions at the meeting

Most of the African countries are currently in the process of setting up or strengthening their national quality infrastructures in an effort to meet the challenges of globalization. At continental level, a Pan-African quality infrastructure consisting of the African Organization for Standardization (ARSO), the African Electro-technical Standardization Commission (AFSEC), the Intra Africa Metrology System (AFRIMETS) and the African Accreditation Cooperation (AFRAC) have already been established based on Article 67 of the Abuja Treaty. Article 67 of the Abuja Treaty lays out a common policy on standardization and quality assurance in which Member States agree to cooperate in the area of standardization, quality assurance and measurement systems.

Realizing the need for a Pan- African quality infrastructure that is integrated with the policy making bodies of the African Union, experts from the various quality infrastructure pillars met in Nairobi, Kenya for 2 days from 5 to 6 April 2011 to come up with a proposal for its integration into the policy making bodies of the African Union. The meeting which Mrs Maureen Mutasa attended was sponsored by PTB Germany. Since that meeting some developments have taken place and the outlook is positive as the will to have the quality infrastructure pillars recognized is strong.





### Invitation to Inspection/Testing Bodies for Application for Recognition in the Implementation of SIIR

Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS), a parastatal organization responsible for development of Botswana Standards and coordinating quality assurance activities in Botswana, is in the process of implementing the Standards Import Inspections Regulations (SIIR). The SIIR was published on the 12<sup>th</sup> September 2008 in the Botswana Gazette. The main purpose of the SIIR is to control the quality of the prescribed imports as listed in the regulations. In order to enhance implementation of the SIIR, BOBS wishes to invite inspection/testing bodies to apply (Form C) for recognition of their compliance certificates and test reports as per regulation 4(2) of the SIIR. For more details visit BOBS website: [www.bobstandards.bw](http://www.bobstandards.bw)



### Mozambique Embraces Accreditation

The NAFP for Mozambique is housed within INNOQ, the National Institute for Standardization and Quality. The NAFP was established in 2006 by the Government of Mozambique and was launched on 31 October 2008 at which time, Mrs Guilhermina Nhampulo was appointed NAFP. The NAFP serves as the administrative link between SADCAS and clients/potential clients in Mozambique and is responsible for the promotion of accreditation and marketing of SADCAS services in Mozambique.

Since its establishment, the NAFP- Mozambique has made significant achievements in promoting accreditation and marketing SADCAS services. Lately the NAFP's efforts have been focused on supporting calibration and testing laboratories under a UNIDO/EU project. Through this project, 10 laboratories have been trained on ISO/IEC 17025 the international standard which calibration/testing have to comply with for accreditation. Out of the 10 laboratories, 4 accreditation forerunners were selected and are at the moment receiving support in their respective scopes of accreditation. Technicians from each of the 4 laboratories will be undergoing training in India in July and August 2011 on their respective testing scopes chemical and or microbiology.

In parallel with these activities, the NAFP has been instrumental in the establishment of a laboratory association, the Association of Laboratories Mozambique. A constitution for the Association has been drafted and is currently with the Ministry of Justice in order to formalize the Association.



NAFP- Mozambique  
Mrs Guilhermina Nhampulo



## Malawi Appoints First NAFP Officer



Malawi has appointed Mr Patrician Loani Kondowe as the first NAFP Officer to replace Mr Isaac Chirwa who is currently on study leave. Mr Kondowe is the management systems coordinator in the Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS) based at the Lilongwe offices. He has 26 years' working experience, 22 of which he has been with the MBS. Prior to joining MBS, Mr Kondowe worked as a technician in Portland Cement and Lever Brothers laboratories in Malawi. He has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Sciences.

In his role as an NAFP for Malawi, Mr Kondowe will be supported by Mr Mwaungulu who is the second officer based in the Ministry of Industry and Trade .



## SADC/EU SQAM Trained and Qualified Assessors Registered

SADCAS has registered another 5 Lead assessors and 4 Technical Assessors qualified under the auspices of the SADC/EU SQAM program. The assessor training program was undertaken in 2009/10 starting with 5 days' training course on the relevant key accreditation standard then the Lead Assessor course which included some practical aspects of assessments. Those who successfully completed the Lead Assessor course then proceeded onto the mentoring stage where they participated in assessments whilst being monitored by an experienced assessor (mentor). The assessors will undertake assessments on behalf of SADCAS.

**Mr Felix Dlamini** from Swaziland has been registered as a Lead/Technical Assessor under the testing laboratories accreditation program. Mr Dlamini holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry and Chemistry and a diploma in Quality assurance. Mr Dlamini has over 25' years experience 20 of which are in quality assurance as an assistant quality assurance manager and rising up the ranks to Technical Manager in a food processing company.

**Mr Elvis Nicette** from Seychelles has been registered as a Lead/Technical Assessor under the testing laboratories accreditation program and the certification body accreditation program (quality management system). Mr Nicette holds a BSc degree in Biotechnology and is a Senior Quality Assurance Officer with the Seychelles Bureau of Standards.

**Mr Dominic Mwakangale** from Tanzania has been registered as Lead Assessor under the testing laboratories accreditation program for the scope textiles and clothing. Mr Mwakangale is also a registered Technical Assessor under the inspection bodies accreditation program for the same scope. Mr Mwakangale holds an MSc in textile Engineering and a diploma in Textile Technology. He has over 29 years' experience.

**Mr Danmore Mabambe** from Zimbabwe has been registered as a Technical Assessor under the inspection bodies accreditation program for the scope of pressure vessels and NDT. Mr Mabambe holds a BSC in Engineering (Metallurgy) and an MSc in Engineering (Physical Metallurgy). He has over 16 years' experience and is currently managing 7 materials and finished products testing laboratories.

Continued from p 14

**Mr Ranganai Mutonono** from Zimbabwe has been registered as a Lead/Technical Assessor under the certification bodies' accreditation program for the scope quality management systems. Mr Mutonono holds a BSc Geography and Environmental Studies, a certificate in Wood Technology and City and Guilds Quality Assurance Parts 1 & 2. Mr Mutonono is also a Lead Auditor for quality management systems and has many years' experience in inspection, testing and certification activities.

This brings the total number of registered assessors to 11 Technical Assessors and 6 Lead Assessors.



Mr Felix Dlamini



Mr Dominic Mwakangale



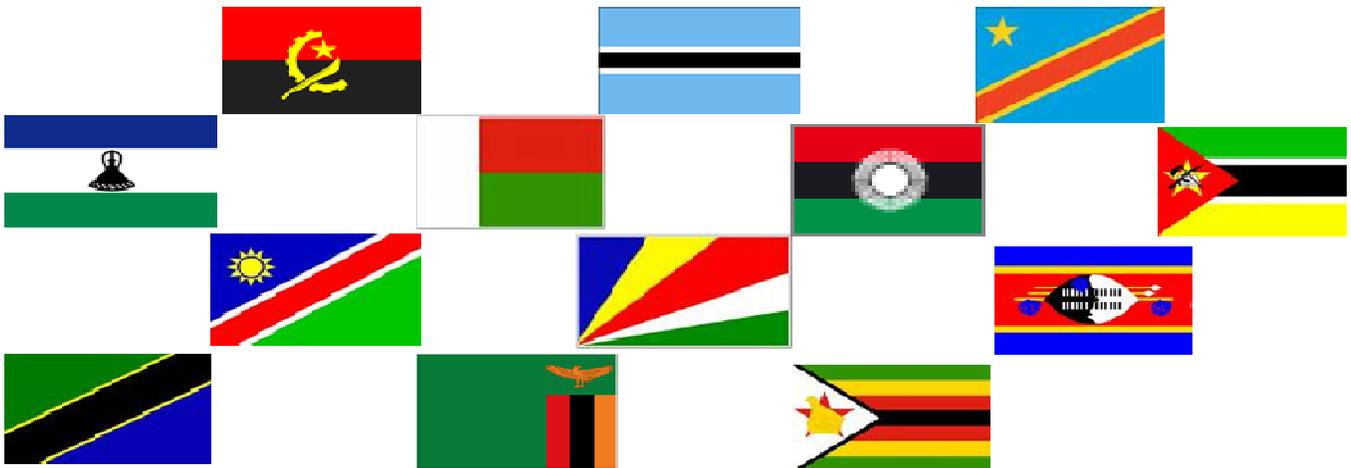
Mr Danmore Mabambe



Mr Ranganai Mutonono



**A Multi-economy Accreditation Body!!**



## SADCAS Launches New Set of Accreditation Training Courses

SADCAS has launched a new set of one day awareness training courses on ISO/IEC 17025 for calibration/testing laboratories, ISO/IEC 17020 for inspection bodies and ISO 15189 for medical laboratories. These courses are in addition to the 5 days' requirements, implementation and internal auditing courses which have been on offer since October 2009.

The objective of the one day awareness training courses is to create awareness on the benefits and importance of accreditation and the requirements of the respective accreditation standards. The courses cover the following main topics:

- ✓ An overview of accreditation;
- ✓ Benefits of accreditation;
- ✓ The global accreditation structure;
- ✓ Worldwide trends in accreditation;
- ✓ The management and technical requirements of the respective standards; and
- ✓ The SADCAS accreditation process and costs.

Conducted by trainers drawn from a pool of qualified and experienced experts from the SADC region who have up to date involvement in accreditation matters, the courses were designed following a needs analysis on training requirements throughout the region. The awareness courses can be conducted in- house or as open courses.

The first such course was conducted for ZIMASCO a Zimbabwean based mining company which produces ferrochrome and accounts for around 2.5% of the world ferrochrome production. The Company exports its products to Europe and the USA. As part of its quality assurance program, ZIMASCO operates its own testing laboratories. Although ZIMASCO has an ISO 9001 quality management system in place, it recognizes that its testing laboratories need to have sound business processes to enable them to deliver technically accurate test results which are a key component of any quality assurance program hence working towards accreditation of its testing laboratories.

The one day awareness course on ISO/IEC 17025 which was conducted by SADCAS on 23 May 2011 was attended by a multidisciplinary 24 participants drawn from all departments of the ZIMASCO's Kwekwe site. Judged by the feedback from participants, the course was very well planned, went very well and resulted in active interest from the 24 participants from the various sections of the Company based in the mining town Kwekwe, Zimbabwe.



**To be at the cutting edge of accreditation service deliv-**

## National Blood Services Zimbabwe Trained on ISO 15189

Twenty five delegates from the National Blood Services Zimbabwe participated in a 5 days' training course on ISO 15189. The course which was organized by SADCAS was held at the Mandel Training Centre in Harare, Zimbabwe from 11 to 15 April 2011. The course was opened by Mrs Lucy Marowa the Quality Manager, National Blood Services Zimbabwe who in her remarks outlined the objective of the course which was to promote a thorough understanding of the requirements of ISO 15189 and to impart internal auditing skills to the staff of the National Blood Services Zimbabwe thus strengthen the organization's ability to meet the accreditation requirements in accordance with ISO 15189 and to monitor compliance thereof. Group work and practical exercises were interspaced throughout the course and were a source of invaluable practical knowledge on the development, implementation and improvement of a medical laboratory management system

The National Blood Services Zimbabwe is a registered non- profit organization established to provide cost effective services to ensure adequate, safe blood and blood products and other related services . Although the National Blood Services Zimbabwe was the first such organization in Africa to be certified to ISO 9001, it recognizes that its testing laboratories need to have a sound business processes to enable them to deliver technically accurate and reliable results in support of its core activity, hence are working towards accreditation in accordance with ISO 15189.



## Seychelles Bureau of Standards Staff Undergo Training on ISO/IEC 17020

Thirteen participants mainly from the Seychelles Bureau of Standards' (SBS) Fish Inspection Unit attended an ISO/IEC 17020 course presented by SADCAS. The objective of the 5 days' course which was held from 13 to 17 June 2011 was to strengthen SBS Inspection Services so as to meet accreditation requirements in accordance with ISO/IEC 17020 and to impart internal auditing knowledge and skills so as to monitor compliance with ISO/IEC 17020.



Participants pose for a photo during training

Fish and fish products account for over 80% of Seychelles foreign exchange earnings. Fish and fish products exports together with tourism are the mainstay of Seychelles' economy. The European Union is the main export destination for Seychelles fish exports. The EU Regulation (EC) No. 765/2008 which came into effect from 1 January 2010 recognizes the benefits of accreditation and sets out requirements for accreditation and market surveillance relating to marketing of products. These requirements apply to fish and fish products which fall under the regulatory area. Thus exporting country's designated Competent Authority which monitors compliance with the EU food quality and safety requirements have to be competent to undertake the inspection/testing/certification of these products. Competence is demonstrated through accreditation.

The SBS Metrology Laboratory and Environmental Laboratory are accredited by SADCAS. The SBS intends to have its fish inspection activities accredited in accordance with the international standard ISO/IEC 17020 hence the need for training on ISO/IEC 17020.

Accreditation which is the process of providing recognition for competence in undertaking, in this case inspection services, is key for the international recognition of the inspection certificates issued by SBS as the Competent Authority for Seychelles.



## SADCAS CEO Attends Peer Evaluator Course

Mrs Maureen Mutasa the SADCAS Chief Executive Officer attended a peer evaluator course held in Pretoria, South Africa from 6 to 8 June 2011. The course which was organized by the African Accreditation Cooperation (AFRAC) was very ably facilitated by the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC) peer evaluators, Roxanne Robinson and Barry Ashcroft. Mrs Robinson is also the Chief Operating Officer of the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA) an accreditation body in the USA whilst Mr Ashcroft is the General Manager of the accreditation body in New Zealand, the International Accreditation New Zealand (IANZ). Twelve participants were selected by AFRAC from accreditation bodies in Africa namely: MAURITAS (Mauritius); SANAS (South Africa); SADCAS (a multi economy Accreditation body based in Botswana); EGAC (Egypt); TUNAC (Tunisia); and UEMOA (a multi economy accreditation body established in West Africa) attended the course.



Training in session

The course which was very intensive and practical was designed to promote a thorough understanding of the requirements of ISO/IEC 17011, the interpretations of the requirements of ISO/IEC 17011 and the other documents that govern recognition of accreditation body equivalence and to appreciate the evaluation processes undertaken in order to achieve signatory status of the international accreditation mutual recognition arrangements.



Participants pose for a photo during training

Speaking about her experiences from the course Mrs Mutasa said, "The course was highly interactive and contained a lot of practical group exercises during which I gained an insight into the requirements and interpretations of the standard and relevant ILAC documents, as well as the peer evaluation process and in particular what the peer evaluators look out for during a peer evaluation process. The group was fortunate to have participants from SANAS, EGAC and TUNAC accreditation bodies which are already signatory to the international Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) Mutual Recognition Arrangement and the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) Multilateral Arrangement as we all benefited from their experiences and more so from the highly experienced APLAC course facilitators. The information acquired will not only assist me in my future role as an AFRAC peer evaluator but more so as SADCAS works towards signatory status of the ILAC/IAF arrangements".

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## Highlights from the ILAC PTCG Meeting in Montreux, Switzerland

The ILAC's Proficiency Testing Consultative Group (ILAC PTCG) met on 13 April 2011 in Montreux, Switzerland. The meeting was attended by 72 delegates from accreditation bodies and proficiency service providers and other stakeholders groups. The meeting was chaired by Mrs Linda Crawford who was elected chair of the ILAC PTCG at the Shanghai meeting to replace Mr Rick Wilson whose term of office expired. Mrs Sibongile Zimuto from the Zimbabwe National Quality Assurance Program (ZINQAP) a PT service provider, Mr Steven Sidney from the National Laboratory Association-South Africa (NLA) and Mr Neville Taylor from SANAS are the 3 delegates from the SADC region who attended the meeting. The following are the highlights from the meeting:

- ✓ **ISO/IEC 17043 ILAC G 13 Crosswalk** was circulated for 60 days' comment on 26 August 2010 with a deadline of 26 October 2010. Most of the comments received by the deadline were in favour of the document. An introduction to the document was prepared by the chairman. The meeting identified a minor correction in the document presented to the PTCG at the Montreux meeting. It was agreed that the chairman completes the document and forwards it to the ILAC Secretary for a 30 day ballot.
- ✓ **ILAC input into the revision of ISO 13528 Statistical methods for Use in PT by Inter-laboratory Comparisons** the revision of the standard is progressing slower than expected but a working draft will be circulated to the ILAC PTCG as soon as it is produced by ISO/TC 69 which is likely to be in July 2011.
- ✓ **PT Capacity Building Project** further discussions were held on the establishment of a website where information on PT issues particularly capacity development programs would be posted. Dr Michael Noble the Convenor of the Task Group set up to look into this project, presented an open source tool to demonstrate how a website could be used to bring together PT training/mentoring service providers with those who require the service. A number of questions were raised about the support for the website especially if the PTCG is disbanded and the scope of the capacity development needs i.e. whether the scope should be limited to PT issues or extended to other ILAC needs. The Chairman of the PTCG will discuss the project further with the ILAC Marketing and Communications Committee in order to address the issues raised during the meeting.
- ✓ **Future of ILAC PTCG** a survey on the future of the PTCG is underway and all interested parties were encouraged to complete the survey and return to the chairman. A suggestion was made at the meeting to expand the PTCG to include Reference Materials producers. It was also reported that the Laboratory Committee was supportive of a continued PTCG as a stakeholder group.

Following the meeting, a workshop on "Accreditation of PT Providers using ISO/IEC 17043" was conducted during which delegates exchanged experiences in the implementation ISO/IEC 17043. ISO/IEC 17043 was published on 1 February 2010 and replaces ISO/IEC Guide 43: Parts 1 and 2: 1997.

The next meeting of the PTCG will be held on 5 November 2011 in Bangkok, Thailand and will focus on the future of the PTCG based on the results of the survey which is underway



## SADCAS Training Courses

The Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) provides training for conformity assessment bodies' management and staff. Conformity assessment bodies (CABs) include calibration/testing laboratories, medical laboratories, certification and inspection bodies.

### SADCAS Trainers

SADCAS draws its trainers from a pool of qualified and experienced experts from the SADC region who have up to date involvement in accreditation matters be it system implementation and/or assessments.

### Training Programmes

SADCAS currently offers the following accreditation training courses:

#### Five Days' Requirements and Internal Auditing Training Courses on the Various Key Accreditation Standards

- ISO 15189 Requirements and Internal Auditing **for medical laboratories**
- ISO/IEC 17020 Requirements and Internal Auditing **for inspection bodies**
- ISO/IEC 17021 Requirements and Internal Auditing **for management systems certification bodies**
- ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements and Internal auditing **for calibration/testing laboratories**

The objective of the 5 days courses is to provide an insight into the respective system standard's requirements and implementation as well as to guide CAB's personnel on how to prepare and carry-out an internal audit so as to monitor compliance with the system standard. These courses are made relevant and practical as they include case studies and exercises that reflect the respective professional disciplines. In order to objectively assess participants, an examination is written at the end of each course. Participants are also evaluated throughout the course.

#### One Day Awareness Training Courses on the Various Key Accreditation Standards

- ISO 15189 for **medical laboratories**
- ISO/IEC 17020 **for inspection bodies**
- ISO/IEC 17025 **for calibration/testing laboratories**

The objective of the one day awareness training courses is to create awareness on the benefits and importance of accreditation and the requirements of the respective accreditation standards.

The SADCAS courses can be conducted in-house. In-house courses have the following benefits:

- ✓ You choose the venue of the course
- ✓ You choose the date of the course
- ✓ Cost effective as a number of staff can be trained at the same time
- ✓ Promotes team work as members have access to the same consistent information

*Continued from p 20*

Besides the above courses, SADCAS can also offer other courses depending on your needs.

SADCAS makes available training material to course participants only. SADCAS training material is **copyrighted** and shall not be reproduced or utilized for other training purposes. SADCAS reserves the right to amend the content of its training programs and to change the trainers involved.

### **Courses Targets**

The above courses are designed for management and staff of CABs involved in the implementation and maintenance of a CAB's system as well as those who are involved in monitoring system compliance through internal audits.

**NOTE:** In order not to compromise its impartiality principles and status in training service delivery, SADCAS does not give specific advice for the development of an organization's operations. Furthermore the training delivered or facilitated by SADCAS are not a pre-condition of accreditation neither do they guarantee accreditation by SADCAS.

### **Course Fees**

Course fees are available upon request from SADCAS

### **Interested in SADCAS Training Services!**

If interested in SADCAS training services please complete SADCAS F 70(a) and return to:

#### **Headquarters**

Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service  
Attention: Accreditation Administrator  
Plot 50676, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Block B, BIFM/fairgrounds Office Park  
Private Bag 00320, Gaborone, Botswana  
Tel: +267 3132909/ 3132910  
Fax: + 267 3132922  
Email: [info@sadcas.org](mailto:info@sadcas.org); Website: [www.sadcas.org](http://www.sadcas.org)

#### **OR**

The appropriate National Accreditation Focal Point based in your country. Refer to NAFFP contact list on the website.

### **How to Book**

In order to book for SADCAS training courses please complete SADCAS F 70 (b) and return duly completed form to:

#### **Headquarters**

Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service  
Attention: Accreditation Administrator  
Plot 50676, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Block B, BIFM/fairgrounds Office Park  
Private Bag 00320, Gaborone, Botswana  
Tel: +267 3132909/ 3132910  
Fax: + 267 3132922  
Email: [info@sadcas.org](mailto:info@sadcas.org); Website: [www.sadcas.org](http://www.sadcas.org)

## Status of Key Accreditation Standards/Guides under Development

STANDARD	STATUS
<p><b>ISO/IEC 17020:1998</b> General criteria for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection.</p>	<p>At the Draft International Standard (DIS) stage. The vote was closed on 13 June 2011. Its final publication is expected in 2012.</p>
<p><b>ISO/IEC 17021:2011</b> Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems</p>	<p>IAF in consultation with ISO has set the date for implementation of ISO/IEC 17021:2011 as 1 February 2013. This is two year transition from the date of publication. ISO/IEC 17021:2011 includes the existing text of ISO/IEC 17021:2006 virtually unchanged and contains additional requirements for competence and the audit process and is applicable to the certification of all types of management systems and to the bodies providing these activities.</p> <p>In setting this transition period of two years from the publication date of ISO/IEC 17021, IAF and ISO have taken into account the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Transition period to ISO/IEC 17021: 2011 may require translations, changes to procedures, setting up new or amended training regimes, revision of software systems and the implementation of systems to demonstrate competence.</li> <li>✓ The identification by certification bodies of differences and the preparation of a transition plan to determine both the changes to their own QMS and the time frame required to execute them</li> </ul> <p>After publication, any new application for accreditation by certification bodies is expected to be to ISO/IEC 17021:2011. Any statement of conformity to ISO/IEC 17021:2006 after the transition period will no longer be valid.</p>
<p><b>ISO/IEC WD TS 17022:</b> Conformity Assessment – Minimum requirements and additional recommendations for content of a third –party audit report on management systems</p>	<p>After the comment period the draft was referred to the committee.</p> <p>It is currently at the Draft Technical Specification (DTS) level and it is expected to be published in 2012.</p>
<p><b>ISO/IEC WD 17024</b> Conformity assessment – General requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of persons</p>	<p>At DIS stage. The vote was opened on 14 April and will close on 14 September 2011.</p> <p>Its publication is expected in 2012.</p>

Continued from p 16

## Status of Key Accreditation Standards/Guides under Development

STANDARD	STATUS
<b>ISO/IEC 17025: 2005</b> General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories	After the periodical review the standard is at the period of confirmation
<b>ISO/IEC 17065</b> Conformity assessment – Requirements for certification certifying products, processes and services	The DIS ballot for 5 months of the draft international standard was initiated. The vote opened on 26 May and will close on 26 October 2011.  Its publication is expected in 2012.
<b>ISO/IEC 17067</b> Conformity assessment – Fundamentals of product certification	The Working Draft (WD 2) was approved for registration as a Committee Draft.
<b>ISO 15189: 2007</b> Medical Laboratories – Particular requirements for quality and competence	The revision of this international standard is under consideration by ISO/TC 212
<b>ISO 13528:2005</b> Statistical methods for proficiency testing by inter laboratory comparisons	The revision of this international standard is under consideration by ISO/TC 69 /SC 6
<b>ISO 14066:2011</b> Greenhouse Gas Management	The international standard was published Document available as of 2011-04-07
<b>ISO 14067</b> Carbon Foot Printing	The document is at the close of voting stage
<b>ISO 19011:2002</b> Guidelines for quality and/or environmental management systems auditing	The revision of this international standard is under consideration by ISO/TC 176/SC3
<b>IAF/ILAC A3:07/2011</b> IAF/ILAC Multi-Lateral Mutual Recognition Arrangement	Narrative framework on the Performance of an Accreditation Body – A tool for the evaluation and report preparation process: (1) to allow an evaluated accreditation body to present information about how it addresses its performance and (2) to provide a framework to present this information in an evaluation report.  The effective date for application of this document is July 2013
<b>IAF/ILAC A5:03/2011</b> IAF/ILAC Multi-Lateral Mutual Recognition Arrangement	Application of ISO/IEC 17011:2004  The purpose of this document is to enable accreditation bodies to better harmonize their application of the standards against which they assess conformity assessment bodies.

## Diary of Upcoming Events

DATES	MEETINGS	VENUE
12 –18 July 2011	AFRIMETS General Assembly	Kenya, Nairobi
21 – 22 July 2011	Establishment of SADC SPS Coordinating Committee	Gaborone, Botswana
27 July 2011	SADCAS Stakeholder meeting	Harare, Zimbabwe
04 August 2011	Technical Regulations Liaison Committee meetings	Pretoria, South Africa
08 – 12 August 2011	COMESA Standards & Quality Assurance Committee meetings	TBC
10 August 2011	SADCAS Finance, Risk and Audit Committee	Pretoria, South Africa
10 August 2011	SADCAS HRRC meeting	Pretoria, South Africa
11 August 2011	SADCAS Board of Directors meeting	Pretoria, South Africa
16 – 17 August 2011	SPS Capacity Building Workshop	Gaborone, Botswana
20 – 27 August 2011	16 <sup>th</sup> IAAC General Assembly	Quito, Ecuador
August 2011	SADCSTAN Standards Management Committee meeting	Gaborone, Botswana
August 2011	SADCSTAN Operational Officers Workshop	Gaborone, Botswana
August 2011	SQAM Tripartite meeting	Pretoria, South Africa
August 2011	SADCTBTSC Committee meeting	Pretoria, South Africa
24 – 25 August 2011	SQAMEG meeting	Gaborone, Botswana
15 September 2011	Annual SADCAS/NORAD meeting	Pretoria, South Africa
10 – 16 September 2011	APLAC Annual meeting	Manila, Philippines
19 – 21 September 2011	Regional Stakeholder Workshop on SPS	Johannesburg, South Africa
21 – 23 September 2011	ISO General Assembly	New Delhi, India
September 2011	SADCSTAN Executive Committee meeting	Gaborone, Botswana
02 October 2011	CASCO - 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Joint WG	Geneva, Switzerland
03 – 06 October 2011	Eurachem - 7 <sup>th</sup> Workshop on Proficiency Testing in Analytical Chemistry, Microbiology and Laboratory Medicine	Istanbul, Turkey
03 – 06 October 2011	BIPM – 15 <sup>th</sup> International Congress of Metrology	Paris, France
03 October 2011	CASCO – STAR meeting	Geneva, Switzerland
05—07 October 2011	2 <sup>nd</sup> AFRAC Annual General Meeting	Mauritius

*Continued to p 25*

*Continued from p 24*

## Diary of Upcoming Events

DATES	MEETINGS	VENUE
06 – 07 October 2011	CASCO Plenary	Geneva, Switzerland
10 – 14 October 2011	CIPM 100 <sup>th</sup> meeting	Paris, France
17 – 18 October 2011	SADCA EXCO meeting	Gaborone, Botswana
17 – 19 October 2011	ISO/TC 212 Plenary meeting (Medical)	Las Vegas, USA
17 – 21 October 2011	BIPM – 24 <sup>th</sup> General Conference on Weights and Measures	Paris, France
24 – 27 October 2011	CAFMET – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Metrology Forum	Accra, Ghana
24 – 29 October 2011	ISO/TC 176 28 <sup>th</sup> Plenary meeting	Beijing, China
2 – 11 November 2011	ILAC/IAF Annual meeting	Bangkok, Thailand
24 November 2011	SADCAS Finance, Risk and Audit Committee	Pretoria, South Africa
24 November 2011	SADCAS HRRC meeting	Pretoria, South Africa
25 November 2011	SADCAS Board of Directors meeting	Pretoria, South Africa
28 – 30 November 2011	NAFP Annual meeting	Pretoria, South Africa

### PUBLISHED BY:

#### SADCAS

Plot 50676, First Floor Block B,  
BIFM/Fairgrounds Office Park Private Bag 00320,  
Gaborone, Botswana  
Tel: +267 3132909/ 3132910  
Cell No: +267 71 250042  
Fax: +267 3132922  
Email: [info@sadcas.org](mailto:info@sadcas.org)  
Website: [www.sadcas.org](http://www.sadcas.org)

#### Editors:

Maureen P Mutasa  
Jeanne Françoise Ranorovelo

#### Layout & Design

Linda Dirorimwe

*Continued to p 18*