



THE PIONEER

SADCAS NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2022 EDITION - ISSUE 43

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Mr Xavier Mugari



Ms Nicole Njemu Sekgoma

We are pleased to present Issue 43 of the SADCAS Newsletter (November 2022 Edition) to keep our readers updated on accreditation activities in the region and beyond. Inside you will find news on accreditation activities undertaken by SADCAS and developments in the field of accreditation.

This year all SADCAS Advisory Committees (AC) meetings were held remotely. SADCAS Advisory Committees are a fundamental and vital component of operating a technically relevant accreditation system. The role of the Advisory Committees is to provide technical guidance on all matters relating to accreditation within a specific field of expertise, to ensure technical integrity of the accreditation processes as well as to guide technical policy and provide important support in technical matters to the assessment process.

We have reached the end of another year and we wish you a happy and restful holiday..

Enjoy the reading

CEO's end of year message: Role of SADCAS in promoting economic growth, sustainability, competitiveness and health & safety

SADCAS is now in its 13th year of operation, what is the overall vision going into 2023?

SADCAS vision is to be a sustainable accreditation body at the cutting edge of credible accreditation service delivery. From lessons learnt during COVID 19 pandemic, when we introduced policies and procedures to support remote assessments, we believe that, if the organisation is to be a sustainable accreditation body at the cutting edge of credible accreditation service delivery, SADCAS must face the future boldly through the lens of the 4th Industrial Revolution. This is why, SADCAS is committed to embark on a 3-year digital transformation journey that will unlock value in its operations and improve customer experience beyond 2023. Being a multi-economy regional accreditation body servicing the accreditation needs of 14 SADC Member States, SADCAS continues to look for new ways to build on its strengths. SADCAS has embedded excellence in its DNA thus it takes pride in its innovative business model to respond to modern day challenges, to do business more efficiently and to enhance decision-making by leveraging its competencies through the use of technology. Over the years, SADCAS has grown in leaps and bounds in terms of scope and reach and to date, SADCAS has issued 274 accreditation certificates in 262 facilities as at 30 September 2022, meaning that, at this juncture there is a strong need to continue improving its service delivery. SADCAS therefore recognises the need to embrace digital transformation as a means to enhance its effectiveness by deploying smarter ways to deliver its services to the market. With the upliftment of trade, travel restrictions and optimism of a brighter future, there cannot be a better time to look at accreditation through fresh eyes whilst consolidating and protecting its gains through maintaining international recognition.

What do consumers in SADC really want out of accreditation?

Typically, markets rely on products and services that are traded between economies based on decisions made in terms of the quality, reliability, safety, competitiveness and sustainability. Through accredited testing, inspection and certification of



**Eve Christine Gadzikwa,
SADCAS CEO**

facilities to various management systems e.g QMS, EMS, FSMS, OHAS, traders can comfortably source their products and services based on the trust and confidence of their sources, producers and suppliers. Accreditation has a major role to play in terms of supporting governments policies and decisions that impact on the health and safety of communities. The national quality infrastructure e.g. inspection, calibration, testing, certification, accreditation, government policies and regulations are carefully managed to ensure that results and certificates can be relied upon by those who need them. For instance, in terms of the health sector, accuracy of laboratory test results has a direct impact on the quality of health outcomes. Accreditation of conformity assessment bodies within the health sector is therefore an important tool for SADC Member States as a means of safeguarding the health and safety of communities through assurance of accurate and reliable test results. Ultimately, what is really important to consumers is obtaining assurance in their purchasing decisions. Regulators on the other hand are mainly concerned about safeguarding the environment and communities at large and accreditation provides them a basis to develop Environment, Social and Governance policy frameworks. It is pleasing to note that, a number of policy makers in the SADC region have already embraced and take into account accredited conformity assessment services in their policy making especially in the fields of metrology, inspection, medical and calibration.

What is the role of accreditation in promoting confidence in Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs)? Is it just about competence?

There are a number of international standards that have been developed to support the work of conformity assessment bodies, regulators and consumers protection bodies. The performance of a CAB in terms of its conformity to these international standards has created a vast number of claims in terms of an organisation's performance and its ability to deliver consistent value to its customers. Accreditation by an authoritative body like SADCAS therefore plays an important and independent role as a tool that provides recognition and acceptance of conformity assessment results. To member state governments, third party accreditation has now increasingly become accepted worldwide as the most transparent and non-discriminatory mechanism to assure competency of conformity assessment service providers both in the voluntary and mandatory domains. Accreditation is not only about assuring competence of CAB but is also about delivering confidence through consistent performance and impartially in its operations. Moreover, accreditation facilitates trade, promotes sustainability and enhances consumer and environmental protection.

What actions has SADCAS done to promote the benefits of accreditation to various stakeholders at public & public sector levels?

Increased awareness on the benefits of accreditation amongst stakeholders especially industry and trade, governments, regulators and conformity assessment bodies has enabled SADCAS to enhance confidence in the private and public sector entities performing testing, inspection, calibration and certification activities. As a regional, multi-economy accreditation body operating in 14 SADC Member states, SADCAS continues to increase awareness on SADCAS service. Through targeted visits, engagement with stakeholders and enhancing the effectiveness of National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFPs) to market the benefits of accreditation, SADCAS is committed to enhance knowledge and understanding of the role of accreditation among its stakeholders. Recognising that trade is critical in promoting economic growth in the SADC Member States under the AfCFTA, SADCAS has repositioned itself to support SADC value chains through accreditation of CABs that support trade. With support from cooperating partners like SADC Secretariat, Afrexim Bank, PTB etc, SADCAS actively participates in a number of capacity building and awareness workshops and conferences where it promotes the benefits of accreditation in the SADC Member States. The clarion call to industry and trade is that, accreditation eliminates the need for repetitive testing, certification and inspection thus cutting back on unnecessary costs and time to reach market. To regulators, accreditation provides reliable and

impartial basis for decision making. To CABs, accreditation is a means of demonstrating competence, consistent performance and impartiality to clients thus promoting trust and confidence in the results for decision making.

How has signatory and arrangement status with ILAC, IAF, AFRAC & SADC impacted the region in terms of raising the voice of industry regulators, traders, users and promoted confidence in the reports issued by CABs in SADC?

Accreditation is the process of providing recognition to an organisation for its competence in performing specific tasks in a consistent manner. It involves the assessment of technical competence of organisations in providing conformity assessment services which include, testing, certification (MS, product personnel), inspections. Accreditation also applies to calibration laboratories, Proficiency Testing and producers of Reference Materials. SADCAS is signatory to the African Accreditation Cooperation (AFRAC) and International Laboratory Accreditation (ILAC) Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRA) for testing and calibration laboratories accreditation schemes in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025 achieved in 2015, and medical testing in accordance with 15189 and inspection in accordance with ISO/IEC 17020 achieved in 2017. SADCAS is also signatory to AFRAC MRA and International Accreditation Forum's Mutual Lateral Arrangement (IAF MLA) under Main Scope Management Systems Sub-scopes; QMS (achieved 2019), EMS (achieved 2020), OHAS (achieved 2020), FSMS (achieved 2021). Hence the accreditation certificates issued by SADCAS from testing, calibration, medical laboratories, inspection bodies and management systems certification bodies' accreditation schemes are internationally recognised. International recognition of SADCAS accreditation schemes has not only created a reliable reference point for industry, regulators, traders, users but also a means by which Member States can provide independent assurance of the competence of CABs.

A key component of accreditation is assuring competence, impartiality and consistent performance in terms of service delivery, to what extent has SADCAS ensured commitment to upholding the highest level of confidence in its services?

SADCAS is committed to promote credible cost-effective accreditation services for SADC Member states aimed at supporting trade, enhancing the protection of consumers and the environment and improving competitiveness of SADC products and services in the voluntary and mandatory domains. In order to meet its objectives and commitments, SADCAS implements a quality management system in compliance with the requirements of ISO/IEC 17011 and of AFRAC, SADCA, ILAC and IAF for the purpose of Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRA)/ Multilateral Arrangement (MLA). The system is appropriate to the type, range

and volume of work performed by the organisation. SADCAS is committed to ensure availability of competent staff, assessors and technical experts for confidence in accredited services. The SADCAS management system conforms to ISO/IEC 17011:2017 which includes consideration of risk assessment. SADCAS identifies, analyses, evaluates, treats and monitors potential risk to impartiality on an ongoing basis. In compliance to requirements of ISO/IEC 17011:2017, SADCAS decision making processes are required to act objectively and be free from undue commercial, financial and other pressures that could compromise impartiality. To support its Quality Management System, SADCAS upholds the following 7 core values in its service delivery:

- Impartiality;
- Transparency;
- Non-discrimination;
- Integrity;
- Innovation;
- Diversity
- Excellence

Has the Regional Accreditation Body (RAB) actively participated to assist in supporting initiatives e.g. climate change, digitalisation, sustainability, consumer and environmental protection?

SADCAS recognises the dynamic operating environment and emerging trends in SADC, Africa and globally. Therefore, themes such as climate change, digitalisation, risk management, sustainability, consumer and environmental protection are top of the mind and have been integrated into the organisation's processes and strategic plans. This is why the organisation has embedded 'innovation' as one of its core values to ensure that its schemes are relevant in a changing world. SADCAS has a well-defined a policy and documented procedures to determine the suitability of conformity assessment schemes and standards for accreditation purposes. In broadening its scope of accreditation SADCAS has defined a process to be followed when developing a new accreditation scheme e.g., Medical Imagine Accreditation Scheme that will be launched in 2023. Taking into account the needs of regulators, changing needs of consumers and industry requirements, SADCAS continues to review its competencies in relation to its scope of services and needs of the market with the view to deliver its mandate in a cost effective and efficient manner. Externally, SADCAS actively participates and contributes to regional and international committee discussions at ILAC, IAF, AFRAC and SADC on topics such as climate change, digitalisation, sustainability, consumer and environmental protection just to name a few. In addition, through its Advisory Committees, SADCAS continues to develop appropriate technical guides and adopt relevant mandatory ILAC /IAF documents in its management

system to support accreditation requirements e.g. Proficiency Testing, Traceability and Remote Assessments, Reference Materials producers.

Where do you see SADCAS in the next 5 years?

In March 2023, SADCAS will be entering its second year of its five year Strategic Plan 2022-2027. During this period, the objects of SADCAS will be to;

- Provide accreditation services to the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Member States that do not have a national accreditation body for their laboratories, certification and inspection bodies;
- Provide accreditation services to Member States whose national accreditation body only services a limited scope of accreditation;
- Provide international recognition of conformity assessment results produced by organizations accredited by it;
- Provide accreditation service that promotes, develops and maintains good regulatory practices;
- Provide an opportunity for SADC Member States to participate in multilateral arrangements for recognition of conformity assessment results;
- Provide a database of organizations accredited by it;
- Provide accreditation expertise, qualifying, registering and using experts from amongst SADC Member States; and
- Facilitate a national accreditation focal point (NAFP) for those SADC Member States using its service.

In conclusion, the outlook of SADCAS is looking bright given its past successes, international recognition and plans to extend this into new scopes e.g., Product Certification. Acceptability, credibility of SADCAS services and heightened awareness of the benefits of accreditation by stakeholders cannot be overstated. I strongly believe that, these elements must remain top priority in the coming year. I am confident that as SADCAS hones its competencies, pursues its digitalisation drive and grows its accreditations in response to the market, the organisation is poised to fly. Sky is the limit!

Let me take this opportunity to wish all our stakeholders happy holidays and a joyous New Year!

GCLA DNA LABORATORY ACCREDITED AS FIRST DNA LABORATORY UNDER SADCAS

INTRODUCTION

The history of the Government Chemist Laboratory Authority can be traced back to 1895 under the German Colonial Administration, when it was established as Government Chemist Laboratory (GCL) mainly for researching tropical diseases, particularly Malaria and Tuberculosis (TB). After the independence of Tanzania, the laboratory became a department under the ministry responsible for health. In 1999, its status changed to an agency responsible for laboratory analysis, including forensic Toxicology, forensic Biology and Human DNA services. The laboratory operated as an Agency until 2016, when it was established as an Authority by the Government Chemist Laboratory Authority Act No. 8 of 2016.

VISION

The vision of the Organisation is to become a reputable world-class analytical laboratory for executing health, social well-being and environmental interventions, with the mission of providing quality and cost-effective laboratory and regulatory services to the Government, Institutions, private sectors and the general public for safeguarding human health, environment and for the execution of justice

ROLES OF THE AUTHORITY

The Government Chemist Laboratory Authority is a government scientific institution with significant responsibilities for conducting laboratory analysis of the safety and quality of foods, natural medicines (herbal medicines), chemicals, pesticides, water, industrial products and samples from security agencies with criminal-related cases.

In addition, the Authority is responsible for providing expert witness/opinions in all Courts in the country and professional advice based on laboratory analyses performed for the government, the private sector and individuals inside and outside the country.

The Authority also has the responsibility of protecting health and the Environment against the harmful effects of chemicals in the country through the implementation of the law on the management and control of Industrial and domestic chemicals (2003) and to manage the use of

human genetic technology through the implementation of the law on the control of Human DNA of the year 2009.

ACHIEVEMENT OF ACCREDITATION FOR GCLA LABORATORIES

The Government Chemist Laboratory Authority has successfully obtained accreditation in three of its laboratories: the Food Laboratory, the Environmental laboratory and the Human DNA laboratory.

The achievement of laboratory accreditation increases the validity of the information of the scientific analysis of these laboratories nationally and internationally.

This accreditation success was contributed by the Government's investment in purchasing laboratory equipment, training for employees and strengthening the operational infrastructure in laboratories to keep up with the pace of scientific and technological changes occurring every day in the world.

The other Government Chemist Laboratory Authority (GCLA) laboratories in the queue for accreditation are; the Lake zone, Forensic Toxicology, Forensic Chemistry and Microbiology. GCLA has targeted that by the end of 2023, all laboratories would be accredited under SADCAS accreditation body.

The DNA Laboratory deals with all matters pertaining to human DNA technology. These include (i) sampling and receipt of biological samples, preliminary screening/examination of samples, DNA testing using molecular techniques, reporting writing and court testimony.

Forensic biology and DNA testing at the DNA laboratory are at the heart of GCLA's laboratory services because GCLA is the referral laboratory in the country. It was GCLA's strategic milestone to ensure the laboratory is accredited under ISO 17025:2017 since Human DNA testing is a service that requires extreme care to provide accurate, consistent, and reliable results are obtained as they determine the fate of an individual. The GCLA plans to expand its DNA testing services at its new Headquarter facility in Dodoma Capital City. The new laboratories will be for Human DNA and Wildlife DNA laboratories.



GCLA New Building for Offices and Laboratories in Dodoma Capital City



Five New Technical Signatories (Standing in the front line) in the group picture after successfully witnessed by SADCAS Technical Assessor Mr Vikash Ramessur (Second from the right-rear line); others in the picture are GCLA management members.

SADCAS CEO MEETS WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS IN BOTSWANA

SADC SECRETARIAT ENGAGEMENT MEETINGS

In line with its culture of promoting stakeholder engagement on an ongoing basis, SADCAS initiated a meeting with SADC Secretariat that was subsequently held on 13th September 2022. SADC Secretariat was represented by Mr Calicious Tualife, Directorate of Industrial Development and Trade (IDT) Acting Director, Programme Officer Value Chains. SADCAS was represented by Mrs Mmatlala Dube representing SADCAS Board of Directors and Ms Eve Gadzikwa, SADCAS CEO.



Ms Eve Gadzikwa, SADCAS CEO, Mr Calicious Tualife, Directorate of Industrial Development and Trade (IDT) Acting Director, Senior Programme Officer Value Chains and Mrs Mmatlala Dube, FRAC Chair & Member of SADCAS Board of Directors.

The purpose of the initial engagement meeting was to;

- Introduce the new SADCAS CEO to SADC Secretariat
- Explain the mandate of SADCAS within the context of SADC Subsidiary
- Highlight decisions made at the 33rd CMT meeting held in Lilongwe, Malawi on 08 July 2022
- Receive updates from SADC Secretariat in terms of its activities and programmes
- Invite SADC Secretariat to SADCAS Offices for an in-depth meeting on SADCAS operations and latest developments.

A follow up meeting with SADC Secretariat was held on 23rd September together with SADCAS Management Team at the SADCAS Offices.



Mr Calicious Tualife, Directorate of Industrial Development and Trade (IDT) Acting Director appreciating National Accreditation Focal Point Recognition Awards



Mrs Lauren Gudo, SADCAS Finance and Administration Manager, Mr Calicious Tualife, Directorate of Industrial Development and Trade (IDT) Acting Director, Senior Programme Officer Value Chains, Ms Eve Gadzikwa SADCAS CEO, Mr Cesarino Benjamin, Programme Officer-SQAM and Mrs Pinkie Malabe, SADCAS Technical Manager

The purpose of the follow up meeting was aimed at;

- Identifying mutual areas of cooperation and collaboration that can foster trade in the SADC Region through the use of accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies that offer testing, certification and Inspection.
- Exchanging information on opportunities and challenges that impinge on the successful implementation of regional integration and the role that SADCAS plays in facilitating trade across SADC Member States.
- Highlighting increasing number of accreditations and importance of SADCAS sustainability as a subsidiary organization of the SADC.

- Appreciating the continued support of SADC Secretariat towards achievement of SADCAS goals and objectives.

Overall, both meetings were cordial, constructive and informative with SADC Secretariat expressing a willingness to continue supporting SADCAS within the context of subsidiary status. SADCAS underscored its commitment to service the accreditation needs of SADC Member States as per the SADC-SADCAS Memorandum of Understanding on General Cooperation.

SADCAS BOARD MEETS WITH BURS COMMISSIONER GENERAL

It is part of SADCAS culture to establish, nurture and maintain appropriate relationships and cooperation with relevant regulators, organizations, associations and persons that may assist the company in obtaining and maintaining any or all of its objectives. In November 2022, the SADCAS Board Member and CEO met with Botswana Unified Revenue Services (BURS), a revenue service and a government agency of the Botswana government. The stakeholder engagement meeting was held on the 17 November 2022 at the BURS Head Office in Gaborone. The SADCAS Board was represented by Mrs Mmatlala Dube, who is also the Chairperson of the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee of the Board. She was accompanied by the SADCAS Chief Executive Officer, Ms Christine Eve Gadzikwa.

The meet-and-greet was a significant platform and public relations opportunity for SADCAS to engage with the regulator of taxes in Botswana, BURS at a strategic level, to share with the regulator information on the benefits of accreditation of conformity assessment bodies in the SADC Member States and to provide a high-level overview of the status of affairs of SADCAS within the context of the Botswana laws.



Ms Eve Gadzikwa, SADCAS CEO and Mrs Mmatlala Dube, Board Member discussing at a Meet-and-Greet with Commissioner General, Ms. Jeanette Chanda Makgolo. The meeting was held at BURS Head quarters

As this was the first face to face engagement with BURS, the Chief Executive Officer, Ms Christine Eve Gadzikwa presented to BURS Commissioner General, Ms Jeannette Makgolo and her Commissioners details about SADCAS mandate, how SADCAS was established, incorporated, its governance structure, subsidiarity status and its relationship with SADC and scope of SADCAS services. In response, the Commissioner General Ms Makgolo expressed gratitude for the courtesy call and extended a warm welcome to the Board and Management of SADCAS. The Commissioner General looks forward to future engagements with SADCAS. The SADCAS Board member, Ms Mmatlala Dube thanked The Commissioner General for the warm welcome and for affording SADCAS the opportunity to meet with BURS. The visit ended on a high note with SADCAS handing over copies of SADCAS Annual Report to the Commissioner General.



Ms Eve Gadzikwa, SADCAS CEO, Ms. Jeanette Chanda Makgolo, BURS Commissioner General and Mrs Mmatlala Dube, SADCAS Board Member & FRAC Chair at BURS Headquarters



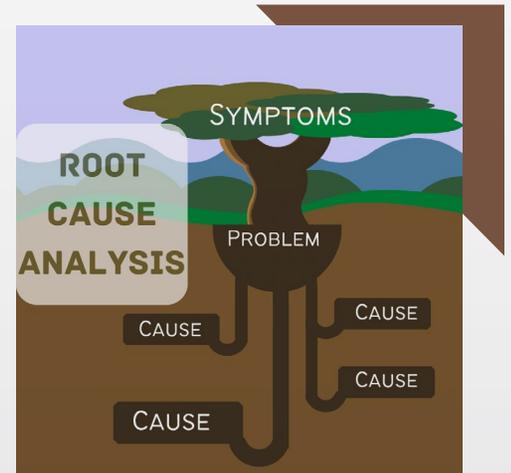
Ms Eve Gadzikwa, SADCAS CEO handing over a copy of the SADCAS Annual Report to Ms. Jeanette Chanda Makgolo, BURS Commissioner General



Ms. Jeanette Chanda Makgolo, BURS Commissioner General handing Mrs Mmatlala Dube a token of appreciation to SADCAS Board Member & FRAC Chair

NEW TRAINING COURSE ALERT: ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS

- The Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) is pleased to announce the launch of a new training course on Root Cause Analysis (RCA). Understanding RCA and the corrective action process is a requirement of key accreditation standards such as ISO/IEC 17025, ISO 15189, ISO/IEC 17020, ISO/IEC 17021-1, ISO/IEC 17065 and ISO/IEC 17043.
- Consisting of presentations, exercises, group work, scenarios and role-playing, this 3-day course is designed to provide participants with an in-depth understanding of how to analyze a system and identify the root causes of nonconformities. This course will significantly improve the approach to effective management of corrective actions leading to continuous improvement.
- The objective of the RCA course is to provide participants with knowledge and skills to manage incidents/nonconformities, with specific emphasis on the identification of the root cause and applying RCA methodologies. This course will enable participants to understand root cause analysis as a technique for ascertaining and analyzing the causes of nonconformities and determine appropriate corrective actions to be undertaken and prevent recurrences. Participants will also acquire skills for continuously improving the effectiveness of quality management systems through implementing effective corrective actions. The course will provide and familiarize participants with a systematic, structured and evidence-based RCA process that can be embedded into their organizations.



Format of the Course: Face to face or Virtual via Zoom Video Conferencing

For any further information, please contact: The SADCAS Training Administrator, **Mr. Mogae Molaoa**

Tel: +267 313 2909/ 313 2910; Mobile: +267 77 833 409; Email: mmolaoa@sadcas.org; Website: www.sadcas.org



AFRAC HOLDS 13TH AFRAC GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

The 13th AFRAC General Assembly (GA) was held at the Sofitel Cairo Nile EL Gezira in Cairo, Egypt on 30 September 2022. The GA meeting was attended by Member Accreditation Bodies (ABs), Stakeholders, development partners and other invited guests representatives. SADCAS was represented at the meeting by Ms Christine Gadzikwa, the Chief Executive Officer, Mrs. Pinkie Malebe Technical Manager and Mr. Xavier Mugari Quality Manager. The meeting was chaired by Dr Ron Josias, the AFRAC Chair. Key outcomes of the GA were as follows:

- ✓ Provide progress on the work of AFRAC during 2022;
- ✓ Approval of Committee workplans for 2023;
- ✓ Approval of the financial statements for the 2021;
- ✓ Approval of 2023 Budget;
- ✓ Approval of documents;
- ✓ Elections of Office-Bearers; and
- ✓ Approval of General Assembly Resolutions

A total of 37 resolutions were passed by the AFRAC GA. Some of the key resolutions passed were as follows:

- The GA approved the 2023 EXCO Workplan
- The GA ratified the EXCO resolutions from the 19th meeting held on 2 June 2022, and the 20th meeting held on 29 September 2022.
- The GA elected Mr Mutetei Mutisya (KENAS) as the Marketing & Communication Chair for term of office in accordance with the Bylaws (A001-06).
- The GA unanimously re-elected Mr Mohamed Hassan (EGAC) as the Marketing and Communication Committee Vice-Chair for term of office in accordance with the Bylaws (A001-06).
- The GA unanimously re-elected SANAS as the Secretariat, for a term of office in accordance with the Bylaws (A001-06).
- The GA approved the fees structure which is based on the following key elements:
 - i) AFRAC Membership Category (base fee);
 - ii) Economic standing (UN GNI Category); and
 - iii) Total number of each ABs accredited CAB's as at 31 Dec. of each year.

HIGHLIGHTS OF IAF ANNUAL MEETINGS

The International Accreditation Forum (IAF) annual meetings were held virtually from October to November 2022. SADCAS was represented at these meetings by Ms Eve Christine Gadzikwa, the Chief Executive Officer, Mrs Pinkie Malebe, the SADCAS Technical Manager, Mr Xavier Mugari, the SADCAS Quality Manager and Mr Victor Mundembe, SADCAS Scheme Coordinator for CBAS. This was the fifth time that the IAF meetings were held remotely following the cancellation of planned face to face meetings planned for Montreal, Canada. Over 300 delegates attended the annual meetings.

The IAF annual meetings that were attended by SADCAS representatives are:

1. IAF Technical Committee WG MSC, 10 October 2022
2. Joint Development Support Committee, 13 October 2022
3. IAF MLA, 17 October 2022
4. IAF TC WG Food, 31 October 2022
5. IAF TC, 2 November 2022
6. ILAC/IAF JEC, 10 November 2022
7. Joint ILAC / IAF GA 10 November 2022
8. IAF GA 17 November 2022

The highlights of the IAF Annual meetings with key issues summarized from discussions and resolutions and related Technical Committee and Working Group or Task Force meetings are as follows:

IAF TC

The IAF TC develops, maintains and revises, as appropriate, IAF documents (mainly MDs and IDs) on the application of standards and guides and similar to ensure the consistent application of conformity assessment standards. Documents are submitted to the voting members for approval as required. The IAF TC currently advances its work through 12 Working Groups and 17 Task Forces.

WG FOOD

During the revision of ISO/TS 22003:2013 an additional NWIP was launched and carried out in order to bring about a common baseline for food safety certification under both ISO/IEC 17021-1 and ISO/IEC 17065. Finally, not only ISO 22003-1:2022 was published for the certification (**new level 4 to be transitioned for ISO/TS 22003:2013**) but also ISO 22003-2:2022.

Whilst it is clear that 22003-1 is addressing the auditing procedure and competence for FSMS certification (level 4 to be fulfilled by the CB), ISO 22003-2 addresses equally scheme owners and certification bodies. 22003-2 contains requirements for the responsible scheme owners and cannot be implemented as such by itself for a given CB.

The TC agreed to take the position that ISO 22003-2 - Food safety, requirements for bodies providing evaluation and certification of products, processes and service including an audit of the food safety system is not an appropriate standard for standalone accreditation.

A transition rule for ISO 22003-1:2022 (level 4 document for FSMS certification under 17021-1) is in progress for TC commenting. The new 22003-1 makes it necessary to amend the ongoing revision of IAF MD16 further, for further TC commenting.

REMOTE AUDITS AND ASSESSMENTS

The TF Remote Auditing/Assessment has been very active, considering the current status of remote activities and planning next steps. The TF has defined 4 overall objectives:

- i. Developing document(s) or content to be added to existing IAF documents to address remote auditing/assessment
- ii. **Suggesting inputs** for consideration as potential content by non-IAF organizations, like ISO CASCO, ISO TC 176, ISO TC 207, and others
- iii. Initiating discussion on how to measure effectiveness and efficiency of conformity assessment activities pre-

pandemic when ICT wasn't widely used (as evidenced by the 2016 survey); during the pandemic; and for the future - compared to on-site

- iv. Sharing best practices in conducting remote audit/assessment not limited to IAF resources, considering webinars across regions and stakeholder partners

TC members have agreed to set up a new WG under the TC – the WG Digital, covering remote auditing and other uses of digital technology. The structure and overall priorities for the WG Digital were agreed.

Disbandment of the TF was agreed, being replaced by the new **WG Digital**.

CERTSEARCH DATABASE – NEXT STEPS

A set of amended principles for the CertSearch certificate database was accepted, through a ballot, by IAF members. Within the agreed process there was agreement that there is a need for a new Mandatory Document covering the Upload and Maintenance of Data on IAF CertSearch. A first draft was completed by the Database Management Committee, but this has been passed on to the TC to add detail and complete the document.

The structure and priorities for the new TF CertSearch, to develop a new MD for the control of and management of the database was agreed. There is now a call for members and convenors.

STANDARDS

Both ISO/IEC 17024 and ISO/IEC 17065 are due for systematic review this year (the process is already underway for 17024). These are both important standards for the TC and it is vital for the TC to provide input to the development process and to monitor status.

REMAINING EXPECTED OUTCOMES IN 2022:

- Progress towards a fully reconsidered and revised version of MD 5.
- Consolidated position on Remote Auditing including new and/or amended documents as necessary.
- Development of the WG Digital.
- IAF input to the review and possible revision of ISO/IEC 17024 and ISO/IEC 17065.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES IN 2023:

IAF input to the expected revisions of ISO/IEC 17065 and ISO/IEC 17024.

A more proactive approach to some of the key working groups (product and persons).

Expedient processing of TF activities.

PUBLICATIONS

5 new documents published:

- MD 24 – Transition Requirements for ISO 50003: 2021 – Issued 8 Dec. 2022
- MD 25 – Criteria for the Evaluation of Conformity Assessment Schemes – Issued 7 Jan. 2022
- PR 7 – Requirements for Producing IAF Mandatory Documents on Transitions – Issued 19 May
- ID 14 – Guidance on the Determination of Audit Time for Integrated Audit of Multi-Site Management Systems – Issued 25 May 2022
- MD 26 – Transition Requirements for ISO/IEC 27001: 2022 – Issued 8 Aug 2022

5 document revisions published:

- MD4 – IAF Mandatory Document for the Use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for Auditing / Assessment Purposes – Issued 01 Feb 2022
- MD9 – Application of ISO/IEC 17021-1 in the Field of Medical Device Quality Management Systems (ISO 13485) – Issued 01 Feb 2022
- MD 21 – Requirements on the Migration to ISO 45001: 2018 from OHSAS 18001: 2007 – Issued 01 Feb 2022
- MD13 – Knowledge Requirements for Accreditation Body Personnel for Information Security Management Systems (ISO/IEC 27001 – Issued 19 Sept 2022
- PL3 – Policies and Procedures on the IAF MLA Structure and for Expansion of the Scope of the IAF MLA (technical content) – Issued 7 Oct 2022

5 documents in progress:

- MD 5 - Determination of Audit Time of Quality, Environmental, and Occupational Health & Safety Management Systems – subject to major review by the TF Audit Time
- MD 7 - IAF Mandatory Document for the Harmonization of Sanctions and Dealing with Fraudulent Behavior and ID xx on Fraudulent Behavior – circulated for 60day comment – comment period closed 11 October 2022
- MD 11 - IAF Mandatory Document for Application of ISO/IEC 17021 for Audits of Integrated Management Systems (IMS) – Undergoing review by a dedicated TF
- MD 15 - IAF Mandatory Document for the Collection of Data to Provide Indicators of Management System Certification Bodies' Performance – under revision by the WG Accreditation (ISO/IEC 17011)
- MD 17 - Witnessing Activities for the Accreditation of Management Systems Certification Bodies – undergoing review by a dedicated TF

IAF GA

IAF held its 36th General Assembly online on 17 November, as part of

the 2022 ILAC-IAF Joint Annual Meetings. Attendees heard a variety of reports, including updates on implementation of the IAF 2020-2025 Strategic Plan, IAF CertSearch, financial matters, committee work and the increases in IAF Members and IAF MLA signatories. IAF Board and Executive Committee member Ekanit Romyanon (NSC), Director Representing Low and Medium Income Economy Accreditation Bodies and Accreditation Body Information Exchange Group Co-Chair, finished his term at the IAF General Assembly. Mr. Romyanon was thanked for his dedicated service to IAF in this role, as well as his previous work as IAF Technical Committee Chair.

Mr. Romyanon has been succeeded by Rajesh Maheshwari (NABCB), who was elected for an initial three-year term ending at the 2025 General Assembly. A warm welcome was extended to Mr. Maheshwari.

Mr. Maheshwari was also appointed as the new IAF Database Management Committee (DMC) Chair at the IAF Board meeting on 18 November, succeeding Matt Gantley (UKAS). Mr. Gantley's term as DMC Chair saw dramatic changes for IAF CertSearch, including agreement by IAF Members to move the database to a user-pays funding model, and to make participation in the database mandatory for IAF MLA signatory accreditation bodies under the main scope ISO/IEC 17021-1 and their relevant accredited certification bodies. Mr. Gantley was thanked for his extensive work. He will be continuing his participation in the DMC as Vice-Chair.

IAF Quality Manager Mario Andrade Castro (EMA) also left his position in 2022, stepping down in September after two years in the role. Mr Andrade Castro was thanked for his work overseeing the IAF Management System during this time. Appreciation has been extended to Mr. Pedro Alves (IQNET), who has been appointed by the IAF Board to serve as Interim Quality Manager for the remainder of 2022. Mr. Hamza Khan (GAC [GCC]) will assume the role as of 01 January 2023.

Subsequent to the meeting, IAF Members approved a list of draft **resolutions** by ballot, including a resolution to approve the 2023 IAF budget. These have now been published on the IAF website.

2023 MID-YEAR MEETINGS

The IAF hopes to be able to meet in person in 2023, to better enable the exchange of opinions and productive discussion. The IAF/ILAC Joint Midterm Meetings are currently scheduled to take place in Belfast, Northern Ireland from 01-09 May 2023.

2023 ANNUAL MEETING

The IAF/ILAC Joint Annual Meetings are scheduled to take place in Montréal, Canada from 09-18 November 2023.

HIGHLIGHTS OF ILAC MEETINGS 2022

The annual ILAC meetings were held virtually for the third time due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The meetings were held from 13 October to 15 November 2022 as follows;

- ILAC Inspection Committee (IC) Meeting on 24 October 2022;
- Joint (ILAC/IAF) Development Support Committee on 13 October 2022;
- ILAC Arrangement Committee (ARC) on 09 November 2022;
- ILAC Accreditation Committee (AIC) on 27 October 2022;
- ILAC General Assembly (GA) on 15 November 2022.

SADCAS was fully represented by the CEO Ms Eve Gadzikwa, Technical Manager Mrs Pinkie Malebe, Quality Manager Mr Xavier Mugari and the Scheme Coordinators Mr Victor Mundembe, Mrs Eva Muronda and Ms Varsha Gungoa for meetings specific to their accreditation schemes. Mrs Pinkie Malebe was nominated to represent SADCA at the ILAC ARC and ILAC AIC meetings.

The summary of discussions from the various ILAC committees was reported by the Chairs of the various during the General Assembly as follows;

ILAC Chair Ms ETTY Feller's Address and Executive Committee Report

The Chair welcomed all to the reported that ILAC celebrates 45 years since first started as a conference in October 1977, this being a milestone celebrated virtually on social networks reflecting the changes between 1977 and 2022. She stated that over the past 3 years we had the opportunity to further enhance our abilities to learn quickly and to adapt our ways of working and to identify and take action in the areas where we need to improve. "We know that clear and regular communication is vital as we learn to accept the new present and the future that is before us we are all still adapting to the challenges presented by COVID-19 pandemic" she stated.

The Chair reported that ILAC and IAF members are currently engaged in the huge task to establish one international organization with work being done remotely as a result of the impact of the global pandemic. She thanked all members of the Joint IAF/ILAC Steering Committee (SC) who have devoted time and effort to work on this project which

is complex and difficult work that requires dedication and sustained effort. This is an enormous task and especially when combined with the regular work demands that each of the SC members must manage.

The Chair's report covered issues handled during the previous year, with more focus on the one organization which showed that the new body is:

- The global association for the accreditation of conformity assessment bodies with real and effective participation of Stakeholders.
- A neutral organization, especially related to politics, that comply with the legislation of economy in which it is established.
- An organization that facilitates sustainability, trade and the MLA/MRA recognitions, respecting local and regional legislation.
- A place where all the parties (ABs, Standardization Bodies, Regulators, Users and CABs) can collaborate to find solutions on rules and harmonize practices
- Stakeholders cannot vote on MLA/MRA matters

ILAC Budget 2023

The ILAC Executive took a prudent approach to preparing the 2023 budget proposing a 2% increase in membership fees for 2023

ILAC Arrangement Management Committee

New signatories to ILAC MRA

- SOAC WAAS, Côte D'Ivoire for calibration and testing including medical
- GAC, Georgia for calibration and testing including medical and inspection
- LATAK, Latvia for calibration and testing including medical and inspection
- O'ZAKK, Uzbekistan for calibration and testing

Scope extensions – 8 ABs extended their scopes in past 12 months

Progress Biobanking

The following documents were revised and published in June 2022 to support expansion of the ILAC MRA scope to Biobanking;

ILAC P4 - ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement: Policy and Management

ILAC P5 - ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement: Scope and

Obligations

ILAC R6 - Structure of the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement and Procedure for Expansion of the Scope of the ILAC Arrangement

Following the publications, applications from regional cooperation bodies can now be submitted for the evaluation of the recognition of their MRA/MLAs for the accreditation of biobanks. Upon completion of the evaluation and recognition of a region for the accreditation of biobanks, extension of the ILAC MRA to include Biobanking can be completed.

Key Activities of the ILAC

Review of structure of ILAC & IAF Arrangements and need for sub-scopes as part of the recognition of the regions continues;

- Feedback was received from the regions in June 2022 has been collated and currently being considered by JMC TF in preparation for discussion at the JMC meeting in Belfast in May 2023.
- Key aspect of this work is the need for input from stakeholders, regulators and scheme owners
- Proposed resolutions from the ILAC AIC regarding 3-year transition periods for latest revisions of ISO 15189 and ISO/IEC 17043 were noted by the AMC. Monitoring process will be similar to that used for ISO/IEC 17025:2017.

Joint Management Committee (JMC) Report

- JMC TFG established to consider the introduction of the ISO/IEC 17029:2018 as a new IAF MLA scope and potential overlaps with accreditation of inspection bodies and product Certification Bodies.
- Ensure common ILAC/IAF understanding through communication and liaison between relevant IAF and ILAC committees/WGs.
- JMC to source additional representation from IAF/ILAC
- Request received from Nuclear Energy Institute (nuclear industry stakeholder member of ILAC) to observe an evaluation of an AB that is involved in the accreditation of calibration laboratories in South or Central America in 2023.

Arrangement Committee (ARC) Report

The ILAC ARC Chair, Dana Leaman, presented the ARC report to the General Assembly. There are 4 Working Groups of the ARC as follows;

WG2 responsible for maintenance of P4, P5 and R6

- P4, P5 and R6 were updated and re-published in June 2022 after a after a review and comment period in February 2022. The next review is scheduled for 2026.
- ISO/IEC 17011 systematic review – ARC members were made aware of this review which is underway.
- As a liaison member of ISO, ILAC can submit comments in this systematic review process. Members were informed to submit any comments regarding this review to the ARC Chair via email (ilacarc@nist.gov) by 18 November 2022. Comments will be compiled and reported to the ILAC Secretariat and ILAC Chair for subsequent steps

WG 3 responsible for strengthening relations with regulators and specifiers

- A new convenor had been named in October 2021 – Doug Leonard, ANAB (USA)
- Convenor presented a revised draft Terms of Reference (ToR) and requested those with a interest in being part of the WG to submit their names.

WG9 responsible for development of a guidance document on handling extraordinary events

- Convenor, Yoshi Uematsu, has retired. The Chair led a discussion on next steps for the draft document.
- A poll was conducted on whether the ARC supported the document moving forward.
- 75% of the members present at the meeting supported the document moving forward. • A second poll was conducted on who should lead continued efforts to draft the document.
- 96% of the members felt that this should be a coordinated effort with IAF.

WG14 responsible for activities related to the addition of biobanking to the ILAC MRA.

The convenor provided an update and status on the work to incorporate biobanking under the ILAC MRA.

Work continues in the AIC to collect data about the scopes for biobanking.

Accreditation Committee (AIC) Report

The ILAC AIC Chair, Erik Øhlenschläger, presented the AIC report to the General Assembly. The Chair reported on the achievements in concluding the following documents;

In 2020

- ILAC P10 Metrological Traceability

- ILAC P14 MU Calibration
- ILAC G3 Training courses
- ILAC G28 Scopes WADA labs
- Joint CIPM-ILAC communication accreditation NMI's

In 2021

- ILAC G7 Horse racing labs
- ILAC G17 Measurement Uncertainty in testing
- ILAC G18 Guideline for describing Scopes of Accreditation

In 2022

- ILAC G19 Modules in a Forensic Science Process
- ILAC G24: Guidelines for the determination of recalibration intervals of measuring equipment.

Documents to be finalized by the AIC; ILAC P9 (PT activities), 2nd 60-day ILAC comments completed. The process is on hold until a face-to-face meeting becomes possible.

Updates on ISO/IEC 17025

- Members of the AIC have been asked to inform if their AB wish that ISO/IEC 17025:2017 be revised or reaffirmed for another 5 year period (taking into account the low number of critical issues and that last transitions occurred 1½ year ago)
- The AIC is still collecting feedback from members on the implementation of ISO/IEC 17025:2017, but only few items are raised (those are relating to Options A&B, Measurement uncertainty arising from sampling, sampling in calibration and decision rules).
- A workshop was scheduled to be held at the cancelled meeting in Montreal 2022 and await the meetings in Belfast May 2023.

WG 15189

- ISO DIS 15189 was released for a 3-month circulation ending 10th January 2022. Members of the AIC were invited to provide comments through the ILAC liaison to TC212 before 10th December.
- Member comments to ISO 15189 FDIS was provided in September 2022.
- GA resolution was prepared in support of the expected launch of ISO 15189 by end November 2022.

WG 17034

- It has been agreed that the MRA will be based on ISO 20387 as a level 3 standard and that the MRA will be a separate new level 2 activity.

- ILAC has established liaison with ISO TC276 responsible for ISO 20387
- Work related to ISO 17034 and ISO TC 334 (former REMCO) liaison goes on as required.
- An annex on scopes of accreditation of Biobanks will be produced for inclusion in ILAC G18.

WG 17043

- During middle of 2022 ILAC collected and provided comments to ISO/IEC 17043 DIS
- A FDIS is expected end of 2022.
- GA resolution prepared in support of the expected launch of ISO/IEC 17043 in first half 2023.

WG Metrology

- Reports from more sides to the interpretation of clauses 4-7 (traceability to RM's) in ILAC P10:07/2022.
- The AIC has received input from the United States Pharmacopeia Commission (USP), provider of official RM in the field of pharmaceuticals.
- CD VIM 4 (Vocabulary in Metrology) comments provided middle 2021.
- A CD2 is being prepared and expected early 2023.

Other joint activities:

Webinar on Digital SI was conducted in June 2022.

WG Scopes

- The WG will be participating the development of an annex for Biobanking to ILAC G18.
- The year of standard remains an active issue that requires further face-to-face discussion.
- ILAC has co-operated with UNIDO on a survey about flexible scopes. The draft report from the questionnaire has been received and was presented to members at the meeting of the AIC October 2022.

WG Assessor qualification

- ILAC G3:08/2019 Guidelines for Training Courses for Assessors Used by Accreditation Bodies was issued in 2019.
- Work is initiated to develop an annex to G3 on remote assessments

INSPECTION COMMITTEE (IC) REPORT

The ILAC IC Chair, Lorraine Turner, presented the IC report to the General Assembly. Topics being discussed include;

- Q&A Group – work is ongoing, answers are posted on ILAC website

- Log of anomalies, Log is being maintained – taking account of relevant Q&A. These are useful for any future revision of the standard
- Sampling as part of inspection – the TFG has been disbanded
- Accreditation of inspection utilising new technology - workshop being planned for Belfast 2023 – as part of IC meeting

ISO/IEC 17020 systematic review

- Ballot opened July 2022 and closes on 5 Dec 2022
- ISO utilised information from IC regarding log of anomalies with ballot
- IC stands ready to provide input into revision if there is a positive vote

Liaisons;

- OIML: ISO/IEC 17020 has been agreed to be accepted as an alternative to ISO/IEC 17065 for the assessment of issuing authorities; IC will assist in the development of the OIML assessment document.
- The Grain and Feed Trade Association: Gave a presentation at the April meeting, future cooperation is underway as GAFTA utilise accredited inspection and testing.

JOINT DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT COMMITTEE (JDSC) REPORT

The ILAC JDSC Chair, Sharonmae Shirley, presented the JDSC report to the General Assembly. And reminded the meeting that;

- The JDSC actively supports the members from developing economies through assistance from ILAC and IAF and mobilises assistance from other world bodies where such assistance will benefit developing accreditation bodies in low and middle - income economies.
- To encourage participation of all developing accreditation bodies in the activities and processes of IAF and/or ILAC with the objective of becoming members of the IAF MLA and/or ILAC MRA (Multilateral / Mutual Recognition Arrangement).
- To ensure that the needs of developing accreditation bodies are addressed by IAF and/or ILAC in a manner that satisfies members of IAF and/or ILAC

Written reports were submitted by the regions as follows;

- AFRAC Report
- APAC Report
- ARAC Report
- EA Report
- IAAC Report
- SADCA Report

The ILAC Chair confirmed that the written reports from the regions were included in the agenda papers for the General Assembly and thanked the representatives from the regions for submitting the detailed reports.

Announcement of the results of voting in the ILAC 2022 General Assembly Resolutions

The ILAC Secretary presented the adopted resolutions to the General Assembly. The ILAC Chair thanked the members that participated in the voting process for the adoption of the 2022 resolutions.

2023 ILAC/IAF Meetings

The mid-year Joint IAF/ILAC meetings will be held at the Europa Hotel, Belfast, Northern Ireland from 1 to 8 May 2023. The Joint IAF/ILAC Annual meetings are scheduled to be held from 6 to 15 November 2023 in Montréal, Canada.

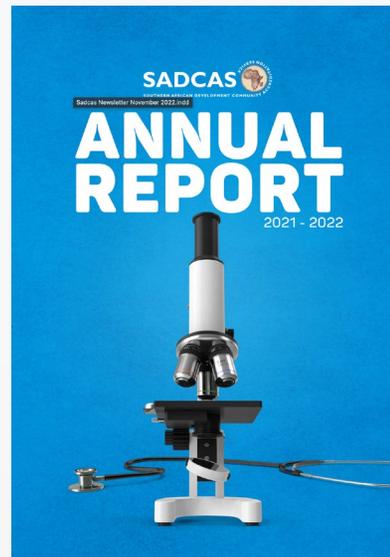
The ILAC Chair concluded the meeting thanking all the participants and in particular the ILAC Secretary.

SADCAS PUBLISHES 14TH ANNUAL REPORT

The SADCAS Board of Directors approved the 2021/22 14th ANNUAL REPORT for publication on the 10th of November 2022. The Annual Report contains detailed information on SADCAS financial and non-financial performance, progress and activities for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The annual report is available for download on the SADCAS website www.sadcas.org under "Publications" on the following link:

https://www.sadcas.org/sites/default/files/annual-reports/SADCAS%20Annual%20Report%202021_%202022.pdf



INVITATION TO REGISTER TECHNICAL EXPERTS - MEDICAL IMAGING AND OTHER PRIORITIZED SCOPES

SADCAS invites experts with specific technical expertise in the newly introduced Medical Imaging Accreditation Scheme (MIAS) and any of the accreditation schemes currently offered by SADCAS to be registered as Technical Experts. A Technical Expert is a person assigned by SADCAS to an assessment team to provide specific knowledge or expertise within the scope of assessment. A Technical Expert works under the supervision of an experienced Team Leader or Technical Assessor.

Technical Experts with experience in the following:

- General Radiography
- Computerised Tomography (CT)
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
- Ultrasound (US)
- Interventional Radiography (IR)
- Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (NM)
- Mammography



Testing Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (TLAS)

Forensic analysis
DNA Testing
Civil Engineering
Mechanical Engineering
Electrical Engineering
Radiation Dosimetry
Non-destructive Testing
Textile Testing



Medical Laboratories accreditation Scheme (MLAS)

Histopathology
Cytology
Parasitology
Endocrinology
Immunophenotyping
Blood Banking



Veterinary Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (VLAS)

Mycology
Parasitology
Helminthology
Protozoology
Histology
Cytology
Toxicology
Pathology



Pharmaceutical Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (Under TLAS)

Microbiology
Chemical
Toxicity
Medical Devices Testing



Calibration Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (CLAS)

Viscosity
Electrical – DC low frequency
Electrical RF
Fibre Optics
Force/ Hardness/ Torque
Flow
Humidity
Radio Activity
Photometry
Radio frequency
Time and frequency
Wind speed
Acoustics and Vibration
Radiation Dosimetry Metrology



Legal Metrology Accreditation Scheme (LMAS)

Verification
Repair and Maintenance
Inspection of Products for Sale
Quantity Control
Type Testing
OIML Certification Scheme
Certification of Verifiers
Certification of Repairers

Technical experts from private and public sectors as well as from technical institutions are invited to apply by completing SADCAS F 26: SADCAS Assessor/Technical Expert Information Record which can be downloaded from the SADCAS website link [http://Microsoft Word - SADCAS F 26 - SADCAS Assessors-Technical Experts Information Record \[Issue 5\]](http://Microsoft Word - SADCAS F 26 - SADCAS Assessors-Technical Experts Information Record [Issue 5].docx) SADCAS will review and evaluate all applications received to ensure that the experts have the requisite qualifications, technical knowledge and experience required by SADCAS.

Applications shall be addressed to:
Mrs Pinkie Malebe SADCAS - Technical Manager
Email: pmalebe@sadcas.org

NAFPS HOLD 16TH ANNUAL MEETING

The 16th National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFPs) Annual meeting was held from 21 to 22 November 2022 at Southern Sun Hotel, Johannesburg, South Africa. The meeting was attended by 11 NAFPs and three (3) SADCAS staff, namely, Ms Christine Gadzikwa – SADCAS CEO, Mr Mogae Molaoa- SADCAS Training Administrator and Mr Xavier Mugari- SADCAS Quality Manager. National Accreditation Focal Points from Botswana (2), Eswatini (2), Lesotho (1), Malawi (1), Seychelles (1), Comoros (1), Namibia (1) and Zimbabwe (2) attended the meeting. The meeting was fully funded by PTB Germany.

The main purpose of the meeting was to develop the Framework for the 2023/24 Marketing Plan, to review Government Contributions for the periods 2012 – 2017 and 2017 – 2022, to review summary of quarterly reports for the period 1 April 2022 to 30 September 2022, to conduct ISO/IEC 17011:2017 training and to consider 2023/24 training needs.

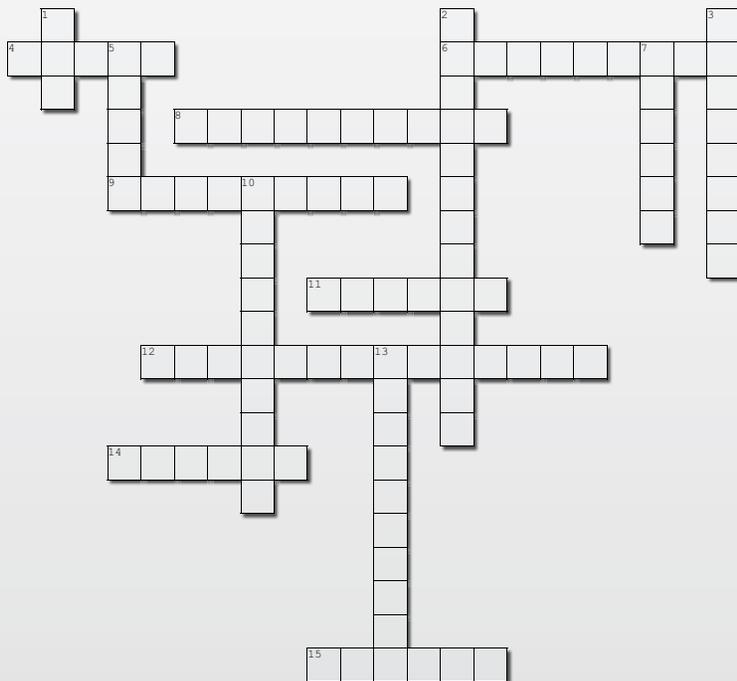
A total of 21 resolutions were recorded during the meeting which was chaired by Ms Gadzikwa, the SADCAS CEO. The meeting was very interactive and productive with NAFPs fully committing to step up their promotion and marketing efforts so as to realize the objectives set in the SADCAS 2023/24 Marketing Plan.

A key output of the the 16ht Annual NAFP Workshop was that, going forward SADCAS will continue its efforts of monitoring and enhancing the effectiveness of NAFPs, growing the number of competent registered assessors for the various schemes and strengthening the readiness of conformity assessment bodies in the Member States through capacity building. A combination of these follow up activities will go long way to increase the uptake and impact of accreditation in the SADC region.

NAFPs who are appointed by their respective governments are mainly responsible for the promotion of accreditation and marketing of SADCAS services within their respective countries. NAFPs are at the frontline of accreditation communication and marketing SADCAS service offering.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Complete the crossword puzzle below



Name: _____

Across

- 4. unwanted or unusable materials
- 6. a person who purchases goods and services for personal use
- 8. a person or body that supervises a particular industry or business activity
- 9. achieving maximum productivity with minimum wasted effort or expense
- 11. the whole world
- 12. meeting our own needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs
- 14. a statement of intent and is implemented as a procedure or protocol
- 15. time ahead

Down

- 1. Operates in accordance with international standards
- 2. Granted upon assessment to prove specified competence
- 3. a person who evaluates the quality of a person or thing
- 5. Exchange of goods and services between nationals
- 7. send (goods or services) to another country for sale.
- 10. the ability to do something successfully or efficiently
- 13. the systematic collection, review, and use of information about educational programs and services undertaken for the purpose

UNDER THE EYE OF AN ASSESSOR – PRECIOSO LUIS KUSSAIWAKO

Precioso Luis Kussaiawako is registered as a Technical Assessor—Chemical Testing of Coal. He holds a Diploma in Metallurgical Assaying, CQI-IRCA ISO 9001:2015 Lead Auditor Certificate, ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 and ISO 45001:2018 Interpretation and Implementation, Internal Audit to Integrated Management System – ISO 14001:2015 and ISO 45001:2018 Certificate, ISO 17025:2017 Lab Systems Course Certificate, ISO 17025:2017 Internal Auditor Course Certificate and ISO 17025:2017 Technical Assessing Techniques Course Certificate.



He has had the opportunity to develop, implement and successfully received certification for the Integrated Management System (ISO 9001, 14001 & 45001) with his former and current employers. Additionally, has developed and implemented the QMS for ISO 17025:2017 and oversaw the accreditation of 3 Coal and 1 Water Laboratories at his former company. The vast experience gained as an internal auditor and nominated representative (auditee for external assessments) at his former company enabled him to gain the much need experience and insight into the assessment requirements.

His first assessment as a full-fledged Technical Assessor on behalf of SADCAS was in 2022, when he conducted a periodic assessment (remotely) for a coal testing laboratory in Namibia. He has since been involved as Technical Assessor in 1 other on-site assessment during 2022.

It is a great privilege and honor to be one of the newest additions to the team of Assessors at SADCAS. He is appreciative of his mentors, former Assessors and the Assessors Recommendation Team at SADCAS, for fine tuning his technique and skills as a Technical Assessor.

INVITATION TO REGISTER TECHNICAL EXPERTS - PRIORITIZED SCOPES

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Technical Experts with experience in the following;

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- Ultrasound (US)
- Interventional Radiography (IR)
- Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (NM)
- Mammography



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DNA Testing
Civil Engineering
Mechanical Engineering
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Radiation Dosimetry
Non-destructive Testing
Textile Testing



Medical Laboratories accreditation Scheme (MLAS)

Histopathology
Cytology
Parasitology
Endocrinology
Immunophenotyping
Blood Banking



Veterinary Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (VLAS)

Mycology
Parasitology
Helminthology
Protozoology
Histology
Cytology
Toxicology
Pathology



Pharmaceutical Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (Under TLAS)

Microbiology
Chemical
Toxicity
Medical Devices Testing



Calibration Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (CLAS)

Viscosity
Electrical – DC low frequency
Electrical RF
Fibre Optics
Force/ Hardness/ Torque
Flow
Humidity
Radio Activity
Photometry
Radio frequency
Time and frequency
Wind speed
Acoustics and Vibration
Radiation Dosimetry Metrology



Legal Metrology Accreditation Scheme (LMAS)

Verification
Repair and Maintenance
Inspection of Products for Sale
Quantity Control
Type Testing
OIML Certification Scheme
Certification of Verifiers
Certification of Repairers

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Applications shall be addressed to:
Mrs Pinkie Malebe SADCAS - Technical Manager
Email: pmalebe@sadcas.org

UNDER THE EYE OF AN ASSESSOR CBAS-MS



Mike is a SADCAS registered assessor under the Certification Accreditation Scheme for the Integrated Management Systems (Environmental Management Systems, Quality Management System and Occupational Health and Safety).

He holds a Master's of Science Degree in Risk Management and Insurance (National University of Science and Technology, Zimbabwe), Bachelor of Environmental Science Honours Degree in Pollution Science (Bindura University, Zimbabwe) NEBOSH International Diploma in Health and Safety (Nebosh- United Kingdom) , Quality Assurance (City and Guilds- UK), International Diploma in Fire Science, Operations & Safety (Institute of Fire Engineers- UK). He has over 16 years' experience in Certification working on multidisciplinary national, regional and international client portfolio's which include Mining, Agriculture, Construction, Oil and Gas, Food and Hospitality, Medical, Manufacturing, Defense, Electricity and Distribution, Chemicals and Government.

Mike is a Technical Assessor for SADCAS, SANAS and UKAS (UK) and conducts accreditation document reviews, witnessing and vertical assessment on Conformity Assessment Bodies (CAB's) and Cross Frontiers assessments on behalf of UKAS (UK)- third party certification schemes on the following schemes according to International Accreditation Forum (IAF) Mandatory Documents; ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015; ISO/IEC TS 17021-2 (EMS); ISO/IEC TS 17021-3 (QMS) and ISO/IEC TS 17021-10 (OHS); SANAS accreditation requirements (R documents):

- Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems (ISO 45001:2018),
- Environmental Management Systems (ISO 14001:2015),
- Quality Management Systems (ISO 9001:2015).

Mike also conducts SANAS Risk Based Inspections (RBI's) - SANS 1475 part 1 and 2: The production of reconditioned fire-fighting equipment - extinguishers, hose reels and hydrants and is a trainee assessor on Conformity Assessment Bodies (CAB's) - third party certification schemes on the Global Gap IFA V5.2 Fruits & Vegetables schemes according to ISO/IEC 17065-1:2012.

Mike appreciates meeting and working with people from multi -diverse backgrounds and cultures having worked on various projects in Australia, Swaziland, South Africa, Namibia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Qatar, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Mozambique and Ghana.



SADCAS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MIAS HOLDS 4TH MEETING

The Advisory Committee for the SADCAS Medical Imaging Accreditation Scheme (MIAS) (AC.04) held its 4th meeting on 23 November 2022 virtually. A total of 9 experts from the SADC member states attended the meeting.

The objective of the meeting was to update AC Members on:

- Developments at SADCAS;
- SADCAS AP 11 - Terms of Reference Registration and Responsibilities of Advisory Committees.
- Resumption of Onsite Assessments;
- The following technical documents;

- **SADCAS TR X** – Draft Document on General Radiography;
- **SADCAS TR XX** – Draft Document on Ultrasound.
- MIAS Brochure
- **SADCAS TR XXX**– Computed Tomography (CT) ; and
- **SADCAS TR XXXX** – Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI).
- Launch of SADCAS MIAS Scheme

Mrs Pinkie Malebe, the SADCAS Technical Manager presented an overview of SADCAS and Update on Developments in SADCAS including revision of SADCAS AP 11. Mrs Eva Muronda, the SADCAS Scheme Coordinator for MIAS chaired the plenary session.

The meeting noted the publication of the criteria documents; General Radiography, Ultrasound and the Medical Imaging Accreditation Scheme Brochure. The following documents were also finalized and due for publication in January 2023;

Computed tomography (CT); and Magnetic Resonance Angiography (MRA).

The meeting further agreed to work on Fluoroscopy and Mammography Criteria documents ahead of MIAS Scheme Launch planned for 2023.

The meeting had fruitful discussions and the members committed to continued provision of technical expertise to SADCAS. SADCAS is grateful for the continued technical guidance that Advisory Committees give to SADCAS.

The meeting further agreed to work on Fluoroscopy and Mammography Criteria documents ahead of MIAS Scheme Launch planned for 2023.

SADCAS ADVISORY COMMITTEE TLAS HOLDS 7TH MEETING

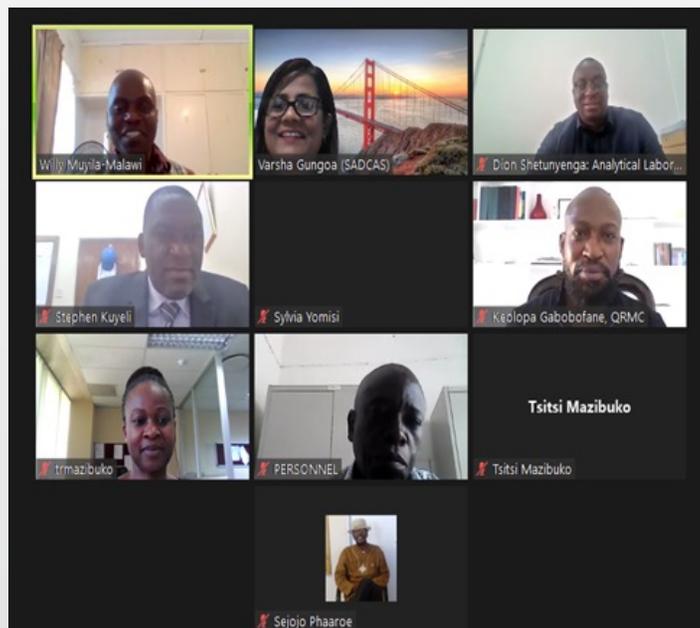
The 7th meeting of the Testing Laboratories Accreditation Scheme Advisory Committee (TLAS AC.03) was held on 24 November 2022. The meeting was held virtually using the Zoom platform.

The purpose of the AC.03 M7 was:

- To discuss matters arising from the minutes of the 6th TLAS SADCAS AC 03 M5 held on 23rd November 2021
- To give an update on developments at international level relevant to TLAS
- To give an update on transition to ISO/IEC 17025:2017
- To give update on published SACAS TR documents;
 - Revision of SADCAS TR 18
- To discuss areas for future discussion and identification of other areas requiring technical supporting documents
- To discuss activities of the Document Working Group

Mrs Pinkie updated members on the status of the guidance documents that were developed by the Advisory Committee. The meeting reviewed SADCAS TR 18 that were developed by the Document Working Group of the AC.03. The aim was to align the document with the ISO 16140-3 for validation of Microbiology methods.

The meeting was attended by 10 members from Botswana, Eswatini, Tanzania, Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Seychelles and Zimbabwe and was ably chaired by Mr Willy Muyila from Malawi. The meeting was a success with fruitful deliberations. A higher turnout had been expected since the meeting was being held virtually!



SADCAS ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR IBAS – ZIMBABWE HOLDS 12TH MEETING

The 12th meeting of the Zimbabwe Advisory Committee for the SADCAS Inspection Bodies Accreditation Scheme (IBAS - Zimbabwe) (AC.01) was held on 21 November 2022 remotely for the third time.

The Advisory Committee is a fundamental and vital component of operating a technically relevant accreditation system. The role of the Advisory Committee is to provide technical guidance on all matters relating to accreditation within a specific field of expertise, to ensure technical integrity of the accreditation processes as well as to guide technical policy and provide important support in technical matters to the assessment process. SADCAS has clearly defined terms of reference, registration and responsibilities of Advisory Committees in procedure SADCAS AP 11.

The 12th IBAS Zimbabwe Advisory Committee meeting was well-attended by 11 of the 15 members, a 73 % participation which is over the quorum required for an advisory committee meeting.

The main purpose of the 12th Advisory Committee Meeting was to receive updates on:

- Developments at SADCAS;
- Terms of Reference Registration and Responsibilities of Advisory Committees;
- Revised SADCAS documents;
- Resumption of Onsite Assessments;
- Developments at International Level;
- SADCAS and AFRAC Technical Requirements documents under development; and
- Identification of areas requiring technical supporting documents.

The meeting kicked off with welcoming remarks from Mrs Pinkie Malebe, SADCAS Technical Manager. Mrs Malebe then presented an update on developments at SADCAS that included an update on the resumption of onsite assessments and recent revisions to the SADCAS documents. She also presented the Terms of Reference Registration and Responsibilities of Advisory Committees on behalf of the SADCAS CEO Ms Eve Christine Gadzikwa who was occupied with the National Accreditation Focal Point (NAFP) meetings.

The meeting was ably chaired by Engineer Ngoni Chirinda. Mr Victor Mundembe, the SADCAS Scheme Coordinator for IBAS and the Secretary of the IBAS AC Zimbabwe updated the

committee on the following developments at international level by presenting:

- Report on AFRAC TC Inspection Sub-Committee (SC) Meeting 30 May 2022
- Report on AFRAC TC Inspection SC Meeting 22 September 2022
- NDT Survey Presentation from AFRAC TC Inspection SC
- ISO-CASCO Information on Systematic Review ballot for ISO/IEC 17020:2012
- Report on ILAC Inspection Committee Meeting 20 April 2022
- Report on ILAC Inspection Committee Meeting 24 October 2022; and
- Report on the SADCAS AC.06.M3 Regional Meeting November 2021

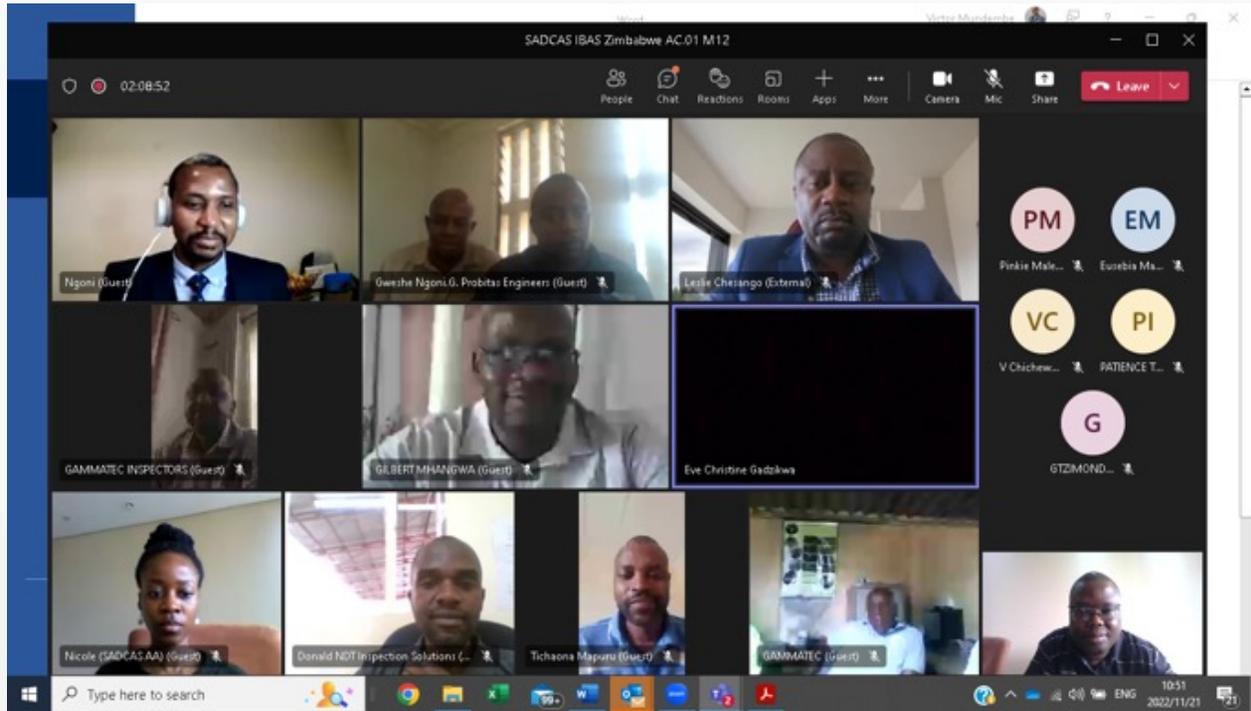
The Secretary of the AC Mr Mundembe announced that SADCAS will be reviewing SADCAS F 40d - Checklist ISO IEC 17020-2012 - Checklist for Accreditation of Various Types of Bodies Performing Inspection [Issue 3] to include provisions of the revised ILAC P 15. SADCAS is also developing a Risk Evaluation Form to be implemented prior to undertaking remote assessments. Input will be requested from the advisory committee on the revisions of the forms.

The new SADCAS CEO, Mrs Gadzikwa, who joined the meeting briefly, informed the meeting that she will be engaging Regulators Zimbabwe together with Mr Mpho Phaloane of SANAS to present the benefits of accreditation to Regulators, drawing lessons learnt from National Social Security Authority (NSSA) Zimbabwe and South African regulators.

A Task Force (TF) comprising Mr Leslie Chesango (Convener), Mr Gilbert Mhangwa, Mr Tichaona Mapuru and Mr GT Zimondi was established, to carry out an in-depth National (Country-specific) situational analysis of Non-Destructive Testing (NDT). This follows the continental survey undertaken by AFRAC, at which no national regulators participated and only 14 CABS participating indicating that the sample may not be representative for use at country level. The TF is expected to have the questionnaire ready by 31 January 2023. The AC.01 IBAS Zimbabwe resolved to submit the questionnaire to be developed to IBAS Regional Advisory Committee AC.06 for its consideration to adapt and circulate to the member states serviced by SADCAS.

Another TF was comprising Ms Eusebia Mashiringwane, Ms Patience Tiki, Mr G T Zimondi, Mr Blessing Masedewe and Mr Tichaona Mapuru was established to review SADCAS TR 05 - Criteria for the Accreditation of Inspection Bodies Performing Inspection in Terms of the Pressure [Issue 4] and propose whether or not to revise the document, taking into account current practices, new technologies and new legal requirements if any.

The 13th Advisory Committee for Inspection Bodies in Zimbabwe be held face to face, in September 2023 at a date to be confirmed, in Harare, Zimbabwe.



SADCAS ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR CLAS HOLDS 7TH MEETING

The 7th meeting of the Advisory Committee for the SADCAS Calibration Laboratories Accreditation Scheme (CLAS) (AC.02) was held on 24 November 2022 remotely for the third time.

The Advisory Committee is a fundamental and vital component of operating a technically relevant accreditation system. The role of the Advisory Committee is to provide technical guidance on all matters relating to accreditation within a specific field of expertise, to ensure technical integrity of the accreditation processes as well as to guide technical policy and provide important support in technical matters to the assessment process. SADCAS has clearly defined terms of reference, registration and responsibilities of Advisory Committees in procedure SADCAS AP 11.

The main purpose of the 7th Advisory Committee Meeting was to get an update on:

- Developments at SADCAS;
- Terms of Reference Registration and Responsibilities of Advisory Committees;
- Revised SADCAS documents;
- Resumption of Onsite Assessments;
- Developments at International Level;
- SADCAS Technical Requirements (TR) Criteria documents under development; and
- Identification of areas requiring technical supporting documents.

The meeting started off with a plenary session that was also attended by members of the Advisory Committee for the Medical Laboratories Accreditation Scheme (MIAS) and the Testing Laboratories Accreditation Scheme. Mrs Pinkie Malebe, the SADCAS Technical Manager presented an update on developments at SADCAS that included an update on the *resumption of onsite assessments*. The SADCAS

CEO who was attending her first Advisory Committee meeting since joining SADCAS on 01 August 2022 gave a presentation on **Terms of Reference Registration and Responsibilities of Advisory Committees.**

After the plenary session Mr Victor Mundembe, the SADCAS Scheme Coordinator for CLAS and the Secretary of the CLAS AC chaired the meeting following receipt of an apology from the Chair Mr Tebogo S Kajane DD of Botswana. Mr Mundembe updated the committee on developments at international level by presenting:

Mr Fredrick Hamutunda, the immediate past Chair of SADC Cooperation in Measurement Traceability (SADCMET) presented feedback from the SADCMET Committee Meeting. Mr Blessing Chibaya and Mr Joseph Mahilla gave feedback from Inter Africa Metrology System (AFRIMETS) Technical Committee for Quality Systems (TC-QS). The sub-regional and regional metrology organisations have programmes that are aligned to the objectives of SADCAS, non-the-less more cooperation is envisaged.

The Secretary of the Committee Mr Mundembe gave an update on the successful completion of the work items in the areas of Temperature, Legal and Pressure Metrology:

SADCAS TR 22 - Criteria for Accreditation in Pressure Metrology [Issue 1];

SADCAS TR 25 - Criteria for Accreditation of Legal Metrology Bodies [Issue 1]; and

SADCAS TR 26 - Criteria for Laboratory Accreditation in Temperature Metrology [Issue 1] were published on 29 March 2022.

The Document Working Group (DWG) on Time and Frequency received a boost from Mr Blessing Chibaya from SIRDC – National Metrology Institute, Zimbabwe who offered to contribute to the work of the DWG that comprises Mr Joseph Mahilla from Tanzania and Mr Teboko Kajane from Botswana. In addition to drafting the TR document for Time and Frequency, the DWG is seized with another complementary draft TR document on calibration of Tachometers and Rotational Speed. An interim Advisory Committee meeting will be held on 23 March 2023 to deliberate on the draft documents that form the cornerstone of calibration services to be offered to the accredited Medical Testing Laboratories.

Following a request from SADCAS, the Advisory Committee unanimously agreed that it is best for SADCAS to maintain the status quo of listing the accredited internal and reference methods as opposed to a generic statement describing the accredited methods. This issue will be taken up for discussion at the AFRAC TC subcommittee for Calibration and Testing.

In her closing remarks the SADCAS CEO stated that she was encouraged by the sense of commitment by the committee judging by the discussions that have been held in the meeting. She encouraged everyone to continue having discussions offline and throughout the year until the next meeting in November 2023. She wished the AC members a merry Christmas and happy holidays. She looks forward to attending the next AC meeting.

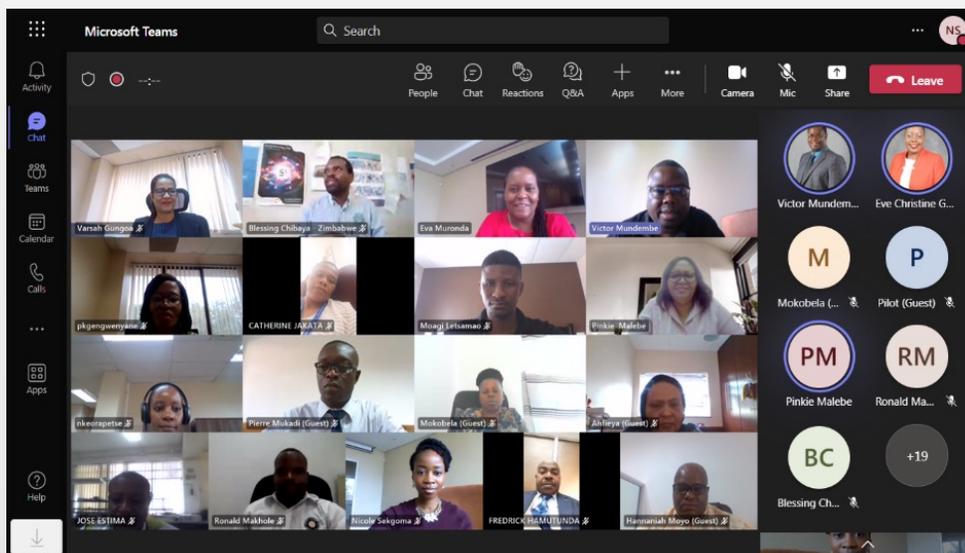


Photo from the Plenary Session

SADCAS ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR CBAS HOLDS 4TH MEETING

The 4th meeting of the Advisory Committee for the SADCAS Certification Bodies Accreditation Scheme (CBAS) (AC.05) was held on 25 November 2022 remotely for the third time.

The Advisory Committee is a fundamental and vital component of operating a technically relevant accreditation system. The role of the Advisory Committee is to provide technical guidance on all matters relating to accreditation within a specific field of expertise, to ensure technical integrity of the accreditation processes as well as to guide technical policy and provide important support in technical matters to the assessment process. SADCAS has clearly defined terms of reference, registration and responsibilities of Advisory Committees in procedure SADCAS AP 11.

The 4th CBAS Advisory Committee meeting was attended by 6 of the 15 members from 5 countries, a 40 % participation which is over the quorum required for an advisory committee meeting.

The main purpose of the 4th Advisory Committee Meeting was to get an update on:

- Developments at SADCAS;
- Terms of Reference Registration and Responsibilities of Advisory Committees;
- Revised SADCAS documents;
- Resumption of Onsite Assessments;
- Developments at International Level;
- SADCAS CBAS documents; and
- Identification of areas requiring technical supporting documents.

The meeting started off with welcoming remarks from Mrs Eva Muronda, Scheme Coordinator for the Advisory Committee for the Medical Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (MLAS). Mrs Muronda then presented an update on developments at SADCAS that included an update on the resumption of onsite assessments and recent revisions to the SADCAS documents. Mrs Pinkie Malebe, the SADCAS Technical Manager gave a presentation on Terms of Reference Registration and Responsibilities of Advisory Committees.

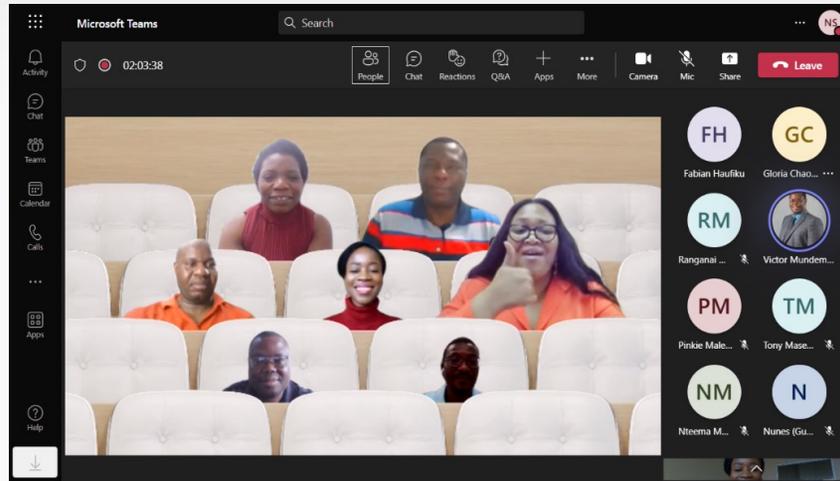
The CBAS AC Meeting was chaired by Mr Fabian Haufiku from Namibia. Mr Victor Mundembe, the SADCAS Scheme Coordinator for CBAS and the Secretary of the CBAS updated the committee on the following developments at international level by presenting:

- AFRAC TC Certification SC Resolutions 19 September 2022
- Highlights of the IAF Mid Term Meetings
- Highlights of IAF TC Annual Meetings of 2022
- Draft IAF MD document on transition of ISO 22003-1
- Draft IAF MD16 document under revision

Following a request from the Secretariat, a Task Force (TF) comprising Mr Tony Maseko (Eswatini), Mr Ranganai Mutonono (Zimbabwe), Irene Mwakatundu-Shapi (Namibia) Fabian Haufiku (Namibia and Gloria Chaonamwene (Malawi) was tasked to review:

- SADCAS F 61 (h-1) - ISO-IEC 17021-1-2015 - Witnessing of a Certification Body [Issue 4]
- SADCAS F 61 (h-2) - ISO-IEC 17065-2012 - Witnessing of a Product Certification [Issue 2]; and
- SADCAS F 81 - Report on Witnessing of a Certification Body [Issue 2]
- To remove unnecessary repetition and provide for concise reporting the CB on witnessing assessments undertaken s and to address and issues identified before the next Office Assessment.

Mr Ranganai Mutonono (Zimbabwe) also requested the TF to review SADCAS F 61g - ISO-IEC 17021-2015 Vertical Assessment to ensure all requirements are incorporated. The task force timeline for submission of the first drafts was agreed to be 31 January 2023 for review by the AC, following which the Secretariat will arrange a virtual meeting on 16 March 2023 to discuss and finalise the drafts. On the agenda of the same meeting will be a special induction session on *SADCAS AP 11 - Terms of Reference Registration and Responsibilities of Advisory Committees and the SADCAS accreditation process for the Certification Bodies Accreditation Scheme*.



SADCAS ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR LMAS HOLDS 3RD MEETING

The 3rd meeting of the Advisory Committee for the SADCAS Legal Metrology Bodies Accreditation Scheme (LMAS) (AC.08) was held on 23 November remotely for the third time. The meeting was attended by 7 of the 14 members from 11 countries, a 50 % participation which is over the 25% required for a quorum for an advisory committee meeting.

The Advisory Committee is a fundamental and vital component of operating a technically relevant accreditation system. The role of the Advisory Committee is to provide technical guidance on all matters relating to accreditation within a specific field of expertise, to ensure technical integrity of the accreditation processes as well as to guide technical policy and provide important support in technical matters to the assessment process. SADCAS has clearly defined terms of reference, registration and responsibilities of Advisory Committees in procedure SADCAS AP 11.

The main purpose of the 3rd Advisory Committee Meeting was to get an update on:

- Developments at SADCAS;
- Terms of Reference Registration and Responsibilities of Advisory Committees;
- Revised SADCAS documents;
- Resumption of Onsite Assessments;
- Developments at International Level;
- SADCAS LMAS Criteria document; and
- Identification of areas requiring technical supporting documents.

The meeting started off with a plenary session that was also attended by members of the Advisory Committee for the Medical Imaging Accreditation Scheme (MIAS) at which Mrs Pinkie Malebe, the SADCAS Technical Manager presented an update on developments at SADCAS that included and update on the resumption of onsite assessments. Mrs Malebe also informed the meeting of recent revisions to the SADCAS documents.

After the plenary session Mr Victor Mundembe, the SADCAS Scheme Coordinator for LMAS and the Secretary of the LMAS AC chaired the meeting following receipt of an apology from the Chair Mr DD Tau of Botswana. Mr Mundembe updated the committee on developments at international level by presenting:

- Ongoing Systematic Review ballot ISO/IEC 17020:2012
- Report on ILAC Inspection Committee Meeting 24 October 2022
- Report from the ILAC Accreditation Issues Committee (AIC)
- Guide for the application of ISO/IEC 17020 to the assessment of OIML Issuing Authorities under the OIML Certification System

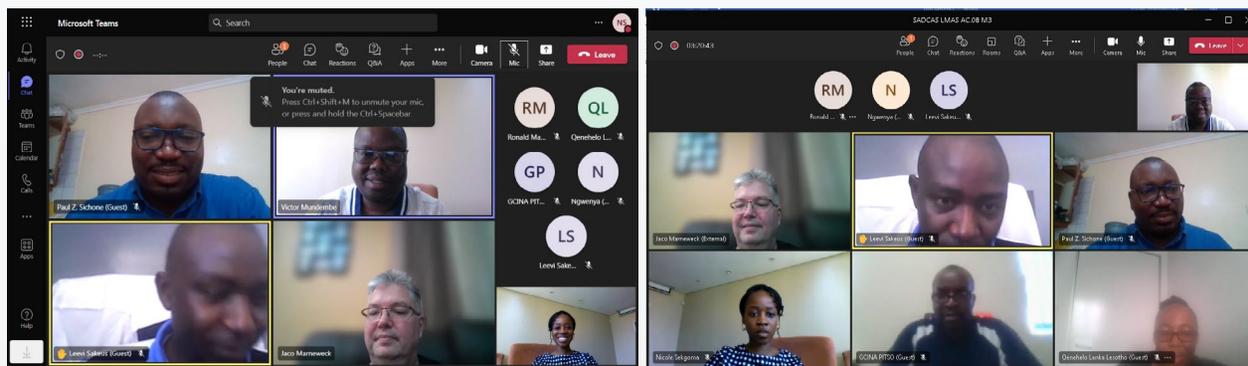
Mr Jaco Marneweck, the SADC MEL Regional Coordinator and SADCAS Legal Metrology Technical Expert presented feedback from the SADC MEL Committee Meeting and the AFRIMETS Legal Metrology Technical Committee. Following successful presentation made by Mr Mundembe to the SADC MEL committee, Mr Marneweck extended an invitation for Mr Mundembe to present the same at the next AFRIMETS Legal Metrology Technical Committee.

The SADCAS LMAS Advisory Committee was tasked to review

- SADCAS AP 12 - Part 1 - Accreditation Process for Testing-Calibration-Medical Laboratories for adequacy for a legal metrology body implementing ISO/IEC 17025;
- SADCAS AP 12 - Part 2 - Accreditation of Inspection Bodies Operating in the Regulatory Voluntary Area for adequacy for a legal metrology body implementing ISO/IEC 17020.

for adequacy and suitability for the LMAS scheme for the respective key accreditation standards.

The timeline for the submission of the first drafts is 31 January 2023.



SADCAS ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR IBAS HOLDS 4TH MEETING

The 4th meeting of the Regional Advisory Committee for the SADCAS Inspection Bodies Accreditation Scheme (IBAS - Regional) (AC.06) was held on 22 November 2022 remotely for the third time.

The Advisory Committee is a fundamental and vital component of operating a technically relevant accreditation system. The role of the Advisory Committee is to provide technical guidance on all matters relating to accreditation within a specific field of expertise, to ensure technical integrity of the accreditation processes as well as to guide technical policy and provide important support in technical matters to the assessment process. SADCAS has clearly defined terms of reference, registration and responsibilities of Advisory Committees in procedure SADCAS AP 11.

The 4th IBAS Regional Advisory Committee meeting was well-attended by 10 of the 15 members from 8 countries, a 67 % participation which is over the quorum required for an advisory committee meeting.

The main purpose of the 4th Advisory Committee Meeting was to get an update on:

- Developments at SADCAS;
- Terms of Reference Registration and Responsibilities of Advisory Committees;
- Revised SADCAS documents;
- Resumption of Onsite Assessments;
- Developments at International Level;
- AFRAC Document – Guidance on accreditation of bodies performing NDT; and
- Identification of areas requiring technical supporting documents.

The meeting kicked off with welcoming remarks from Mrs Pinkie Malebe, SADCAS Technical Manager. Mrs Malebe then presented an update on developments at SADCAS that included an update on the resumption of onsite assessments and recent revisions to the SADCAS documents. She also presented the Terms of Reference

Registration and Responsibilities of Advisory Committees. On behalf of the SADCAS CEO Ms Eve Christine Gadzikwa who was occupied with the National Accreditation Focal Point (NAFP) meetings.

In the absence of the Chair Mr Paulo Pereira who had prior engagements, the IBAS Regional Advisory Committee meeting was chaired by Mr Victor Mundembe, the SADCAS Scheme Coordinator for IBAS and the Secretary of the IBAS AC regional. Mr Mundembe updated the committee on the following developments at international level by presenting:

- Report on AFRAC TC Inspection SC Meeting 22 September 2022
- NDT Survey Presentation from AFRAC TC Inspection SC
- ISO-CASCO Information on Systematic Review ballot for ISO/IEC 17020:2012
- Report on ILAC Inspection Committee Meeting 20 April 2022
- Report on ILAC Inspection Committee Meeting 24 October 2022; and
- Adopted-Resolutions-26th-ILAC-GA-15-Nov-2022

The Secretary of the AC Mr Mundembe announced that SADCAS will be reviewing SADCAS F 40d - Checklist ISO IEC 17020-2012 - Checklist for Accreditation of Various Types of Bodies Performing Inspection [Issue 3] to include provisions of the revised ILAC P 15. SADCAS is also developing a Risk Evaluation Form to be implemented prior to undertaking remote assessments. Input will be requested from the advisory committee on the revisions

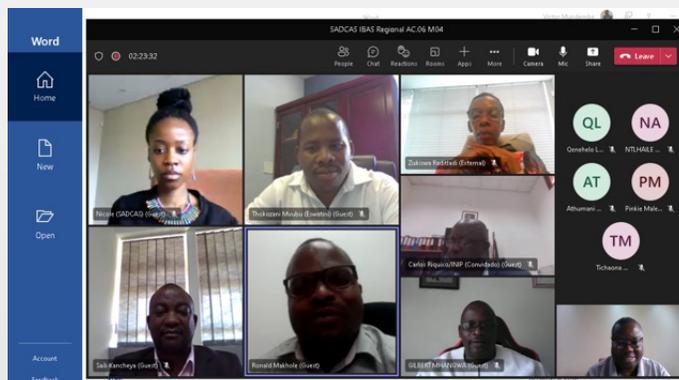
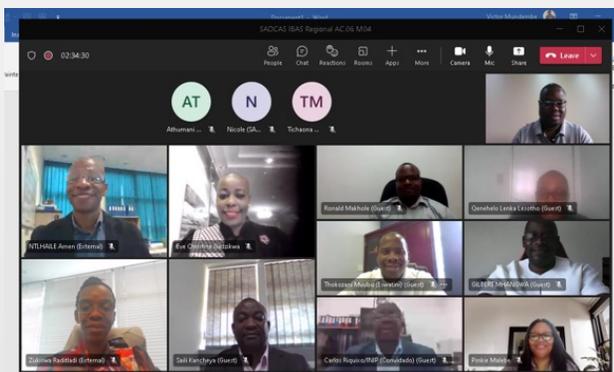
of the forms.

Mr Gilbert Mhangwa and Mr Tichaona Mapuru, members from Zimbabwe, informed the meeting that at an earlier meeting held by AC.01 IBAS Zimbabwe, an action will be implemented to carry out an in-depth National (Country-specific) situational analysis of Non-Destructive Testing (NDT). This follows the continental survey undertaken by AFRAC, for which

- no national regulators participated;
- only 14 CABS participated indicating that the sample may not be representative for use at country level; and
- decisions or documents developed at AFRAC may have future impact on accredited Inspection Bodies operating in SADC Member States.

The AC.06 IBAS regional resolved to reconsider the issue of NDT and consider the questionnaire to be developed by IBAS AC.01 Zimbabwe, to be adapted and circulated to the member states serviced by SADCAS for further situational analysis, country specific, to determine current capacities in NDT.

A Task Force (TF) comprising Mr Amen Ntlhaile (Botswana), Mr Saili Kancheya (Zambia), Ms Zukiswa Raditladi (Botswana) and Mr Thokozani Mvubu (Eswatini) was established to discuss examples or situations in which there may be potential conflict between the accreditation process and regulatory requirements and propose an appropriate review SADCAS AP 12 - Part 2 - Accreditation of Inspection bodies Operating in the Regulatory Voluntary Area Issue 8, taking into account that compliance with the law takes precedence.



SEGOMOTSO KOBE PROMOTED TO FINANCE OFFICER POSITION

Ms Segomotso Kobe joined SADCAS in September 2018 as Administrative Assistant under Finance Unit. Ms Kobe was promoted to the position of Finance Officer with effect from October 2022. Her main responsibilities include preparation and maintenance books of accounts, preparation of tax returns and ensuring tax compliance, preparation of budget forecasts and general administrative work.

Ms Kobe is a part qualified CIMA student. She holds a Higher National Diploma in Accountancy and Business Studies. She also holds Advanced Diploma in Taxation.



KAONE PHINDELA JOINS SADCAS AS ACCREDITATION ADMINISTRATOR INTERN

Kaone Phindela joined SADCAS in July 2022 as an Accreditation Administrator Intern. She is actively involved in assessment scheduling, assessment documentation preparation and distribution, travel arrangements & coordination, corrective action process, as well as preparing accreditation approvals committee packs. Kaone brings with her knowledge and experience in customer relations and business administration. Prior to joining SADCAS, Kaone worked for Botswana Railways and Barclays Bank of Botswana (now ABSA). Kaone holds a Bachelor of Business Science majoring in Marketing and Management from Monash University, South Africa, and a certificate in Enterprise Risk Management from Botswana Accountancy College.



NEWS ON SERVICES

SADCAS HOLDS ISO 15189:2012 TRAINING FOR BOTSWANA MINISTRY OF HEALTH

The ISO 15189:2012 Requirements & Internal Auditing Open Course was conducted from 12 – 16 September 2022 at Cresta Marang – Francistown. The training was organized by SADCAS and there were 25 participants from the Botswana Ministry of Health Laboratories. The Trainer was Mr Xavier Mugari, the SADCAS Quality Manager and SADCAS Registered Trainer.

The course was organized to provide participants with an understanding of ISO 15189:2012 and practical skills to develop and implement a laboratory quality management system as well as practical skills to conduct internal audits.

The objective of the 5-day training was to train laboratory staff on the requirements, implementation and auditing in accordance with ISO 15189: 2012: Medical Laboratories – Requirements for quality and competence. The training was an intensive 5-day course with the following objectives:

- To learn the fundamentals of Management Systems with special reference to application in laboratories
- General understanding of ISO 15189:2012
- Enable effective participation in establishing and implementing a Management System
- Gain the knowledge, interpersonal, administrative and technical skills required to become a successful auditor
- Enable the achievement and maintenance of accreditation
- Provide a pathway for continuous improvement of the laboratory

The training course was interspaced with exercises and care was taken to ensure fair distribution of participants by organization and by gender and social distancing was observed. The group work were very lively and highly enriching presentations from the wide collection of experiences among the participants. Participants were continuously evaluated throughout the training course and at the end of the training course participants sat a written examination all in an effort to evaluate the effectiveness of the training.

Based on the feedback provided after the training participants were happy that their training expectations had been met. All the participants said the course was well planned and relevant and useful to their work and were eager to go back and implement what they learnt in a bid to seek accreditation.

NEW ACCREDITATIONS SUSPENSIONS AND WITHDRAWALS

Organization and Location	Date Accredited	Scheme	Dates	New Accreditations	Scope Extensions	Scope Reduction	Withdrawal of Accreditation
Zambia Compulsory Standards Agency	2022-04-14	Inspection to ISO 15189:2012	INSP-1 003	Food and Water			
Municipal Council of Manzini, Eswatini	2022-05-21	Testing to ISO/IEC 17025:2017	TEST-1 0024	Water Microbiology			
Spectrum Namibia Laboratories & Consultancy	2022-06-01	Calibration to ISO/IEC 17025:2017	CAL-8 012	Mass			
Performance Laboratories, Zimbabwe	2022-06-03	Testing to ISO/IEC 17025:2017	TEST-5 0070	Chemical - Mineral testing			
Gamma Allergy and Immunology	2022-04-01	Medical to ISO 15189:2012	MED 039				Clinical Chemistry Serology
Ndola Teaching Hosp Path Lab	202-06-12	Medical to ISO 15189:2012	MED 055		HIV Viral Load, RPR	Hematology	
ADCH, Zambia	2022-06-24	Medical to ISO 15189:2012	MED 062		Pregnancy Test FBC		
Livingstone Central Hospital Lab	2022-06-27	Medical to ISO 15189:2012	MED 027		HIV Viral Load, Pregnancy Test		
Quality Surveillance Lab, Namibia	2022-07-26	Testing to ISO/IEC 17025:2017	TEST-5 0071	Chemical - Pharmaceutical Testing			
Government Chemist Laboratory Agency DNA Laboratory	2022-08-04	Testing to ISO/IEC 17025:2017	TEST-5 0072	Chemical - DNA Testing			
LuCan Laboratories, Lesotho	2022-09-23	Testing to ISO/IEC 17025:2017	TEST-5 0073	Chemical Analysis - Cannabis			
Eswatini Standards Authority (SWASA)	2022/09/02	Certification to ISO/IEC 17021-1	QMS-CERT 005				
Betach Laboratory, Botswana	2022-10-18	Testing to ISO/IEC 17025:2017	TEST-5 0074	Chemical - Water Testing			
			TEST-1 0025	Microbiology testing			
Vetlabs, Zambia	2022-10-27	Testing to ISO/IEC 17025:2017	VET 008	Veterinary			
NIP- Onadjokwe Laboratory, Namibia	2022/07/27	Medical Testing to ISO 15189:2012	MED 102				
Mazabuka General Hospital Laboratory, Zambia	2022/07/31	Medical Testing to ISO 15189:2012	MED 103				
Victoria Falls Hospital Laboratory, Zimbabwe	2022/08/11	Medical Testing to ISO 15189:2012	MED 105				
Chitingwiza Laboratory PSI, Zimbabwe	2022/08/11	Medical Testing to ISO 15189:2012	MED 106				

Organization and Location	Date Accredited	Scheme	Dates	New Accreditations	Scope Extensions	Scope Reduction	Withdrawal of Accreditation
Kadoma General Hospital Laboratory, Zimbabwe	2022/08/11	Medical Testing to ISO 15189:2012	MED 104				
Marondera Provincial Hospital Laboratory, Zimbabwe	2022/08/09	Medical Testing to ISO 15189:2012	MED 107				
Windhoek Central Reference Laboratory	2022/09/11	Medical Testing to ISO 15189:2012	MED 108				
KCMC, Tanzania	2022/09/08	Medical Testing to ISO 15189:2012	MED 110				
NMRL Malawi	2022/09/05	Medical Testing to ISO 15189:2012	MED 111				
St Lukes, Zimbabwe	2022/09/13	Medical Testing to ISO 15189:2012	MED 112				
RENEWAL OF ACCREDITATION							
SIRDC-NMI	2022-06-13	Calibration to ISO/IEC 17025:2017			CAL-2 003		
OCC Maluku DRC	2022.09.15				INSP-6 001		
Zimplats, Selous	2022-10-31	Testing to ISO/IEC 17025:2017			TEST-5 0002		

STATUS OF KEY ACCREDITATION STANDARDS AND ILAC/IAF/SADCA/AFRAC DOCUMENTS

STANDARD	STATUS
ISO/IEC TS 17021-13 - Conformity assessment – Competence requirements for auditing and certification of compliance management systems (CMS)	International Standard under publication
ISO 15189:2022 Medical Laboratories – Requirements for quality and competence	International Standard published.
ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 - Conformity assessment — Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems — Part 1: Requirements	Close of review
ISO/IEC TS 17023:2013 - Conformity assessment — Guidelines for determining the duration of management system certification audits	Close of review
ISO/IEC 17030:2021 Conformity assessment -- General requirements for third-party marks of conformity	2021 version published in September 2021. 2003 version withdrawn.

STANDARD	STATUS
ISO/IEC 17040:2005 Conformity assessment - General requirements for peer assessment of conformity assessment bodies and accreditation bodies	Close of review
ISO/IEC 17050-1:2004 Conformity assessment - Supplier's declaration of conformity -- Part 1: General requirements	International standard confirmed
ISO/IEC 17050-2:2004 Conformity assessment - Supplier's declaration of conformity -- Part 2: Supporting documentation	International standard confirmed
ISO/IEC 17067:2013 Conformity assessment – Fundamentals of products certification and guidelines for product certification schemes	Close of review
ISO/IEC WD 27006-2 – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of information security management systems – Part 2: Privacy information management systems.	Working Draft (WD) study initiated
ISO/DTR 14069 Greenhouse gases — Quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions for organizations — Guidance for the application of ISO 14064-1	Close of voting/comment period
ISO/DIS 45002 - Occupational health and safety management systems - General guidelines on implementation of ISO 45001:2018	DIS ballot initiated
A010-03 - SADCA Technical Committee Terms of Reference	Issue No.3 SADCA Technical Committee and approved by the General Assembly. The document defines describe the functions, composition and responsibilities of the SADCA Technical Committee's. Issue and application date: 11 November 2021
A017-03 – SADCA Marketing and Communications Committee Terms of Reference	Issue No.3 This document has been prepared by the SADCA Secretariat and the Marketing and Communication Committee (MCC) Chair. The document describes the functions, composition and responsibilities of the SADCA MCC Issue and application date: 11 November 2021
A001-06 - AFRAC Bylaws	Issue No.6 This document was prepared by AFRAC Secretariat. The document defines the formal structures and rules/procedures of AFRAC. Issue and application date: 26 October 2021
A006-03 - AFRAC Strategic Plan (2022 – 2026)	Issue No.3 Issue and application date: 24 September 2021
IAF MD 16 – Application of ISO/IEC 17011 for the Certification of FSMS	30 - day comment period

STANDARD	STATUS
ILAC P9:06/2014 - ILAC Policy for Participation in Proficiency Testing Activities	Under revision. Circulated to ILAC members for 2 nd 60-day comment in February 2021
ILAC G18:04/2010 - Guideline for the Formulation of Scopes of Accreditation for Laboratories	Under revision. Circulated to ILAC members for 2 nd 60-day comment on 29 June 2021
ILAC-G19:08/2014 - Modules in a Forensic Science Process	This document is intended to provide guidance for Forensic Science units involved in examination and testing in the Forensic Science process by providing application of ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO/IEC 17020. The document is under revision, comments stage
ILAC G24:2007 / OIML D10 - Guidelines for the determination of calibration intervals of measuring instruments – under revision with OIML	A final draft was circulated and commented on early November 2020 and it is expected to be ready for ballot in both OIML and ILAC first half of 2021
VIM 4 – International Vocabulary of Metrology	CD comment stage till 19 April 2021
IAF MD 10: 2013 IAF Mandatory Document for Assessment of Certification Body Management of Competence in Accordance with ISO/IEC 17021:2011	Withdrawn, as ISO/IEC 17021: 2011 was revised and superseded by ISO/IEC 17021-1: 2015
IAF MD 11:202X IAF Mandatory Document for the Application of ISO/IEC 17021-1 for Audits of Integrated Management Systems (Draft Issue 2)	60-day comment period closing 10 January 2022
IAF MD16:2015 Application of ISO/IEC 17011 for the Accreditation of Food Safety Management Systems (FSMS) Certification Bodies	IAF TC members for 30-day comment
IAF MD 4:2018 IAF Mandatory Document for the Use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for Auditing/Assessment Purposes	Issue 2 Version 2 published 03 August 2021 with updated links to the new IAF website. Issue 2, Version 3 published 01 February 2022 to correct an editorial error in Issue 2, Version 2. The application date remains unchanged from Issue 2, Version 1 (04 Jul 2019) due to the versions 2 and 3 having only editorial changes.
IAF MD 24:2021 Transition Requirements for ISO 50003:2021	Issue 1 published 08 December 2021, with an application date of 08 December 2021
IAF MD 25:2022 Criteria for Evaluation of Conformity Assessment Schemes	Issue 1 published 07 January 2022 with an application date of 07 January 2024.
IAF MD 9:2022 Application of ISO/IEC 17021-1 in the Field of Medical Device Quality Management Systems (ISO 13485)	Issue 4 published on 01 February 2022 with an application date of 01 February 2023.
IAF-Foundation FSSC Agreement – Endorsement of the FSSC 22000 Certification Scheme	A new version of this MLA Agreement has been published to reflect Foundation FSSC's name change from Foundation FSSC 22000 to Foundation FSSC.
IAF MD 21:2022 Requirements for the Migration to ISO 45001:2018 from OHSAS 18001:2007	Issue 1, Version 3 published 01 February 2022 to correct an editorial error in Issue 1, Version 2. The application date remains as specified in Issue 1, Version 1 (March 2018) due to versions 2 and 3 only editorial changes.

STANDARD	STATUS
IAF ID 14:2022 Guidance on the Determination of Audit Time for Integrated Audit of Multi-Site Management Systems	Issue 1, Version 1 published 25 May 2022, with an application date of 25 May 2022. This informative document provides guidance for achieving a basic level of consistency for determining the audit time according to the application of the relevant requirements of ISO/IEC 17021-1 for audits of different management systems.
ISO 22003-1 Food Safety Management Systems - Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of food safety management systems - Part 1: Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of food safety management systems	Published 7 June 2022 coinciding with the World Food Safety Day
ISO 22003-2 Food Safety Management Systems - Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of food safety management systems - Part 2: Requirements for bodies providing evaluation and certification of products, processes and services including an audit of the food safety system.	Published 7 June 2022 coinciding with the World Food Safety Day
ISO/IEC 17060:2022 - Conformity assessment — Code of good practice	Published in April 2022. This document recommends good practices for all elements of conformity assessment, including objects of conformity assessment, specified requirements, activities, bodies, systems, schemes and results
ISO/IEC 17043:2010 - Conformity assessment — General requirements for proficiency testing	International Standard under revision. Draft International Standards (DIS) stage. Ballot open until 20 July 2022.
ISO 9001 Auditing Practices Group paper	The APG paper giving guidelines on auditing "Competence" has been revised on 1 June 2022 to provide an expanded view in relation to competence requirements throughout the entire body of ISO 9001 requirements
ISO/IEC 17020: 2012 - Conformity assessment — Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection	Systematic Review of ISO/IEC 17020: 2012. Ballot opened on 15 July 2022 as part of the regular review process taking place every five years for the international standards will close on 2 December 2012.
ISO/IEC 17024:2012 - Conformity assessment — General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons	Systematic Review of ISO/IEC 17024: 2012. Ballot opened on 15 July 2022 as part of the regular review process taking place every five years for the international standards will close on 2 December 2012.
ISO/IEC TS 17027: 2014 - Conformity assessment — Vocabulary related to competence of persons used for certification of persons	Systematic Review of ISO/IEC TS 17027: 2014. Ballot opened on 15 July 2022 as part of the regular review process taking place every five years for the international standards will close on 2 December 2012.
IAF ID 14:2022 - Guidance on the Determination of Audit Time for Integrated Audit of Multi-Site Management Systems	Issue 1 published 25 May 2022 with an application date of 25 May 2022. This informative document provides guidance for achieving a basic level of consistency for determining the audit time according to the application of the relevant requirements of ISO/IEC 17021-1 for audits of different management systems.

THE BUSINESS BENEFITS OF STANDARDS AND ACCREDITATION

There are many cases where standards and accredited conformity assessment help businesses of any size and sector reduce costs, increase productivity and access new markets. They can help to:

- Build customer confidence that your products are safe and reliable;
- Meet regulation requirements, at a lower cost;
- Reduce costs across all aspects of your business; and
- Gain market access across the world.

Business Benefits www.business-benefits.org is a website jointly developed by the International Accreditation Forum (IAF), ILAC, International Organization for Standards (ISO), Independent International Organisation for Certification (IIOC), and International Certification Network (IQNet), that showcases these benefits through case studies, research papers, and supporting materials. The examples published on the site cite tangible financial data to evidence the cost savings achieved whether through resource efficiency or meeting regulation at lower cost, the value of accessing new markets, or savings achieved through recognition from organisations such as insurers, regulators or purchasers. The site contains case studies from multinationals such as IBM, Chrysler, and Hitachi to national companies such as Aberdare Cables and Pretoria Portland Cement Company.



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The site was launched in October 2017 at the ILAC and IAF conference in Vancouver. Additional case studies will be added in due course to ensure that the site can be a valuable resource to promote the use of standards and accreditation to the business community. The site aims to mirror the success of **Public Sector Assurance**, a similar site that promotes the value of accreditation to policy makers.



Season's Greetings

The SADCAS offices will be closed on Friday 16 December 2022 and re-open on Monday 09 January 2023. SADCAS Management and Staff wish you a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous 2023.

Take Care and Keep Safe

