THE PIONEER



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NEWSLETTER

Highlights from 2012 IAF/ILAC Rio de Janeiro Meetings

The 2012 joint annual meetings of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) were held at the Windsor Barra Hotel, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from 2012-10-16 to 2012-10-26. Located in front of the privileged Barra da Tijuca beach, Windsor Barra Hotel is 15 kilometers from the famous tourist Ipanema Beach and 18 km from the Copacabana Beach. Approximately 370 delegates attended the meetings. The 2011 Joint ILAC/IAF meetings originally scheduled to be held in Thailand were cancelled due to the floods experienced during the scheduled time of the meetings. The following economies from the Africa region attended the meetings: SADC countries represented by SADCA and SADCAS; Egypt; Ethiopia; Kenya; South Africa; and Tunisia. The meetings started on 16 October with a workshop on medical devices followed by a series of ILAC/IAF working groups and committee meetings which were held in parallel. The ILAC and IAF General Assemblies and the joint ILAC/IAF General Assembly were held during the last 3 days of the meeting from 24 to 26 October 2012.

The 2012 ILAC/IAF annual meetings were hosted by the Brazilian Accreditation Body (CGRE). The Brazilian Accreditation Body (CGRE), an active player in both ILAC and IAF, is the national accreditation body for Brazil, is signatory to both the IAF Multilateral Arrangement (MLA) and the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA). It offers accreditation programs for calibration and testing laboratories, certification and inspection bodies etc.

Membership and Secretariat Issues

Four new members were admitted by the IAF into the various categories of membership since the 2010 Shanghai annual meetings whilst the observer member status of 2 members were renewed up to end of 2012. This brought the total membership of the IAF to 66 accreditation body members, 4 regional group members and observer members.

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The IAF Secretariat has been expanded following a tender for the services. Although John Owen had retired from the IAF he has rejoined the expanded Secretariat. John Owen who is the longest serving IAF Secretary having served 3 chairs over a period of 10 years was presented with the highest recognition in IAF.

On the other hand 3 associates, 3 affiliates and one stakeholder were admitted into the various categories of ILAC membership since the 2010 annual meetings. During the meeting, 2 members were upgraded to associate category whilst one organization was admitted as a Stakeholder member. The total ILAC membership of 144 bodies now covers 109 different economies worldwide. Approximately 43,000 laboratories and over 6,600 inspection



Delegates at the 2012 IAF/ILAC Annual Meetings

bodies are accredited by the 77 ILAC Full Members who are signatories to the ILAC Arrangement.

New IAF Multilateral Arrangement (MLA) and ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) Signatories

Since 2010 Annual meetings, the IAF welcomed 8 new IAF MLA signatories for the main scopes of ISO/IEC Guide 65, ISO/ IEC 17021 Sub - scopes ISO 9001 and ISO 14001. This brings the number of IAF MLA signatories to 55, 45 for the main scope for product certification in accordance with ISO/IEC Guide 65; 53 for the main scope of Management Systems certification in accordance with ISO/IEC 17021 sub scope for Quality Management Systems and 50 sub scopes of Environmental Management Systems. The IAF is working on scope extension for Food Safety Management Systems (FSMS), Information Security Management Systems (ISMS), persons and for accredited certification accreditation for ISO 13485 -Medical Devices.

The ILAC General Assembly welcomed 3 regional cooperation bodies (APLAC, EA and IAAC) as part of the inaugural signing of the ILAC Arrangement to include the accreditation of inspection bodies. The total number of inaugural signatories to the ILAC Inspection bodies Arrangement were 39 including the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) the only African accreditation body to be among the inaugural signatories. Representatives of the signatory accreditation bodies signed their respective MLAs /MRAs at a ceremony held during the signing ceremony and gala dinner on 28 October 2012.

Transition Periods

The following transition periods were agreed upon for the various newly published key accreditation standards:

- Transition period of 18 months for Information Management System accreditation to ISO/IEC 27006: 2011 from ISO/IEC 27006: 2007 from the date of publication of 1 December 2011;
- Transition period of 3 years from ISO/IEC Guide 65: 2005 to ISO/IEC 17065:2012 from date of publication of 15 September 2012;
- Transition period of 3 years from ISO/IEC 17024: 2003 to ISO/IEC 17024:2012 from date of publication of 1 July 2012;

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- Transition period of 3 years from ISO/IEC 17020:1998 to ISO/IEC 17020:2012 from date of publication of 1 March 2012;
- The IAF General assembly endorsed ISO/IEC TS 17021: Part 2 as a normative document to be applied in conjunction with ISO 17021. Members agreed that the deadline for conformance to ISO/IEC TS 17021: Part 2 shall be the default 2 years from the date of publication of 15 August 2012. Thus the deadline or Certification Bodies to comply is 15 August 2014.

ISO Standards New and Revisions

Various new and revised ISO accreditation related standards were published such as: ISO/IEC 17024:2012 which was published on 1 July 2012 and ISO/IEC TS 17021: Part 2:2012: Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems: Part 2 – Competence requirements for auditing and certification of environmental management systems was published in August 2012 and ISO 15189:2012 which was published on 5 November 2012. Various documents are under revision or being developed by ISO. The status of these documents is outlined on pages 22 and 23 of this edition of the Pioneer.

Inspection Committee

The second inspection committee meeting held in Rio was attended by over 60 participants including inspection bodies, representatives of the International Federation of Inspection bodies (IFIA) and accreditation bodies. The Committee has set up 2 working groups. Working Group (WG) 1 has prepared guidance document to ISO/IEC 17020:2012 which is scheduled for publication mid 2013. WG 2 is responsible for the review of all ILAC documents that may have an impact on the inspection MRA in order to ensure that they are adequate.

The committee agreed on a clarification on PT in Inspection and the clarification will be added as note to ILAC P5 as follows: *"PT may also be used in some types of inspection where available and justified by the inclusion of testing activities that directly affect and determines the inspection result or when required by law or by regulators. It is however recognized that PT is not a usual and expected element in the accreditation of most types of inspections".*

Laboratory Committee (LC)

The Laboratory Committee is working with the AIC on the case studies project. The case studies will be posted on the ILAC website.

Proficiency Testing Consultative Group (PTCG)

Revision of ISO 13528 is set to be published in 2014. The meeting discussed various topics of interest such as frequency of Proficiency Testing (PT). The Committee noted its significant achievements over the years: ILAC G 13:08 published, Workshop in Cape Town in 2008 on PT, ILAC P13 published, Revision of ILAC P9, promoting ISO/IEC 17043 which was published in 2010, workshop in Montreux 2011 on the use of ISO/IEC 17043, survey on future topics conducted in 2011, publication of ILAC G25 and ILAC G13 Crosswalk.

Going forward and since the PTCG has completed its work, ILAC agreed that the PTCG be disbanded and reconstituted as a PT Working Group (WG) under the Accreditation Committee. Starting in 2013 the WG will meet annually in conjunction with the AIC mid- year meetings and participation will be open to all interested ILAC members and stakeholders as well as PT providers.

ILAC Marketing and Communications Committee and the IAF Communications and Marketing Committee

The ILAC MCC and IAF CMC meeting was attended by 23 delegates. The meeting reviewed the formats of all the documents produced by ILAC namely brochures, certificates, sheets, letterheads, memos etc and agreed on a number of improvements measures. A press release is to be published to promote the Inspection MRA. A Task Force comprised of Jon Murthy and Mrs Maureen Mutasa was set up to review the Laboratory Accreditation or ISO 9001 brochure. The meeting also undertook a review of 2012 World Accreditation Day (WAD) commemorations.

The theme for 2013 WAD is "Accreditation – Facilitating World Trade". The theme is in line with the other previous themes and it gives the flexibility to Accreditation Bodies to align their promotional activities to national priority.

IAF/ILAC Joint Development Support Committee (JDSC)

The agenda of the JDSC meeting held in Rio de Janeiro consisted of review of activities undertaken by JDSC since the 2010 Shanghai meeting, presentations from JDCMAS, the International Electro-technical Commission (IEC), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Bureau International des Poids et Measures (BIPM), the United Nations Development Organization (UNIDO), ISO Committee for Conformity Assessment (CASCO), reports from regional co-operations, SADCAS, the Swedish Accreditation Council (SWEDAC) and ISO Technical Committee 176 on Quality Management, and a discussion on future activities of the JDSC. Over 40 delegates attended the meeting with representatives from developed and developing accreditation bodies representatives of regional co-operations namely SADCA, the Arab Regional Accreditation Cooperation (ARAC), the Inter American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC), African Accreditation Cooperation (AFRAC), Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC) and also representatives of international bodies dealing with standardization, quality assurance and metrology issues, and development partners from UNIDO and SWEDAC.

In a presentation entitled Sharing Accreditation Goals - The SADC Experience, Mrs Mutasa the SADCAS Chief Executive Officer outlined the SADC region's accreditation infrastructure and gave a background on the establishment of SADCAS, an overview of SADCAS, the developments in SADCAS and shared with members the lessons that the region has learnt in their short history of operation. In her concluding remarks Mrs Mutasa said that the multi economy accreditation body is a viable concept which requires government support to ensure its sustainability. She also highlighted the need for technical assistance to prepare conformity assessment bodies for accreditation. The presentation was very welcomed by the captive audience who was very impressed with the progress made in the operationalization of SADCAS and with donors noting the need for technical assistance to prepare conformity assessment bodies for accreditation an area in which UNIDO was already active in but would step up activities in the SADC region. The last presentation made by the SADCAS CEO at the same forum was in 2000 when SADCAS model was still a concept and when the SADCAS CEO was the Chairman of SADC Cooperation in Accreditation (SADCA).

ILAC/IAF Joint General Assemblies

The Joint IAF/ILAC General Assemblies were held on 25 October 2012 during which 5 resolutions were passed. Various reports were presented by International Organizations IEC, OIML, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), ISO, ITU and WTO during which members were updated on developments in their respective organizations. A tripartite Memorandum of Understanding between IEC, ILAC and IAF was signed to replace the MOU between ILAC and IEC and that between IAF and IEC. Reports from regional groupings including SADCA were also presented.

Election of Directors

Election of Directors - Mr R Dougherty (ANAB, USA) and Mr X Jianhua (CNAS, China) were elected unopposed as IAF Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively for three year second terms ending at the 2015 General Assembly.

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Mr M Stadler (BDI) was elected as Director representing industry and user association members for a first year term ending at the 2015 General assembly. Mr E Romyanon (NSC, Thailand) was elected as IAF Technical Committee Chairman. Mr S Keeling (JAS-ANZ) was elected unopposed as IAF MLA Chairman. Mr J Murthy (UKAS) was elected unopposed as IAF Communications and Marketing Committee Chairman to replace G Talbot who has retiring from UKAS. Mr M Stadler was elected as IAF User Advisory committee Chairman whilst Mr B Venkataram will complete his second term as IAF development support Committee Chairman at the 2013 General Assembly.

The ILAC General Assembly endorsed the election of Mr P Unger and Ms M Malqvist Nilsson as Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively; Ms I Martinez, Chair Arrangement Committee; Ms R Robertson, Chair Accreditation Committee; Mr L Ilan, Chair Inspection Committee; Mr J Murthy, Chair Marketing and Communications Committee; Ms L Somma, Chair JDSC; Mr A Steinhorst Chair Arrangement Management Committee; Mr E Feller Unaffiliated Representative; and Mr S Sidney, Chair Laboratory Committee.

The 2012 ILAC/IAF meetings were once again a good opportunity for networking, sharing experiences and keeping up to date with accreditation developments worldwide. The 2013 ILAC/IAF Annual meetings will be held in Seoul, South Korea.

Environmental Management Agency Laboratory Accredited

The Zimbabwe Environmental Management Agency Laboratory (EMAL) has been accredited in the scope of microbiology and chemical analysis of raw and potable water, by SADC Accreditation Service (SADCAS). The EMAL is the ninth facility to be accredited by SADCAS and the second environmental testing laboratory to be accredited by SADCAS.



Mrs Mutsa Chasi—Director General EMAL giving open remarks at the certificate handover ceremony

Welcoming delegates to the certificate handover ceremony held at the EMA Laboratory in Harare, Zimbabwe on 10 January 2013, Professor Sheunesu Mupepereki, EMA Board Chairman, congratulated EMAL for this noble achievement through which clients would be assured of EMAL competence in providing accurate test results which can be relied upon even in court of law. He also noted the importance of reliable test results in not only environmental protection but also in assuring clean drinking water. In her remarks the Director General of EMA, Mrs Mutsa Chasi gave a background to the establishment of the Laboratory, its important role in checking compliance with the environmental regulations and in monitoring the quality of water supplies. She then outlined the journey towards accreditation which started in 2007 culminating in the accreditation of the Laboratory on 5 December 2012. Mrs Chasi thanked the Minister for his vision in the establishment of EMAL and the Ministry for its support in equipping the Labora-

tory. She also paid tribute to the EMAL staff under management by Mrs Slyvia Yomisi who had worked tirelessly to make the accreditation dream a reality .

Speaking during the ceremony Mrs Maureen P Mutasa, the SADCAS Chief Executive Officer said that through accreditation in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025, EMAL has been granted the unique accreditation numbers TEST-1 0002 and TEST – 5 0005 indicating that EMAL is competent to undertake microbiological and chemical analyses of raw and potable water and operates a laboratory quality management system, a guarantee for accurate and reliable test results. Mrs Mutasa said that the accreditation assessment of EMAL was undertaken jointly by SADCAS and the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) under the SADCAS/SANAS Twinning Partnership Arrangement in order to ensure the credibility of SADCAS certificate whilst at the same time benefiting from skills transfer. "The SADCAS/ SANAS Twinning Partnership Arrangement is in line with international best practice so as to facilitate the development of emerging accreditation bodies and to give confidence in the market whilst SADCAS works towards its own international recognition

a process which does not happen overnight but takes some time" she said. Mrs Mutasa encouraged other regulators to emulate EMA by embracing accreditation in the regulatory domain in order to help government meet its responsibilities and safeguard the public and the environment. In congratulating EMAL, Mrs Mutasa reminded EMAL that SADCAS will undertake periodic surveillance assessments throughout the validity period of 5 years for the accreditation certificate. She further encouraged EMAL to extend the scope of accreditation into the other scopes of testing.

Honourable Francis Nhema, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources Management commended EMAL for the achievement and emphasized the need for ultimate goal achievement which is a clean, safe and healthy environment and sustainable use of natural resources. He then called upon Guest Singer Mr Derek Mpofu to play some songs all of which were highlighting the need and importance of a clean safe and healthy environment and to maintain the beautiful country Zimbabwe.

The certificate handover ceremony was attended by over 200 delegates from 51 organizations including environmental organizations, representatives from the Ministry of industry and Commerce where the National Focal point for Zimbabwe is housed, representatives of the National Laboratory Association of Zimbabwe, captains of industry, EMA Board members and Mrs MP Mutasa hand over accreditation certificate to Hon. Francis staff, and students from Heritage School etc. The ceremony started off with a tour of the EMAL followed by a tree planting



Nhema-Minister of Environment and Natural Resources

ceremony during which Honourable Francis Nhema Minister of Environment and Natural Resources Management, Acting Permanent Secretary of the same Ministry Mr Edward Samuriwo, EMA Board Chairman, Professor Sheunesu Mupepereki and SADCAS Chief Executive Officer Mrs Maureen Mutasa planted trees in commemoration of the accreditation certificate handover ceremony. A vote of thanks was given to mark the end of the ceremony by Mrs Fannie Mutepfa, Chairperson of EMA - Environmental Protection Committee of the EMA Board.

Tanzania Bureau of Standards Food Microbiology Laboratory Accredited by SADCAS

SADCAS is proud to announce the accreditation of Tanzania Bureau of Standards' Microbiology Laboratory in the scope of microbiological analysis in accordance with the international standard ISO/IEC 17025. Tanzania Bureau of Standards Microbiology Laboratory's accreditation covers microbiological analyses of fish and fish products, water and pasteurized milk. Through this accreditation, Tanzania Bureau of Standards Microbiology Laboratory has been granted the unique accreditation number TEST-1 0003 indicating that Tanzania Bureau of Standards Microbiology Laboratory is a SADCAS accredited testing laboratory for microbiological analysis.

Tanzania Bureau of Standards Microbiology Laboratory was originally accredited by the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) on 26 October 2007 when it was issued with an accreditation certificate valid for 5 years. Now that SADCAS has been set up and is operational, Tanzania Bureau of Standards Microbiology Laboratory applied to changeover its accreditation from SANAS to SADCAS.

SADCAS is a multi economy accreditation body established as part of the SADC infrastructure for standardization, quality assurance, accreditation and metrology in order to meet the accreditation needs of SADC Member States without own national accreditation bodies. Within the SADC region only South Africa and Mauritius have their own national accreditation bodies SANAS and MAURITAS respectively. The remaining countries including Tanzania where Tanzania Bureau of Standards Microbiology Laboratory is based are serviced by SADCAS.

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SANAS, a public entity, is the sole national accreditation body for South Africa whose mandate is to provide an internationally recognized and effective accreditation and monitoring system for the Republic of South Africa. Being signatory to the international accreditation arrangements SANAS implements cross frontier accreditation policy in line with ILAC's requirements. For this to happen accreditation bodies operate as a network and from a national base, providing accreditation services for their home market thus avoid competition amongst accreditation bodies as this might threaten impartiality and sound work. Although SANAS was servicing the accreditation needs of CABs outside South Africa but within the SADC region

In line with TPA J01-02: Guidelines for SADCAS/SANAS Joint Assessments under the Twinning Partnership Arrangement, an initial assessment of the Tanzania Bureau of Standards Microbiology Laboratory was undertaken jointly by SADCAS and SANAS from 25 to 26 October 2013. The joint assessments are designed to ensure the credibility of SADCAS accreditation services whilst at the same time ensure transfer of skills to SADCAS. Accreditation was subsequently granted to Tanzania Bureau of Standards Microbiology Laboratory on 28 February 2013. The certificate issued by SADCAS to Tanzania Bureau of Standards Microbiology Laboratory is valid for 5 years until 27 February 2013 and bears the SADCAS and SANAS logos. The SANAS has been in existence for over 35 years and is signatory to the international accreditation recognition arrangements. The joint assessments are designed to minimize costs at changeover.

SADCAS Accredits SAZ Testing Laboratories

The SADC Accreditation Service (SADCAS) has accredited the Standards Association of Zimbabwe's (SAZ) Testing Laboratories in the scope of "chemical analysis". Through this accreditation the SAZ Laboratories in Harare and Bulawayo have been granted the unique accreditation number TEST-5 0006 indicating that SAZ Testing laboratories are now accredited in the scope chemical analysis of water and the operation of a laboratory quality management system in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025.

Welcoming delegates to the certificate handover ceremony held at the SAZ Headquarters in Northridge Park, Harare, Zimbabwe on 7 March 2013, Mr T Chikohora - Chairman SAZ Board of Directors welcomed delegates and introduced the Guest of Honour Acting Permanent Secretary Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Mr Mangoma who officially opened the ceremony.



From Left to Right Mr C Siringwani, SAZ Director Operations, Mr T Chikohora, Chairman SAZ Board, Mrs E Gadzikwa and Mrs MP Mutasa SADCAS CEO

This was followed by a speech from Mr Cyril Siringwani the Director Operations who reminisced on the journey towards accreditation culminating in the accreditation of the Laboratory on 28 January 2013. The Director General of SAZ Mrs Eve Gadzikwa in her presentation highlighted the benefits of accreditation to Zimbabwe and thanked the Ministry of Industry and Commerce for its support and thanked the staff for their hard work and commitment towards goal achievement. She also informed the delegates of efforts underway in SAZ to get all of its conformity assessment activities accredited including NDT Inspection and the calibration services. In an effort to demonstrate to the dignitaries present, the benefits of accreditation, the SAZ laboratory staff performed a play entitled "Accredited Laboratory in Action". Speaking at the certificate handover ceremony Mrs Maureen Mutasa,

the SADCAS Chief Executive Officer said that the accreditation assessment of the SAZ Testing Laboratories was undertaken jointly by SADCAS and the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) under the SADCAS/ SANAS

Twinning Partnership Arrangement in order to ensure the credibility of SADCAS certificate whilst at the same time benefiting from skills transfer. "Accreditation of the SAZ Laboratories in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025 is a guarantee for reliable, accurate and comparable results", Mrs Mutasa said. She mentioned that the certificate granted to the SAZ Testing Laboratories was valid for 5 years during which SADCAS would undertake periodic surveillance assessments to monitor compliance. Noting that SAZ offers a wide range of testing services Mrs Mutasa encouraged the accredited SAZ Laboratories to extend their scope of accreditation to other methods of test.

The certificate handover ceremony was attended by more than 60 dignitaries including the senior officials from the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, members of the SAZ Board of Directors representatives of the National Accreditation Focal Point, staff, clients and the press. A vote of thanks was given to mark the end of the ceremony by Mr Zuze Director Quality Assurance who was the Master of Ceremony.

SADCAS Accredits National Dosimetry Laboratory

The SADC Accreditation Service (SADCAS) has accredited Botswana's National Dosimetry Laboratory in the scope of "optics and radiometry". This is the first such laboratory to be accredited by SADCAS. Through this accreditation the National Dosimetry Laboratory has been granted the unique accreditation number TEST-7 0001. The National Dosimetry Laboratory falls under the Radiation Protection Inspectorate Department of the Botswana Ministry of Infrastructure, Science and Technology. The mandate of the Radiation Protection Inspectorate is to administer the safe use of atomic energy and nuclear technology. Under this mandate, the Department is responsible for carrying out licensing and statutory inspections of all facilities that use nuclear sources and radiation generating equipment such as x ray machines. The Department is also responsible for enforcing medical exposure control, occupational exposure control, public and environmental exposure control and emergency preparedness and response for mitigating the effects of radiological emergencies.



Delegates at the NDL Certificate handover ceremony

Welcoming delegates to the certificate handover ceremony held at the new National Dosimetry Laboratory premises in Kgale Hills, Gaborone, Botswana on 14 March 2013, Mr Thapelo Otikule, Director Radiation Protection Inspectorate reminisced on the journey towards accreditation which started in 2008 when the laboratory was established culminating in

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the accreditation of the Laboratory on 28 January 2013. He thanked the Ministry of Infrastructure, Science and Technology for its support without Imilering which accreditation would not have been achieved. He also thanked staff under management by Mr Keolopa Gabobofane the Laboratory Manager, for their hard work and commitment towards goal achievement and the Botswana Bureau of Standards for their assistance in the process. Speaking at the certificate handover ceremony Mrs Maureen Mutasa, the SAD-CAS Chief Executive Officer said that the accreditation assessment of the National Dosimetry Laboratory was undertaken jointly by SADCAS and the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) under the SADCAS/ SANAS Twinning Partnership Arrangement in order to ensure the credibility of SADCAS certificate whilst at the same time benefiting from skills transfer. She mentioned that the certificate granted to the National Dosimetry Laboratory was valid for 5 years during which SADCAS would undertake periodic surveillance assessments to monitor compliance. In outlining the benefits of accreditation Mrs Mutasa said that accreditation does not just assure competency but helps to safeguard the health and



Mr Dikagiso Mokotedi – Permanent Secretary Ministry of Infrastructure, Science and Technology receiving the Accreditation Certificate from Mrs Maureen P Mutasa – SADCAS CEO

safety of the public and the environment and increases reliability and competiveness of products. Mrs Mutasa encouraged the Ministry to have its other laboratories accredited in order to support infrastructural development.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Infrastructure, Science and Technology, Mr Dikagiso Mokotedi who was the Guest of Honour at the certificate handover ceremony, commended the Radiation Protection Inspectorate for the achievement and challenged all other laboratories to emulate this. "By this accreditation we have created expectations that we are the world class laboratory and we have to show that by providing our customers with quality service for increased customer confidence and satisfaction", he said.

The certificate handover ceremony was attended by over more than 25 dignitaries including the senior officials from the Ministry, Radiation Protection Inspectorate Board members, staff, clients and the press. The ceremony ended off with a tour of the Laboratory. A vote of thanks was given to mark the end of the ceremony by Dr Seja Maphanyane Deputy Permanent Secretary Research, Science and Technology in the Ministry of Infrastructure, Science and Technology.

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### **More Laboratories Accredited**

SADCAS is proud to announce the accreditation of the following facilities:

**Namibian Standards Institution (NSI)** in the scope of Mass Metrology in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025. The Namibian Standards Institution's accreditation covers mass pieces: 100mg to 5g, 10g, 20g to 50g, 100g, 200g and 500g; weighing instruments digital self-indicating: 50g to 500g, 300g to 3000g; and on-site calibration for the mass pieces and weighing instruments. Through this accreditation, the NSI has been granted the unique accreditation number CAL-8 0002 indicating that NSI is a SADCAS accredited calibration Laboratory for Mass Metrology;

**Central Veterinary Laboratory (CVL) in Namibia** in the scope of Serology analysis, Toxicology analysis and Molecular Biology analysis in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025. The Central Veterinary Laboratory's accreditation covers detection of foot and mouth disease NS by Elisa method; determination of chloramphenicol by Elisa method; detection of *Salmonella* and detection of *Escherichia coli* 0157 H7. Through this accreditation, CVL has been granted the unique accreditation numbers VET-2 001, VET-7 001 and VET-8 001 indicating that CVL is a SADCAS accredited testing laboratory for Serology, Toxicology and Molecular Biology Analyses respectively; and

**SGS Inspection Services Ltd in Kalulushi, Zambia** in the scope of chemical analysis in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025. SGS Inspection Services accreditation covers analysis of Copper and Cobalt in ore grade samples by AAS 42 S and anaylsis of Copper and Cobalt in low grade soils by AAS 42 D. Through this accreditation, SGS Inspection Services has been granted the unique accreditation number TEST-5 0007 indicating that SGS Inspection Services is a SADCAS accredited testing laboratory for chemical analysis.

With these accreditations, SADCAS has so far issued 24 certificates to 16 accredited facilities in 6 SADC Member States namely: Botswana (3), Namibia (3), Seychelles (2), Tanzania (3), Zambia (1) and Zimbabwe (4). At the same time SADCAS had 34 accreditation applications at the various stages of processing .

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Lamworld Technologies Road to Accreditation

amworld Technologies (Pty) Ltd is a 100% Botswana Citizen owned company that was established in 2004 as the first private calibration laboratory in Botswana. The company has achieved remarkable growth and have fully equipped calibration laboratories and a contingent of experienced personnel at both technical and managerial levels.

Lamworld Technologies first submitted its application for accreditation with SADCAS in June 2010, following which a completeness check was undertaken on our submission then a documentation review by SADCAS. As per the SADCAS accreditation procedures, readiness of Lamworld Technologies for full assessment was highly dependent on the outcome of the documentation review. We finally received notification that our documents were adequate enough to qualify for an on-site audit/assessment by the SADCAS assessment team. The assessment was scheduled to commence on the 11th July, 2012.

The day that Lamworld Technologies was to be assessed arrived; we had been waiting and preparing for this day with bated breaths. A busy and intense two days ensued, as the assessors combed through our documents and procedures, leaving no stone unturned. No doubt those two days were a learning curve and left us with a lifetime experience. All in all though, the assessment went well and at the end the assessors notified us that our overall performance was good and therefore recommended Lamworld Calibration Lab for accreditation on Temperature and Electrical DCLF subject to clearance of the raised nonconformities within the specified period.

Lamworld Technologies was filled with a buzz of excitement on Monday the 25th of February 2013 when we received our Accreditation Notification Letter. Lamworld had finally been granted accreditation in the two areas (comprising of 9 parameters altogether) that we had submitted and been assessed on, Temperature and Electrical DCLF.

To Lamworld Technologies accreditation demonstrates our ability, competence and reliability to carry out calibration works. It means that our clients will rest easy knowing that their instruments are being handled by a SADCAS accredited laboratory, therefore renders us a trustworthy service provider. It means growth of our company as we have to keep up the standards so as to maintain the accreditation and also motivates Lamworld Technologies to submit other areas for accreditation. It also shows growth for our country as Lamworld Technologies is the first private calibration laboratory to be granted accreditation by SADCAS. We look forward to having other areas accredited and encourage other laboratories to consider getting accreditation for the overall good of our Botswana.

Our Message to Other Laboratories (Calibration, Testing and Medical) is "GET ACCREDITED AND YOUR RESULTS WILL BE TRUSTWORTHY"

Road to ISO/IEC 17025:2005 Accreditation SAZ Testing Laboratories

The Standards Association of Zimbabwe (SAZ), motivated by the desire to serve its customers better, implement best practice and to attain international recognition, embarked on a program to have its laboratories accredited. The voyage started way back and in September 2011, SADCAS undertook a pre-assessment of the SAZ's Harare and Bulawayo Chemical and Food Technology Laboratories. SAZ used the pre-assessment results as a gap analysis tool to map the way going forward. From October to December 2011 a lot of effort was channeled to fine tuning of documentation, awareness and detailed training on ISO/IEC 17025 requirements, SAZ policies, procedures, work instructions and test methods. Training was also conducted in ISO/IEC 17025 systems implementation and internal auditing. The Standards association of Zimbabwe's top management demonstrated a lot of commitment by approving the recruitment of Quality Assurance Officer and providing financial resources for training, purchasing of laboratory consumables and travel and subsistence required during the Bulawayo visits.

The definition of accreditation is that it is the formal recognition of competence of a laboratory. Competence is to do with the correctness and reliability of tests performed by a laboratory. Therefore for SAZ, ISO/IEC 17025 implementation addressed the management system procedures and the technical procedures. All the factors contributing to laboratory competence were addressed in the technical procedures as required by the international standard. Internal audits were carried out regularly in the Harare and Bulawayo laboratories as a system health check tool and to identify gaps and opportunities for improvement. Top management participated in system simplementation. A team building exercise was held in April 2012 just before the SADCAS initial assessment in May 2012, and this got every member highly motivated.

Following the SADCAS initial assessment and clearance by SAZ of all raised nonconformities, the Association's Testing laboratories were accredited in the scope of chemical water testing according to ISO/IEC 17025, effective 28 January 2013.

Gratitude is expressed to Director General, SAZ management, the Technical Subcommittee of the Board, and the Board who showed interest, provided support and demonstrated commitment throughout the project implementation process. Special mention goes to the Quality Assurance Officer for demonstrating a lot of commitment and working very hard. For SAZ, this is just the beginning of more work ahead in terms of continual improvement and accreditation scope extension.

SADCAS offers accreditation programmes for:

- Solution State of the second and the
- Setting laboratories in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025;
- Medical laboratories in accordance with ISO 15189;
- Management systems certification bodies in accordance with ISO/IEC 17021;
- ✤ Product certification bodies in accordance with ISO/IEC 17065;
- Personnel certification bodies in accordance with ISO/IEC 17024; and
- ✤ Inspection bodies in accordance with ISO/IEC 17020.

SADCAS Holds its 8th Annual General Meeting

The Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) held its 8th Annual General Meeting on 19 March 2013 at the Talatona Convention Center in Luanda, Angola. The SADCAS General Assembly is the governing body of SADCAS and comprises of subscribers to the memorandum and articles of association, members of the Board of directors, appointed representatives of national Accreditation Focal points (NAFPs) in each SADC Member State using the services of SADCAS, and individuals or organizations who apply for admission as members of SADCAS. The SADCAS General Assembly currently comprises of 40 members. Drawn out of the General assembly is the Board of Directors which oversees the running of SADCAS and fulfils any functions that the SADCAS General assembly may delegate to it. In line with its Articles of Association, SADCAS holds a general meeting in each year as its Annual General Meeting (AGM). The AGM which was held in conjunction with the 28th meeting of SADC experts on standardization, quality assurance, accreditation and metrology was attended by 37 general assembly members and observers.



8th SADCAS Annual General Meeting in session

Mr Riundja Ali Kaakunga (Othy), the Chairman of the SADCAS Board of Directors who presides as the Chairman of general meeting of SADCAS welcomed members and observers to the 8th SADCAS AGM. In his report to the AGM, Mr Kaakunga reviewed the progress made in the implementation of the programs set out in the SADCAS 1st business plan covering the period 2007/8 up to 2011/12 whose thrust was to set up and operationalize SADCAS. He noted that SADCAS office was set up in 2008, launched in April 2009 and started to offer services in October 2009. The set up and operationalization of SADCAS constituted the main component of a 5 year programme for the removal of technical barriers to trade through accreditation funded by the Norwegian Government. The Chairman said that the overall goal of the project of providing SADC Member States with an appropriate accreditation mechanism had been met in that a multi economy accreditation body SADCAS had been established and is operational having issued 24 accreditation certificates to 16 accredited facilities in 6 SADC Member States as at 28 February 2013. At the same time SADCAS had 35 other accreditation applications from 8 SADC Member States at the various stages of processing. SADCAS had also successfully conducted 48 training courses all over the region to promote accreditation and an understanding of accreditation requirements from which over 740 participants had benefited. The Chairman noted that awareness on accreditation has increased in the region and at the same time visibility of SADCAS has increased significantly over the period not only regionally but internationally. On sustainability of SADCAS the Chairman informed members that governments of Member States that are serviced by SADCAS had approved the request to fund SADCAS so as to ensure its sustainability over the period 2012/13 up to 2016/17. Government contributions are expected to start coming in the year 2014/15 next five years.

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The meeting attended to the normal AGM business including the adoption of the 4th SADCAS annual report including the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2012, ratification of the budget for the year 2013/14, appointed external financial auditors for the year ending 31 March 2013, appointed the Company secretary for the year beginning 1 April 2013 up to 31 March 2014. Elections were also held for 2 Board positions. Ms Verily Molatedi who had served 3 years as a non Executive Director was re-elected for a second term having put herself up for election. Ms Boitumelo Gofhamodimo who is the SADC Director for Trade, Industry Finance and Investment who had been co-opted onto the SADCAS Board of Directors in August 2012 was elected to serve her first term of 3 years. Mrs Gofhamodimo's appointment reaffirms the importance of SADCAS, a subsidiarity institution of SADC, in the implementation of the SADC agenda.

Following the elections held at the 8th SADCAS AGM, the SADCAS Board of Directors now comprises of 8 non executive members and one Executive member namely:

- □ Mr Riundja Ali Kaakunga (Othy) Chairman (Non Executive)
- □ Mrs Masego Marobela Vice chairman (Non Executive)
- □ Mr Cyprian Tlhako Mokhoro (Non Executive)
- □ Mrs Christine Eve Gadzikwa (Non Executive)
- Mr Viki Mbuya Kanama (Non Executive)
- □ Ms Verily Molatedi (Non Executive)
- □ Mr Steven Bruce Sidney (Non Executive)
- □ Ms Boitumelo Gofhamodimo (Non Executive)
- □ Mrs Maureen Primrose Mutasa (Executive)

The 2013 National Accreditation Focal point Award was also presented during the 8th AGM with NAFP Botswana receiving the Award for the second year running.

Stuart H. Carstens Retires from the SADCAS Board of Directors

r Stuart Heldrey Carstens retired from the SADCAS Board of Directors having served 2 consecutive three-year terms as a non-executive Board member. A legal metrologist by profession Mr Carstens is the General Manager of the Legal Metrology Department of the South African National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications (NRCS) and represents South Africa on the International Bureau of Legal Metrology.

Mr Carstens a signatory to the SADCAS Memorandum of Association, was elected to the SADCAS Board of Directors in 2007 and re-elected in 2010 to serve for the second three-year term. During his tenure Mr Carstens served as the Chairman of the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee and a member of the Human Resources and Remuneration Committee of the Board of Directors. The Finance, Risk and Audit Committee assists the Board in discharging its responsibilities relating to budget prepara-



tion, expenditure control and financial reporting, compliance with established policies, plans and procedures, safeguarding assets and maintenance of sound and adequate internal control system and ethical conduct. The Human Resources and Remuneration Committee on the other hand assists the Board in discharging its responsibilities of developing and implementing a comprehensive human resources and remuneration policy and strategy so as to ensure that SADCAS is able to attract, develop and retain the best possible skills required to support credible services to clients.

In his report during the 8th SADCAS Annual General Meeting, the Chairman of the SADCAS Board of Directors, Mr Riundja Ali Kaakunga thanked Mr Carstens for his excellent leadership of the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee, for his valuable contributions as a member of the Human Resources and Remuneration Committee and for his valuable contributions over the years towards the governance of SADCAS.

Update on Assessor Training/ Mentoring with PTB Germany

The assessor mentoring project which is funded by PTB Germany under the €1.5 million PTB Germany fund to the SADC Program for Standardization, Quality Assurance, Accreditation and Metrology (SQAM) is well underway. So far 34 trainee assessors have been mentored through the PTB Germany funded project. Twenty-one out of the 47 trainee assessors were mentored from August to November 2012 in Democratic Republic of Congo, Namibia, Botswana and Malawi. During this first quarter of 2013, a further 13 trainee assessors have been mentored as follows:

- □ Four trainee assessors were mentored in Seychelles on 26 February 2013
- □ Three trainee assessors were mentored in Mauritius on 28 February and 1 March 2013
- □ Six trainee assessors were mentored in Tanzania from 25 to 28 February 2013

Scheduling of mentoring for the remaining 13 assessors is underway. Once qualified, the assessors will be considered for registration as part of the pool of assessors who will undertake assessments on behalf of SADCAS.

PTB Germany Officials Visit to SADCAS

As part of the mid-term evaluation of the PTB Germany Project on "Strengthening Quality Infrastructure in SADC", a meeting was held with PTB Germany evaluators at SADCAS Office in Gaborone, Botswana on 27 November 2013.

The mid-term evaluation is a regular instrument of PTB Germany funded project cycle taking place about half a year before the start of a subsequent project implementation phase. The objective of the mid- term evaluation is to assess the results and impacts achieved during the project's first phase and to plan, on the basis of this assessment and considering changes of the economic and political conditions, a second phase in agreement with the partners as well as stake-holders of the project.

The meeting was attended by Ms Kathrin Wünderlich the PTB Coordinator, Mr Martin Kaiser the PTB coordinating short term Expert, Dr Oswald Chinyamakobvu the PTB Coordinator for the SADC region, Mr Siegried Jenders the PTB Evaluator, Ms Dinah Schönhusen PTB Co-evaluator and Ms Jeanne Françoise Ranorovelo, the SADCAS Technical Manager. During the meeting Ms Ranorovelo gave a background to the establishment of SADCAS, the achievements to date, the challenges faced and the lessons learnt. Specifically the meeting was updated on progress with the PTB Germany funded activities including assessor mentoring, preparation of SADCAS for peer evaluation and the 6th Annual National Accreditation Focal Point meeting. The latter was held in November 2012 with PTB Germany meeting the venue costs as well as SADCAS staff travel and accommodation costs. The meeting also discussed sustainability of SADCAS and was appraised of the other donors who had or are still supporting SADCAS. Opportunities for improvement and future plans for interventions were also discussed with PTB Germany recognizing SADCAS achievements so far. PTB Germany representatives expressed their satisfaction working with SADCAS whose business plans, objectives, strategies, and achievements are very clear.

SADCAS Value Proposition

- ✓ Delivering confidence
- Assuring competency
 - 🗸 🛛 Guaranteeing quality

NAFP-Botswana Wins 2013 NAFP Award

The National Accreditation Focal Point (NAFP) for Botswana which is housed within the Ministry of Industry and Trade is this year's Award winner. The NAFP Botswana won the Award in 2012 and now again in 2013. The NAFP Award ceremony is an annual event held in conjunction with the SADCAS Annual General Meeting to recognize National Accreditation Focal Points' (NAFPs) efforts and contributions towards SADC accreditation goals.

National Accreditation Focal Points who are appointed by their respective governments are mainly responsible for the promotion of the importance and benefits of accreditation and marketing of SADCAS services within their respective countries. They are SADCAS tentacles of reaching out to clients/potential clients as well as stakeholders including the general public in SADC Member States. Thirteen NAFPs have been established in the SADC Member States that are serviced by SADCAS and continue to generally function effectively. All the NAFPs are supported by their respective governments who established them. In executing SADCAS activities, NAFPs prepare annual implementation plans in support of SADCAS annual implementation plans in order to achieve SADCAS objectives. The implementation by NAFPs of national action plans is monitored for progress by SADCAS through quarterly reports.

The 2013 NAFP Award is the fifth to be held having had the inaugural ceremony in 2009. The Award is based on the reports for the period 1 January up to 31 December 2012 using five (5) criteria weighted according to their importance with the following 3 criteria considered key thus weighted high:

- Regularly and timeously submits quarterly reports on activities to SADCAS (20);
- Effectively progressed implementation of their respective country's action plan (30); and
- ✓ Contributed towards SADCAS goals (35).

Presiding over the Award ceremony Mrs Maureen Mutasa, the SADCAS Chief Executive Officer said that based on the evaluation and score matrices, the SADCAS Board of Directors at its 29th Meeting held on 15 February 2013 decided to give the 2013 Award to NAFP-Botswana with NAFP-Swaziland as the first runner up and NAFP-Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) as the second runner up. The Board further decided that the first and second runners up also be presented with certificates of recognition for their continued good performance over the last 3 years which has resulted in increased awareness on accreditation and increased visibility on SADCAS in their respective countries.



From left to right: Mrs Masego Marobela SADCAS Vice Board Chairman; Mr Edward Mmatli & Ms Boikutso Pheto [NAFPs Botswana]; Mr Riundja Ali Kaakunga SADCAS Board Chairman

Ms Phindile Dlamini second from left and Mrs Sybil Sthembiso Dlamini extreme right NAFPs Swaziland—First runner up

Mr Viki Mbuya Kanama second from left and Mrs Apauline Matata Feza extreme right NAFPs DRC—Second runner up

For the period of review, NAFP-Botswana attained the highest average estimate realization of 85%. The activities included awareness raising workshops which was attended by over 60 stakeholders, targeted promotional and marketing visits to 23 conformity assessment bodies in Northern Botswana. A conference to commemorate World Accreditation Day (WAD) was successfully held in Botswana in 2012 in conjunction with the ISO/IEC 17025 Forum and the NAFP arranged for a WAD interview. Two accreditation applications and 4 expressed interests in accreditation were received and 4 training courses were held during the period under review. NAFP– Botswana is one of the few NAFPs who have

established and are maintaining the comprehensive database of conformity assessment bodies in their country. The database has been very useful in promotional and marketing activities. SADCAS promotional materials are distributed widely to stakeholders during all promotional activities. The NAFP also participated at the NAFP annual meeting held in November 2012.

In his acceptance speech Mr Mmatli thanked the Government of Botswana for the support and SADCAS for the leadership and support provided as the NAFP undertakes its work. He committed to maintaining a high level of performance in realization of the importance of accreditation to national economic and social development programmes in Botswana.

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### Zambia Appoints Interim NAFPs

O n 11 February 2013 Mr Tobias Mulimbika, the Director Industry of the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry Zambia appointed Messrs Moses Ngosa and Dismas Chapula as Interim NAFP officers for Zambia in the absence of Mr Aaron Mutale and Ms Mwenya Chisheta respectively. Aaron Mutale and Ms Chisheta who are the nominated NAFP Zambia representatives are both on study leave until January 2015 and October 2013 respectively. These appointments are effective from February 2013 until January 2015.

### **SADCA Holds its Seventeenth Annual Meeting**

The Southern African Development Community Cooperation in Accreditation (SADCA) held its 17<sup>th</sup> annual Meeting on 21 March 2013 at the Talatona Convention Center in Luanda, Angola. The meeting which was held in conjunction with the 28<sup>th</sup> meeting of SADC experts on standardization, quality assurance, accreditation and metrology was officially opened by the Angolan Deputy Minister for Industry Honorable Gabriel Kiala Ngone at a ceremony held on 18 March 2013 and attended by over 100 delegates from SADC countries, diplomats, international development partners and stakeholders from Angola.

Prior to the SADCA Annual meeting, the SADCA Technical Committee (TC) and the Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) Committee met on the 19 and 20 March 2013 respectively during which the Committees reviewed their respective terms of reference, draft procedures as well as their respective work plans in support of the SADCA five year strategic plan, all of which had been circulated to members for consideration prior to the meetings. Having gone through the documents, the Committees recommended that the documents be approved at the Annual Meeting which was subsequently held on 21 March 2013. The 17<sup>th</sup> SADCA Annual Meeting was attended by over 34 delegates from 13 SADC Member States excluding Malawi and Mauritius, representatives of Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB) Germany and observers from the African Organization for Standardization (ARSO) and other SADC SQAM structures.

Mrs Masego Marobela, the Chair of the SADCA welcomed delegates to the 17<sup>th</sup> SADCA Annual meeting which was being held under the theme "Accreditation Support of Intra regional Trade and facilitating world trade". In her report to the Annual Meeting, Mrs Marobela reviewed the progress made in the first year of implementing the SADCA 5 year Strategic Plan whose thrust is to operationalize the SADCA MRA. She reported that following the election of the Technical Committee and MRA Committee Chairs, the Technical Committee and MRA Committee were established and held their first meetings on 19 and 20 March 2013 respectively. A total of 8 experts from the region had been trained as peer evaluators with 4 participating in a pre peer evaluation of the South African National Accreditation System and one participating in an ILAC peer evaluation as part of the peer evaluator mentoring programme. In order to gain operational insight into mutual recognition arrangements, the SADCA Secretariat attended an MRA training course in August 2012 provided by the Inter American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC). The Secretariat also attended the IAAC General Assembly, IAAC

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Mr Ron Josias past Regional Coordinator of SADCA receiving Recognition Award from Mrs Masego Marobela— SADCA Chairman

ethics which she encouraged members to abide with.

Executive Committee meeting and other meetings. On membership, Mrs Marobela noted the need to formalize membership using the finalized membership application forms for the various categories of membership covered in the SADCA By laws. The forms which have been uploaded on the SADCA website will be circulated to members in due course.

In her report to the Annual meeting Dr Elsabe Steyn, the SADCA Regional Coordinator advised members that terms of reference for the SADCA Executive Committee had been revised and thoroughly reviewed by the Executive Committee and would be presented to the meeting for approval. She also reported on the SADCA website which had been revamped during the period under review and encouraged members and stakeholders to visit the website which also now contained a database of proficiency testing schemes service providers in the region. She further advised members that all the documents which had been approved at the last annual meeting held in Lilongwe, Malawi had been uploaded on the SADCA website including the code of

In Member States' feedback, the SADCA members reported on the activities undertaken during the period under review, the challenges faced, lessons learnt and presented their plans for the 2013/14 year. The SADCAS Chief Executive Officer, Mrs Maureen Mutasa reviewed the progress made by SADCAS during the period under review, the challenges faced and interventions thereof and the lessons learnt. From these reports it was noted that whilst awareness on accreditation has increased in the region, there is still a lot of work to be done to increase awareness of the benefits and importance of accreditation especially amongst policy makers and regulators. It was also noted many conformity assessment service providers still need to be coached in order to prepare them for accreditation and Member States were urged to prepare bilateral technical assistance programmes to support conformity assessment service providers for which a framework was presented at the meeting for use by Member States.

In her report to the SADCA meeting Dr Elsie Meintjies, the SADC SQAM Programme Officer outlined the major accreditation related activities (training of assessors, trainers and peer evaluators) contained in the SADC EU EDF 10 under the Regional Economic Integration Support (REIS) programme. Key experts for the REIS programme are expected to be on site at the SADC Secretariat on 1 July 2013 marking the beginning of programme implementation. The PTB Germany Representative, Dr Oswald Chinyamakobvu informed the meeting about the envisaged SQAM project extension starting 1 July 2013 and encouraged members to take advantage of the funding to be availed to support SQAM activities in the region.

A panel discussion on the importance of accreditation in support of intraregional trade and facilitation of world trade was held during the Annual meeting and generated a lot of interest from members and stakeholders present. It was noted that panel discussions were an effective way of raising awareness on accreditation amongst the various stakeholders and should be used in awareness programmes.

A total of 28 resolutions were adopted by the meetings including the approval of the SADCA Quality Manual, MRA procedures as well as IAF/ILAC documents relevant to the operationalization of the SADCA MRA, the Executive Committee, MRA Committee and Technical Committee Terms of Reference. The General Assembly also approved the 2013 to 2014 work plans for the MRA Committee, Technical Committee and the Executive Committee which are critical to ensure achievement of SADCA goals and objectives as outlined in the 5 year strategic plan. The Annual meeting also resolved to conclude a Technical Cooperation Agreement with the African Accreditation Cooperation (AFRAC).

Mr Robin Gopee the Director of Mauritas was elected as Chairman of SADCA to replace Mrs Marobela who retired at the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting having served two 2-year term as Chairman of SADCA. Mrs Marobela was thanked for her leadership and dedication which has contributed to SADCA success over the years. Mr Viki Mbuya Kanama the SADCA member and National Accreditation Focal Point for the Democratic Republic of Congo was elected Vice Chairman of SADCA to replace Mr Gopee.

### 2013 SADC Quality Awards

he 2013 SADC Quality Awards were presented at a dinner held on Wednesday, 20 March 2013 and which was sponsored by PTB Germany. The 2013 SADC Annual Quality awards were the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of competition to be held following the inaugural ceremony held in 2011. The aim of the awards is to recognize and appreciate organizations or individuals who are contributing to guality advancement in all sectors of SADC by having measurements and guality systems, procedures and processes that are in line with local, regional and practices and who use quality advancement to support national and regional economic development and growth. The competition has 5 categories, 4 of which offer awards for large enterprises and small and medium enterprises whilst the 5<sup>th</sup> category is for an individual award. Speaking on behalf of the panel of judges at the Awards presentation ceremony, Mrs Masego Marobela, the Managing Director of the Botswana Bureau of Standards noted that the awards are progressing well but there is room for improvement in that all relevant information must be provided and presented logically, sufficiently and demonstrated adequately and in accordance with the criteria as outlined in the Procedure. She further said that supporting evidence must be generously and sufficiently provided and demonstrated. The Panel of Judges representative, Mrs Marobela also recommend that training for the SADC Annual Awards Focal Points and/or National Competition organizers be arranged and facilitated in order to improve the understanding of the entry requirements, forms and the Evaluation Matrix. She encouraged all SADC Member States to encourage the private and public sectors to participate in the SADC Quality Awards which is on credible national level competitions.

Servcor a food catering company from Zimbabwe was the winner in Category 1 – Company of the Year. Refriango a drink manufacturing company from Angola was the winner in Category 2 - Product of the Year whilst Chicken Slice a take away outlet from Zimbabwe was the winner in Category 3 - Service of the year. The Awards were presented by Honorable Gabriel Kiala Ngone the Angolan Deputy Minister for Industry.



Servcor Representatives receiving for Category 1 Company of the Minister for Industry on the left

Chicken Slice Representatives receiving for Category 1 Service of the Year Year Award from Honorable Gabriel Kiala Ngone the Angolan Deputy Award from Honorable Gabriel Kiala Ngone the Angolan Deputy Minister for Industry on the right

#### New Pamphlets for Accreditation Programs published in French and Portuguese

- Calibration Laboratories Accreditation Programme (CLAPP
- Inspection Bodies Accreditation Programme (IBAP)
- Medical Laboratories Accreditation Programme (MLAP)
- Testing Laboratories Accreditation Programme (TLAP)

To download visit: www.sadcas.org/promotionalMaterial.php

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All Award Winners including representatives of Refriango on the right with Honorable Gabriel Kiala Ngone the Angolan Deputy Minister for Industry in the middle

Mrs Mutasa SADCAS CEO A member of the SADC Awards Panel of Judges with Mr Gomba Servcor Representative

### **USAID Funded Training of Testing Laboratories Completed**

The Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) a multi economy accreditation body secured funding from USAID Southern African Trade Hub for capacity development of testing laboratories that are involved in the agro food production and processing sectors in 4 SADC Member States namely: Mozambique; Malawi; Zambia; and Zimbabwe.

The objective of the USAID SATH funded project was to train management and staff of testing laboratories involved with the agro food production and processing sectors on ISO/IEC 17025: General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories. This is the key accreditation standard applicable to testing laboratories including those which operate in the agro food production and processing sectors. The training programme comprised of two training courses, a one-day awareness course on ISO/IEC 17025 followed by an intensive 5-day ISO/IEC 17025 requirements, implementation and internal auditing course.

The one-day awareness courses were held in Zimbabwe on 28 November 2012, Malawi on 29 November 2012, Mozambique on 30 November 2012 and Zambia on 3 December 2012 and were attended by 75 participants from 21 testing laboratories operating in the agro food production and processing sectors.

The 5-day ISO/IEC 17025 requirements, implementation and internal auditing courses which were held from 11 to 15 February 2013 in Malawi, 18 to 22 March 2013 in Zimbabwe and 4 to 8 March 2013 in Mozambique and Zambia were attended by 98 participants from 23 testing laboratories. Based on the feedback from participants the training courses were all very well administered, well presented and very relevant.

Agro food processing is identified in the SADC Industrial Policy as one of the priority sectors for development. The lack of productive capacity to ensure the quality and quantity of supply and inability to prove conformity of exports products with international standards are some of the challenges which the region faces and has contributed to the region's failure to achieve a fully integrated regional trade zone in agricultural food products. This training came at an opportune time as efforts are underway to strengthen the region's conformity assessment infrastructure. Although through the project 23 testing laboratories operating in the agro food production and processing sectors were trained many other laboratories in the same sector are not yet aware of the need and importance of accreditation thus require training in order to prepare them for accreditation. The training programme was limited to testing laboratories and did not include certification/inspection bodies which are also involved in assuring conformance to standards.

### THE PIONEER

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Participants pose for a photo during the 5-day training course in Malawi

Participants pose for a photo during the 5-day training course in Zimbabwe



Participants pose for a photo during the 5-day training course in Zambia

Five-day training in progress in Mozambique

The challenges faced by governments and society in ensuring safe food call for the need for technical competence of conformity assessment bodies (9 testing laboratories/certification bodies/inspection bodies) involved throughout the food supply chain. Accreditation is now widely accepted as the most transparent, non discriminatory mechanism to assure competency of conformity assessment service providers thus ensure the safety of food. Accreditation is the basis of trust between trading partners.

### SADCAS Holds ISO/IEC 17020 Training Course in Tanzania

The Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) conducted a five days' open training course on ISO/IEC 17020 requirements, implementation and internal auditing. The training course was held at Millennium Sea Breeze Resort Hotel in Bagamoyo, Tanzania from 11 to 15 March 2013. Sixteen (16) participants from 5 organizations namely: the National Fish Quality Control Laboratory; Tanzania Bureau of Standards; Private Health Laboratories Board; Zanzibar Food and Drugs Board; and SGS Tanzania Superintendence Co Ltd attended the course.

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The course was opened by Mrs Stella Mrosso the National Accreditation Focal Point for Tanzania. The course started on Monday, 11 March 2013 and ended on Friday, 15 March 2013. The Trainer started off with a brief background on SADCAS, its vision, mission and achievements made since 2009 when SADCAS was launched. He highlighted SADCAS membership in regional and international accreditation fora and progress with training of assessors and trainers who undertake assessments and training respectively on behalf of SADCAS. He also highlighted the number of facilities that had been accredited by SADCAS through the SADCAS/SANAS Twinning Partner-



Participants at the ISO/IEC 17020 training course held in Bagamoyo, Tanzania

ship Arrangement designed to assure the credibility of SADCAS accreditation services.

A comprehensive elaboration on each clause of ISO/IEC 17020:2012 was made by the Trainer and various examples were given by the Trainer referencing to their respective work places. Participants were made to understand the importance of competence evaluation of personnel, facilities, traceability of measurements, environment conditions, inspection methods and procedures all of which are requirements for accreditation. They were also educated on why procedures need to be documented by all the staffs performing specific tasks and why they are consolidated into a single document called a Quality Manual and why procedures should be available at all locations of their work places. Through this training, the participants understood why the quality system has a quality policy which is the overall intentions and direction of an organization to quality as formerly expressed by the top management. Participants were also able to understand why the policy has objectives which require commitment, have to be understood, implemented and maintained by all staff in an inspection body. On Internal auditing the Trainer covered the reasons for carrying out internal audits, the audit process and the competence requirements for auditors. Group work and practical exercises were interspaced throughout the course.

The objective of the course was to promote a thorough understanding of the requirements of ISO/IEC 17020 and to impart internal auditing skills to the delegates. Judged on the feedback received the participants said that the course was well planned, organized, presented and was very relevant.

| NO. | COURSE                                                    | DATE(S)            | VENUE                    |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
|     |                                                           | X-7                | COUNTRY/CITY             |
| 1.  | ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements & Internal Auditing            | 27 to 31 May 2013  | Botswana (Gaborone)      |
| 2.  | ISO/IEC 17020 Requirements & Internal Auditing            | 27 to 31 May 2013  | Namibia (Walvis Bay)     |
| 3.  | ISO/IEC 17020 Requirements & Internal Auditing (ZABS)     | 3 to 7 June 2013   | Lusaka (Zambia)          |
| 4.  | ISO 15189 Requirements & Internal Auditing                | 17 to 21 June 2013 | Tanzania (Dar es Salaam) |
| 5.  | ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements &Internal Auditing for OCC x 3 | June 2013          | DRC (Kinshasa)           |
| 6.  | ISO 15189 Requirements & Internal Auditing                | 22 to 26 July 2013 | Namibia (Windhoek)       |

### **Upcoming Training Courses—May to July 2013**



# **Status of Key Accreditation Standards and IAF/ILAC Documents**

| STANDARD                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | STATUS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>ISO 15189</b> medical laboratories – requirements for quality and competence                                                                                                                                           | Published on 5 November 2012                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>ISO/IEC NP 17021-1</b> Conformity Assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems                                                                                         | New project approved                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>ISO/IEC PRF TS 17021-3</b> Requirements for bodies providing audit<br>and certification of management systems – Part 3: Competence<br>requirements for auditing and certification of quality management<br>systems     | FDIS registered for formal approval                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>ISO/IEC NP TS 17021-4</b> Requirements for bodies providing audit<br>and certification of management systems – Part 4: Competence<br>requirements for auditing and certification of event sustainability<br>management | New project approved                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>ISO/IEC NP TS 17021-5</b> Requirements for bodies providing audit<br>and certification of management systems – Part 5: Competence<br>requirements for auditing and certification of asset management<br>system         | New project approved                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>ISO/IEC DTS 17023</b> Conformity Assessment – Guidelines for determining duration of management system certification audits                                                                                            | Committee Draft study / Ballot initiated                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>ISO/IEC WD 17024-2</b> Conformity assessment – General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons - Part 2 : Terminology                                                                               | Work draft approved for registration as Committee draft                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>ISO/IEC DIS 17067</b> Conformity assessment – Fundamentals of product certification and guidelines for product certification schemes                                                                                   | Full report circulated/ DIS approved for registration as Final<br>Draft International Standard                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>ISO 13528:2005</b> Statistical methods for proficiency testing by inter laboratory comparisons                                                                                                                         | International standard to be revised                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>ISO/IEC 27006:2011</b> Information Technology – Security Techniques – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of information security management systems                                             | International standard to be revised                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>ILAC-R 6:02/2013</b> Structure of the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement and Procedure for Expansion of the scope of the ILAC Arrangement                                                                             | Document published<br>This document describes the structure of the ILAC Mutual<br>Recognition Arrangement as well as the steps to be used by<br>ILAC to consider and to approve new international accredita-<br>tion programs for inclusion in the ILAC Arrangement |

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| STANDARD                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | STATUS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>ILAC P 8:12/2012</b> ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangements<br>(Arrangements): Supplementary requirements and Guidelines for<br>the use of Accreditation Symbols and for claims of Accreditation<br>Status by Accredited Laboratories and Inspection Bodies | Document published<br>This document specifies the requirements and guidelines to<br>ensure a more uniform approach to the use of accreditation<br>symbols and for the manner in which a laboratory/ inspection<br>body may refer to its accreditation status and make claims to<br>ILAC MRA                                                                                                                   |
| ILAC P 10:01/2013 Policy on traceability of measurements re-<br>sults                                                                                                                                                                                        | Document published<br>This document describes the ILAC policy on metrological<br>traceability of measurements results. This policy is effective<br>as of January 2014                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>ILAC P 14:01/2013</b> Policy on uncertainty in Calibration                                                                                                                                                                                                | Document published<br>This document sets out the requirements and guidelines for<br>the estimation and statement of uncertainty in calibration<br>and measurement.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>IAF/ILAC A2:01/2013</b> IAF/ILAC Multi Lateral Recognition Arrangements (Arrangements): Requirements and Procedures for evaluation of a single Accreditation Body                                                                                         | Document published<br>This document provides ILAC and IAF with requirements and<br>a procedure for evaluating single Accreditation Bodies for the<br>purpose of qualifying them to sign applicable multi lateral<br>mutual recognition Arrangement(s)                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>IAF/ILAC A3:01/2013</b> IAF/ILAC Multi Lateral Recognition Arrangements (Arrangements): Narrative framework for reporting on the performance of an Accreditation Body (AB) – A tool for the evaluation process                                            | Document published<br>Effective date for implementation in July 2013.<br>This document provides a tool for the evaluation and report<br>preparation process; (1) to allow an evaluated Accreditation<br>Body (AB) to present information about how it addresses its<br>performance;<br>(2) to provide a framework to present this information in an<br>evaluation report                                      |
| <b>IAF ID:2013</b> Informative document for the transition of Information security management system accreditation to ISO/IEC 27006:2011 from ISO/IEC 27001:2007                                                                                             | Issue no.1, issued on 9 January 2013<br>Informative document for the 18 months transition period of<br>information security management system accreditation to<br>ISO/IEC 27006:2011 from ISO/IEC 27001:2007                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| IAF MD 5:2013 Duration of QMS and EMS audits                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Issue no.2, issued on 4 March 2013<br>Application immediate<br>This mandatory document was derived from the guidance<br>previously available in two documents: IAF GD 2:2005 Annex<br>2 and IAF GD 6:2006 Annex 1. It provides mandatory provi-<br>sions and guidance for CABs to determine the audit duration<br>for stage 1 and stage 2 internal audits, surveillance audits and<br>recertification audits. |
| <b>IAF MD 10:2013</b> IAF mandatory document for assessment of certification body management of competence in accordance with ISO/IEC 17021:2011                                                                                                             | Issue no.1, issued on 11 February 2013<br>Application from 11 February 2014<br>This mandatory document provides a harmonized approach<br>to how Accreditation Bodies assess a Certification body's<br>management of competence in accordance with ISO/IEC<br>17021:2011                                                                                                                                       |

### **SADCAS Training Courses**

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

#### **SADCAS** Trainers

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

#### **Training Programmes**

SADCAS currently offers the following accreditation training courses:

#### Five-Day Requirements and Internal Auditing Training Courses on the Various Key Accreditation Standards

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

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

#### Three-Day ISO/IEC 17025 International Auditing

The objective of the 3-day training course is to impart internal auditing knowledge and skills to laboratory staff. The course covers the following main topics:

Introduction to Auditing The Audit process

 $\checkmark$ 

- Auditor competence
  - Benefits of an auditing
- Reporting and corrective actions

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

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

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

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

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

#### For more details please contact:

SADCAS

Email: info@sadcas.org

# **Diary of Upcoming Events**

| DATES               | MEETINGS                                                                                                                                                                                                          | VENUE                      |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 12 April 2013       | DCMAS Meeting                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Geneva, Switzerland        |
| 15 to 16 April 2013 | ILAC /AIC Meeting                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Cape Town, South Africa    |
| 17 April 2013       | ILAC/PTWG Meeting                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Cape Town, South Africa    |
| 18 to 19 April 2013 | ILAC/LC Meeting                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Cape Town, South Africa    |
| 22 to 25 April 2013 | CAFMET/FOREMESURE Meeting                                                                                                                                                                                         | Casablanca, Morocco        |
| 27 April 2013       | IAF WG on EMS Scoping, IAF WG on ISO/IEC 13485, IAF<br>WG on ISO/IEC 17024, IAF WG on Food, IAF WG on MS<br>Certification, IAF WG on Forestry, IAF TF on GD 3 Meet-<br>ings                                       | Frankfurt, Germany         |
| 28 April 2013       | IAF TF on Audit of Combined and IMS, IAF WG on Prod-<br>uct certification, IAF WG on ISMS MLA Scope, IAF WG<br>on ISO/IEC 20000 ITMS, IAF WG on APG and AAPG, IAF<br>TF on Audit Duration and IAF MLA MC meetings | Frankfurt, Germany         |
| 29 April 2013       | IAF CABAC, IAF UAC, ILAC/IAF JWG A Series Meetings                                                                                                                                                                | Frankfurt, Germany         |
| 29 to 30 April 2013 | IAF TC Meeting                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Frankfurt, Germany         |
| 30 April 2013       | ILAC Inspection Committee, ILAC AMC, JMC Meetings                                                                                                                                                                 | Frankfurt, Germany         |
| 1 May 2013          | ILAC ARC, IAF TF on Multisite, Complex, IAF TF on Com-<br>petence of AB Assessors and Expert Competency and<br>Meetings                                                                                           | Frankfurt, Germany         |
| 1 to 2 May 2013     | IAF WG on GHG Management Meeting                                                                                                                                                                                  | Frankfurt, Germany         |
| 2 May 2013          | Joint Executive Committee Meeting                                                                                                                                                                                 | Frankfurt, Germany         |
| 3 to 5 May 2013     | ILAC Executive Committee and IAF Executive commit-<br>tee Meetings                                                                                                                                                | Frankfurt, Germany         |
| 20 to 23 May 2013   | SADC SPS Coordinating Committee Meeting                                                                                                                                                                           | Johannesburg, South Africa |
| May 2013            | SADCAS FRAC Meeting                                                                                                                                                                                               | ТВА                        |
| May 2013            | SADCAS HRRC Meeting                                                                                                                                                                                               | ТВА                        |
| May 2013            | SADCAS Board Meeting                                                                                                                                                                                              | ТВА                        |
| 23 to 25 May 2013   | 46 <sup>th</sup> Trade Negotiation Forum                                                                                                                                                                          | Gaborone, Botswana         |

| DATES               | MEETINGS                                      | VENUE              |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 23 to 24 May 2013   | Industry Development Forum                    | Gaborone, Botswana |
| 29-30 May 2013      | EEE-PT WG Meeting                             | Paris, France      |
| 18 to 19 June 2013  | Committee of Senior Officials (Trade) meeting | Maputo, Mozambique |
| 21 June 2013        | 25 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of SADC CMT          | Maputo, Mozambique |
| June 2013           | AFRIMETS General Assembly                     | Gaborone, Botswana |
| 17 to 21 June 2013. | 19 <sup>th</sup> ARSO General Assembly        | Yaoundé, Cameroon  |

# Improvements made to SADCAS website under accredited organization to search by Accreditation programme or by Location (Country)

To view visit: http://www.sadcas.org/accredited\_organisations.php

| What is Accreditation?<br>Accreditation Programmes      | Search Accredited Organizations                                                                        |                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Accreditation Process<br>How to Apply for Accreditation | Please use the navigation on left side to access more detailed content about Accredited Organizations. |                                       |
| Accredited Facilities                                   |                                                                                                        |                                       |
| Calibration Laboratories                                | Accreditation Programme:                                                                               | Select Typ                            |
| Certification Bodies                                    | Accordited Laboratory / Increation Dedu                                                                |                                       |
| ⊫QMS                                                    | Accredited Laboratory/ Inspection Body                                                                 |                                       |
| N►EMS                                                   | Location (Country)                                                                                     | Select Cou 🔻                          |
| PFSMS                                                   |                                                                                                        |                                       |
| ⊫SMS                                                    | Accreditation Number                                                                                   |                                       |
| ▶ Product                                               |                                                                                                        | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |
| ▶ Personnel                                             | Clear                                                                                                  | Search                                |
| Inspection Bodies                                       | Clear                                                                                                  |                                       |
| Medical Laboratories                                    |                                                                                                        |                                       |
| Testing Laboratories                                    |                                                                                                        |                                       |

#### **PUBLISHED BY:**

#### **SADCAS**

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