

A light gray map of the Americas, including North and South America, is centered in the background of the slide. An orange square is located in the top left corner, and an orange horizontal bar is at the bottom left.

Inter American Accreditation Cooperation

Facilitating Global Trade through International Standards, Conformity Assessment and Accreditation

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IAAC President

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IAAC



Topics

- **Accreditation**
- **International standards for conformity assessment**
- **Global infrastructure of accreditation co-operations**
- **Mutual recognition arrangements**
- **Benefits**



Accreditation

- **determines the technical competence, integrity and impartiality**
- **of organisations providing conformity assessment services such as**
- **testing, calibration, certification, and inspection**
- **based on international standards**

WTO-TBT Agreement

“6.1.1 adequate and enduring technical competence of the relevant conformity assessment bodies in the exporting Member, so that confidence in the continued reliability of their conformity assessment results can exist; in this regard, verified compliance, for instance through *accreditation*, with relevant guides or recommendations issued by international standardizing bodies shall be taken into account as an indication of adequate technical competence;”



International Standards

- **ISO—International Organization for Standardization**
- **IEC—International Electrotechnical Commission**
- **CASCO—Conformity Assessment Committee of ISO**
- **CASCO Toolbox is the collection of ISO/IEC standards for conformity assessment**



CASCO ToolBox

- **Standard for accreditation bodies**
- ISO/IEC 17011—accreditation bodies
- **Standards for conformity assessment bodies**
- ISO/IEC 17020—inspection bodies
- ISO/IEC 17021—management system certification bodies
- ISO/IEC 17024—bodies certifying persons
- ISO/IEC 17025—testing and calibration laboratories
- ISO/IEC 17043—proficiency testing providers
- ISO/IEC 17065—product certification bodies
- ISO/IEC 17034—reference materials producers

Global Accreditation Co-operations

International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation



International Accreditation Forum





ILAC & IAF

Global networks of accreditation bodies for conformity assessment

- **Recognition of competent conformity assessment activities through global multi-lateral mutual recognition arrangements**
- **Harmonization of conformity assessment practices**
- **Promotion of accredited conformity assessment as an effective mechanism for providing confidence in goods and services**



ILAC & IAF

Global Vision

**“Tested, inspected or certified once—
accepted everywhere”**

**“Accredited once—accepted
everywhere”**



ILAC MRA & IAF MLA

- **The Arrangements, through peer evaluation, provide confidence that ABs are competent**
 - ISO/IEC 17011
 - IAF-ILAC A series documents
- **The Arrangements provide confidence that accredited CABs operate to the same standard**



ILAC MRA & IAF MLA

- **Signatories must recognize the certificates issued by CABs accredited by all other members of the Arrangements**
- **This recognition and acceptance removes technical barriers to international trade (TBT) by eliminating the need for multiple certifications**

Regional Cooperation Bodies



European
Cooperation
for
Accreditation
(EA)



Pacific
Accreditation
Cooperation
(PAC)



Inter-American
Accreditation
Cooperation
(IAAC)



Asia Pacific
Laboratory
Accreditation
Cooperation
(APLAC)



Southern African
Development
Community
Accreditation
(SADCA)



African
Accreditation
Cooperation
(AFRAC)



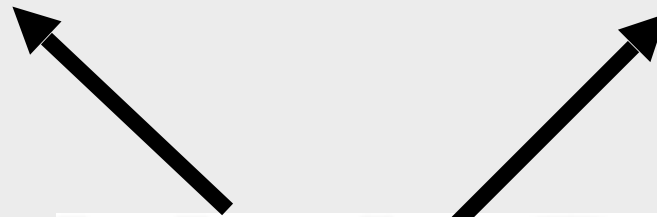
Arab
Accreditation
Cooperation
(ARAC)

Recognized Regional Cooperation



Recognized MRAs

Testing Labs
Medical Labs
Calibration Labs
Inspection Bodies



Submitted an extension application for
Proficiency Testing Providers



Recognized MLAs

QMS
EMS
Product (GLOBAL GAP)

Submitted an extension application for
FSMS
ISMS
MDMS

General information about IAAC

IAAC Members: 51

Full: 24

Associate: 5

Stakeholder: 22

20 MLA Signatories



IAAC MLA signatory bodies from 17 countries

IAAC MLAs :

Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica,
Cuba,

Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua,
Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, USA





Benefits and Value

- **Confidence in accredited conformity assessment results**
- **Facilitation of cross border trade**



Benefits and Value

For government and regulators

- **Flexible alternative to regulation**
- **Efficient monitoring**
- **Reduced cost of regulation**



Benefits and Value

For industry

- **Greater acceptance of products and services**
- **Opening up markets**
- **Reduced cost of multiple testing, inspection or certification**
- **Increased access to suppliers**



Benefits and Value

For consumers

- **Confidence in goods and services in the complex global marketplace**




Summary

- **Commitment to developing a harmonised global approach for conformity assessment and accreditation practices**
- **Supporting developing economies to establish an accreditation infrastructure**



Summary

- **Maintaining the Mutual Recognition Arrangements to ensure equal reliability of accredited services**
- **Promoting greater acceptance by regulators and businesses to remove technical barriers to trade, and avoiding the need for duplicate certifications, testing or inspections**



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Thank you!