

A message from Brett Abraham, PAC Chair



The Taiwan Accreditation Foundation (TAF) hosted PAC's 16th Plenary meetings at the Grand Hotel in Chinese Taipei in June 2009. At that time PAC had 2 Associate Members and 26 Full Members including 15 Signatories covering what we then referred to as three programs (QMS, EMS and Product).

This year, we have the pleasure of returning to Taipei to again be hosted by TAF for our 3rd Joint APLAC-PAC annual meetings. We now have 4 Associate Members and 33 Full Members including 22 Signatories covering 4 Scopes (Management Systems, Product, Greenhouse Gas and Persons) and 5 sub-scopes (QMS, EMS, FSMS, ISMS and EnMS).

The PAC and APLAC executive teams have been working together to continue to streamline our joint meetings.

Our Committee Chairs have been working to identify areas that can constrain our opportunities for cooperation such as in the conduct of joint peer evaluations or in the issuing of our newsletters. There is a great deal more to be gained as they work through these issues.

The joint annual meetings will open to the public on Monday, 13 June 2016 with the Host Economy Seminar. TAF has prepared a range of speakers that will examine this year's World Accreditation Day (9 June) topic which is **Accreditation: A global tool to support Public Policy**.

World Accreditation Day provides us with a valuable exercise that globally synchronizes our research and communications.

The Chairs of IAF and ILAC issued a joint statement illustrating four clear ways that the public sector can benefit from accreditation and other conformity assessment tools including:

- Government can help improve the performance of business by encouraging the use of conformity assessment by minimising risk and promoting trade.

- Accredited conformity assessment can help government deliver and enforce its policies
- Conformity assessment helps regulators regulate
- Government can improve its own performance by using conformity assessment in its own departments.

A public sector assurance website has been jointly established by the IAF and ILAC to showcase the different global examples where accreditation has been used to support public policy efforts.

I encourage you to visit the following public sector assurance website which is likely to include a number of case studies that may be of interest to you.

www.publicsectorassurance.org

A message from the President of TAF



Dear PAC colleagues,

On behalf of Taiwan Accreditation Foundation (TAF), I am delighted to welcome all of you to come to Taipei. The third APLAC-PAC Joint Annual Meetings will be held from 11-18 June 2016 at the “Sheraton Grande Taipei Hotel”, which is located in Taipei City and close to the “Taipei Main Station”.

TAF takes pride in hosting this meeting with every confidence in its fruitful outcome. Besides the meetings, we also cordially welcome all of you to enjoy our varied life cultures, enthusiastic people, quality foods and wonderful scenery during your stay.

Again, it is our earnest hope that your visit will prove pleasant and rewarding to you. We are looking forward to seeing you in Taipei!

Dr Jay-San Chen
President of TAF

Further information and registration information is available from the dedicated meeting website <http://www.aplac-pac2016.org/index.html>

PAC MLA Group Meeting

In recent years, many MLA Group members have made wonderful achievements in extending their MLA scopes to new areas, FSMS, ISMS and GHG. We owe these achievements all to the hard works by peer evaluators. MLA Group members also deserve thanks for their cooperation during peer evaluations and the reviewing of evaluation reports.

Due to the rapid expansion in the number of members wishing to extend their scopes, we have a shortage of peer evaluators in various areas. We are currently finalising preparations to launch the MLA in Energy Management Systems (EnMS). Before we start receiving applications for the EnMS MLA, we have to secure sufficient number of competent evaluators. I would therefore ask all members to nominate competent evaluators from amongst their staff and contract assessors, either in EnMS or other new MLA scopes.

This year, the MLA Group meeting is to be held on the afternoon of 15 June. MLA Group members are requested to participate in making decisions on admittance or continuation of MLAs for many member Accreditation Bodies. I also expect that we will have MLA signatories in a new area - Persons certification – during the signing ceremony at the conclusion of the meeting.

We will also discuss the prospect for further extension of MLA scope. Your views are really appreciated and I look forward to our constructive discussions in Taipei.

In conclusion, I really appreciate the continuous cooperation of all members to promote the PAC MLAs. I am also thankful for the support and help of Vice-Chair, Bruce Li, the PAC Secretariat and MLAMC members.

Azusa Nakagawa-Inoue
PAC MLA MC / MLA Group Chair

Communication and Marketing Committee News

Following the discussion in the APLAC PIC/PAC CMC Joint Meeting in Colombo in June 2015, the joint newsletter between the two organizations was issued in October 2015. It is essential for the two to go hand in hand in various activities and the joint issue of the newsletter made a good progress.

In this single issue by PAC, some of the PAC members are introducing their planned events for the WAD 2016.

World Accreditation Day, 9 June 2016

Accreditation: A Global Tool to Support Public Policy

This year's theme of World Accreditation Day focuses on how accreditation can be a global tool to support public policy for all areas in the public sector – national and local government, regulators.

To help explain the use of accredited conformity assessment, the Public Sector Assurance* website www.publicsectorassurance.org has been established to showcase different global examples where accreditation has been used to support public policy efforts.

*Public Sector Assurance (www.publicsectorassurance.org) is a joint website set up by ISO, ILAC, IAF, IIOC and IEC to help the public sector learn about the benefits of using conformity assessment. It illustrates how accredited conformity assessment is used around the world by central government, local government and regulators to deliver positive benefit. There are 130 case studies from 57 economies, 37 research papers and 20 supporting materials

The Upcoming Meetings in Taipei - PAC CMC and APLAC PIC-PAC CMC joint meetings, 13 and 14 June

Experience sharing of WAD 2016 Events is expected in the meetings. Various other topics, such as the next issue of the PAC Newsletter, the PAC Brochure and other promotional tools and revamp of the PAC website, are going to be discussed. The PAC CMC members' active contribution is highly appreciated.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Taipei.

Noriko Tominaga
PAC CMC Chair

News from PAC Members

Dubai Accreditation Department (DAC)

DAC Peer evaluation for product certification conducted

This was the first joint peer evaluation conducted by PAC and the Arab Accreditation Cooperation (ARAC) from 15 to 19 November 2015.

Mr. Phua Kim Chua (SAC) was the team leader and Mr. Salih Yüksel (TÜRKAK) was the team member.

The peer evaluation was a result of DAC expansion plan. DAC is already a signatory to PAC QMS & EMS MLA.



DAC accredits first lifeguards certification body in Dubai

DAC has accredited first lifeguards certification body in Dubai as per international standard ISO 17024:2012. The accreditation was granted to First Security Group, Dubai. The certification scheme covers certification of pool lifeguards, shallow water lifeguards and beach lifeguards.

Ms. Amina Ahmed Mohammed, director of Accreditation Department advised that the scheme was launched with the collaboration of Public Health & Safety Department of Dubai Municipality. She said that Dubai has large number of pools in hotels, residential & sports complexes and water parks, besides vast pristine beaches. Thousands of life guards are working at these water facilities. The Dubai government intends to provide quality life to residents and visitors. Being the tourism



hub of region Dubai attracts large number of tourists from around the world. The safety of residents and visitors is paramount for the Dubai Government. All lifeguards working in Dubai will be required to be certified under this scheme.

Engineer Noaf Ahmed Al Naqbi, Head of Certification Bodies Accreditation Section informed that more certification bodies will be accredited under this scheme so the lifeguards and their employers will have a wider choice when selecting a certification body. She said lifeguards are assessed for water rescuing and basic first aid skills. After completing successful examinations and certification requirements the lifeguards will receive an accredited certificate and card.

DAC launches accreditation scheme for Halal certifiers

DAC has launched an accreditation scheme for Halal certification bodies as per UAE standard “General Requirements for Halal Certification Bodies UAE S.2055-2:2014”. DAC has received many applications from certification bodies based in UAE and various other countries. The DAC halal accreditation scheme covers certification of products, management systems, testing and inspection processes.



DAC staff during visit of Dubai Abattoirs for witness of Halal certification

DAC arranged a series of training courses for DAC staff and assessors on halal accreditation. The training included class room training on UAE halal standards and witness of on-site certification assessments in abattoirs and food processing industries. Workshops on halal testing and inspection requirements of various products were conducted.

A series of awareness and training seminars for halal certifiers and other stake holders has also been arranged. DAC has arranged two awareness training courses in Dubai on halal certification scheme. Engineer Noaf Ahmed Al Naqbi and Engineer Muhammad Shahid Rasool, Principal Accreditation Specialist were the resource persons for the trainings. Delegates representing various halal certifiers from UAE, USA, Canada, UK, Spain, New Zealand, Philippines & Netherlands attended the awareness training sessions.

Hong Kong Accreditation Service (HKAS)

World Accreditation Day 2016

Quality infrastructure is essential for the effective and efficient functioning of an economy. Strengthening the quality infrastructure has been identified as an important objective of public sector policy makers. A sound quality infrastructure supports, enhances and fosters competitiveness, innovation, trade and consumer safety.

To highlight the pivotal roles that accreditation, metrology and standards play in the quality infrastructure, and to raise public awareness of their importance in the proper functioning of an economy, HKAS, organises a seminar to celebrate the three World Days of the Accreditation, Metrology and Standards.

This event, in collaboration with the Standards and Calibration Laboratory and Product Standards Information Bureau of the Innovation and Technology Commission, the Hong Kong Council for Testing and Certification and the Government Laboratory of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, will take place on 8 June 2016.

This year, we are privileged to have the most prominent figures in accreditation, metrology and standards joining us. Mr Peter UNGER, the Chairman of International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation, Dr Martin MILTON, the Director of the International Bureau of Weights and Measures, and Dr Junji NOMURA, the President of the International Electrotechnical Commission will be our honourable guest speakers. Local guest speakers from regulatory authorities and government departments are also invited to enlighten the audiences on how accreditation supports public policy. Interesting topics on metrology and standards are also included. Conformity assessment bodies and users of their services, trade and industry associations as well as the public will be invited to attend this seminar.

entidad mexicana de acreditación, a.c. (ema)

World Accreditation Day 2016

World Accreditation Day is a great opportunity to gather all stakeholders. In **ema**, we are preparing, a forum to celebrate team work in Mexico with every sector of the Quality Infrastructure: metrologists, standardizers, accreditation bodies and conformity assessment bodies.



Every year on June 9th we celebrate this important date, joining with industry, regulators, research, academia, consumers and conformity assessment sectors. This is the perfect opportunity to recognize and award those who are engaged with conformity assessment and accreditation activities; and thus **ema**'s "Commitment to Accreditation" award was created 8 years ago.

The award recognizes CABs that take action in our collegiate bodies such as Committees and Subcommittees, provide support to transmit and spread accreditation values in our society and its benefits, and other related activities, as well as full compliance of values as integrity, impartiality, confidentiality, et cetera.

This year **ema** also recognizes the trajectory of people who contribute to strengthening Quality Infrastructure in Mexico and how their contributions impact positively to our society.

Under the theme "Accreditation: a Global Tool to Support Public Policy" we will celebrate together this year, in the next edition we will share the results.



National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB)

Voluntary Certification Scheme for Medical Devices launched in India

India has launched a home grown voluntary quality certification scheme for medical devices to bridge the regulatory vacuum in medical devices in the country. The Quality Council of India (QCI) in collaboration with the Association of Indian Medical Device Industry (AIMED) launched the India Certification for Medical Devices (ICMED) Scheme on the World Consumer Rights Day on 15 March 2016 at New Delhi. With about 1.25 billion population in India, and the health sector gaining prominence and priority in public policy and regulatory framework in India, this

scheme was specifically launched to further promote healthy well-being of the citizens of the country, which has a medical device industry currently valued at US\$ 4.4 billion, the fourth largest in Asia, and which has a potential to grow to US\$ 7 billion by 2016.

The scheme is intended to enhance patient safety, provide enhanced consumer protection along with much needed product credentials to manufacturers for instilling confidence among buyers. This initiative is also intended to significantly eliminate trading of sub-standard products or devices of doubtful origins, a widespread and injurious phenomenon in the Indian market. It also aims to bring down the substantial time and cost-run to obtain globally accepted quality certification for Indian companies and eliminate the malpractices of sub-standard or fraudulent certification or quality audits.

Under the Scheme, a multi-stakeholder Steering committee was set up as the apex body, assisted by two more committees, a Technical Committee responsible for formulating the technical criteria and requirements and a Certification Committee responsible for devising certification process and rules for certification bodies to be used under the Scheme. More than twenty government and non-government organizations came on board as part of the Steering committee to support the Scheme, from organizations such as the Department of Commerce, Confederation Of Indian Industry (CII), National Health System Resource Centre (NHSRC), Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Central Drug Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), Center for Bio Medical Engineering, IIT Delhi, Indian Medical Association (IMA), Association of Healthcare Providers (AHPI), Engineering Export Promotion Council (EEPC), Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) etc.

The Scheme envisages three levels of certification as follows:

- ICMED 9000 (Based upon ISO 9001 plus additional requirements)
- ICMED 13485 (Based upon ISO 13485 plus additional requirements)
- ICMED 13485 Plus (Based upon ISO 13485 plus additional requirements plus Product Specifications formulated by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare)

Presently, the first two levels have been introduced and the third level is under development.

The certification bodies would need accreditation to international standards like ISO/IEC 17021 and ISO/IEC 17065 from the **NABCB**, which is a signatory to the international Multilateral Recognition Arrangements (MLAs) of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF). This would provide international acceptability to the medical device industry and enhance its competitiveness in the world market besides assuring the domestic consumer of the quality.

NABCB Awareness Programs

NABCB regularly organizes Consumer Awareness Programs in partnership with Consumer Coordination Council (CCC), a federation of consumer organizations in

India, to educate the consumer organizations and other NGOs working for the cause of consumers, especially in small cities. The programs focus on various aspects such as standards, regulations, role of accreditation, product as well as systems certifications, complaints handling etc. so that they can effectively respond to the complaints brought to their notice by the consumers and also provide the necessary knowledge support in dealing with issues regarding quality of products and services. Programs were conducted at Ajmer, Rajasthan (January), at Ujjan, Madhya Pradesh (February) and at Kolkata, West Bengal (March).

Apart from the consumer awareness programs, NABCB, in order to spread awareness on accreditation and its benefits to the industry, has also undertaken a series of Industry Awareness Programs. These cover topics such as benefits of international equivalence of accreditation for industry; and guidance on selection of certification bodies for ISO 9001 etc certification. NABCB recently conducted four such programs - on 19 January 2016 at Meerut, Uttar Pradesh in partnership with World Association of Small and Medium Enterprises (WASME) in January, at Faridabad, Haryana, in partnership with Engineering Export Promotion Council of India (EEPC India), (January), at Ludhiana, Punjab in partnership with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), and in February 2016 at Pune, Maharashtra, again in partnership with EEPC India. NABCB plans to conduct more such programs in partnership with industry bodies such as CII, FICCI, WASME, EEPC India etc. in the country.



Mr. Anil Jauhri, CEO, NABCB addressing participants in an Awareness Programme

National Center of Accreditation (NCA)

Accreditation in the Republic of Kazakhstan

NCA is the sole National Accreditation Body in the field of conformity assessment defined by the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan (Resolution of the Government of RK 'On Definition of Accreditation Body' d.d. August 27, 2008 No. 773).

NCA carries out its activities in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan d.d. July 5, 2008, 'On Accreditation in the field of conformity assessment', Standard ISO/IEC 17011-2006 'Conformity assessment – General

requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies', and other regulatory legal acts of RK, as well as the requirements of International Accreditation Organizations.

Today NCA accreditation scope includes such accreditation programs as products, services, management systems, personnel certification bodies, testing, calibration, medical laboratories, proficiency testing providers and inspection bodies. All accreditation activities conduct in compliance with international standards requirements. NCA develops new accreditation programs such as GHG verification/validation bodies by ISO 14065 standard, launching certification of organic products, implementation of Good Laboratories Practice (GLP), halal products certification.

In October, 2010 NCA signed ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement for testing and calibration and gained ILAC full membership status. NCA signed the PAC Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA) for Product in June 2012. NCA joined the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) as a full member in October, 2013 and signed the IAF MLA for Product in 2014.

In 2015 NCA applied to PAC for expanding NCA scope for management system certification ISO/IEC 17021 and personnel certification ISO/IEC 17024. In 2016 will be evaluation from PAC.

The key component of every accreditation body is its personnel. For this reason NCA pays attention to advanced professional training. NCA has 36 staff assessors and 19 involved assessors and 994 technical experts. It has two educational centers, in Astana and in Almaty, and also organizes on-site regional training.

NCA has also held workshops to expound the requirements of the standards for specialists and technical experts with participation of international experts in accreditation.

Mr. Serik Kurmangaliyev
NCA Director General



PAC Membership list (and MLA signatory status of Full Members):

JAS-ANZ (Australia & New Zealand) ^{1, 2, 3, 4}	BAB (Bangladesh) - <i>Associate Member</i>
PSK (Brunei Darussalam) – <i>Associate Member</i>	CANC-DA (Cambodia) – <i>Associate Member</i>
CNAS (PR China) ^{1, 2, 3, 4}	DAC (Dubai) ^{1, 2}
HKAS (Hong Kong, China) ^{1, 2, 3, 5}	NABCB (India) ^{1, 2, 3, 4, 6}
NABET (India)	KAN (Indonesia) ^{1, 2, 3, 4}
NACI (Iran)	IA Japan (Japan) ³
JAB (Japan) ^{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6}	JASC (Japan)
JIPDEC (Japan)	NCA (Kazakhstan) ³
KAB (Korea) ^{1, 2}	KAS (Korea) ³
NIER (Korea)	KCA (Kyrgyzstan)
STANDARDS MALAYSIA (Malaysia) ^{1, 2, 3}	ema (Mexico) ^{1, 2, 3, 4, 5}
MASM (Mongolia)	PNAC (Pakistan) ^{1, 2}
PNGLAS - <i>Associate Member</i>	INDECOPI (Peru)
PAO (Philippines) ^{1, 2}	STC-IS Russia
SAC (Singapore) ^{1, 3, 4}	SLAB (Sri Lanka) ^{1, 2, 3, 4}
TAF (Chinese Taipei) ^{1, 2, 3, 4, 5}	NSC (Thailand) ^{1, 2, 3}
GAC (UAE)	ANSI (USA) ^{3, 5}
IAS (USA) ^{1, 2, 3}	IOAS (USA)
UAF (USA)	BoA (Vietnam) ^{1, 3, 4}
ICL (NZ) <i>Observer Member</i>	TCL (India) – <i>Observer Member</i>
BSB (Bhutan) – <i>Corresponding Member</i>	

Legend: 1 = QMS Signatory; 2 = EMS Signatory; 3 = Product Signatory; 4 = FSMS Signatory, 5 = GHG Signatory; 6 = ISMS Signatory

**Further information is available by
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or visit our Website

www.apec-pac.org