

1. Objective:

The objective of this document is to describe the criteria for accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) for Quality Management System certification in accordance with the international standards as applicable.

2. Responsibility:

Director of GAB shall be responsible to ensure that the criteria is maintained updated and appropriately communicated to the CABs in particular and to public in general.

3. Criteria for Accreditation of CABs for Quality Management System Certification (ISO:9001:2015)

The accreditation criteria is based on the international standards applicable for the CABs. Following are the standards that will be used as criteria for accreditation:

- a) ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 Conformity assessment - Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems – Part 1: Requirements
- b) ISO/IEC 17021-3:2017 Conformity assessment – Competence Requirements for auditing and certification of Quality Management Systems

In addition to the above, the mandatory documents as listed below, issued by IAF and applicable for the CABs for QMS are part of the criteria for accreditation;

- a) IAF MD 1:2018 Certification of Multiple Sites Based on Sampling
- b) IAF MD 2:2017 Transfer of Accredited Certification of Management Systems
- c) IAF MD 4:2022 Use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for Auditing/Assessment Purposes
- d) IAF MD 5:2019 Determination of Audit Time of QMS, EMS and OH&SMS
- e) IAF MD 11: 2013 Application of ISO/IEC 17021 for Audits of Integrated Management Systems
- f) IAF MD 23:2018 Control of Entities Operating on Behalf of Accredited Management Systems Certification Bodies

4. Amendment of Criteria for accreditation:

GAB reserves the right to amend the criteria of accreditation. The amendments in the criteria of accreditation will be communicated to applicant/accredited CABs for implementation as per accreditation procedure.

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Prepared by	Ann	
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