

## EA COMMITTEES REPORT - FEBRUARY 2017 \*

### Highlights on latest developments in EA

By January 2017, EA has 36 full members and 14 associate members, among which 34 full members and 4 associate are signatories to the EA MLA.

At the end of January 2017, Geir Samuelsen left NA, the Norwegian national accreditation body, terminating at the same time his mandate as the EA Vice-Chair. We wish Geir a lot of successes in his new position as the Director of the Norwegian NMI, Justervesenet, the Norwegian Metrology Service

**Elections** will take place in May 2017 to renew the Executive Committee in full. All positions are open for election or re-election.

The Executive Committee appointed a project steering group to manage relations with the Standards Council of Canada (SCC) to monitor implementation of **CETA**, the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement between the EU and Canada. A pilot program is developing, involving EA members, to look into practices for the assessment notified bodies. It will focus on the ATEX (Hazardous locations, in Canada) directive.

EA is planning activities in relation with the **2017 World Accreditation Day**. An event should be organised in cooperation with the European Commission to celebrate the WAD and promote accreditation in the field of construction. This event will also be the opportunity to present the results of the Accreditation for Notification project to all stakeholders, as a basis for reinforced harmonisation for notified bodies.

The **EA Strategy 2025** project is on good track. The Strategy was approved in November 2016. How to communicate widely on the Strategy, its objectives and implications will be further developed in 2017. The implementation plan will be approved by the General Assembly in May 2017.

In 2017, EA is a partner of the **International Congress of Metrology** to be held in Paris on 19-21 September and will facilitate a round table on "ISO/IEC 17025 - Measures and Conformity Declaration".



\* Republished on 29 March 2017.

## The MLA Council (MAC)

The EA Multilateral Agreement Council (MAC) held its last meeting in Skopje, Macedonia, on 5 and 6 October 2016 when the following decisions were made:

- **CAI**, the Czech national accreditation body (NAB), becomes a signatory to the EA MLA in the field of proficiency testing providers (PTP) under ISO/IEC 17043. **This decision will enter into force on 27 April 2017 when the MLA will be launched** according to Resolution 2016(37)30 adopted by the EA General Assembly in May 2016.
- **HAA**, the Croatian NAB, remains an EA MLA signatory in the fields of calibration, testing (including medical testing under ISO 15189), inspection, verification according to ISO 14065 and Regulation No 600/2012, management systems certification, products certification and persons certification.
- **NAH**, the Hungarian NAB, was successful in its application for the EA MLA signatory status with respect to the fields of calibration, testing (including medical testing under ISO 15189), management systems certification, persons certification and products certification, verification according to ISO 14065 and Regulation No 600/2012. An additional evaluation is required before inspection can also be included. This decision is effective from 6 October 2016 onwards.
- **OLAS**, the Luxembourg NAB, remains an EA MLA signatory in the fields of calibration, testing (including medical testing under ISO 15189), inspection, products certification and management systems certification.

The MAC agreed to recommend acceptance of **ARMNAB**, the national accreditation body of Armenia as an Associate Member of EA. The final decision was made by the General Assembly in November 2016 when ARMNAB became the 14<sup>th</sup> Associate Member of EA.

A new application has been received from the national accreditation body of **Azerbaijan** on 31 January 2017. It is under review by the Secretariat before submission to the Executive Committee.

Further to the revision of the Articles of Association, Associate members of EA having joined the EA MLA through a bilateral agreement are allowed to vote at MAC meetings. The terms of reference (ToR) of the MAC have been revised accordingly and endorsed by the General Assembly in November 2016. The EA rules of procedure have been reviewed to introduce the voting rules to be used in the MAC and circulated for comments until mid-April 2017. The objective is to approve the revised ToR at the General Assembly meeting in May 2017.

The MAC agreed to accept observers from the US Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) in EA peer evaluations subject to prior agreement with the NAB under evaluation. Contacts are active with NEI representatives to finalise the relevant arrangements for the activities planned in 2017.

**EA will soon be peer-evaluated by ILAC/IAF for extension of its MLA/MRA signatory status to accreditation of Greenhouse Gas verifiers and Proficiency Testing providers.** The relevant onsite and witnessing activities will be completed before summer 2017. In parallel, the application process for IAF management systems sub-scopes has been reopened. The full re-evaluation of EA by ILAC/IAF should normally be planned in 2018.

The **MAC re-engineering project** is progressing. The MAC Chair made a presentation of the results of the extensive survey carried out within the MAC. The objective of the survey, which followed a workshop session held in April 2016 in Riga, was to collect MAC members' and evaluators' feedback on how to improve the EA peer evaluation process. MAC members will be invited to discuss proposals to be prepared by the MAC Management Group in advance of the spring 2017 MAC meeting.

The issue of evaluator resource is currently a priority issue on the MAC agenda. The discussions in Skopje highlighted the importance of the members' contribution to EA – but also ILAC/IAF peer evaluation activities. The work started in 2014 with the review of the rules for the calculation of man days to be given by members to support the peer evaluation plan continues. A new proposal will be presented to the MAC in spring 2017. Sanctions could be considered. Besides, in order to support

further development of the EA pool of evaluators, the MAC decided to set up an additional newcomer session in June 2017. The session will complete a 2017 training plan, which already covers refresher activities to be performed during two distinct workshops.

How to improve monitoring of transition to standards, how to better manage the process for dealing with changes notified to the MAC by ABs' members, how to translate the IAF resolution made in New Delhi on peer evaluation of IAF sub-scopes in the EA peer evaluation system, will be on the agenda of the MAC in 2017.

It is also worth noting that actions about the **EA MLA extension to accreditation of Reference Materials Producers** are going on. The process towards the MLA has started. A survey has been launched to collect data on activity performed by NABs in the field and to estimate the potential number of applications. Training is planned at the end of May 2017, when a train-the-trainer workshop will be facilitated, targeted not only to NAB staff members, but also to potential team members to be assigned for peer evaluation in the field.

The next EAMAC meeting will take place on 26-27 April 2017 in Sofia, Bulgaria.

### **The Horizontal Harmonisation Committee (HHC)**

Two major work items of the HHC were successfully completed during its last meeting held on 20-21 September 2016 in Brussels, Belgium.

The HHC endorsed the revised draft of **EA-1/22: Procedure and Criteria for the Evaluation of Conformity Assessment Schemes by EA Accreditation Body Members**. The status of and process for the evaluation of schemes owned by the European Commission are now clarified. The HHC also agreed on how to deal with situations where issues arising from the evaluation by the "Home AB" cannot be solved. Overall clarification has been introduced in the revised document to help EA members implement it and ensure better harmonisation. A workshop has been set up for HHC members and users of the procedure within the framework of the March 2017 meeting. The revised EA-1/22 was adopted and published in November 2016. On the margins of the process, feedback was collected from HHC members on how they deal with the stage of validation of a scheme. The results of the enquiry will be presented at the March 2017 meeting.

The second significant achievement concerned revision of **EA-2/17: Document on Accreditation for Notification Purposes**. Following a resolution made by the General Assembly in May 2016, EA-2/17 was revised to introduce the results of the Accreditation for Notification (AfN) project and change the status of the document into a mandatory document. EA-2/17 was adopted and published in November 2016. A workshop should be set up in 2017 in cooperation with the European Commission in order to promote EA-2/17 and the outcome of the AfN project in relation with the 2017 World Accreditation Day.

In 2015, a survey on the use and application of **EA-2/13 for cross-frontier accreditation** had been carried out within the HHC. At its last meeting, the HHC appointed a task force group (TFG) in charge of reviewing the results of the survey and coming up with a set of recommendations to be discussed in spring 2017.

As already successfully implemented by the IC, CC and LC, the HHC started its own **Questions & Answers list**. At each of their meetings, the Committees regularly review and discuss questions submitted either by their members and stakeholders or by the other EA committees. The outcome of the discussions and agreed answers are included into a committee-related consolidated list, which will be published on the EA public website and intranet.

To respond to a finding arising from the last internal audit of HHC operations, the HHC agreed to revise its terms of reference (ToR). More clarity was introduced about the process for appointing TFGs for specific issues. The revised HHC ToR were adopted and published in November 2016.

The agenda of HHC in 2017 also includes:

- transition to the new version of ISO/IEC 17011;

- revision of EA-3/01: *EA Conditions for the use of accreditation symbols, text reference to accreditation and Reference to the EA MLA Signatory status* in the light of the IAF resolution on the mandatory use of symbols on certificates,

The next EAHHC meeting will take place on 28-29 March 2017 in Brussels, Belgium.

### The Communications and Publications Committee (CPC)

The CPC held its last meeting on 14-15 September 2016 in Madrid, Spain.

The Committee endorsed the revised draft of **EA-1/14: Procedure for the Development and Approval of EA Documents and the Adoption of ILAC/IAF Documents**. The objectives are to reflect the resolution adopted in the General Assembly that provides automatic adoption of ILAC/IAF mandatory documents, and to introduce a simplified process for developing EA documents and their classification. The revised draft was out for EA comments until mid-December. A new draft will be submitted to the CPC in March 2017 before being balloted in EA.

The CPC completed the establishment of a **list of common abbreviations** to be published on the EA website. This is to meet a need expressed by many users of the EA website, including newcomers in the EA Community. The list will be continuously and centrally improved by the Secretariat, based on inputs from all technical committees and members.

A workshop on the *Communication and Marketing Plan* resulted in 3 major actions to be implemented in the coming months: 1) the EA communication plan is being developed in parallel and in support of the *EA Strategy 2025* project; 2) a specific plan for communication on the EA **Twitter** account and other social media in future, will be established, as a continuation of the plan already implemented at the Secretariat level; 3) as part of the continuous improvement of the **EA website**, a number of actions have been taken with regards to specific pages, such as the Events page or the Media Centre or the descriptive pages on the EA MLA and peer evaluation process in particular. A thorough review of the informative contents of the website is nearing completion by the Secretariat. A new project for a full revamping of the EA website should start in 2018.

The new system like a **search facility on CABs accredited by EA members** has been launched. It uses individual hyperlinks to the NAB websites for each accreditation field. The relevant webpages can be searched and found from the MLA pages (maps) of the EA website at <http://www.european-accreditation.org/mla-and-bla-signatories>.

The next EACPC meeting will take place on 8-9 March 2017 in Prague, Czech Republic.

### The Laboratory Committee (LC)

A large number of issues are currently under development in the LC as a result of its last meeting held on 27-28 September 2016 in Copenhagen, Denmark

Two important stakeholder organisations attended and gave a presentation during the meeting:

- **EGOLF**, the *European Group of Organisations for Fire Testing, Inspection and Certification*, presented the result of an enquiry about accreditation practices in their scheme. The LC agreed to further elaborate on the practice in force in EA for accreditation in the field of fire testing in accordance with the EGOLF scheme.
- Draft guidance on how to cooperate for joint assessments between EA and the European Directorate for Quality in Medicines (**EDQM**) was submitted to LC members for comments. DANAK enriched the discussion by giving feedback on joint assessments conducted by DANAK and EDQM, highlighting that the experience had been considered to be very valuable for both

sides, both in technical and economic terms. The LC will be invited to endorse the revised draft in March 2017 which will then go out for EA comments.

Which standard to use for accreditation in the field of **medical imaging**? In EA as well, the issue is under consideration. The objective is to come up with one only standard to be recommended for accreditation in the field. It is indeed one of the major objectives of EA's new Strategy for better harmonization, in line with the results of the so-called "*Accreditation for Notification*" project that provides a list of preferred standards to be applied for accreditation for EC directives and modules.

Started in the MAC, the discussions on how to best use the results of **ILCs** have come to a final position in the EA Executive Committee. The latter eventually supported and endorsed the MAC position that, although there is no doubt that they are a useful tool for accreditation and CABs, highlighted ILCs should not be used anymore for peer evaluation and MLA purposes. This is leading the LC to reconsider the mandate and terms of reference of its two WGs for ILCs in calibration and in testing. It is accepted that the ongoing plans shall not be stopped. What shall be the future of the 2 WGs will be given due attention at the LC meeting in March 2017, also in light of the new ISO/IEC 17025.

**Flexible scopes** are a focus not only for the LC WG Health Care, but also for the Technical Network on PTP/RMP. Both will report to the LC in March 2017.

LC members welcomed the restarting of close **cooperation** between EA and **EURAMET**. Both organisations have agreed to meet twice a year on the margins of LC meetings. Other cooperation will be given a new start in the field of forensic science - which is much welcomed by the LC community - with a presentation to be made by Christina Bertler from the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (**ENFSI**) at the LC meeting March 2017. We are happy to see Christina back in the LC!

The LC continues to focus on the **revision of ISO/IEC 17025**. At each meeting, a presentation is made on progress with the revision and key topics for discussion are highlighted. The LC already agreed to develop a train-the-trainer workshop in early 2018. How to monitor transition will be tabled as an issue on the March 2017 agenda.

The LC will organise **training activities** in 2017. A workshop on ISO 17034 for accreditation of Reference Materials Producers will be hosted by ACCREDIA in Milan. Two trainers have already been appointed. The objective is twofold: to harmonise and to train future team members to be assigned in peer evaluation teams for RMP in the short or mid-term.

On the documentation side, **EA-4/09: Accreditation for Sensory Testing Laboratories** has just been approved as a result of the EA ballot concluded on 13 February. Besides, **EA-2/14: Procedure for Regional Calibration ILCs in support of the EA MLA**, and **EA-4/17: EA Position Paper on the Description of Scopes of Accreditation of Medical Laboratories** are due for review. A new guidance on ILCs with few participants, developed by the EEE-PT WG, will be presented at the LC meeting in March 2017, when a proposal to develop guidance for accreditation in the field of pesticides, supported by the EALC TN Food and Feed, will also be made, based on the results of a survey highlighting some need for harmonisation.

Finally the LC Chair, Laurent Vinson, will contribute to a round table of the **International Congress of Metrology** (CIM) to be held in Paris on 19-21 September 2017. Again EA is a partner of this annual congress. Laurent, also Director of COFRAC Laboratory division, will be the co-facilitator of the proposed round table on "ISO/IEC 17025 - Measurement and Conformity declaration", together with Martine Blum who is part of the CIM Organising Committee.

<p>We are very pleased to report that a new Secretary of the LC has been appointed. Ms Christelle Radena joined the Secretariat team on 26 December 2016. She is the new EA Quality Officer, Secretary of the LC and HHC. We wish Christelle a friendly and successful time with EA and all of our colleagues!</p>
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The next EALC meeting will take place on 8-9 March 2017 in Paris, France.

## The Certification Committee (CC)

The EA CC held its 32th meeting on 13 and 14 September 2016 in Tallinn, Estonia, where it was hosted by EAK, the Estonian national accreditation body. The discussions, led by the EACC Chair, Kevin Belson from the UK NAB (UKAS), focused on the following:

### Publication of the EACC Frequently Asked Questions

The EA Executive Committee approved to make EACC Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) available on the EA website provided that the Committee defines clear rules on what is published and that no one can misinterpret the answers only given as EACC recommendations. The rules for EACC members to submit questions to the committee and detailed rules for answering and publishing FAQs were approved in Tallinn, where it was clearly stressed that all answers shall be approved by the CC prior to publication. It was agreed to start publishing EACC FAQs with those discussed at the meeting in Tallinn. The EA Secretariat is now considering how such document should be published on the EA website.

### More harmonized selection of conformity assessment standards

Further to the completion of the EA Accreditation for Notification (AfN) project that aimed at increasing harmonisation between accreditation bodies when accrediting conformity assessment (CA) bodies for the purposes of notification through the establishment of a list of Preferred CA Standards, an EACC Task Force Group, convened by Michael Berger from PEFC Council, is elaborating on a guidance document for selection of CA standards by scheme owners and regulators. A first part will describe selection criteria for ISO/IEC 17065 and ISO/IEC 17021; a second part will include a decision tree for final decision. The outcome will be presented at the next CC meeting. It is intended that a later version of this document will also include reference to ISO/IEC 17020.

### Evaluation of the need for guidance documents and revisions to some standards

The results of the implementation survey just carried out by IAF, which will be discussed within the *ad hoc* IAF WG to assess whether some guidance is needed or not, show that many clauses of **ISO/IEC 17065** need more a clarification than a full revision of the standard. An EACC TFG should consider the results of the IAF survey to assess the need for guidance to ISO/IEC 17065 as an input to IAF.

At its previous meeting in March 2016, the CC had agreed that EA would let IAF decide upon any need for guidance on **ISO/IEC 17024**. It was acknowledged in Tallinn that, in case the IAF TC decides to draft guidance, EA's representation and contribution will be of the utmost importance.

In parallel, the EA CC supported CEN/CENELEC TC1 in its decision to postpone the 2017-planned revisions of ISO/IEC 17065 and ISO/IEC 17024 for further 5 years.

Finally, the need for drafting guidance on accreditation under **EN 15224** will be discussed at the next CC meeting.

### Non-accredited certification offered by accredited CBs

Further to previous discussions in the committee, it was agreed in September 2016 that the EA CC should follow up the implementation of the resolution drafted by the IAF TC and adopted by IAF in New Delhi in November 2016 (**IAF Resolution 2016-17**), providing that:

*Further to Resolution 2015-14, The General Assembly, acting on the recommendation of the Technical Committee, resolved that in order for a management system certification document to be considered accredited, it must display the accreditation symbol, and/or, reference the accreditation status of the CB including the identification of the AB.*

*The General Assembly further agreed that management systems certification bodies:*

1. must transition certification documentation to include the accreditation symbol, and/or, reference the accreditation status of the CB including the identification of the AB, at the time of recertification decision; no later than 06 November 2019;
2. when granted initial accreditation (for a standard or scope), as of 06 November 2016, the CB must transition (re-issue) previous unaccredited certification documents, within one year after the accreditation decision;
3. must apply this resolution to all management system standards.

*Note: If there is an exception to the above, the client must justify the exception to the CB and AB, and if accepted by both the CB and AB, the certification is still considered accredited.*

This resolution implies a compulsory use of the accreditation mark in order to know whether the certification is covered or not by accreditation.

### **EACC representation in international meetings**

The EA CC agreed to look into both EA-1/21: *EA Internal Procedure for Liaison Activities* and IAF PR6:2011 to assess whether a guidance document is needed for the Committee's members to represent the EACC at international meetings, especially at IAF meetings. Discussions should be pursued in March 2017.

### **EACC-relevant documents**

After a long-term elaboration process, mandatory **EA-3/13: EA Document on the Application of ISO/IEC 17021-1 for the Certification of Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems (OH&SMS)** was published in June 2016. The TFG was disbanded in Tallinn. The EA document has been put forward as EA's input to IAF TC where the issue is now to be discussed.

EACC WG Environment has finalized a revised draft of **EA-7/04: Legal Compliance as a Part of Accredited ISO 14001: 2004 Certification**, which was endorsed by the CC. According to the new work item approved at the EA General Assembly in November 2015, the draft has been sent out for a joint 60-day comment period within both EA and CC until 20 December 2016. The comments are now considered by the EACC WG Environment before presenting a revised version in March 2017.

**EA-6/03: EA Document for Recognition of Verifiers under the EU ETS Directive** is being revised by EACC Network Group EU ETS, within which comments had been called for until summer 2016. The comments are still analysed by the NG.

EACC WG Food agreed to draft a rationale for revision of **EA-6/04: EA Guidelines on the Accreditation of Certification of Primary Sector Products by Means of Sampling of Sites** after evaluating the need for revision through a survey aimed at knowing which NAB uses the document. The new work item was endorsed by the EA General Assembly in November 2016.

At last, the EA CC recommended the EA General Assembly in November 2016 to adopt the following **Level 4 standards**, the first three of which complement the existing requirements of ISO/IEC 17021:2011:

- ISO/IEC TS 17021-5:2014 - Competence requirements for auditing and certification of asset management systems;
- ISO/IEC TS 17021-6:2014 - Competence requirements for auditing and certification of business continuity management systems;
- ISO/IEC TS 17021-7:2014 - Competence requirements for auditing and certification of road traffic safety management systems;
- ISO 50003:2014 that specifies requirements for competence, consistency and impartiality in the auditing and certification of energy management systems (EnMS).

### **Strategic session**

The full morning of the meeting's second day was dedicated to a strategic group discussion aimed at considering the **relationship between certification bodies and consultants**. EA CC members were divided into several groups to discuss and answer the following 3 questions:

- *What activities can a CB do that are not consultancy?*
- *Can a CB publish a list of consultants? If yes, what kind of controls would be needed?*
- *At what point does a CB “cross the line” and break the rules of ISO/IEC 17021-1, ISO/IEC 17024 or ISO/IEC 17065?*

Because this is a topic that comes up for discussion on a regular basis, a clear and repeatable EA position is needed.

Further on, a detailed survey on **NABs’ activities for scheme development** was carried out through the EA intranet from December 2016 to January 2017. Both the collated feedback from the strategic session groups and the survey outcome are being carefully considered by the EACC Chair before some follow-up discussion takes place at the next CC meeting to be held on 15-16 March 2017 in Antalya, Turkey.

## The Inspection Committee (IC)

The 32th meeting of the EA IC was hosted on 15 and 16 September 2016 in Tallinn, Estonia, by the national accreditation body EAK. Discussions were led by the EAIC Chair, Rolf Straub, from SAS, the Swiss NAB.

### About inspection standards

The Tallinn EA IC meeting lasted two full days. The first day was entirely dedicated to a **workshop** whose priority themes, based on some remaining issues of a previous workshop held in March 2015 on **ISO/IEC 17020: 2012 / ILAC P15: 2014**, focused on: independence and impartiality; inspection scopes on accreditation certificates; differences between testing and inspection.

**Independence and impartiality** were further considered during the plenary meeting on the second day, when an exhaustive presentation gave a very valuable analysis of the issues and the many situations likely to occur at the assessment level.

The EA IC was requested to evaluate the need for **revision of ISO/IEC 17020:2012**, normally expected in 2017. IC members’ opinion is that revision of the standard is not necessary in the immediate future and can be postponed for further 5 years, thus agreeing with the position of CEN/CENELEC TC1.

Invited by the EAIC Chair to explain EUROLAB’s position on **accreditation of sampling as a standalone activity**, the EUROLAB representative, Wilfried Hinrichs, reported that EUROLAB did not support sampling as a standalone activity either under ISO/IEC 17020 or ISO/IEC 17025. Another more specific standard should be used instead and a definition should be endorsed, because EUROLAB maintains its position that it is not a conformity assessment activity.

So far, the EA General Assembly has agreed that, as soon as accreditation is used for sampling as a standalone activity, sampling shall always be treated as being in direct connection with a distinct inspection, testing or calibration process.

### About inspection scopes

Discussions on **inspection scopes on accreditation certificates** were also followed up at the plenary session. EAIC members had to send representative scopes relating to pressure vessels (regulated field) and periodic inspection of lifts (non-regulated field) a few months ago in order for the Chair to identify some similarities. The scopes received from members were examined during the workshop itself, whose outcome should be consolidated and further analysed.

### About European regulations

The EAIC Vice-Chair, Tomas Holm from SWEDAC, the Swedish NAB, reported on the latest developments in the **EAIC Technical Network Car Inspection**, of which he is the convener. He notably updated the whole Committee on the development of a regulation that did not recognize accreditation for technical services for car type approval in a satisfactory manner. Because the



regulation is still under development at a drafting stage, and negotiated in the EU Council and Member States (MS), there is still some room for influencing the text in a favourable way to include requirements based on accreditation in the regulation.

EAIC members were also updated on **EA's cooperation with the European Railway Agency (ERA)**, notably on the progress made with draft application guidance on CMS (Common Safety Method) assessment.

The EAIC briefly discussed concerns stated by UKAS, the UK NAB, regarding the role of conformity assessment (in accordance with Regulation (EC) 765/2008) in Directive 2009/15/EC and the current development of the Regulation (EC) No 391:2009 on common rules for **ship inspection** and survey organisations. TURKAK, the Turkish NAB, should make a detailed presentation of their accreditation scheme at the next EAIC meeting to take place on 14 March 2017 in Antalya, Turkey.

### **The EA Advisory Board (EAAB)**

The 37<sup>th</sup> EAAB meeting took place on 12 October 2016 in Brussels, Belgium, at the EFTA Secretariat.

The main discussions led by Michael Nitsche, the EAAB Chair, focused on:

- the revised and currently balloted EA-1/22: *EA Procedure and Criteria for the Evaluation of Conformity Assessment Schemes by EA Accreditation Body Members*, which should clarify a number of points, notably regarding schemes owned by the European Commission;
- the report on the outcome of the AfN (**Accreditation for Notification**) project, especially for the resulting Annex that lists the *Directory of Preferred Harmonized Standards per EC Directive/Regulation and module*. EA was thanked by the Board for the exhaustive work achieved with the AfN project;
- the project on **EA Strategy 2025**: the Board strongly supports the strategic objectives as defined in the project, and is looking forward to having them implemented;
- the possible postponement of **revision of the ISO-series standards due in 2017**: the EAAB CAB College does not support the revision of ISO/IEC 17065 in 2017 and the need for guidance on the current standard, and asks EA to support this at e.g. IAF/ILAC TCs and GAs, ISO-IAF-ILAC JSC, etc.

The next EAAB meeting should be held on 12 October 2017.

## EA Training Plan 2017

### Harmonisation training

Training on the Delegated Act to the Regulation (EU) 2015/757 on the **monitoring, reporting and verification of carbon dioxide emissions from maritime transport** – 2-3 February 2017, Hamburg  
*Managed by the Certification Committee*

### ISO/IEC 17034

Hosted by ACCREDIA, 30-31 May 2017, Milan  
*Managed by the Laboratory Committee*

**ISO 22003** Food Safety Management Systems (to be confirmed)

*Managed by the Certification Committee*

### Peer evaluator training

#### Newcomer session

Hosted by the Secretariat, June 2017  
*Managed by the MAC*

Refresher **GHG verification / Persons certification** (to be confirmed)

*Managed by the MAC*

Refresher **Management Systems certification**

*Managed by the MAC*

## EA Publications – Update on revision

**EA-1/14** Procedure for the development and approval of EA documents and the adoption of ILAC/IAF documents

Under revision  
Final draft to be approved by CPC in March before EA voting

**EA-1/17** Rules of procedure

Under revision  
Revised draft out for EA comments until mid-April

**EA-1/17 Supplement 4** Proxy procedure

Under revision  
Revised draft out for EA comments until mid-April

**EA-0/07** Procedure for application for EA membership

Under revision  
Revised draft out for EA comments until mid-April

**EA-4/09** Accreditation for sensory testing laboratories

Adopted February 2017

**EA-1/06** EA MLA – Criteria for signing – Policy and procedure for development

Under revision to reflect new policy for highlighted ILCs

**EA-2/14** Procedure for regional calibration ILCs in support of the EA MLA

For review further to the new policy for highlighted ILCs

**EA-INF/12** Benefits and importance of the participation in highlighted PT schemes

For review further to the new policy for highlighted ILCs

**EA-4/17** EA position paper on the description of scopes of accreditation of medical laboratories

Under review

**EA-6/03: EA Document for Recognition of Verifiers under the EU ETS Directive**

Under revision.

**EA-6/04: EA Guidelines on the Accreditation of Certification of Primary Sector Products by Means of Sampling of Sites**

Under revision

