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**DEED OF AMENDMENT OF ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION
EUROPEAN CO-OPERATION FOR ACCREDITATION (EA)**

This day, the twenty-eight day of July two thousand and sixteen, appears before me, Mrs. Harriët van Zenderen, civil-law notary in Utrecht, the Netherlands:

Mr. Jan Carel van der Poel, born on the twenty-third day of April nineteen hundred fifty one in Sneek, the Netherlands, residing at 7316 BD Apeldoorn, the Netherlands, Tutein Noltheniuslaan 7, married, holder of a Dutch passport having the number NRRFK0C588.

The person appearing declares:

- ./.
1. On the twenty-sixth day of May two thousand and sixteen, the General Assembly (the general assembly according to Dutch law) of the association with full legal capacity organised under the laws of the Netherlands: **EUROPEAN CO-OPERATION FOR ACCREDITATION (EA)**, with corporate seat in the municipality of Utrecht, the Netherlands, and office address at 3511 SX Utrecht, the Netherlands, Daalseplein 101, registered with the trade register under file number 30166441, hereinafter referred to as: "EA", resolved to amend the articles of association of EA and to authorise Mr. Jan Carel van der Poel, aforementioned, to execute the deed of amendment of articles of association, as appears from an extract of the minutes of the general assembly, a copy of which is attached to this deed.
 2. The articles of association of EA were lastly amended by deed, executed on the thirteenth day of April two thousand eleven before Mrs. Harriët van Zenderen, civil-law notary in Utrecht, the Netherlands.

Pursuant to the aforementioned resolutions the person appearing declares that she hereby amends the articles of association of EA such that these per today shall read in full as follows:

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION.

Definitions.**Article 1**

In these articles of association the following terms shall have the following meanings:

- a. EA: the association with full legal capacity organised under the laws of the Netherlands: EUROPEAN CO-OPERATION FOR ACCREDITATION (EA) referred to in article 2 paragraph 1 of these articles of association;
- b. National Accreditation Body: the sole body in a country or economy that performs accreditation with authority derived from that government;
- c. Members: the Full Members as well as the Associate Members, as far as these articles of association make no further distinction or the opposite appears from the context;
- d. Full Members: the members referred to in article 5 paragraph 1 under A of these articles of association;
- e. Associate Members: the members referred to in article 5 paragraph 1 under B of these articles of association;
- f. Secretariat: the EA secretariat established by the Executive Committee;
- g. General Assembly: the body referred to in article 2:40 of the Dutch Civil Code and article 7 of these articles of association, namely the general assembly of EA;
- h. Executive Committee: the body referred to in article 2:44 of the Dutch Civil Code and article 12 of these articles of association, namely the managing board of EA, which is, subject to the restrictions according to these articles of association, charged with the management of EA;
- i. annual meeting of the General Assembly: the compulsory annual meeting of the General Assembly, referred to in article 10 paragraph 1 and in article 18 paragraph 3 of these articles of association, to be held in principle within six months after the end of the financial year;
- j. annual accounts: the balance sheet and the statement of income and expenditure with the notes of EA;
- k. electronically: if the person with whom the communication is made agrees to this, written statements to and from EA may be made by means of a legible and reproducible message sent electronically to the address that has been made known by EA to the person with whom the communication is made for this purpose and by the person with whom the communication is made to EA;
- l. EU: European Union;
- m. EFTA: European Free Trade Association;
- n. European Legislation: Regulation (EC) 765/2008 setting out the requirements for accreditation and market surveillance of products and other EU/EFTA legislation referring to accreditation;
- o. Rules of Procedure: the rules referred to in article 17 of these articles of association;
- p. Technical committees: committees established by the General Assembly to discuss and harmonise the technical aspects of accreditation and reporting to the General Assembly.

Name and seat.**Article 2**

1. The name of the association is: EUROPEAN CO-OPERATION FOR ACCREDITATION (EA).
2. EA has its domicile in the municipality of Utrecht, the Netherlands.
3. EA is governed by the law of the Netherlands.

Objectives.

Article 3

The objectives of EA are:

1. to serve as a cooperative network of its Members for the furtherance of a coherent European accreditation system that operates in the general European interest;
2. to harmonise and build consistency in accreditation as a public authority activity to support European trade and industry according to its needs and to the requirements laid down in applicable European legislation;
3. to evaluate the compliance of National Accreditation Bodies with the requirements of applicable harmonised standards, European legislation, and other criteria as applicable and agreed by EA;
4. to consolidate and strengthen the multilateral agreement based on the peer evaluation activities on mutual recognition of the accreditation activities operated by Members and to promote the international acceptance of this agreement;
5. to promote the establishment of agreements on mutual recognition of accreditation activities at the international level;
6. to enter into cooperation agreements with non-European accreditation bodies with the purpose to evaluate compliance with the requirements for the European accreditation system;
7. to establish closer cooperation with other regions on issues of mutual interest in facilitating international trade;
8. to promote confidence in the European accreditation infrastructure, competence and services in calibration, certification, inspection, testing, verification and other activities covered by EA;
9. to be a resource on technical matters and contribute to the development, maintenance and implementation of accreditation in the EU and EFTA countries, and internationally;
10. to be the body recognised by the European Commission and EFTA as the European accreditation infrastructure.

Capital.

Article 4

EA's capital shall be made up of:

- a. contributions from Members;
- b. monies otherwise obtained.

Members of EA.

Article 5

1. EA shall have two types of Members:
 - A. Full Members are National Accreditation Bodies legally appointed as referred to in regulation (EC) number 765/2008 in:

- a. a member state of the EU; or
 - b. a member state of the EFTA; or
 - c. a country which has been formally identified by the EU or EFTA as a candidate country for membership in the EU or EFTA;
- B. Associate Members are the National Accreditation Bodies legally appointed as such by countries or economies being:
- a. identified by the EU or EFTA as potential candidate countries or economies for EU or EFTA membership; or
 - b. identified by the EU in the European Commission's European Neighbourhood Policy as countries or economies of particular importance.
2. A Member shall inform the Executive Committee immediately in writing or electronically of changes that may lead to it no longer meeting the requirements applicable to it for the membership set in this article.
 3. The Executive Committee shall keep a register of Members listing the names, addresses, e-mail addresses, telephone numbers and fax numbers of all the Members and their delegates, also showing to which category of membership the Member belongs. Every Member shall state its own address and e-mail address as well as the address and e-mail address of its delegates and also any changes therein to EA immediately in writing.
 Within EA, the Members shall be represented by one or more adult individuals, empowered to do so by law or the articles of association of the corresponding Member or under a specially proxy given to him or them in writing by the corresponding Member, these persons hereinafter referred to as: "delegates". The requirement of the proxy being in writing shall be met if the proxy has been laid down electronically. A person may only, without prejudice to article 8 paragraph 7, within EA act as a delegate of one Member.
 4. National Accreditation Bodies applying for membership of EA shall provide evidence that they meet the applicable requirements.
 5. More detailed rules concerning membership are contained in separate rules.
 6. Application for membership shall be submitted to the Secretariat. The General Assembly decides whether to accept an applicant as a Member.
 7. The Member contribution period commences on the first day of January the year following the acceptance by EA.
 8. A Member shall be obliged to pay annually a contribution. The level of contribution shall be established by the General Assembly not later than the first day of December the year before the membership dues have to be paid.

End of membership and suspension.

Article 6

1. The membership shall end:
 - a. as a result of the Member ceasing to exist;
 - b. as a result of notice of termination by the Member;
 - c. as a result of notice of termination by EA;

- d. as a result of expulsion.
2. The Member's notice of termination shall be given in writing at the latest three months before the end of the financial year.
If continuation of the membership cannot reasonably be required of the Member the notice of termination may be given at any time with immediate effect. Furthermore the Member may terminate the membership with immediate effect within one month after being informed of a resolution on conversion of EA into a different legal form, on merger or on split-off. The power of termination with immediate effect by the Member shall not exist in the event of any change of monetary rights and obligations.
3. EA's notice of termination is to be given in writing at the latest three months before the end of the financial year. EA may terminate the membership if a Member has ceased to meet the requirements imposed for the membership in these articles of association and also when EA cannot reasonably be required to allow the membership to continue. If continuation of the membership of EA cannot reasonably be required, notice of termination may be given at any time with immediate effect, which shall at any rate be the case if:
- a. the Member does not fulfill his obligations to EA;
 - b. the Member no longer meets the requirements imposed on the membership;
 - c. the Member acts contrary to the articles of association, the Rules of Procedure or other rules or resolutions of EA;
 - d. the Member harms EA unreasonably.
- Notice of termination by EA shall be effected by the Executive Committee based on a decision of the General Assembly. The relevant Member shall be informed by the Executive Committee of the decision of the General Assembly as soon as possible in writing, with a statement of the reasons.
4. Notice of termination contrary to the provisions in the preceding paragraphs shall cause the membership to end at the earliest possible time following the date by which notice of termination was given.
5. Expulsion may only be pronounced if a Member acts contrary to the articles of association, the Rules of Procedure and other rules or resolutions of (bodies of) EA or harms EA in an unreasonable manner. Expulsion from the membership shall be effected by the Executive Committee based on a decision of the General Assembly. The relevant Member shall be informed by the Executive Committee of the decision of the General Assembly as soon as possible in writing, with a statement of the reasons.
6. Subject to the above provisions about termination of the membership by EA, if a Member does not fulfill his obligations to EA, a Member may be suspended by the Executive Committee if and for as long as it does not, not fully or not in time fulfill its obligations to EA. The person concerned may appeal to the General Assembly from a decision on suspension of the membership by the Executive Committee within six weeks after receipt of the notification of the decision. Further provisions concerning suspension of Members may be included in the Rules of Procedure.

The General Assembly, admission and right to vote.

Article 7

The General Assembly is the highest decision-making body of EA and shall have all the powers that have not been entrusted to other bodies of EA by the law or these articles of association.

Article 8

1. Each Member appoints a maximum two delegates to represent it in the General Assembly.
2. All delegates shall be admitted to the meetings of the General Assembly. Admission shall furthermore be granted to persons invited by the Executive Committee. Delegates of suspended Members shall not be admitted.
3. The chairman of the meeting of the General Assembly shall decide on admission of others than the persons referred to in paragraph 2.
4. Delegates shall have the right to speak at the meetings of the General Assembly. Other persons present shall have this right if and in so far as the chairman of the meeting of the General Assembly has given them the floor.
5. The delegate of any Full Member that is not suspended shall be entitled to cast one vote in name of the concerned Full Member at the General Assembly. If a Full Member has appointed two delegates, they shall decide amongst themselves who will be empowered to cast the vote of the concerned Full Member.
6. The delegate or delegates of any Associate Members and invited stakeholders may contribute to the meetings but have no voting rights.
7. A delegate which is entitled to vote on behalf of a Full Member may have his vote cast at the meeting by proxy given to the delegate of another Full Member entitled to vote. The requirement of the proxy being in writing shall be met if the proxy has been laid down electronically. As a proxy of a delegate of another Full Member entitled to vote a delegate may only cast his vote at the meeting for one such delegate.
8. Subject to the provisions in the preceding paragraph a delegate of a Full Member entitled to vote may also participate in meetings of the General Assembly, speak and cast his vote at it by an electronic means of communication. For the purpose it shall be required that via the electronic means of communication a delegate of a Full Member entitled to vote:
 - a. can be identified;
 - b. can follow the proceedings at the meeting direct;
 - c. can participate in the consultation; and
 - d. can exercise the right to vote.
9. Further rules about participation in balloting or voting at meetings of the General Assembly by means of an electronic means of communication may be laid down in the Rules of Procedure.

Article 9

The General Assembly shall establish and maintain a decision-making process that allows decisions on the results of the peer evaluations to be taken by all signatories to the EA Multilateral Agreement (MLA) including Bilateral Agreement (BLA) signatories, in an

independent and impartial manner.

General Assembly meetings.

Article 10

1. The General Assembly shall meet at least once per year and further as often and as many times as the Executive Committee or one tenth of the Full Members shall deem desirable.
2. On the written request of at least such a number of Full Members as is entitled to cast at least one tenth of the number of votes that may be cast at a meeting of the General Assembly, the Executive Committee shall furthermore be obliged to call a meeting of the General Assembly at not less than thirty days' notice. The requirement of the request being in writing shall be met if the request has been laid down electronically. If the request is not granted within fourteen days, the persons making the request may convene that meeting themselves by making a call in accordance with the provisions in paragraph 3 or by advertisement in at least one national daily newspaper, with observance of the period of call referred to in paragraph 3. The persons making the request may then charge others than the members of the Executive Committee with the conduct of the meeting of the General Assembly and the keeping of the minutes.
3. The Secretariat shall convene the meetings, giving a notification in writing or electronically. A call for a meeting of the General Assembly shall be sent to the Members and their delegates at not less than thirty days' notice.
4. Unless otherwise stated in these articles of association, valid resolutions may be adopted by a majority of two thirds of the votes cast at a meeting at which at least three quarters of the Full Members of the General Assembly are represented.
5. In case of election of persons, the person may be elected by an absolute majority of the votes cast at a meeting at which at least three quarters of the Full Members of the General Assembly are represented.
6. More detailed rules concerning convening and holding of a meeting of the General Assembly shall be contained in the Rules of Procedure.

Article 11

1. Resolutions may be adopted by the General Assembly otherwise than at a meeting. Votes may only be cast by ballot, which shall be understood to be voting in writing or electronically. In such voting, the requirements of article 10 paragraph 4 and 5 apply.
2. An unanimous resolution of Full Members or their delegates entitled to vote, even if they are not convened at a meeting of the General Assembly, shall have the same force as a resolution of the General Assembly, provided that it is passed with prior knowledge of the Executive Committee.

Executive Committee.

Article 12

1. The composition of the Executive Committee shall be:
 - a. the Chairman and Vice-Chairman;
 - b. the Chairmen of EA Committees (including the Technical committees, MLA Council, the Communications & Publications Committee, and not including the

- Financial Oversight Committee); and
- c. a maximum of four additional persons appointed by the General Assembly, preferably amongst delegates of Full Members, to ensure a proper representation of all Members and access to expertise regarding technical, management and policy issues.
 2. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Committee Chairpersons and further members of the Executive Committee shall be representatives of the Full Members.
 3. All the members of the Executive Committee shall be appointed as such by the General Assembly, in accordance with the provisions in this article and in article 10. This may also be done without a meeting of the General Assembly, such as by means of votes via the mail or electronically as referred to in article 11.
 4. Each member of the Executive Committee, even if he/she has been appointed for a definite period, may always be dismissed or suspended by the General Assembly. A resolution of the General Assembly on suspension or dismissal of a member of the Executive Committee may only be passed by a majority of at least two thirds of the votes cast.
A suspension that has not been followed within three months by a resolution on dismissal shall end on expiry of that period.
 5. The Chairman shall chair the meetings of the Executive Committee. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman shall chair the meetings of the Executive Committee. In the absence of both the Chairman and the Vice Chairman the Executive Committee shall choose its own chairman of its meetings.

Executive Committee: resolutions.

Article 13

1. The proceedings at every meeting of the Executive Committee shall be laid down in minutes. These minutes shall be adopted by the Executive Committee at the next meeting of the Executive Committee.
2. In deviation from the matters provided by the law on the subject, the opinion of the Chairman about the realization and the contents of a resolution of the Executive Committee shall not be decisive.
3. The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice a year and furthermore as often as the Chairman or at least two members of the Executive Committee consider this desirable.
4. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held in the place determined in the call.
5. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be called in writing or electronically by or on behalf of the Chairman with observance of at least seven days' notice, not counting the day of the call and that of the meeting.

On a relevant request by at least two members of the Executive Committee, the Chairman must proceed to calling a meeting of the Executive Committee within one week after receipt of that request, failing which the persons making the request may (have others) call the meeting themselves.

The convening notice shall contain the date, the hour and the place of the meeting of the

Executive Committee, and also the agenda.

6. As long as at a meeting of the Executive Committee all the members of the Executive Committee in office are present or represented, valid resolutions may be passed on all subjects brought up provided that they are done by a unanimous vote, even if the prescriptions given by these articles of association for calling and holding meetings of the Executive Committee have not been observed.
7. Admitted to the meeting of the Executive Committee shall be the members of the Executive Committee and also those persons who have been invited by the Executive Committee. The invitees may speak during the meeting if the chairman of the meeting gives them the floor.
8. The Executive Committee may only pass valid resolutions at a meeting of the Executive Committee at which at least half the members of the Executive Committee in office are present or represented. A member of the Executive Committee may be represented by another member of the Executive Committee by written proxy. The requirement of the proxy being in writing shall be met if the proxy has been laid down electronically. A member of the Executive Committee may cast his vote as a proxy only for one other member of the Executive Committee.
9. Every member of the Executive Committee shall be entitled to cast one vote at a meeting of the Executive Committee. In so far as nothing else has been provided in these articles of association, all resolutions at meetings of the Executive Committee shall be passed by an absolute majority of the votes cast. Blank votes shall be considered as abstentions and treated as votes not cast. If the votes are tied, the proposal shall be rejected.
10. All votes at meetings of the Executive Committee shall normally be taken orally. The chairman of the relevant meeting of the Executive Committee may determine, however, that the votes shall be cast in writing. If it concerns an election of persons any person entitled to vote and present may also desire that the votes are cast in writing. A written vote shall be taken by means of unsigned ballot papers.
11. The Executive Committee may also pass resolutions in another way than at a meeting, provided that all the members of the Executive Committee in office are given an opportunity to cast their votes and they have all declared in favour of the proposal in writing or electronically. A resolution passed without a meeting shall be laid down by the Secretariat in a record, which shall be adopted at the next meeting of the Executive Committee. The record thus adopted shall be added to the minutes together with the documents referred to in the first sentence of this paragraph.
12. Subject to the provisions in the preceding paragraphs a member of the Executive Committee may also participate in meetings of the Executive Committee, speak at it and cast his votes by electronic means of communication, including by telephone and/or web meetings. For the purpose it shall be required that via the electronic means of communication the member of the Executive Committee:
 - a. can be identified;
 - b. can follow the proceedings at the meeting;

- c. can participate in the consultation; and
 - d. can exercise the right to vote.
13. Further rules about the meetings and the resolutions of the Executive Committee and about voting at meetings of the Executive Committee by means of an electronic means of communication may be laid down in the Rules of Procedure.

Executive Committee: representation.

Article 14

1. EA shall be represented by:
 - a. the Executive Committee;
 - b. the Chairman; or
 - c. the Vice Chairman; or
 - d. the proxyholder with the title Executive Secretary, registered with the trade register; or
 - e. two jointly acting members of the Executive Committee.
2. The Executive Committee may resolve to grant power of attorney to one or more members of the Executive Committee, and also to third parties, to represent EA within the limits of that power of attorney.
3. In all cases in which EA has a conflict of interest with one or more of the members of the Executive Committee, the General Assembly may designate one or more persons to represent EA.

Article 15

Provided that it is done after obtaining approval from the General Assembly, the Executive Committee shall be empowered to enter into agreements to acquire, alienate and encumber registered property and also to enter into agreements in which EA binds itself as surety or several co-debtor, gives a guarantee for a third party or binds itself as security for a debt of a third party and to represent EA with regard to these acts. The absence of this approval may be relied on against third parties.

Interested parties.

Article 16

The General Assembly shall facilitate an independent forum in which interested parties are represented in a well balanced way, in order for EA to account for its activities and to receive feedback and to understand and meet the needs of the market place. The Rules of Procedure will contain further provisions on the cooperation between this forum and EA, and the involvement of interested parties in the activities of EA.

Rules of Procedure and other rules and codes.

Article 17

1. In the Rules of Procedure and other rules and codes of EA those subjects shall be regulated that need explanation or further guidance.
2. The Rules of Procedure and other rules and codes of EA may not be contrary to the law, also where it does not contain any mandatory law, and to these articles of association.
3. In so far as nothing else has been provided in these articles of association, the rules and codes of EA, including the Rules of Procedure, shall be adopted by the Executive

Committee with the approval of the General Assembly.

Financial year, management report, annual accounts, accountability and budget.

Article 18

1. The financial year of EA shall coincide with the calendar year.
2. The Executive Committee shall be obliged to keep such records of the capital position of EA that its rights and obligations may always be known from them.
3. At the annual meeting of the General Assembly within six months after the end of the financial year, bar extension of this period by the General Assembly, the Executive Committee shall present a management report about the course of business in EA and about the policy conducted. The Executive Committee shall submit the annual accounts to the General Assembly for approval, accompanied by a statement about its faithfulness coming from the accountant referred to in the next paragraph. The annual accounts shall be signed by all the members of the Executive Committee; if the signature of one or more of them is lacking, this shall be stated with the reasons. After expiry of the period every Member may claim of the joint members of the Executive Committee at law that they fulfill these obligations.
4. EA shall give an order to audit the annual accounts to an accountant referred to in section 2:393 paragraph 1 of the Dutch Civil Code. The General Assembly shall be empowered to grant the order to the accountant. If it does not do so, the Executive Committee shall have this power. The accountant shall report to the Executive Committee on his audit; he shall lay down the outcome of his audit in an opinion about the faithfulness of the annual accounts. For the benefit of his audit the Executive Committee shall be obliged to give the accountant all the information requested by him, to show him the cash and the values if desired and to make available the books, documents and other data carriers of EA for inspection.
5. Approval of the annual accounts by the General Assembly shall not discharge the members of the Executive Committee from liability for the policy conducted during the past financial year.
After the proposal for approval of the annual accounts has been discussed, the General Assembly shall be given the proposal to grant discharge from liability to the members of the Executive Committee for the policy conducted by them during the past financial year, in so far as that policy appears from the annual accounts or statements have been made about that policy in the General Assembly.
6. The Executive Committee shall be obliged to keep the documents referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 during seven years.
7. The particulars placed on a data carrier, with the exception of the balance sheet and statement of income and expenditure committed to paper, may be transferred to and stored on another data carrier, provided that the transfer is made with the correct and complete representation of the data and these data are available during the entire period of storage and can be made legible within a reasonable period.
8. The Executive Committee shall propose the budget for the next financial year for approval by the General Assembly.

Financial Oversight Committee.

Article 19

1. The General Assembly shall establish a Financial Oversight Committee (FOC).
2. The Rules of Procedure shall contain further provisions on the election of members of the Financial Oversight Committee, obligations and reporting to the General Assembly by the Financial Oversight Committee.

Amendment of the articles of association.

Article 20

1. No amendment of the articles of association may be made without a resolution of the General Assembly, at a meeting called for the purpose with the statement that an amendment of the articles of association will be proposed there. The period for calling such a meeting of the General Assembly shall be at least seven days, not counting the day of the call and that of the meeting.
2. The persons who have made a call to the meeting of the General Assembly for discussion of a proposal to amend the articles of association must make available for inspection by the Members a copy of that proposal, in which the proposed amendment has been included verbatim, in an appropriate place at least five days before the meeting of the General Assembly until after the end of the day on which the meeting is held.
3. A proposal on amendment of the articles of association shall require a majority of at least two thirds of the votes cast.
4. An amendment of the articles of association shall not take effect until it has been laid down in a notarial deed. Every member of the Executive Committee shall be independently empowered to have such a deed executed.

Dissolution and liquidation.

Article 21

1. EA may be dissolved by a resolution of the General Assembly. The provisions in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of the preceding article shall apply accordingly to such a resolution.
2. In the event of dissolution of EA its capital shall be liquidated by the members of the Executive Committee, if and in so far as the General Assembly does not provide differently.
3. In the resolution on dissolution the General Assembly shall determine the use of any balance of the capital of the dissolved EA after payment of the creditors on the understanding that any balance of the capital of the dissolved EA left after payment of the creditors shall be distributed in conformity with the object of EA in as far as possible.
4. The books, documents and other data carriers of the dissolved EA shall be kept during seven years after EA has ceased to exist by the person designated for the purpose by the liquidators.

Final provision.

Article 22

The Executive Committee shall decide in all cases not provided for by the law or these

articles of association.

The person appearing is known to me, civil-law notary.

WHEREOF DEED is executed in Utrecht, the Netherlands, on the date first written in the head of this deed.

After having conveyed the contents of this deed and after having given an explanation thereof to the person appearing, he declared that he has timely had the opportunity to take cognisance of the contents of this deed and that he agrees therewith.

Further, immediately after limited reading of this deed, it is signed by the person appearing, and by me, civil-law notary.