List of Conclusions and Resolutions
agreed at the 33rd Meeting of the EA Advisory Board
held on 22 October 2014

Agenda Item 3 - Key topics for discussion

Agenda Item 3.1 - Cases of deviation between the legislative requirements and the respective standards of the ISO/IEC 17000-series

The Board:

- confirms that legally binding requirements of the European or national legislation must take precedence and need to be fulfilled as a first priority, before requirements of harmonized standards or ILAC/IAF application documents are met;

- agrees that consideration need to be given to concrete cases, especially when clients have to satisfy both legislative and standards requirements, to see whether such cases of deviation can be resolved without conflict;

- acknowledges that this is more a problem for regulators than an EA issue, and that EA has been solving similar problems by having previous contacts with regulators, which proves to be the most adequate process for greater harmonization of requirements.

Agenda Item 5.7 (put together with Item 3.1) - Recognition of Accreditations issued outside the framework established by Regulation (EC) 765/2008

The Board:

- considers that there does not seem to be a clear need for the EA HHC draft document which adds more confusion than clarification to Article 7 in Regulation (EC) 765, which is clear enough;

- agrees to leave it for EA to decide on the need for the document and recommends that, if the need were recognized, the document would have to be made crystal-clear for the EA community and should include a couple of concrete examples.

Agenda Item 3.2 - Harmonization/coordination of work between ILAC/IAF and the regional co-operations - ILAC/IAF strategy discussion paper and EA position: Update

The Board:

- supports the part taken so far by EA in the ILAC/IAF work towards further harmonization of their activities and those of the Regions;

- shares the view that the Regions’ role should be reinforced with a focus on improved harmonization;

- encourages EA to stand up for stakeholders to get an effective participation at the global level, in particular in ILAC.
**Agenda Item 4 - EAAB matters**

**Agenda Item 4.1 - Operational issues: representation of environmental organisations on the EAAB**

Due to the absence of Stephen Russell from ANEC* and the lack of any feedback from the invitation made by the Board for ECOS to be represented on the EAAB, the Board agrees to postpone the issue until next year’s call for nominations in view of the renewal of the EAAB membership in 2016. ECOS will be invited in 2015 again to contribute to the Board.

*Note by EAAB Secretariat: S. Russell wrote to the Secretariat on the meeting day saying he had known at very short notice that he was unable to attend the meeting. He added that, for the moment, ANEC was awaiting a decision on their application to continue to represent the European consumer voice in standardisation from 2015 to 2020 (DG ENTR will be exclusively responsible for ANEC’s funding and management in the future, and not DG SANCO).*

**Agenda Item 4.2 - EAAB documents updates: Role of the EAAB and Interaction with EA; Contributions from the EAAB**

The Board agrees:

- to remove both out-of-date documents (dated 2007) from the EA website;
  
  *Action Secretariat*

- to update the “Role of the EAAB and Interaction with EA” document further to a review of the EAAB’s membership, operations and management to be initiated now, in advance of the new term of the Board starting in 2016, when improvements will have to be implemented;

- that this review should be based on an open questionnaire to be drafted and sent to every EAAB college by end of November 2014 in order to get all contributions by end of February 2015;
  
  *Action Chair, Vice-Chairs, Secretariat*

- to discuss the Colleges’ contributions at the next EAAB meeting, after which a revised version of the document should be drafted.
  
  *Action Secretariat for agenda item; EAAB*

**Agenda Item 4.3 - Reports from the EAAB HHC and MAC observers**

The Board:

- thanks Pilar De La Barcena Angulo and Thomas Facklam for their oral reports on the last HHC and MAC meetings, respectively;

- takes note of the reports.

**Agenda Item 4.4 - Lack of resources in small ABs: progress made based on EA MAC discussions**

The Board:

- notes that EA is fully aware of the issue;
EAAB(14)M33 - Conclusions and Resolutions List

- encourages EA to look further at it, by raising it up on the EA agenda and prioritizing it at the level of the Executive Committee;

- asks EA to report on further progress made at the next meeting.

*Action EA*

**Agenda Item 4.5 - Reissuance of the tests reports when the trade name or the trademark of the tested product has changed: further analysis of the EUROLAB survey’s outcome and investigation**

The Board:

- takes note that, owing to the difficulty to get answers from the market and laboratories, EUROLAB has no additional information and outcome to be communicated to the EAAB;

- thanks EUROLAB and agrees to close the issue as clarified by EUROLAB;

- thanks EA for having adopted EA Resolution 2014(33)31 which provides for a flexible application during one year in order for the market to adapt to the change.

**Agenda Item 4.6 (replaced) - ILAC P10:01/2013 ILAC Policy on Traceability of Measurement Results**

The Board:

- expresses concerns over the tendency within EA to redefine the concept contained in ILAC P10 in relation to the different routes for obtaining traceability. Members agreed that the flexibility being built in ILAC P10 for using the different routes to obtain traceability has to be accepted by EA Members. Under specified conditions, the word “should” has to be read as “should” and not as ‘must' when defining the preference to use route 1 (NMIs) or route 2 (accredited calibration laboratories) instead of route 3. Especially for internal calibrations, the route 3b shall be an option under the conditions defined for route 3b, even if route 1 or 2 is available.

- urges EA to stick to the adopted ILAC document.

**Agenda Item 4.7 - Revision of ISO/IEC 17011: Convenorship of CASCO WG 42**

The Board:

- notes the CASCO Secretary’s negative answer to the EAAB Chair’s letter asking ISO/CASCO to replace one of the nominated co-conveners by a co-convenor from an accreditation body, recognizing that there was no probability for CASCO to change their opinion;

- expresses concern about the CASCO process for nomination of WG conveners, and invites those who participate in CASCO WGs to raise the issue at the CASCO Chairman's Policy and Coordination Group (CPC) to advocate for a future improved transparent process for the appointment of WG convenors.
**Agenda Item 5 - EA matters**

**Agenda Item 5.1 - Relations with stakeholders: IQNet and EEPCA (added) applications for Recognised Stakeholder status**

The Board recommends accepting IQNet and EEPCA as EA Recognised Stakeholders, acknowledging that the final decisions will be made at the EA General Assembly meeting in November 2014.

**Agenda Item 5.2 - New EA projects and work items**

The Board endorses the proposed new work item for revision of EA-1/17: *EA Rules of Procedures*.

**Agenda Item 5.3 – Update on the “Accreditation for Notification” project**

The Board:

- thanks EA for updating Members on the project that aims at harmonising the accreditation requirements used as basis for notification by defining and listing the preferred harmonized standards for each EC Directive and module;

- urges EA to contact notified bodies and make communication with them as transparent as possible by maintaining close discussion between them and the project experts, for the sake of the project’s success and efficiency.

**Agenda Item 5.4 - Report on progress of revised EA policy for conformity assessment schemes (EA-1/22)**

**Agenda Item 5.5 - New IAF scopes for which EA has applied (ISO/IEC 17024, ISO 13485, ISMS?)**

**Agenda Item 5.6 - Short update on relevant issues from ILAC/IAF General Assemblies (e.g. IAF MLA structure)**

The Board thanks EA for all the oral reports given under these 3 sub-items.

**Agenda Item 6 - Items for information**

The Board thanks EA for all the written reports given under this item.

**Agenda Item 7 - EAAB Work Programme**

The Board:

- asks the EAAB Secretariat to classify the following 4 topics as “closed”:
  - Cross border accreditation
  - EA MLA and peer evaluation procedure
  - Activities to promote visibility of the EA MLA in the market place such as developing one single European accreditation symbol
  - Reinforcement of the peer-evaluation process

*Action Secretariat*
- agrees to give more positive overtones to the ongoing item “Lack of resources in small NABs” and will propose a reviewed name at the next meeting.

*Action EAAB*

**Agenda Item 8 - EAAB Next meetings**

The Board confirms and agrees to meet on 15 April and 21 October 2015, respectively.