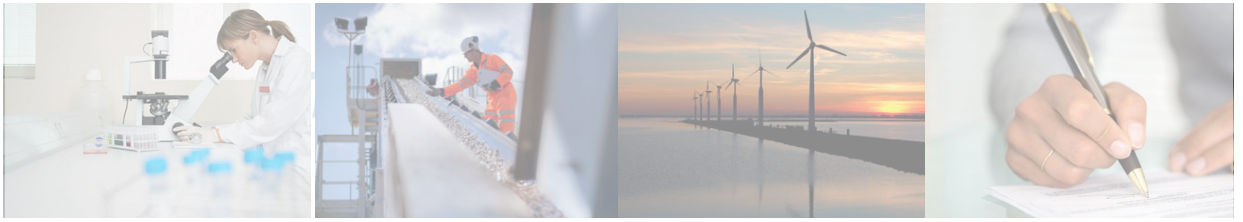




**EA REPORT  
to IAF/ILAC  
and REGIONS**

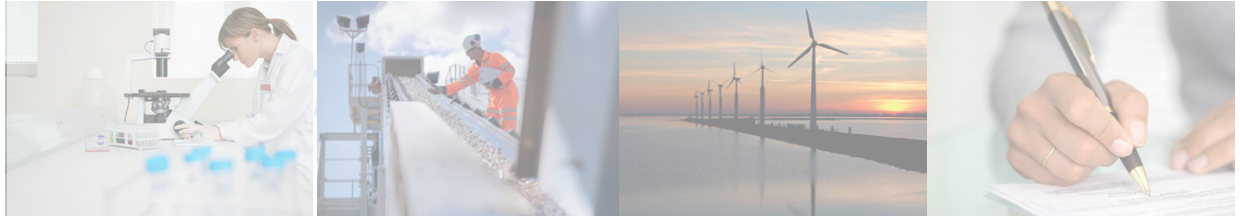
***STATUS BY END OF JUNE 2017***





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# I - Compositional state of play in June 2017

## 1 - EA Membership

EA has 36 Full Members and 13 Associate Members.

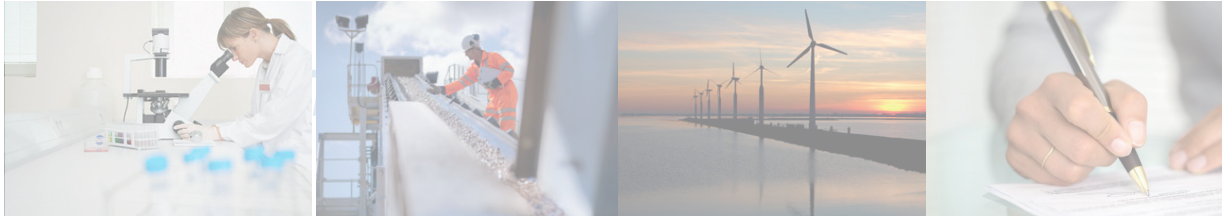
The last national accreditation body (NAB) having joined the EA membership is ARMNAB, the NAB of Armenia, which became an EA Associate Member in November 2016.

The complete list of EA Members together with their details is available on the EA website at <http://www.european-accreditation.org/ea-members>

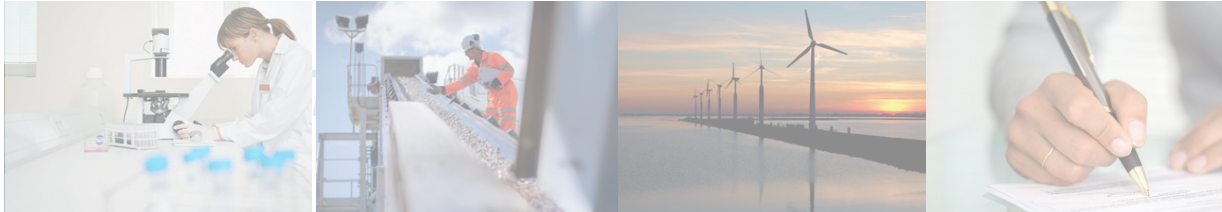
## 2 - Signatories to the EA MLA

34 Full Members and 5 Associate Members are signatories to the EA MLA.

	Full Member signatories to the EA MLA	Associate Member signatories to the EA MLA	Total signatories
Calibration	33	5	38
Testing	34	5	39
Medical Examination	31	1	32
Inspection	33	5	38
Management Systems	30	2	32
Products	31	2	33
Persons	28	2	30
Validation and Verification	25	0	25
Proficiency Testing Providers	12	0	12



	CALIBRATION LABORATORIES	TESTING and MEDICAL LABORATORIES	CERTIFICATION BODIES - PRODUCTS	CERTIFICATION BODIES - PERSONS	CERTIFICATION BODIES - MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	VALIDATION & VERIFICATION BODIES	INSPECTION BODIES	PROFICIENCY TESTING PROVIDERS
ALBANIA - DPA		√**						
AUSTRIA - AA	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
BELGIUM - BELAC	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
BULGARIA – BAS	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
CROATIA - HAA	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
CYPRUS – CYS	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
CZECH REPUBLIC - CAI	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
DENMARK - DANAK	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
ESTONIA - EAK	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
FINLAND - FINAS	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
FRANCE – COFRAC	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
FYROM - IARM	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
GERMANY - DAkkS	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
GREECE - ESYD	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
HUNGARY – NAH	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
IRELAND - INAB	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
ITALY - ACCREDIA	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
LATVIA - LATAK	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
LITHUANIA - LA	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
LUXEMBURG - OLAS	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
MALTA – NAB-MALTA	√	√**					√	
NETHERLANDS - RvA	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
NORWAY - NA	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
POLAND - PCA	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
PORTUGAL - IPAC	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
ROMANIA - RENAR	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
SERBIA - ATS	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	



	CALIBRATION LABORATORIES	TESTING and MEDICAL LABORATORIES	CERTIFICATION BODIES - PRODUCTS	CERTIFICATION BODIES - PERSONS	CERTIFICATION BODIES - MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	VALIDATION & VERIFICATION BODIES	INSPECTION BODIES	PROFICIENCY TESTING PROVIDERS
SLOVAKIA - SNAS	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
SLOVENIA - SA	√	√**	√	√	√	√	√	
SPAIN - ENAC	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
SWEDEN – SWEDAC	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
SWITZERLAND - SAS	√	√	√	√	√		√	
TURKEY – TURKAK	√	√	√	√	√		√	√
UNITED KINGDOM - UKAS	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√

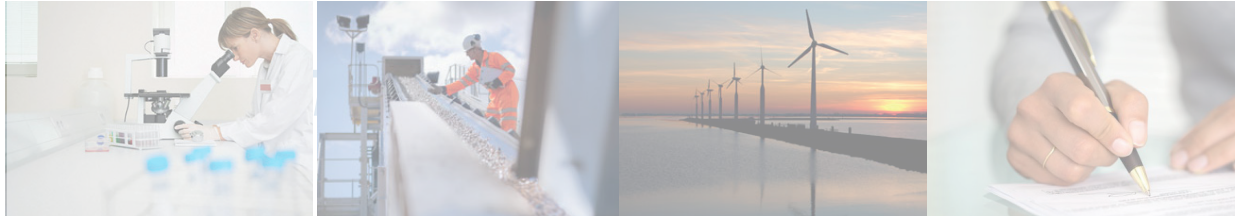
\*\* Signatory for testing laboratories only; not signatory for medical laboratories.

## EA Bilateral Agreement Signatories

	CALIBRATION LABORATORIES	TESTING & MEDICAL LABORATORIES	CERTIFICATION BODIES - PRODUCTS	CERTIFICATION BODIES - PERSONS	CERTIFICATION BODIES - MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	VALIDATION & VERIFICATION BODIES	INSPECTION BODIES	PROFICIENCY TESTING PROVIDERS
BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA - BATA	√	√**					√	
GEORGIA - GAC	√	√**	√	√			√	
ISRAEL - ISRAC	√	√					√	
UKRAINE – NAAU	√	√**	√	√	√		√	
TUNISIA - TUNAC	√	√**			√		√	

\* Accepted as associate member by the EA General Assembly in November 2011 (Resolution 2011(28)03).

\*\* Signatory for testing laboratories only; not signatory for medical laboratories.



### 3 - EA Recognised Stakeholders

EA actively cooperates with 19 Recognised Stakeholders, whose detailed list is available on the EA website at <http://www.european-accreditation.org/ea-relationships#3>

European Sensory Science Society (E3S) and GLOBALG.A.P. are the last two organisations that signed the EA Recognised Stakeholder Agreement in May 2017 in accordance with EA-1/15: *EA Policy for Relation with Stakeholders*.

## II - EA MLA and peer-evaluation issues

### 1 - Latest developments relating to the EA MLA

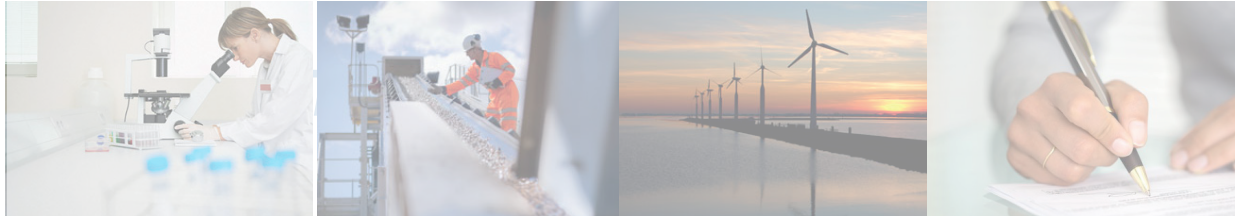
As a reminder, since May 2016, the *EA Articles of Association* provide that EA Associate Members being signatories of the EA MLA through a bilateral agreement have a voting right in the EA Multilateral Agreement Council (MAC).

In May 2017, **NAH**, the Hungarian NAB became an MLA signatory in the field of inspection, while **GAC**, the NAB of Georgia, became a BLA signatory in the fields of testing (excluding medical examinations according to ISO 15189), calibration, inspection, persons and products certification.

The EA General Assembly in May 2017, acting upon the recommendation from the MLA Council, agreed to reformulate the designation of the EA MLA Level 2 conformity assessment activity previously described as «GHG Verification» to «Validation and Verification» (EA Resolution 2017 (39) 22).

In accordance with EA Resolution 2016 (37) 30 adopted in May 2016, EA launched its MLA for **Proficiency Testing Providers** (EN ISO/IEC 17043) in April 2017 when, upon decision by the EA MLA Council, ACCREDIA, CAI, COFRAC, DANAK, ENAC, ESYD, FINAS, NA, PCA, RvA, TURKAK and UKAS became the first 12 signatories of the EA MLA for PTP accreditation.

Recognizing the value of the work undertaken by the EA Laboratory Committee (LC) WG ILCs in calibration and testing, the EA Executive Committee resolved, based on the position stated by the MAC, that **highlighted** (international) **ILCs** will not be considered under the framework of the peer-evaluation process anymore. As a consequence, EA-2/14: *Procedure for Regional Calibration ILCs in Support of the EA MLA* and EA-INF/12: *Benefits and importance of the participation in EA highlighted PT schemes* have been withdrawn in May 2017 by the EA General Assembly upon recommendation from the EA LC. Besides, EA-1/06: *EA MLA – Criteria for Signing – Policy and Procedures for Development* will be revised accordingly.



In May 2017, the EA General Assembly, acting upon the recommendation from the Executive Committee and considering EA Resolution 2010(25)13, approved to expand the scope of the EA MLA for **Reference Materials Producers (RMP)** as new level 2 conformity assessment activity using EN ISO 17034 as a new level 3 normative document. Subsequently, acting upon the recommendation from the EA MAC, the EA General Assembly also approved the launching of the EA MLA for RMP during the MAC meeting in April 2019, provided that at least three members were successfully peer-evaluated by that date.

The MAC project to reengineer the peer-evaluation system is progressing. At its April 2017 meeting, the MAC appointed 10 TFGs to further develop the proposals agreed at the meeting. The issue of evaluator resource is currently a priority issue on the MAC agenda. In order to support further development of EA's pool of evaluators, an additional newcomer session was held in June 2017 and two refresher activities dedicated to new ISO/IEC 17011 will be performed in December 2017 (see below). The 2018 training plan has also been reinforced. 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 adopted in New Delhi on peer evaluation of IAF sub-scopes in the EA peer evaluation system are also being discussed in the MAC.

## 2 - Latest developments relating to the EA peer evaluations

### 2.1 - Peer Evaluations in 2017

2017 will totalize 19 peer evaluations, among which 11 have already been performed by end of June.

Those include:

- 3 initial evaluations;
- 2 initial evaluations for extension of MLA signatory status to PTP accreditation;
- 2 re-evaluations with extension of MLA signatory status to PTP accreditation;
- 1 re-evaluation with extension of MLA signatory status to certification of products;
- 9 re-evaluations;
- 2 extraordinary evaluations.

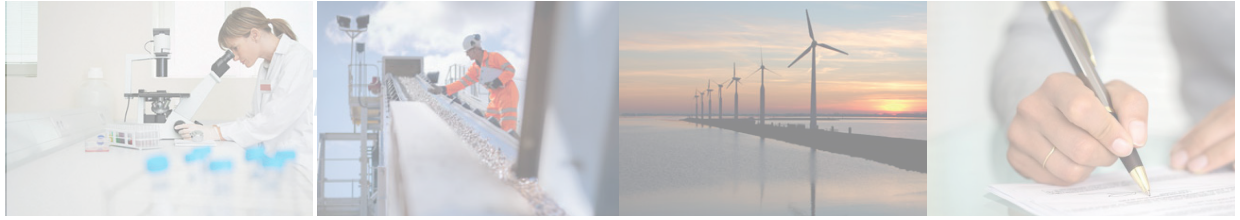
The MAC Secretariat has been appointing about 140 evaluators to carry out those peer evaluations.

First peer evaluations for extension of scope to RMP accreditation will start in 2018. For this purpose, a survey on MLA for RMP was conducted in January-February 2017 to estimate how many accreditation bodies provide accreditation for RMP or plan to offer this service.

### 2.2 - Peer-Evaluator Trainings

A refresher training on **ISO/IEC 17020** and **ISO/IEC 17065** for Team Members was held on 6 and 7 December 2016 in Paris.

On 29 March 2017, the EA Horizontal Harmonisation Committee (HHC) held a workshop on the use and implementation of revised **EA-1/22: EA Procedure and Criteria for the Evaluation of Conformity Assessment Schemes by EA Accreditation Body Members** published in November 2016.



The EA Laboratory Committee (LC) organized a workshop on accreditation of **Reference Materials Producers (RMP)** against ISO 17034:2016 on 30 and 31 May 2017 in Milan, Italy, where it was hosted by ACCREDIA, the Italian NAB. This workshop was intended to support the expansion of the EA MLA to include ISO 17034 and specifically targeted to potential ISO 17034 peer evaluators.

To support further development of the EA pool of evaluators, the EA MLA Council organized a training workshop dedicated to **potential new evaluators** from 13 to 15 June 2017 in Utrecht, Netherlands, where it was hosted by RvA, the Dutch NAB.

Two refresher trainings should be held on 6-7 and 14-15 December 2017, most likely in Utrecht, The Netherlands and Madrid, Spain for Team Leaders and Deputy Team Leaders in order for evaluators to be well prepared and able to perform evaluations according to new **ISO/IEC 17011**. The objective of these workshops is to exchange information with the aim to enhance harmonisation and use of best practices between evaluators.

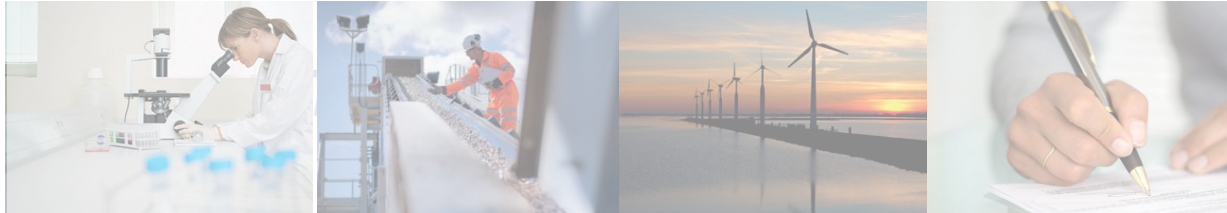
### **III - Status of EA's recognition in ILAC/IAF**

EA is being peer-evaluated by ILAC/IAF for extension of its MLA/MRA signatory status to accreditation of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) verifiers and Proficiency Testing providers. In addition to onsite and witnessing activities, ILAC/IAF evaluators were in Paris for the evaluation of the EA Secretariat on 25 and 26 May 2017.

A couple of days before, the EA General Assembly in May 2017, acting upon the recommendation from the EA MAC, agreed that EA applies to ILAC for extending the scope of EA as a recognized region for the scope "Reference Material Producers – ISO 17034".

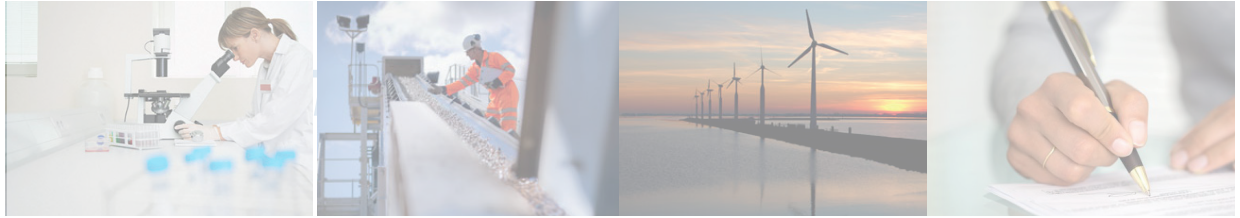
In parallel, the application process for IAF management systems sub-scopes has been reopened. The full re-evaluation of EA by ILAC/IAF should normally be planned in 2018.





## IV - Status of EA's documents

Withdrawn	Under revision	Under development	Published since January 2017
<b>EA-2/14</b> Procedure for regional calibration ILCs in support of the EA MLA	<b>EA-1/06</b> EA MLA. Criteria for Signing. Policy and procedures for development.	<b>New document: EA-XX</b> Guidance document for the Accreditation of Pesticide Residues Analysis in Food and Feed	<b>EA-0/07</b> Procedure for application for EA membership and application form
<b>EA-INF/12</b> Benefits and importance of the participation in highlighted PT schemes	<b>EA-1/17 S3</b> EA Procedure for the Investigation and Resolution of Complaints and Appeals		<b>EA-1/17 A</b> Rules of Procedure
	<b>EA-2/02</b> Procedure for evaluation of an EA NAB		<b>EA-1/17 S4</b> EA Rules of Procedure - Proxy Procedure
	<b>EA-2/13</b> EA Cross Border Accreditation Policy and Procedure for Cross Border Cooperation between EA Members		<b>EA-1/14</b> Development of EA publications and adoption of ILAC/IAF documents
	<b>EA-3/01</b> Use of Accreditation marks and reference to MLA signatory status		<b>EA-4/09</b> Accreditation for Sensory Testing Laboratories
	<b>EA-4/17</b> EA position paper on the description of scopes of accreditation of medical laboratories		<b>EA-7/04</b> Legal compliance as part of accredited ISO 14001 certification
	<b>EA-4/20</b> Guidance for the Assessment of Laboratories against EN ISO 15189 and EN ISO 22870 Point-of-Care Testing (POCT)		
	<b>EA-6/03</b> EA Document for Recognition of Verifiers under the EU ETS Directive		
	<b>EA-6/04</b> EA Guidelines on the Accreditation of Certification of Primary Sector Products by Means of Sampling of Sites		



## V - Activities to promote the IAF MLA AND/OR ILAC MRA

The **EA MLA Report 2016** that highlights the outcome and actions achieved through the EA MLA during 2016 was released on 23 May 2017 and published on the EA website at:

<http://www.european-accreditation.org/brochure/ea-mla-report-2016-4>

The report was also promoted through the EA Homepage news, an electronic news sent to the whole EA community and on Twitter.

EA actively promoted **World Accreditation Day (WAD) 2017** by highlighting how EA Members take part in accreditation in construction and the built environment in Europe:

- an EA Homepage news was published in April 2017 to present the key issues of WAD 2017 together with the ILAC/IAF brochure;
- the video realised by ILAC/IAF was promoted on EA's Youtube channel / website / Twitter together with a new Homepage news in May 2017;
- data about EA Members' accreditation activity in construction and the built environment were circulated on EA's Twitter account on 9 June 2017.

Besides every EA Member promoted the WAD through their website and national events, such as workshops or press conferences targeted at relevant conformity assessment groups and national regulators. Others have translated the ILAC/IAF WAD brochure into their national language.

Moreover EA continued to contribute to **ILAC and IAF newsletters** in April and June 2017, respectively.

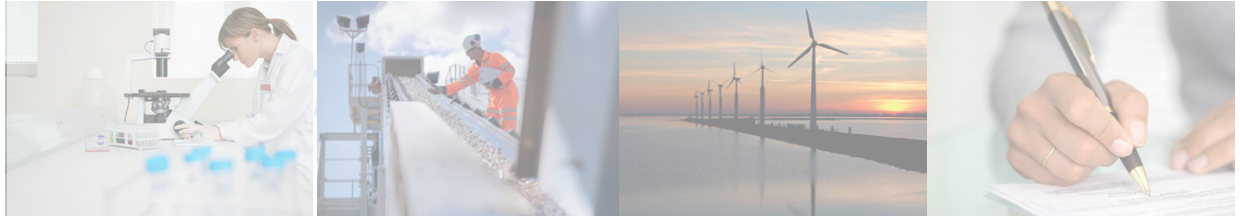
## VI - Major other developments in EA

### EA elections for the 2018-2020 term

Regular elections took place at the EA General Assembly on 23-24 May 2017 to renew the Executive Committee in full. A new tandem as EA Chair and Vice-Chair was elected, as well as all EA Committee/ Council Chairs elected or re-elected for a two-year mandate starting on 1 January 2018, together with additional members:

<b>EA Chair:</b>	Peter Strömbäck, SWEDAC
<b>EA Vice-Chair (taking over as of 23 May 2017):</b>	Ignacio Pina, ENAC
<b>EA Multilateral Agreement Council Chair:</b>	Paulo Tavares, IPAC
<b>EA Horizontal Harmonization Committee Chair:</b>	Gabriel Zrenner, DAKkS
<b>EA Communications &amp; Publications Committee Chair:</b>	Lucyna Olborska, PCA
<b>EA Laboratory Committee Chair:</b>	Laurent Vinson, COFRAC
<b>EA Certification Committee Chair:</b>	Kevin Belson, UKAS
<b>EA Inspection Committee Chair:</b>	Rolf Straub, SAS
<b>Four additional members of the Executive Committee:</b>	Maria Papatzikou, ESYD
	Emanuele Riva, ACCREDIA
	Jiří Růžička, CAI
	Ed Wieles, RvA

Since, as a reminder, Geir Samuelsen left NA, the Norwegian NAB, and terminated his mandate as the EA Vice-Chair in late January 2017, Ignacio Pina has already been taking over as of his election on 23 May 2017.



## **EA Strategy 2025**

As a reminder, EA Strategy 2025 was adopted in November 2016. To be a world reference for accreditation that enables an open and global market for competitive business and provides reassurance to consumers in a sustainable society, EA has to ensure confidence in accredited conformity assessment results through harmonised operation of accreditation activities, in support of European and global economies. To achieve EA's vision and mission, 3 strategic objectives based on core values have been defined to support the implementation of the EA Strategy, enabling the EA Membership to speak with one voice and reach the desired position in 2025.

The implementation plan of EA Strategy 2025 has been approved in May 2017 by the EA General Assembly, which mandated the EA Executive Committee to monitor the implementing actions entrusted to specific TFGs. The Strategy will involve all EA Committees and the Secretariat.

In the world arena, measures should be developed towards a more structured approach. A mechanism should notably be defined to enhance EA's impact on IAF and ILAC processes for elaborating policies, documents, decisions and processes. From EA's point of view, the international structure (ILAC/IAF) for accreditation should consist of one body covering all areas of accreditation and acting as the focal point for all issues to be solved at the global level.

The full text of *EA Strategy 2025 – From Good to Great* is available on the EA website at <http://www.european-accreditation.org/brochure/ea-strategy-2025-full-document-v2>

## **FPA 2018-2021 with European Commission/EFTA**

In relation to EA Strategy 2025, EA is negotiating the next Framework Partnership Agreement for the period 2018-2021. The objective is to get the EC/EFTA financial support to back up the development of EA's new profile and objectives as set out in the Strategy.

## **Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between the EU and Canada**

As a reminder, EA and the Standards Council of Canada (SCC) signed a bilateral cooperation agreement in 2016, which will enable the implementation of the Conformity Assessment Protocol provided for in the CETA agreement, allowing for the mutual acceptance by Canada and the EU of test results and product certifications delivered by each other's recognized bodies. This will help facilitate trade and open doors for EU and Canadian companies. The pilot project, dedicated to the EU directive ATEX and Canadian regulation Hazloc, is on good track and assessments observed by EA and SCC have been carried out. A joint brochure is being prepared to promote the agreement, its mechanisms and benefits for the European and Canadian economies.

## **2017 CIM**

EA is taking an active part in the organisation of the International Congress of Metrology (CIM) to be held in Paris on 19-21 September 2017. EA is notably co-organise and facilitate a round table on 19 September dedicated to "Measurement and conformity declaration: ISO 17025, what's new?". Both the EA LC Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively Laurent Vinson (COFRAC, the French NAB) and Trevor Thompson (UKAS, the UK NAB), will be key contributors to the discussions.

## **VII - EA meetings**

Please visit the EA website <http://www.european-accreditation.org/events>



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