



EA REPORT to IAF/ILAC and REGIONS

*STATUS
JANUARY - JUNE 2018*



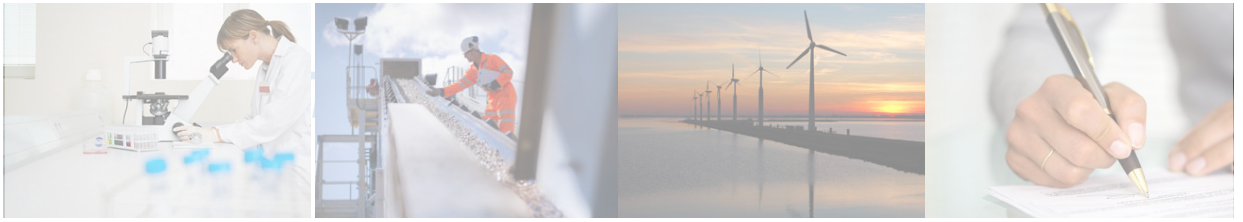
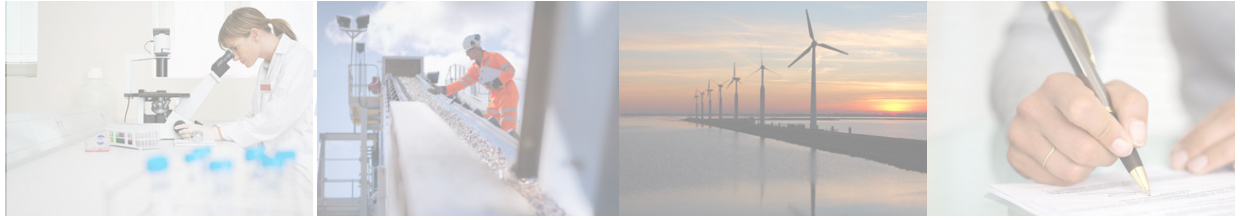


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I - Compositional state of play in June 2018

1 - EA Membership

EA has 36 Full Members and 14 Associate Members.

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

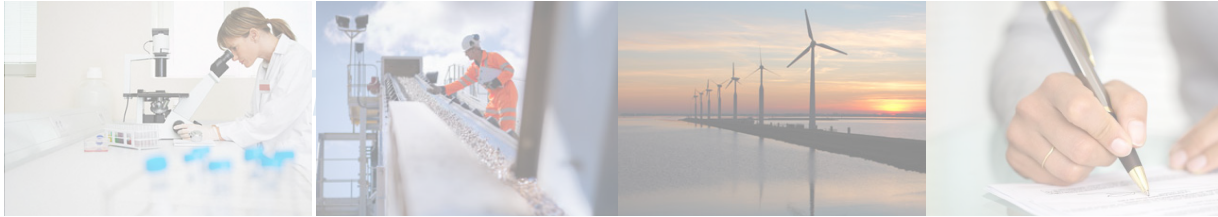
34 Full Members and 7 Associate Members are signatories to the EA MLA.

Recapitulative table of signatories by EA MLA scope

	Full Member signatories to the EA MLA	Associate Member signatories to the EA MLA	Total signatories
Calibration	33	7	40
Testing	34	7	41
Medical Examination	31	2	33
Inspection	34	7	41
Management Systems	31	3	34
Products	31	3	34
Persons	28	2	30
Validation and Verification (GHG)	24	0	24
Proficiency Testing Providers	16	0	16



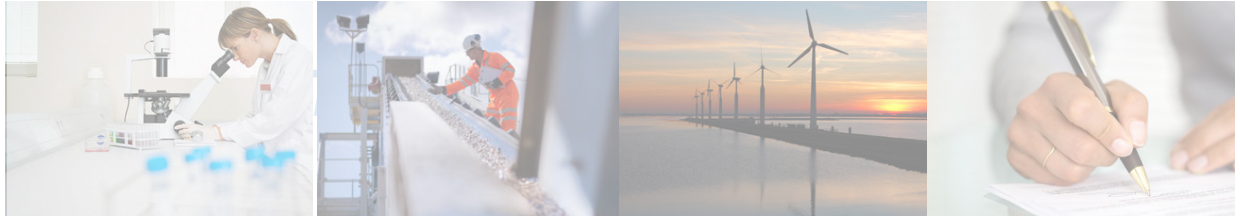
	CALIBRATION LABORATORIES	TESTING LABORATORIES	MEDICAL LABORATORIES	CERTIFICATION BODIES - PRODUCTS	CERTIFICATION BODIES - PERSONS	CERTIFICATION BODIES - MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	VALIDATION & VERIFICATION BODIES	INSPECTION BODIES	PROFICIENCY TESTING PROVIDERS
ALBANIA - DPA		√				√		√	
AUSTRIA - AA	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
BELGIUM - BELAC	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
BULGARIA - BAS	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
CROATIA - HAA	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
CYPRUS - CYS-CYBAS	√	√	√					√	
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 LABORATORIES	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	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√

EA Bilateral Agreement Signatories

	CALIBRATION LABORATORIES	TESTING LABORATORIES	MEDICAL LABORATORIES	CERTIFICATION BODIES - PRODUCTS	CERTIFICATION BODIES - PERSONS	CERTIFICATION BODIES - MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	VALIDATION & VERIFICATION BODIES	INSPECTION BODIES	PROFICIENCY TESTING PROVIDERS
ALGERIA - ALGERAC	√	√						√	
BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA - BATA	√	√						√	
GEORGIA - GAC	√	√		√	√			√	
ISRAEL - ISRAC	√	√	√					√	
REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA - MOLDAC	√	√	√	√		√		√	
UKRAINE - NAAU	√	√		√	√	√		√	
TUNISIA - TUNAC	√	√				√		√	



3 - EA Recognised Stakeholders

EA cooperates with about 40 Recognised Stakeholders, identified on the EA website at <http://www.european-accreditation.org/ea-relationships#3>.

IFS (International Featured Standards) Management GmbH is the last organisation that signed the EA Recognised Stakeholder Agreement in May 2018 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

Upon decisions made by the EA MLA Council at its last meeting on 25-26 April 2018, DPA, the Albanian NAB, while remaining an EA MLA signatory for testing, became a signatory to the EA MLA in the fields of inspection and management systems certification.

Still on 26 April 2018, DAkkS, the German NAB, became an EA MLA signatory in the field of Proficiency Testing Providers (PTP), thus increasing to 16 the number of signatories of the EA MLA for PTP accreditation (EN ISO/IEC 17043) which was launched in April 2017.

Subsequent to the approval in May 2017 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, 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, one of the key actions of the *EA Strategy 2025* implementation plan, is nearing its goal. The issue of evaluator resource is a priority. How to improve monitoring of transition to standards, how to better manage the process for dealing with changes notified to the MAC by NABs' 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. The 9 Task Force Groups appointed in 2017 to support the reengineering of EA peer-evaluation system presented their proposals resulting from the final recommendations of the EA MAC Management Group at the MAC meeting in April 2018. MAC Members should now discuss a consolidated document based on the TFGs' final reports at the MAC meeting to be held in October 2018.



2 - Latest developments relating to the EA peer evaluations

2.1 - Peer evaluations in 2018

2018 will totalize 16 peer evaluations, out of which 10 have already been performed by end of June. Those include:

- 1 initial evaluation for extension of MLA signatory status to PTP accreditation;
- 1 initial evaluation for extension of MLA signatory status to RMP accreditation;
- 6 re-evaluations with extension of MLA signatory status to RMP accreditation;
- 2 re-evaluations with extension of MLA signatory status to PTP accreditation;
- 1 re-evaluation with extension of MLA signatory status to medical examinations;
- 1 re-evaluation with extension of MLA signatory status to medical examinations and management system certification;
- 4 re-evaluations.

The first 7 peer evaluations for extension of scope to RMP accreditation have been starting in 2018.

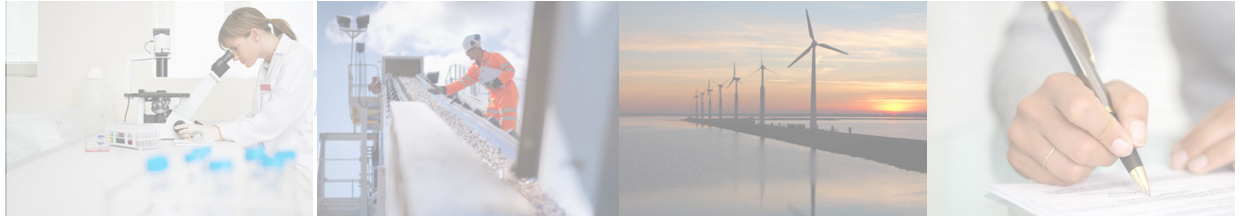
The MAC Secretariat has been appointing 136 evaluators, among a total pool of 155 evaluators, to carry out those peer evaluations.

2.2 - Peer-evaluator trainings

In order to increase EA's pool of peer evaluators to reinforce the evaluation resources needed for a busy peer evaluation program, the EA MLA Council organised two newcomer training sessions dedicated to potential new evaluators on 4-6 June 2018 in Utrecht, The Netherlands, and on 19-21 June 2018 in Lillestrøm, Norway. Hosted by the Dutch (RvA) and Norwegian (NA) NABs, the trainings were co-convened by Paulo Tavares (IPAC, Portugal), Chair of the MLA Council, Ed Wieles (RvA, The Netherlands) and Varpu Rantanen (FINAS, Finland). 44 participants from 29 EA NABs have been provided with insight in the processes supporting the peer-evaluation system. Nine of them should be immediately qualified as peer evaluators, and 34 others should at first become trainee evaluators.

The EA MLA Council will also organise a refresher training session on 10-11 December 2018 focused on validation and verification, and management system certification. The training to be hosted by the EA Secretariat, will be led by Niels-Christian Dalstrup (DANAK, Denmark), Daniela Ionescu (RENAR, Romania) and Phil Shaw (UKAS, UK).

Moreover EA is organising a training workshop on the ICAO Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSA) to be held on 29 August 2018 in Roissy, near Paris. The CORSA scheme, adopted in 2016 by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) as the first global market based measure scheme for any industry sector, aims to achieve ICAO's global aspirational goal of carbon neutral growth from 2020. In order to determine the baseline emissions of the scheme, aeroplane operators will be monitoring their emissions from 2019 onwards with the first verification of an emissions report taking place in early 2020. Given the global nature of the scheme and in order to reduce market distortions, the aim of ICAO is to establish a common accreditation and verification framework, potentially with support of IAF. The EA training will be led by Peter Hissnauer (DAkkS, Germany).



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

Further to a successful evaluation performed in 2017 in which 2 EA NABs participated for on-site and witnessing activities, and a positive review of the evaluation report identifying non-critical findings, the formal decision on EA's peer evaluation by IAF/ILAC for extension of its MLA/MRA signatory status to accreditation of greenhouse gas (GHG) verification and validation bodies (ISO 14065) and proficiency testing providers (ISO/IEC 17043) has been finally made, based on IAF and ILAC ballots, in favour of both extensions in May 2018.

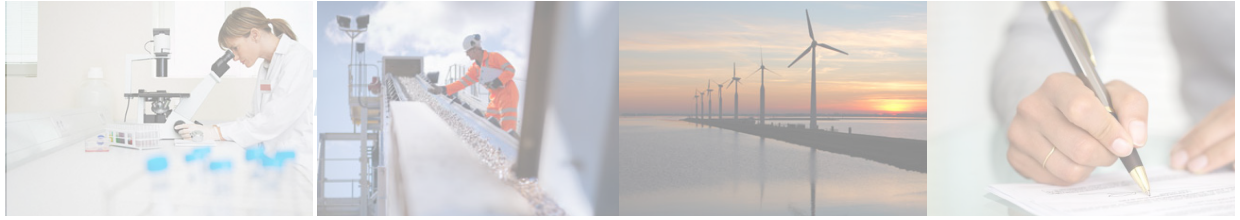
EA's application to ILAC for extending the scope of EA as a recognized region for the scope "Reference Material Producers – ISO 17034", as agreed at the EA General Assembly in May 2017, has been accepted by the ILAC Arrangement Management Committee (AMC) in January 2018.

In parallel, according to the new IAF procedure for the evaluation of Accreditation Bodies and Regional Cooperation Bodies, EA's renewed application for the extension of its IAF MLA signatory status to the following management system sub-scopes

- Information Security Management System (ISMS),
- Food Safety Management System (FSMS),
- Medical Devices - Quality Management Systems (MDMS),
- Energy Management Systems (EnMS),

was approved on 5 April 2018 at the Frankfurt meeting of the IAF MLA Management Committee.

The full re-evaluation of EA by ILAC/IAF is planned for autumn 2018. All regional evaluators have already been appointed.



IV - Status of EA documents

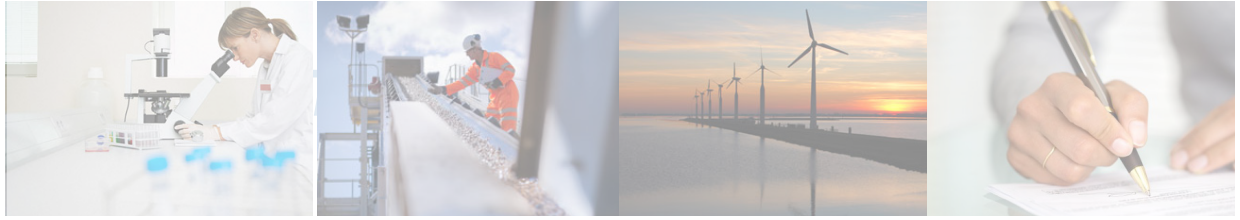
1 - Documents published since January 2018

- EA-1/17 S3 *EA Rules of Procedure – EA Procedure for the Investigation and Resolution of Complaints and Appeals*
- EA-2/02EA *Procedure for Evaluation of a NAB*

2 - Documents under revision

EA Articles of Association (AoA)

- EA-1/17 S5 *EA Rules of Procedure – Levying of Membership Fees*
- EA-1/22 *Procedure and Criteria for the Evaluation of Conformity Assessment Schemes by EA Accreditation Body Members*
- EA-2/13 *EA Cross Border Accreditation Policy and Procedure for Cross Border Cooperation between EA Members*
- EA-2/13 S1 *Interpretation of Terminology Used in Clause 5.1 and Guidelines to Assessment Focus*
- EA-2/15 *EA Requirements for the Accreditation of Flexible Scopes*
- EA-2/17 *Document on Accreditation for Notification Purposes*
- EA-3/01 *Use of Accreditation marks and reference to MLA signatory status*
- EA-3/12 *EA Policy for the Accreditation of Organic Production Certification*
- EA-4/17 *EA Position Paper on the Description of Scopes of Accreditation of Medical Laboratories*
- EA-4/20 *Guidance for the Assessment of Laboratories against EN ISO 15189 and EN ISO 22870 Point-of-Care Testing (POCT)*
- EA-6/03 *EA Document for Recognition of Verifiers under the EU ETS Directive*
- EA-6/04 *EA Guidelines on the Accreditation of Certification of Primary Sector Products by Means of Sampling of Sites*



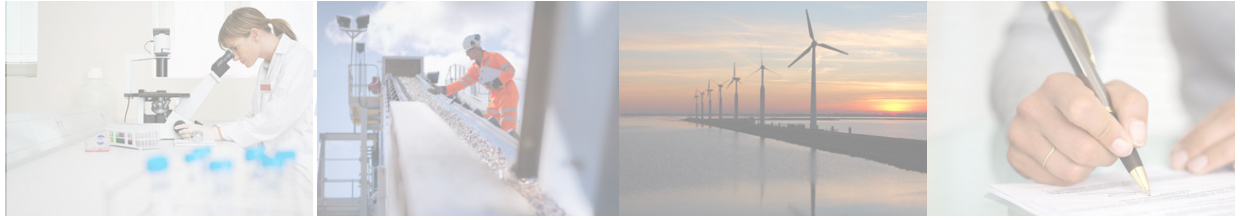
3 - New documents under development

EA Guidance Document for the Accreditation of Pesticide Residues Analysis in Food and Feed

EA Policy for the Accreditation of Certification Activities under (EU Regulation 1151/2012) PDO/PGI/TSG; (EU Regulations 606/2009, 607/2009 and 1308/2013) Wine Products; (EU regulation 110/2008) Spirits and (EU Regulation 251/2014) Aromatised Wine Products

4 - Documents withdrawn since January 2018

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)*



V - Activities to promote the IAF MLA and/or ILAC MRA

EA continued to contribute to ILAC and IAF newsletters in April and June 2018, respectively.

The [EA MLA Report 2017](#) that highlights the actions and outcome achieved through the EA MLA during 2017, including EA's recognition in ILAC and IAF, was released on 3 April 2018.

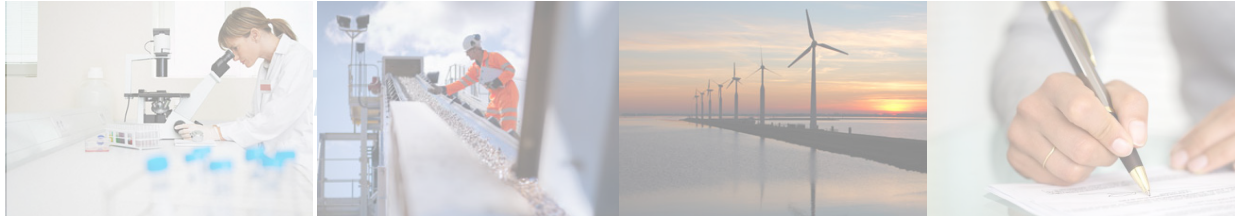
Besides the EA MLA Report 2017, EA has published its first [Annual Report 2017](#) on 30 April 2018. This new type of report in EA includes, inter alia, the following items:

- Strengthening EA's strategic leadership and management
- Improving the peer-evaluation system
- Being proactive when accreditation standards are revised to ensure harmonized operation of accreditation activities
- Cooperation with the European Authorities: successful achievements to be used as models for future projects
- Strengthened relationships with stakeholders to assess the confidence in accredited results
- EA and its global engagement
- Continued involvement of EA members at the international level to prepare common positions on global issues
- Add value to EA position by preparing communications for the promotion of accreditation

The successful evaluation by IAF and ILAC for the extension of EA's recognition of MLA/MRA signatory status to accreditation of GHG Validation and Verification Bodies (EN ISO 14065) and Proficiency Testing Providers (EN ISO/IEC 17043) was largely promoted within and outside the EA community (Homepage, Twitter). More generally, the decisions made by IAF and ILAC are regularly promoted through EA Twitter account.

EA actively promoted *World Accreditation Day (WAD) 2018*. The promotional materials jointly developed by IAF/ILAC were published on the EA website and promoted by a specific news on the Homepage; the video was also promoted on EA's YouTube. On the eve of the WAD, a specific news and newsletter show how EA Members contributed to "*delivering a safer world*". Finally, every EA Member promoted the WAD through their website and during national events, such as workshops or press conferences targeted at relevant conformity assessment groups and national regulators.

EA was also involved in the promotion of the agreement on mutual recognition at the global level. Audrey Malacain, the EA Communication and Marketing Manager, participated in a brainstorming session aimed to design an infographic to promote the ILAC MRA at the ILAC Marketing and Communications Committee (MCC) meeting held in March 2018 in Buenos Aires, Brazil. In addition, Audrey was involved in a project of video celebrating the 25th anniversary of IAF in 2018 with the main objective to promote and demonstrate the benefits of the IAF MLA since its establishment in 1996 for quality management system.



Finally, as a recognized regional cooperation body of ILAC and IAF, EA is willing to develop and maintain close and active relationships with its sister organizations in order to promote accreditation at an international level and enhance a global confidence in accredited conformity assessments results. As an example, several participants from IAAC (InterAmerican Accreditation Cooperation), ARAC (Arab Accreditation) and APLAC (Asian Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation), attended a “train-the-trainer” workshop organized by the EA Laboratory Committee (LC) in January 2018 to highlight and share a common understanding of the amended requirements in ISO/IEC 17025:2017. In the same way, the EA LC was represented by CAI, the Czech NAB, in the APLAC workshop on new ISO/IEC 17025 in a move to share knowledge and discussions at an international level.

VI - Major other developments in EA

Ignacio Pina, new EA Chairman until end of 2019

Further to Peter Strömbäck’s leaving from SWEDAC, the Swedish NAB, in late 2017 and his subsequent incapability of being the new EA Chair as of 2018, a new tandem as EA Chair and Vice-Chair, namely Ignacio Pina from ENAC, the Spanish NAB, and Maria Papatzikou from ESYD, the Greek NAB, was elected at the EA General Assembly in May 2018 for the term 16 May 2018 - 31 December 2019. Furthermore the General Assembly elected Martin SENČÁK (SNAS, Slovakia) as an additional member of the Executive Committee in place of Maria Papatzikou.

The UK NAB in EA

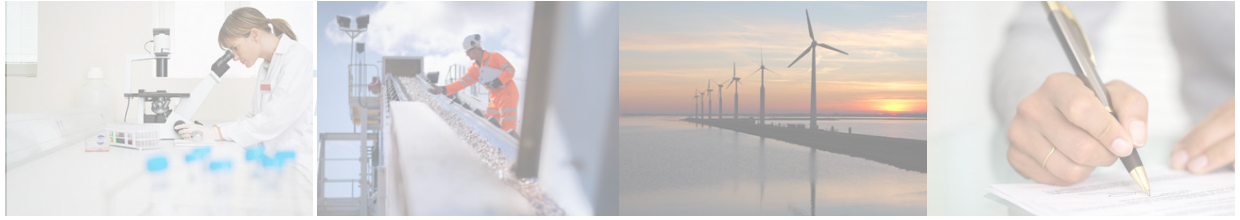
The General Assembly approved in May 2018 that, in the light of draft Article 122 ‘Scope of transition’ of the Withdrawal Agreement between the EU and UK, considering that the Union law shall be applicable to and in the United Kingdom during the transition period, for the purposes of Article 5 of *EA Articles of Association*, UKAS remains a Full Member of EA until 31 December 2020 – provided that the Withdrawal Agreement between the EU and UK will be ratified.

Renewal of the EAAB

The EA Advisory Board (EAAB) gives continuous support to EA work and provides advice to EA on a broad range of issues relating to harmonisation and policy on accreditation. The Board’s composition constitutes a well-balanced representation of the parties which rely on and contribute to the European accreditation system. It is composed of representatives from: the conformity assessment community; industry, services and trade; the EU Member States’ national authorities; the consumer associations; the European metrological institutions; the European standardisation organisations; the European Commission and European Free Trade Association (EFTA).

At its last meeting on 3 May 2018, the EAAB currently chaired by Michael Nitsche, has decided to grant one additional seat within the Board to those European private scheme owners that are also EA Recognised Stakeholders. There are currently 6 relevant scheme owners who may appoint one representative to coordinate and express their views on political issues.

Because the whole EAAB membership shall be renewed in October 2018, new nominations or confirmation of renewals from all members are being called for until 15 September 2018.



EA's contribution to revision of *ILAC Articles of Association*

Pursuant to the *ILAC Articles of Association* (AoA), voting will be conducted in the General Assembly, unless otherwise specified, on the basis of one vote per economy as exercised by the Full Members and Associates only. Where there is more than one Full Member or Associate eligible to vote in a particular economy, its vote will be exercised by a nominee elected by all eligible Full Members and Associates in that economy.

This provision takes inter alia into account that, in more than 90% of economies, only one accreditation body has been established due to the status of accreditation as the last level in the conformity assessment chain.

ILAC was informed that the present voting rules would not be in compliance with the Dutch Civil Code (DCC) and therefore advised ILAC to amend the provisions.

In order to solve the discrepancy with the DCC, the first proposal of the ILAC Executive Committee was to provide each Full and Associate member a vote in the General Assembly.

But this proposal does not consider that the vast majority of economies has for good reasons only one accreditation body established and the risk that one country may dominate the association in the future.

As agreed by ILAC in October 2017 during the Vancouver meetings, the EA Executive Committee is preparing an alternative proposal for the revision of the *ILAC Articles of Association* that would maintain the existing principle of having one vote per economy, but which would be in compliance with the DCC.

EA provided this proposal in January 2018 to the ILAC Executive Committee.

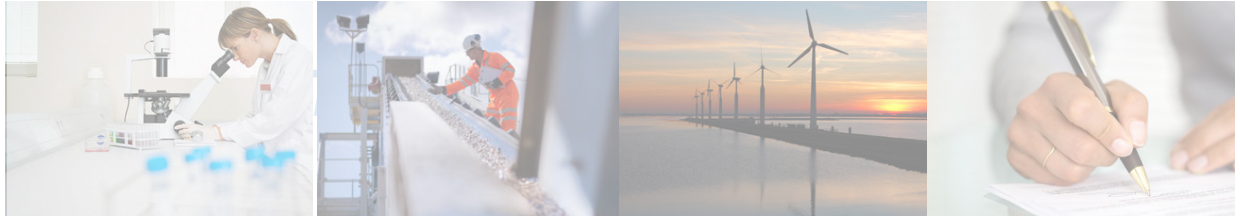
EA Strategy 2025

The *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. The implementation plan of the *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.

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. EA's core values, embodied in harmonization, responsibility, confidence and competence, highlight the expected principles on which all work of EA is based to support the implementation of the EA Strategy.

One of the objectives of the *EA Strategy 2025* is to foster the merger between ILAC and IAF. 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>



The implementation of the *Strategy* includes inter alia the building up of the most efficient management structure to achieve efficient governance in EA. For this purpose, a task force group chaired by Ignacio Pina is responsible for providing a proposal for a new EA management structure, based on the principle that EA is a democratic association as defined in its *Articles of Association* and shall be able to provide both internal and external services in an efficient way. A draft proposal was presented at the EA General Assembly in May 2018.

FPA 2018-2021 with European Commission (EC) / EFTA

The EA General Assembly on 22-23 November 2017 has approved the EA Action Plan 2018-2021. EA has been negotiating the next Framework Partnership Agreement for the period 2018-2021 with the EC / EFTA, whose conclusion is expected by autumn 2018.

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

The Standards Council of Canada (SCC) signed a bilateral cooperation agreement in 2016, which will enable the implementation of the Conformity Assessment (CA) Protocol provided for in the CETA agreement, allowing for the mutual acceptance by Canada and the EU of conformity assessment results delivered by each other's recognized accredited conformity assessment bodies. This will help facilitate trade and open doors for EU and Canadian companies.

A pilot project, based on the very similar EU Directive ATEX and Canadian Regulation HAZLOC for equipment for potentially explosive atmospheres, has now been completed. Assessments of Canadian and EU-located CABs according to ISO/IEC 17065 and HAZLOC or ATEX requirements were respectively observed by EA and SCC; the Canadian and European requirements were thoroughly analyzed.

The next step is actual recognition of NABs and CABs according to the CETA CA Protocol. EA and SCC have been starting with assessments, which shall be used for the recognition of NABs and CABs, first for ATEX and HAZLOC. SCC performed an assessment of a Canadian CAB for ATEX in spring 2018. For the first assessment, it was agreed that the NAB shall use in the assessor team a technical assessor/expert from the counterpart. That means that, at the assessment in Canada for ATEX, a technical assessor/expert from an EA NAB joined the assessment team. This is in line with the cooperation agreement between EA and SCC, where it is stipulated as one element the exchange of assessors. The assessment of the European CAB against HAZLOC requirements is planned for summer 2018.

To get detailed information on the bilateral cooperation agreement signed between EA and SCC, please read the brochure "[CETA Agreement and Conformity Assessment Accreditation: a tool to enhance trade between the European Union and Canada](#)". Further information is also available in the [Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement \(CETA\)](#).



VII - EA meetings

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

VIII - EA representatives in ILAC and IAF meetings

ILAC Committee meetings

General Assembly (GA)
Executive Committee (EX)
Accreditation Committee (AIC)
Marketing & Communications Committee (MCC)
Arrangement Committee (ARC)
Arrangement Management Committee (AMC)
Arrangement Council (AC)
Inspection Committee (IC)

Andreas Steinhorst (EA Executive Secretary)
Andreas Steinhorst
Laurent Vinson (COFRAC, France)
Audrey Malacain (EA Communication Manager)
Andreas Steinhorst
Paulo Tavares (IPAC, Portugal)
Andreas Steinhorst
Rolf Straub (SAS, Switzerland)

IAF Committee meetings

General Assembly (GA)
Executive Committee (EX)
Technical Committee (TC)
MLA Committee (MLAC)
MLA Management Committee (MLA MC)

Communications and Marketing Committee (CMC)
Development Support Committee (DSC)

Andreas Steinhorst
Maria Papatzikou (ESYD, Greece)
Kevin Belson (UKAS, UK)
Paulo Tavares
Paulo Tavares, Daniela Ionescu (RENAR, Romania), Andreas Steinhorst, Gokhan Birbil (TURKAK, Turkey), Cecilie Laake (NA, Norway), Rolf Straub
Audrey Malacain
Andreas Steinhorst

Joint ILAC/IAF Committee meetings

Joint Executive Committee (JEX)
Joint Management Committee (JMC)

JWG Communications and Marketing (JCMC)
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