List of Conclusions and Resolutions
agreed at the 45th Meeting of the EA Advisory Board
held online on 29 April 2021

Agenda Item 2 - Draft minutes of 44th Meeting of the EA Advisory Board

Given that the EAAB Terms of Reference provide for two seats to be assigned to the European metrological organisations which do not have the status of a college in the Board, the latter agrees to change the heading “National Metrology Institutes” into “Metrology Stakeholders” in the participants’ list at the very beginning of the minutes.

Action Secretariat

Agenda Item 3 - Topics for discussion

Agenda Item 3.1 - Renewal of the Board in November 2021: approval of call of nominations to be launched

The Board agrees to send the call for the renewal of the Board at the next meeting in November 2021 as distributed among the meeting papers, with a deadline set on Monday 4 October 2021 for nominations, including those for all three Chair positions, to be sent to the EAAB Secretariat.

Action Secretariat/EAAB Members

Agenda Item 3.2 - Stakeholders’ representation in EA; interaction between EAAB and EA

With regard to the updated written contributions, based on Document “Interactions between EA and EAAB: potential for improvement” (EAAB(20)03), sent by the CAB, Industry and NA Colleges as well as by the European representation of Metrology Stakeholders (EAAB(20)18rev) on the following questions:
1/ How to improve the interaction between EA and the EAAB?
2/ What do stakeholders consider to be the EAAB’s role in the future?

The Board:
- acknowledges that the EC has no further input;
- takes note of the CAB College’s newly added written contribution and of the oral explanation provided by the CAB College chair;
- agrees that the consolidated paper as distributed (EAAB(20)18rev) should be reshuffled, if possible, and structured into a first comm -- on part consolidating the common positions of the entire Board, and a second part detailing the specific views of the different Colleges;
- takes note of the intention of the CAB and Industry Colleges to have a joint meeting in advance of the Board’s November meeting in order to achieve some common positions.

Action CAB & Industry Colleges

Action Secretariat/Chair to plan further discussion at November 2021 meeting
EAAB(21)M45 - Conclusions and Resolutions List

Agenda Item 3.3 - Brexit and EA: status update [CFTA Annex 5-1, conformity assessment]
Report on EA Extraordinary General Assembly meeting on 12 March 2021

The Board:

- welcomes that, in order to allow UKAS to remain a member of EA beyond 2022, EA is preparing new Articles of Association setting out different membership categories (A/B/C/D) with different voting and representation rights, which should be adopted by the EA General Assembly in November 2021;

- acknowledges the Industry College’s concern that the non-recognition of the EA MLA signatory status of UKAS and, as a result, of the testing results and certificates accredited by UKAS on the market, would undermine the EA MLA as a whole;

- acknowledges the CAB and Industry Colleges’ suggestion for the development of guidance to explain further and promote the obligation placed on the Member States’ public authorities to recognise and accept conformity assessment results accredited by EA MLA signatories, in accordance with Article 11 of Regulation 765;

- agrees to further discuss the need for guidance at the next Board meeting, and asks all EAAB Colleges to send the Secretariat their input on the issue together with examples of non-recognition in advance of the November meeting.

Action EAAB Colleges to Secretariat

Agenda Item 3.4 - EC challenges to notifications
- DG GROW transfer policy in light of the Brexit
- Notifications under the CPR and other regulations

The Board:

- supports the view of EA that NBs and NABs need to comply with requirements set out in the relevant EU legislation, specifically Decision No 768/2008/EC, Articles R14, R17, R20 and ISO/IEC 17065:2012, which relates to the legal establishment, management structure, obligations and competency requirements for the designation and notification as NBs by NABs;

- agrees on the Industry College’s concern that the relevant EU legislation applied (such as referenced above) remains aligned with international ISO/IEC 17000 standards series, and does not lead to the creation of a specific European system based on additional or deviating requirements which would create additional burden for the conformity assessment, business, trade and industry sectors, and undermine the mutual recognition of conformity assessment results at the international level.

Agenda Item 3.5 - Evaluation of the New Legislative Framework (NLF): EC roadmap

The Board:

- notes that the EC is carrying out a mere evaluation of the NLF, with no revision purpose which would go against the stability of the current framework, and is calling for stakeholders' participation in this evaluation expected to be finished by the end of 2022;

- acknowledges EA’s definitive support for the NLF evaluation;

- welcomes the EC’s evaluation of the NLF, and agrees to wait for the publication of the public consultation before reacting and elaborating any EAAB position.
Agenda Item 4 - Topics for information

**EAAB Matters**

**Agenda Item 4.1 - Report from the HHC: 2-3 March 2021 meeting**

The Board takes note that the CAB College will inform on an EAAB HHC Observer from IIOC within a couple of months. **Action CAB College**

**EA Matters**

**Agenda Item 4.2 - Endorsement of new EA work items**

The Board endorses the new work items proposed for:
- the revision of EA-1/17 Supplement 5: *Levying of Membership Fees*;
- the elaboration of *EA Procedure on Remote Peer Evaluations*.

**Agenda Item 4.3 - Revision of the EC *Blue Guide***

The Board takes note that:
- the revision of the EC *Blue Guide* is being finalised and translated within the EC services and should be published around the summer break;
- following a reorganisation in EC DG GROW, the relevant unit has been renamed “Unit D3 Market Surveillance” with no change in its responsibilities related to accreditation.

**Agenda Item 4.4 - CETA – implementation of the Bilateral Cooperation Agreement with Canada/SCC: new momentum with EU recognition of SCC**

The Board takes note that:
- Standards Council of Canada (SCC) has been recognised according to Article 12 of the *CETA Protocol on Conformity Assessment* for the relevant technical regulations of the EU within the ATEX equipment sector. Accordingly, SCC will be published soon with the relevant scope of recognition on the EU NANDO database;
- welcomes the EC work to elaborate guidelines on the CETA protocol which will help to promote mutual recognition.

**Agenda Item 4.5 - Overview of papers regarding COVID-19**

The Board thanks the Executive Secretary for his presentation listing an overview of all papers relating to COVID-19, and asks the Secretariat to publish it among the meeting papers on the EAAB intranet. **Action Secretariat (done)**

**Agenda Item 4.7 - Single international accreditation organisation: update**

The Board takes note that the terms of reference of the *ad hoc* Steering Committee has been set up in 2020, and that Thomas Facklam, selected as the project facilitator and manager, has been starting his work as of March 2021.
**Agenda Item 6 - Selection of dates and places of next meetings**

The Board agrees to meet on **Wednesday 10 November 2021** and thanks EFTA for offering to host the meeting at EFTA’s new offices in Brussels, with the provision that there are no more travel or health restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Finally, the Board pays tribute to Michael Nitsche (NA College) and Jörg Hartge (Industry College), who are attending their last EAAB meeting, for their successful commitment in the Board’s matters.

******