

List of Conclusions and Resolutions

**agreed at the 49th Meeting of the EA Advisory Board
held on 11 May 2023 in a hybrid form in Brussels, Belgium**

Agenda Item 1 – Opening of the meeting and roll call

Further to the call for nominations launched until 28 November 2022, the Board takes note that:

- Ariane van Cutsem from Belgium and Maria Elena Greco from Italy have been nominated as new members of the National Authorities College (NAC), which has now its five seats taken;
- Natália Kolibová from Czech Republic has been appointed the new Chair of the NAC.

Note: the list of EAAB membership and EA-INF/02 have already been updated accordingly.

Agenda Item 3 - Topics for discussion**Agenda Item 3.1 - EA C-Level meetings ; EA Communication Strategy**

The Board:

- thanks Roeland Nieuweboer from RvA, the Dutch NAB, for his convincing presentation on EA C-Level meetings targeted at EA NABs and aimed at addressing common strategic opportunities and challenges in a safe and confidential manner, prior to or after EA General Assemblies;
- welcomes EA's initiative to create a forum to share ideas and concerns among the CEOs of its member NABs and appreciates EA's efforts for a new momentum to increase the dialogue within EA;
- takes note that C-Level meetings are also dedicated to specific topics and is ready to help and contribute to discussions, especially regarding the issue of digitalization planned in May 2023;
- expresses interest in the outcome of C-Level work and encourages EA to communicate these outcomes to the EAAB;
- takes note that the EA Communication Strategy, which should be at first reported to the EA Executive Board and Members, is based on transparency and focused on external communication to mainly support the EA Executive Secretary's work with the European Commission;
- calls for EA to remember the EAAB's role aiming to support EA, and would welcome any improvement of the EAAB's profile in EA.

Agenda Item 3.2 - Implementation of revised EA-2/17

The Board:

- takes note that conformity assessment bodies had to comply with revised EA-2/17 *EA Document on Accreditation for Notification Purposes* (published in April 2020) by April 2023, and that the EA Technical Management Board approved two binding resolutions elaborated on by WG Accreditation for Notification (AfN) and endorsed by the Horizontal Harmonisation Committee to support harmonised implementation of EA-2/17;
- takes note of the discrepancies in the application of EA-2/17 by the national notifying authorities and stresses the need for the authorities to further discuss the suitability of accreditation standards for notification in order to reach more harmonized approach, and requests that the outcomes of the meeting to be held on 5 June between the European Commission and the national authorities are shared with the EAAB;
Action NA College
- urges the National Authorities, which have the responsibility for notification at the national level, to participate in solving any issues together with the European Commission in order to ensure further the acceptance of certificates issued by notified bodies.

Agenda Item 3.3 - Challenges for the conformity assessment infrastructure: new regulations for new technologies' implementation (Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity, Sustainability)

The Board:

- again acknowledges the concerns expressed by the CAB and Industry Colleges which reiterate the issue of the availability of sufficient experts and required competences to continue performing conformity assessment activities, and again stresses the need for a harmonised approach to the implementation of these regulations, especially when no harmonised standards exist;
- takes note that the CAB College will share an additional TIC Council's paper focused on skills on labour market and the Industry College Orgalim's position paper focused on the need for sufficient transitional periods as soon as adopted, and already acknowledges the mutual support of both Colleges regarding this issue;
Action CAB and Industry Colleges' Chairs to send the paper to the EAAB Secretariat for distribution to EAAB Members and publication on the intranet.
- strongly advises EA to speed up the process of performing a skills gap analysis in order to identify and collect NAB's needs in terms of capability building and training to meet the challenges posed by the various regulations for new technologies, taking the new machinery regulation as a pilot, and then to start actions towards EA Members' training for harmonisation purposes;
- stresses the need for timely availability of harmonised standards to address the new requirements, also to allow for harmonised approaches to market surveillance of covered products;
- welcomes the CAB College's initiative to ask their representatives to raise this issue within the Horizontal Harmonisation Committee and to provide feedback to the EAAB.
Action CAB College

Agenda Item 4 - Topics for information**EAAB Matters****Agenda Item 4.1 - Report from the EAAB MAC observer: 26-27 April 2023 meeting
Report from the EAAB HHC observer: 8-9 March 2023 meeting**

The Board:

- takes note of the information contained in both reports published as EAAB(23)10 and EAAB(23)09, and thanks the observers for their comprehensive reports;
- welcomes the new opportunity offered by the Multilateral Agreement Council for the EAAB to put forward any relevant issue to the MAC, and expresses its continued support for the MAC Observer's role to give the Board reassurance that the management process of peer evaluations is adequate and robust;
Action EAAB Members to think about any issue to be forwarded as input to the MAC
- welcomes the HHC Observer's improved reporting on HHC meetings with provision of relevant HHC papers, and asks him to continue its reporting in this way.

EA Matters**Agenda Item 4.6 - Endorsement of EA new work items**

The Board endorses the new work items proposed for:

- the revision of EA-INF/04 *Statement on acceptance and recognition of activities under the EA MLA* according to the rationale set out in Document EAAB(23)04;
- the revision of EA-5/02 *Guidance on the Application of ISO/IEC 17020 in Vehicle Inspection* according to the rationale set out in Document EAAB(23)05;
- the revision of EA-1/15 *EA Policy for Relations with Stakeholders* according to the rationale set out in Document EAAB(23)08.

Agenda Item 5 - Any other business

- **Judgment from the Italian Council of State (Judgement No. 04089/2023 REG.PROV.COLL. N. 05072/2022 REG.RIC.) of 21 April 2023**

The Board thanks the CAB College for drawing its attention to the Italian judgement, and acknowledges the issue raised which fundamentally impacts those organisations having certificates with an accreditation from a non-EU-based AB, as well as EA's reply which is in line with the EU Commission's position and Regulation (EC) 765/2008;

- **Transposition of the New Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)**

The Board takes note that the CAB College compliments EA that this proposed new regulation be brought to the forefront of industry.

Agenda Item 6 - Selection of date and place of next meeting

The Board agrees to have a hybrid meeting on **Friday 20 October 2023** from 9 am to 2.30 pm (to be confirmed), and thanks EFTA for offering to host the meeting at EFTA House in Brussels.

Note: EFTA already confirmed room availability.