



## Strengthening the National Accreditation System of the Republic of Azerbaijan

This project is funded by the European Union

Twinning Project AZ/13/ENI/TR/02/16 (AZ/46)

# P R E S S   R E L A S E

### **Launch of Twinning Project on “Strengthening the National Accreditation System of the Republic of Azerbaijan” Twinning Project AZ/13/ENI/TR/02/16 (AZ/46).**

The European Union (EU) and the national accreditation body of the Republic of Azerbaijan (AZAC) are launching a Twinning Project.

AZAC will partner with a consortium of the German accreditation body DAkkS, the Italian accreditation body Accredia and the Latvian accreditation body LATAK to modernize and strengthen the accreditation system in Azerbaijan.

The project will be formally launched at a kick-off meeting on 7th September 2017 at the Baku Boulevard Hotel, Khagani Rustamov Street 4C, Baku at 9:30 a.m.

A press conference will be held at 10.30 a.m.

**The overall objective of the project is** to contribute to the economic growth of Azerbaijan and to access to the world market through an accreditation system that meets the European requirements. By that the project will help to increase the quality of products and services in Azerbaijan and open the European market for them. **The project purpose** is to strengthen the capacity of the Azerbaijan Accreditation Centre (AZAC) in line with the requirements of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC), the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and the European Cooperation for Accreditation (EA).

**About 1.200000 Euro will be allocated to the project that will last 24 months starting from July,1 2017.**

The project includes expert missions, training and awareness raising visits and events.

The project will be supervised by the two project leaders **Dr. Norbert Schultes** from Germany and **Mr. Sabig Abdullayev** from Azerbaijan.

The meeting will be attended by the Chairman of the State Committee for Standardization, Metrology and Patent, the Ambassadors of Germany, Italy and Latvia in the Republic of Azerbaijan, by the Head of the Cooperation of the European Union Delegation in Azerbaijan as well as by the representatives of the beneficiary country institutions and representatives of Member States accordingly.



## **Strengthening the National Accreditation System of the Republic of Azerbaijan**

This project is funded by the European Union

Twinning Project AZ/13/ENI/TR/02/16 (AZ/46)

### **DAkKS – The German Accreditation Body**

DAkKS is the national accreditation body for the Federal Republic of Germany and is legally responsible for the accreditation of conformity assessment bodies such as laboratories, inspection and certification bodies. DAkKS manages more than 4,000 accreditations and assesses, attests and monitors the technical competence of these bodies, whose services are required in all segments of industry and trade. Accreditation means that these bodies have been assessed against internationally recognized standards to demonstrate their competence, impartiality and performance capability. As an independent institution, DAkKS makes an important contribution to the quality assurance of products and services, consumer protection and the competitiveness of the economy. Pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 765/2008 and the Accreditation Body Act (AkkStelleG), DAkKS acts in the public interest and as the sole provider of accreditations in Germany. DAkKS is full member of the European co-operation for Accreditation (EA), International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and signatory to the respective international agreements on mutual recognition. Shareholders of DAkKS are the Federal Republic of Germany, the Federal states and the Federation of German Industries (BDI).

### **ACCREDIA - THE ITALIAN ACCREDITATION BODY**

ACCREDIA was formally established and recognized by the Italian Government on December 22, 2009 as the sole national body authorized to undertake accreditation activities in Italy. The establishment of ACCREDIA in Italy complies with Regulation EC 765/2008 which states that each Member State shall have one sole national accreditation body.

ACCREDIA is a non-profit-distributing body operating under the surveillance of the Ministry of Economic Development and of other Public Administrations according to their respective competency. It guarantees competence, independence, impartiality and transparency in the performance of its activities. It is a private body whose task is to work for the benefit of the general public. As the national accreditation body of Italy, ACCREDIA guarantees that certification and inspection bodies as well as testing and calibration laboratories possess the competency to assess the conformity of products, processes and systems according to the reference standards.

ACCREDIA manages the entire range of activities covered by the international agreements of mutual recognition: EA and IAF MLA and ILAC MRA.

ACCREDIA also operates in the field of technical assistance and strengthening of accreditation infrastructures worldwide.



## **Strengthening the National Accreditation System of the Republic of Azerbaijan**

This project is funded by the European Union

Twinning Project AZ/13/ENI/TR/02/16 (AZ/46)

### **LATAK – the Latvian National Accreditation Body**

Latvian National Accreditation Bureau (LATAK) was established on August 30, 1994 by the Latvian Government and is notified to the European Commission as a National Accreditation Body in Latvia. LATAK complies with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No. 765/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council and standard ISO/IEC 17011:2004 requirements. LATAK is a not-for-profit body that operates under the surveillance of the Ministry of Economics of the Republic of Latvia - policy-maker in the fields of accreditation and conformity assessment in Latvia.

LATAK is a full member of the European Co-operation for Accreditation (EA) and is a signatory of the EA Multilateral Agreement (MLA) in the fields of testing, calibration, accreditation of medical laboratories, inspection, product certification, person certification, management system certification and accreditation of the Green House Gas verifiers. LATAK accredits conformity assessment bodies also in the field of the voluntary participation by organisations in a Community eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS) (Regulation (EC) No. 1221/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council. LATAK has been appointed by the Latvian Government as the National Monitoring Authority for Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) in Latvia, evaluating compliance and consistency with GLP principles of national facilities. LATAK performs the evaluation of conformity assessment bodies (CAB) for notification purposes – assesses competences of the CAB if they comply with the requirements of the EC Regulations.

Principles of competence, confidentiality, independence, impartiality, conflict of interests are applied in all activities of LATAK thereby meeting all requirements of ISO/IEC 17011:2004.