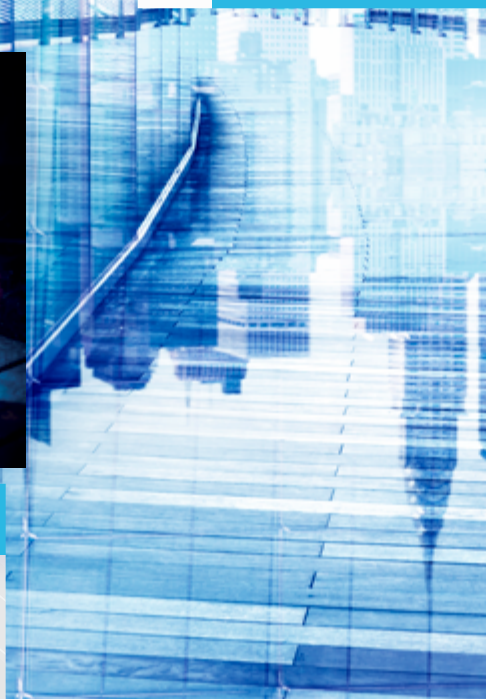




Accredited Once Accepted Everywhere



International Accreditation Forum Multilateral Recognition Agreement (MLA)

www.iaf.nu

**Annual Report
2021**

Table of Contents

IAF MLA Annual Report 2021

01	The IAF MLA	03
02	The IAF MLA Mark	04
03	Scope of the IAF MLA	05
	Main Scope: Certification Bodies of Management Systems	
	Main Scope: Certification Bodies for Products Processes and Services	
	Main Scope: Certification Bodies for Persons	
	Main Scope: Validation and Verification	
04	Signatories to the IAF MLA	06
05	New Applicants	08
06	Global Growth	09
07	Peer Evaluation Process	10
08	Expanding the Scope of the IAF MLA	12
09	MLA Monitoring and Improvement Activities	
	Feedback	13
	COVID-19 Response	14
	Improvement Activities	16
	Training	18
10	Annex 1– New IAF MLA Signatories and Scope Extensions	21

The International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and its Accreditation Body (AB) Members invest significant effort and resources to maintain the integrity and consistency of the IAF Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA) through a peer evaluation process. This report sets out the detailed activities that are carried out as part of the peer evaluation process to ensure that regulators, specifiers, and businesses can have confidence in the MLA.



The IAF MLA

The purpose of the IAF MLA is to provide users in countries with ABs that are IAF MLA signatories with the assurance that certification bodies (CBs) and validation/verification bodies (V/VBs) in other economies operate to the same standards as those in their own economies for certificates and statements in the fields of:



**Management
Systems
Certification**



**Product
Certification**
*(including
processes
and services)*



**Certification
of Persons**



**Validation
and
Verification**

Accreditations granted by IAF MLA AB signatories are recognised worldwide therefore reducing costs and adding value to industry and consumers.

The MLA contributes to the facilitation of world trade by eliminating technical barriers to trade. IAF works to find the most effective way of achieving a single system to meet the objective of *"Accredited once, accepted everywhere"*.

The IAF MLA Mark



**Accreditation
Body Logo**

The IAF MLA Mark can be used by ABs to demonstrate their status as a signatory to the IAF MLA. If approved by the AB, accredited conformity assessment bodies (CABs) can also use the IAF MLA Mark in combination with the accreditation symbol on their certificates or statements, provided that these are issued under a granted IAF MLA scope.

The IAF MLA Mark demonstrates that the certificate or statement has been issued by a CAB that is accredited by an IAF MLA signatory and is thus traceable to the highest authority. It is an assurance that the certificate and the issuing body are of a high standard of competence and may be trusted, as they are recognised as complying with the same set of standards at the global level.

Scope of the IAF MLA

The IAF MLA is composed of IAF MLA main scopes and corresponding IAF MLA sub-scopes.

Certificates issued on the basis of an IAF MLA main scope are considered "equally reliable" because the CABs conform to the same standards.

Certificates issued on the basis of an IAF MLA sub-scope are considered "equivalent" as they are based on the same IAF endorsed standards or sector schemes. Sub-scopes are divided into two categories (Level 4 and Level 5). Level 4 sub-scopes are IAF endorsed normative documents used by ABs in conjunction with main scope documents to assess a CB's competence in a specific sector. Level 5 sub-scopes are IAF endorsed normative documents used by CBs.

The IAF MLA currently consists of the following scopes:

Level 1	ISO/IEC 17011:2017												
Level 2	Product Certification	Management Systems Certification									Person Certification	Validation and Verification	
Level 3	ISO/IEC 17065: 2012	ISO/IEC 17021-1: 2015									ISO/IEC 17024: 2012	ISO 14065: 2013,2020	ISO/IEC 17029: 2019
Level 4	GLOBAL G.A.P IFA General Regulations V4	ISO/TS 22003: 2013	ISO/TS 22003: 2013 FAMI-QS Rules for Certification Bodies Version 8	ISO/IEC 17021-3: 2017	ISO/IEC 17021-2: 2016	ISO/IEC 27006: 2015		ISO 50003: 2021	ISO/IEC TS 17021-10: 2018	ISO/TS 22003: 2013 FSSC 22000 V5.1 Scheme Part 3 FSSC 22000 V5.1 Scheme Part 4		ICAO CORSIA ETM - Volume IV V1, ISO 14064-3:2019; ISO 14066: 2011	
Level 5	GLOBAL G.A.P. IFA Control Points and Compliance Criteria V4 (GLOBALG.A.P.)	ISO 22000: 2018 (FSMS)	FAMI-QS Certification Scheme Code Version 6 (FAMI-QS)	ISO 9001: 2015 (QMS)	ISO 14001: 2015 (EMS)	ISO/IEC 27001: 2013 (ISMS)	ISO 13485: 2016 (MDQMS)	ISO 50001: 2018 (EnMS)	ISO 45001: 2018 (OH&S MS)	FSSC 22000 V5.1 Scheme Part 2 (FSSC 22000)	IPC- PL-11-006 (IPC)	ICAO CORSIA SARPs - Annex 16 Volume IV V1 (ICAO CORSIA)	

- Level 1 is the endorsed normative document for Accreditation Bodies
- Levels 2 and 3 are the main scopes consisting of accreditation programs and endorsed normative documents
- Levels 4 and 5 are the sub-scopes consisting of applicable documents and endorsed normative documents

As a supplement, IAF has developed a fast-track sub-scope evaluation process based on the evaluation of the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) benchmarking of food sector schemes. A corresponding Memorandum of Understanding between IAF and GFSI is in place to facilitate the acceptance of GFSI benchmarked schemes as IAF MLA sub-scopes.

Signatories to the IAF MLA

The IAF MLA has been structured to build on existing and developing regional MLA/MRAs established around the world. Therefore, IAF has formally recognised the MLA/MRA programs of five Regional Accreditation Groups (RAGs):



ABs recognised under these Regional MLA/MRAs may apply to the IAF for recognition under the IAF MLA on the basis of the acceptance of the mutual recognition arrangements established within these organisations.

Membership in the IAF MLA is facilitated by membership in the recognised RAGs' (AFRAC, APAC, ARAC, EA or IAAC) MLA/MRAs for recognised scopes and sub-scopes. IAF members who are also signatories of these regional MLA/MRAs can be accepted into the IAF MLA for recognised scopes and sub-scopes.

Originally, unaffiliated ABs applied directly to IAF to become an IAF MLA signatory.

Since the end of 2018, there are no unaffiliated IAF Member ABs as all IAF AB members are now also members of a RAG.

Another RAG has been working on establishing its MLA/MRA. In recognition of this, the South African Development Community Cooperation in Accreditation (SADCA) has been included in the statistics that follow.

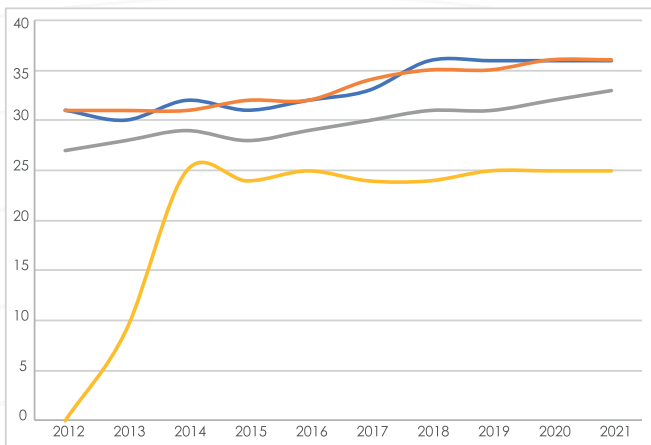
The number of signatories to the IAF MLA has grown in recent years, providing confidence to businesses and regulators in an increasing number of economies. A full list of IAF MLA signatories is available [here](#) and new IAF MLA signatories and scope extensions, as noted during the 2021 IAF General Assembly, are referenced in Annex 1 of this report. The graphs below show the evolution of the number of signatories at the regional level for different MLA scopes.

Number of signatories for Certification of Management Systems

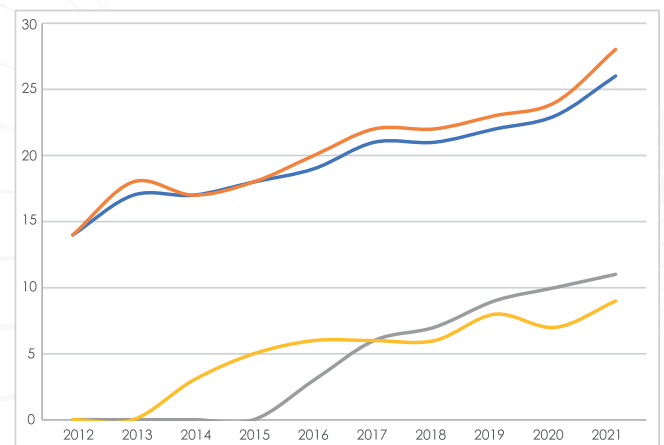
Number of signatories for Certification of Products, Processes and Services

Number of signatories for Certification of Persons

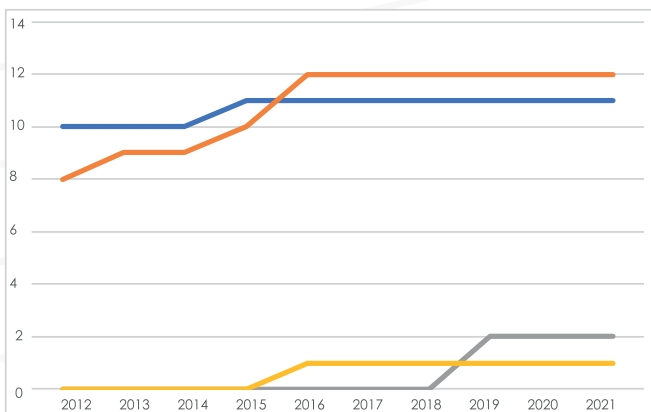
Number of signatories for GHG Validation/Verification



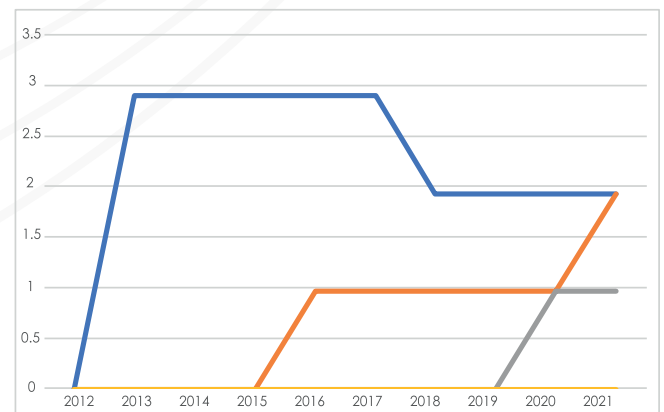
European co-operation for Accreditation



Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation



Inter American Accreditation Cooperation



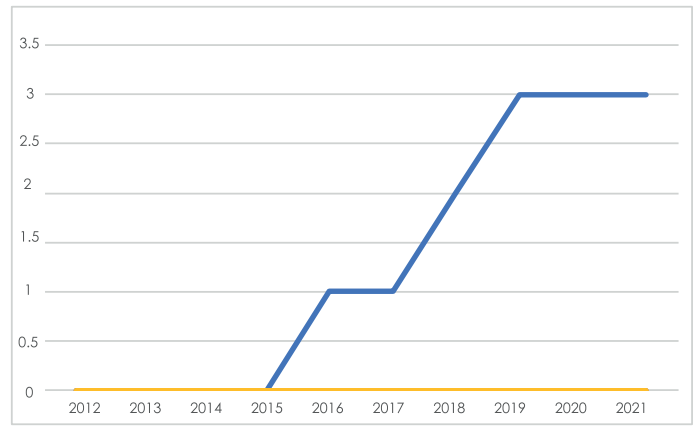
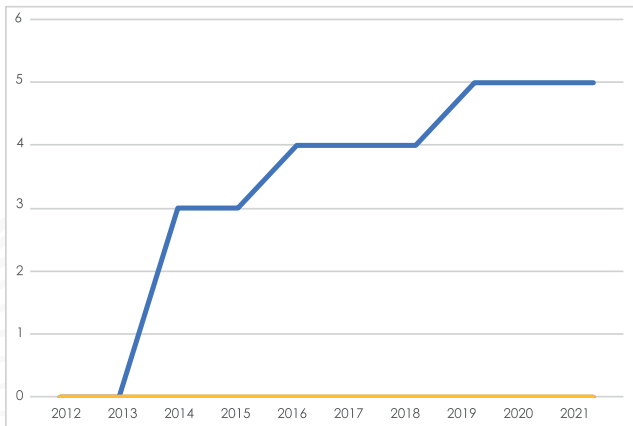
Arab Accreditation Cooperation

Number of signatories for Certification of Management Systems

Number of signatories for Certification of Products, Processes and Services

Number of signatories for Certification of Persons

Number of signatories for GHG Validation/Verification



African Accreditation Cooperation

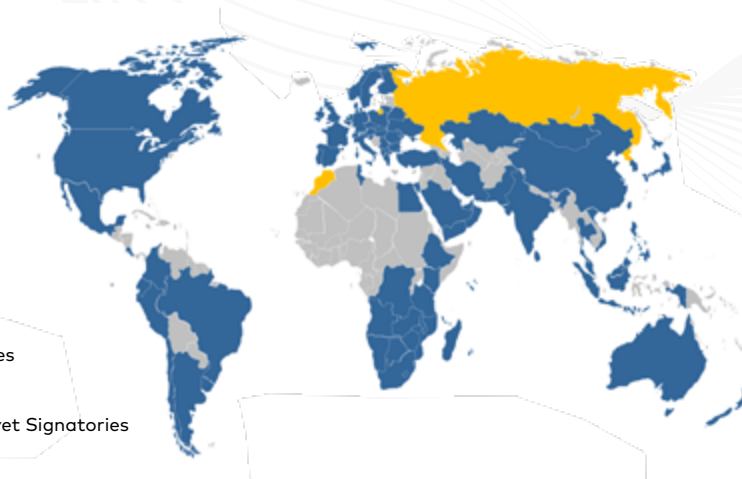
Southern African Development Community Cooperation in Accreditation

SADCA Regional Accreditation Group is not yet signatory of the IAF MLA, SADCA statistics are provided for information only.



IAF MLA Signatories

IAF Members not yet Signatories



Note: Not all signatories to Regional MLA/MRAs have applied to become a signatory of the IAF MLA.

In 2021, the IAF MLA comprised five recognized RAGs and **75** ABs, representing a total of **88** economies.

New Applicants

Further growth in the number of IAF MLA signatories is expected in the future as 14 applications from ABs were received in 2021:



0



9



0



3



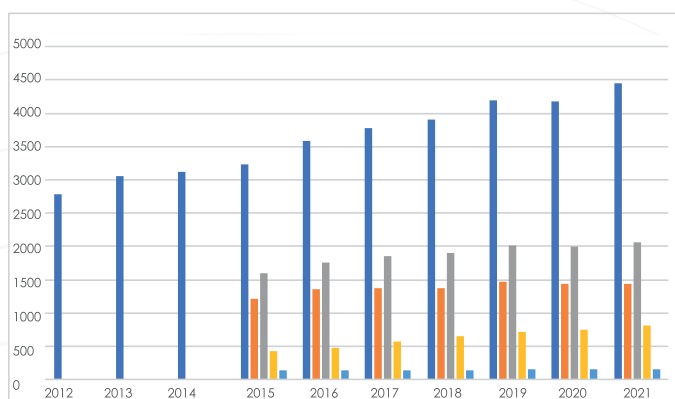
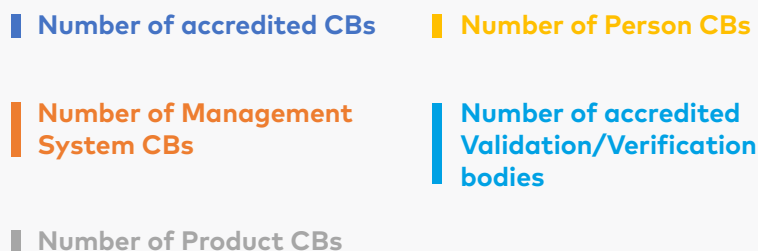
2



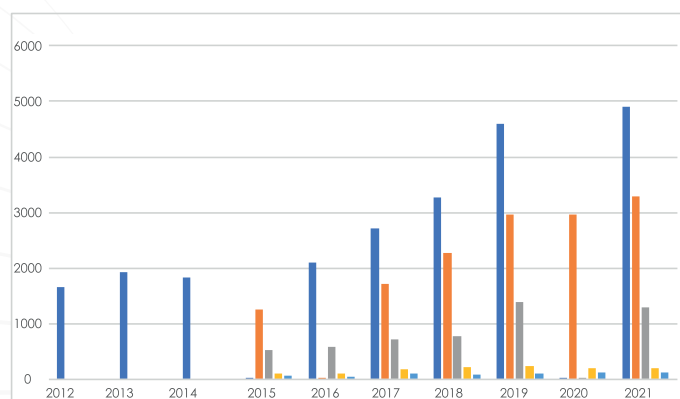
0

Global Growth

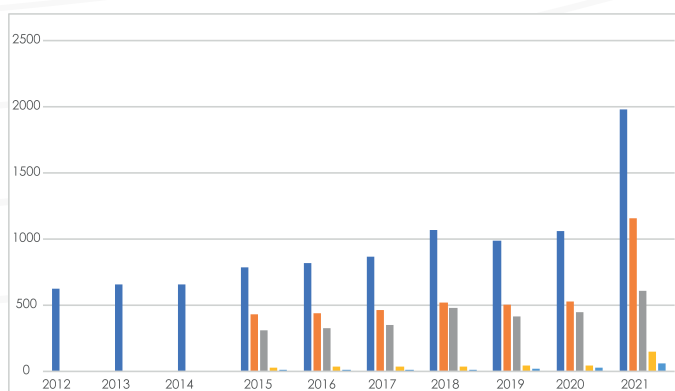
In addition to the growth in signatories to the IAF MLA, there has been a corresponding growth in the number of accredited CBs and V/VBs under the IAF MLA.



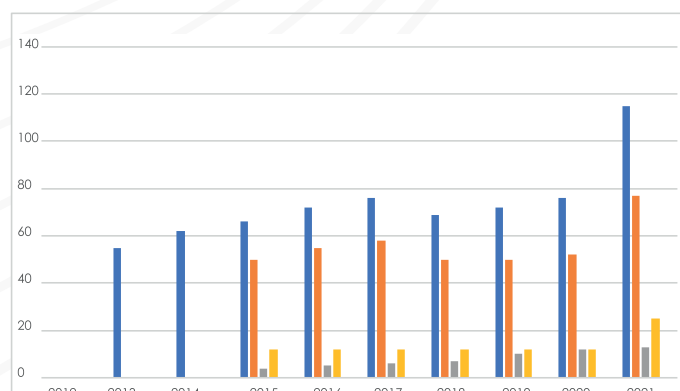
European co-operation for Accreditation



Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation

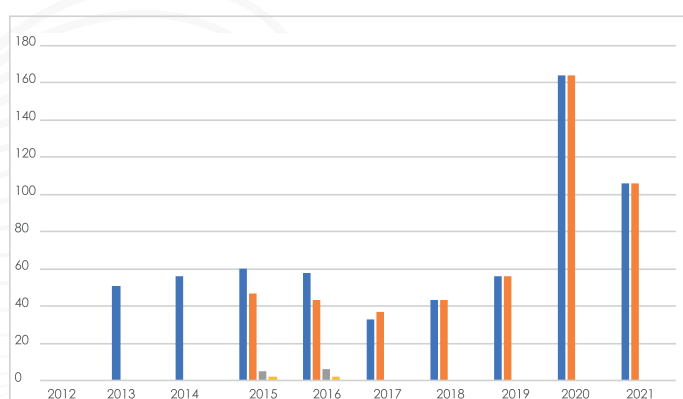
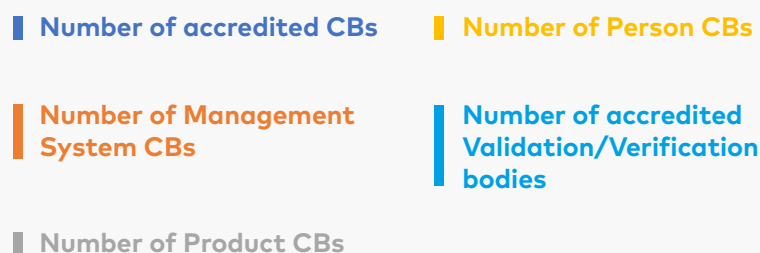


Inter- American Accreditation Cooperation

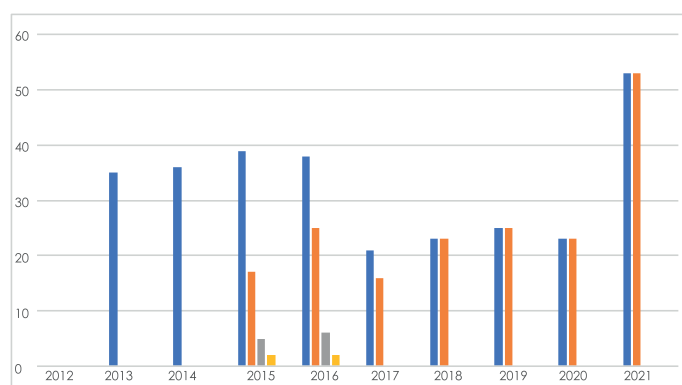


Arab Accreditation Cooperation

Global Growth



African Accreditation Cooperation



Southern African Development Community Cooperation in Accreditation

A total of **11,621** CBs and V/VBs are currently accredited, an increase of **12%** since 2020.



These numbers reflect the total number of scopes covered by accredited CABs in the RAGs, including where a CAB is accredited for more than one sub-scope.

Peer Evaluation Process

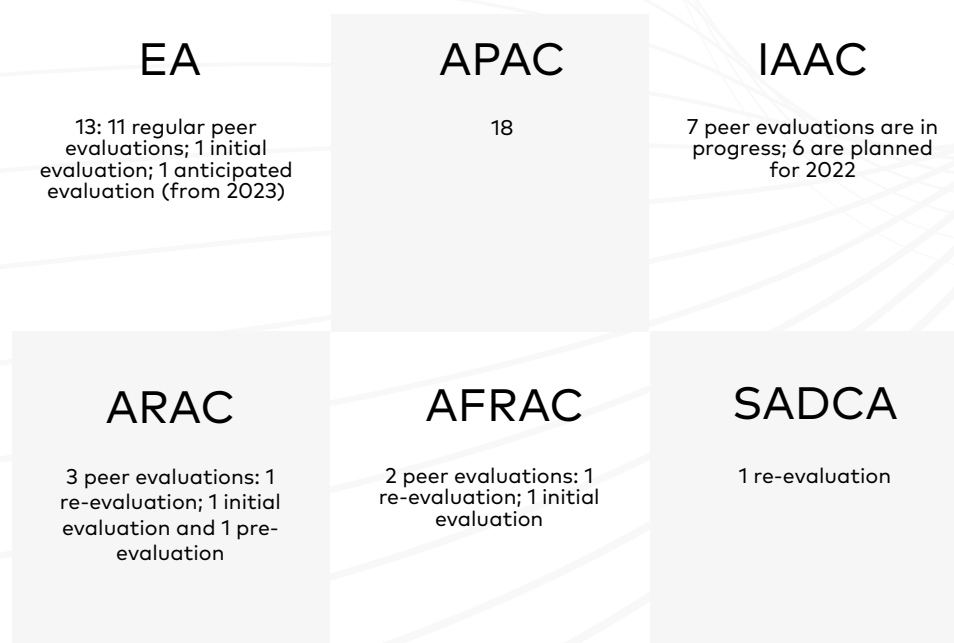
ABs are admitted to the IAF MLA only after a stringent evaluation of their operations by a peer evaluation team which is charged with ensuring that applicants comply fully with both international standards and IAF requirements. IAF, the RAGs and their AB members, invest significant resources to ensure and maintain the

integrity of the MLA through robust peer evaluations. Each regional MLA/MRA undergoes regular review. The peer evaluation process is ongoing and extensive, covering all RAGs and their signatories in a regular evaluation programme.

The following table provides an overview of the evaluations conducted in 2021:

	EA	APAC	IAAC	ARAC	AFRAC	SADCA
Reviewed Reports	13	21	17	3	5	1
Extraordinary Evaluations	2	0	11	0	0	0
Total Person-Days of Evaluation Effort	1.764	630	235	123	146	55

In addition, the following number of peer evaluations are in progress or planned for 2022:



IAF and ILAC jointly undertake evaluations of each RAG through teams of resources provided by other Regions. In 2021, the following regional evaluations were conducted:



Witnessing Testing (ISO/IEC 17025), Greenhouse Gases (ISO 14065), Inspection, Product



Re-evaluation for joint extension for Reference Material Producers (RMP) and Proficiency Testing Providers (PTP); witnessing Testing (ISO/IEC 17025), Inspection, Management System (witnessing EnMS), Product, RMP and PTP, Person



Witnessing Calibration, Management System, Product, Medical testing

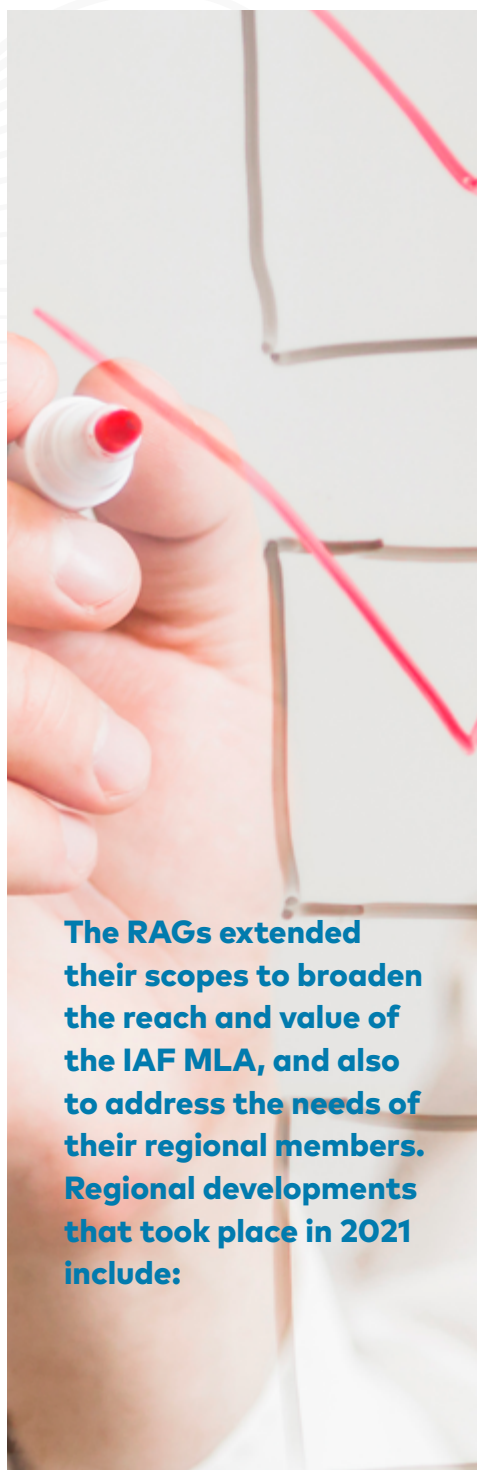


Initial evaluation; witnessing Management System, Calibration, Testing (ISO/IEC 17025)

Expanding the Scope of the IAF MLA

The IAF MLA is reviewed on an on-going basis to better serve the needs of stakeholders. A number of evaluations of private sector schemes to become IAF MLA sub-scopes were in progress in 2021, and Foundation FSSC's FSSC 22000 certification scheme was endorsed on 12 March 2021.

FSSC 22000 outlines requirements for the audit and certification of food safety management systems (FSMS) or FSMS and quality management systems (QMS) for organizations in the food supply chain. Based on ISO/IEC 17021-1 and ISO/TS 22003, it provides the standard and framework for independent, recognized third party management system certification of animal farming, food, feed, biochemicals and packaging (materials) manufacturing, transport and storage, catering and retail/wholesale organizations. FSSC 22000 has been benchmarked and recognized by the Global Food Safety Initiative since 2010.



The RAGs extended their scopes to broaden the reach and value of the IAF MLA, and also to address the needs of their regional members. Regional developments that took place in 2021 include:



In May 2021, EA applied to IAF to be recognised for the IAF MLA sub-scope FSSC 22000. 19 ABs were eligible for recognition after IAF accepted EA's recognition in July 2021. The next re-evaluation of EA by IAF/ILAC is scheduled to begin no later than July 2022.



APAC added the following scopes and sub-scopes to the APAC MRA in 2021: Biobanking, Anti-Bribery Management Systems (ABMS), Business Continuity Management Systems (BCMS), Food Safety System Certification (FSSC 22000), Validation and Verification, and Validation and Verification of Environmental Information.



IAAC is working to expand its MLA to FSSC 22000.



ARAC currently operates in the following MLA scopes: Quality Management Systems (QMS), Environmental Management Systems (EMS), Food Safety Management Systems (FSMS), and Product and Personnel Certification.



- In 2021, AFRAC underwent a re-evaluation by IAF, which included an extension of scope evaluation for the scopes of Product Certification and Persons Certification.
- In 2021, AFRAC received proposals to extend its MRA to include the Management System sub-scopes of:
 - » ISO 21001:2018 – Educational organizations – Management systems for educational organizations
 - » ISO 13485: 2016 – Medical devices – Quality management systems
 - » ISO/TS 22003:2013 – Food safety management systems
 - » ISO 28001:2007 – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of supply chain security management systems
- AFRAC has applied to IAF to increase its scope to include Product Certification and Certification of Persons.



SADCA has not yet undergone any activities to extend its scope at this stage.

MLA Monitoring and Improvement Activities

IAF is committed to monitoring and reviewing the MLA to ensure that it continues to meet the needs of stakeholders. In addition to consulting widely with stakeholders, IAF carries out a number of programmes and activities to continuously improve the value and effectiveness of the MLA.



Complaints provide a valuable mechanism for receiving feedback relating to the effectiveness of the MLA. This often confirms that the MLA is working effectively and that the process in place is suitably robust. It can also provide information that can be used to improve areas of the MLA.

The following numbers of complaints were raised during this period:

IAF

- Direct complaints against IAF – one received and closed during 2021
- Complaints referred to IAF – one received and closed during 2021; two received in previous years of which one was closed, and one remains open.
- Complaints referred to ABs – eight received and remain open

EA

- 3 new complaints received; 5 complaints (including cases opened before 2021) were processed and 4 complaints (including cases opened before 2021) were closed; 1 complaint remained open on 31 December 2021
- 0 new appeals were received in 2021; 0 appeals were processed; 0 appeals remained open on 31 December 2021

APAC

4 complaints received

IAAC

0 complaints received regarding MLA related issues; 3 appeals of AB members' findings raised by the peer evaluation team during its evaluation

AFRAC

0

ARAC

0

SADCA

0

COVID-19 Response

Following the declaration of COVID-19 as a pandemic and the imposition of social distancing and travel restrictions, IAF immediately began developing resources in response, working closely with stakeholders to address their needs. In collaboration with ILAC and the RAGs, a framework of measures was developed to allow assessments and peer evaluations to be performed remotely, guaranteeing the maintenance of a high level of competence and harmonization.

In 2021, IAF and ILAC published several new documents relating to the pandemic:



- *IAF/ILAC Approach to Remote Peer-Evaluations of Regions and Single Accreditation Bodies During the COVID-19 Pandemic, an addendum to IAF/ILAC A1 – IAF/ILAC Multi-Lateral Mutual Recognition Arrangements (Arrangements): Requirements and Procedures for Evaluation of a Regional Group and IAF/ILAC A2 – IAF/ILAC Multi-Lateral Mutual Recognition Arrangements (Arrangements): Requirements and Procedures for Evaluation of a Single Accreditation Body.* This addendum provides policies for the role and conduct of remote peer evaluations and allows for a more flexible approach to remote witnessing activities.
- The joint statement *Replacement of Assessments During the COVID-19 Pandemic*, which addresses situations where pandemic-related circumstances such as travel restrictions, social distancing, and health and safety considerations disrupt mandatory scheduled on-site or remote assessments by IAF MLA or ILAC MRA signatories. This statement allows for an off-site review of documentation to replace an assessment in extraordinary circumstances caused by the pandemic and only under specific conditions as defined in the statement.

These documents supplement resources published in 2020, which include:

- An IAF Statement on COVID-19, which highlights relevant IAF documents on extraordinary events and the use of information and communications technology in audits and assessments.
- A series of COVID-19 FAQs endorsed at the 2020 IAF General Assembly, which helps certification-based stakeholders (certified clients, certification bodies, accreditation bodies, scheme owners and regulators) maintain a harmonized approach.
- An IAF-ILAC Statement re Delayed Evaluations - March 2020, which provides guidelines that ensured the consistent transition of all IAF MLA and ILAC MRA signatories to the latest version of ISO/IEC 17011.

The COVID-19 hub on the IAF website contains links to all current resources.

The IAF MLA Management Committee and ILAC Arrangement Management Committee continued meeting remotely following the imposition of travel restrictions. Additionally, IAF collaborated with other international organizations to share experiences of working remotely and highlight the role of conformity assessment in supporting health and safety during the pandemic.

IAF, ILAC and ISO undertook a joint survey in 2021 to obtain the views of a diverse range of stakeholders on the use of remote techniques in audits, assessments and evaluations, which has increased during the pandemic. In total, 4350 responses were received. Results showed that a large majority of respondents prefer remote or blended audits, assessments, and evaluations, feel that remote activities provide as much confidence as on-site, and would like to see continued or increased use of remote activities in the future. More information on the results is available [here](#).



Improvement Activities

IAF consults widely with stakeholders to deliver a high standard of conformity assessment, and to provide stakeholders with a value-added outcome. The following activities were carried out to improve the MLA in 2021:



Collaboration with ILAC has continually improved to a point where only IAF/ILAC Joint Management Committee (JMC) meetings are held and there are no separate meetings of the IAF MLA MC and the ILAC AMC. This provides for a better understanding of the few different requirements and the many commonalities in the MLA area between the two organisations. Changes to the IAF membership on the JMC was implemented on 01 January 2021 to achieve a more balanced representation from both organisations.



- The EA peer evaluation process is under continuous review. Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 reinforces the role of EA and its peer evaluation role in both voluntary and regulated sectors. EA aims to support and harmonize the implementation of stringent rules to achieve consistency throughout Europe, as well as greater transparency and acceptability to all, including national authorities. The peer evaluation process is also further strengthened to accommodate the specific needs of regulatory fields to raise the assurance of regulators and stakeholders that ABs' technical competence is thoroughly assessed.
- The Multilateral Agreement Council (MAC) project aiming at re-engineering the peer evaluation system, one of the key actions of the EA Strategy 2025, progressed in 2021 and is nearing its goal.
- The MAC has been finalising the revision of EA-2/02: *EA Procedure for the Evaluation of a National Accreditation Body*, as well as the revision of the MAC Terms of Reference in order to include the role and responsibilities of the Secretariat and to annex the competence criteria for decision-makers.
- The MAC has also been developing five supplements to EA-2/02 in order to set out:
 - » EA-2/02 S1: *Description of Competence Criteria of the EA Secretariat Personnel Involved in the Management of the Peer-Evaluation Process*
 - » EA-2/02 S2: *Circumstances and Process of Involving EA Technical Committees in Peer-Evaluation Issues*
 - » EA-2/02 S3: *Risk-Based Approach for the Planning of a Peer Evaluation of a National Accreditation Body*
 - » EA-2/02 S4: *Procedure for Remote Peer Evaluations during the COVID-19 Pandemic*

» EA-2/02 S5: *Procedure for Remote Decision-Making*

- EA-2/02 S1, S2 and S4 were published in February 2022; the S3 and S5 supplements, whose title may still be changed, should be available in the first half of 2022.

APAC

Review of the APAC MRA evaluation procedures (APAC MRA-001) is underway to take into account experiences over the past three years and remote evaluation. APAC also revised and republished APAC TEC1-008 *Guidance for Accreditation of Reference Material Producers* and APAC TEC1-001 *APAC Guidance on Scopes of Accreditation for Biobanks*.



In 2021, IAAC created a new Technical Secretariat position to help improve the MLA processes and to develop new MLA scopes.



- In its second edition and on the occasion of World Accreditation Day (WAD) 2021, ARAC organized the Arab Accreditation Week (AAW) during the period 06-11 June 2021 under the theme "Together towards enhancing the role of accreditation in supporting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Arab region".
- Several online activities held during the AAW demonstrated ways to further develop the accreditation infrastructure in the Arab region and highlight the pivotal role it plays in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in addition to capacity building activities implemented to strengthen the ARAC member competencies:
 - » Webinar on the benefits of ARAC MLA recognition to the ARAC AB members and the benefits of accreditation to governments: The event, organised as part of the ARAC communication strategy, further contributed to strengthening the visibility of ARAC inside and outside the accreditation community, supporting recognition and acceptance of the IAF MLA and ARAC MLA and services/products provided under accreditation issued by the ARAC AB members. By the end of the awareness sessions, the participants had a good understanding of how accreditation, the ARAC MLA and its members benefit regulators, industries, economies and CABs.
 - » Webinar on accreditation in the digital era: This webinar aimed to review the experiences from ARAC ABs on how they had operated under the specific situation of COVID-19 by using information and communication technologies while, most importantly, maintaining the integrity of a robust accreditation system. The event gave ARAC AB members a common understanding and a guidance on how to go digital in a harmonized way with adequate digitalization tools to operate efficiently and effectively.



- AFRAC continues to promote the IAF MLA and ILAC MRA in the current Continental Free Trade Area (FTA) discussions. The MRA has already been incorporated in the FTA between SADCA, the East African Community and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, which consists of 26 economies in Africa.

- The AFRAC MRA brochure is aligned to ILAC MRA and IAF MLA requirements.
- AFRAC publishes a newsletter twice yearly with articles promoting the AFRAC MRA and IAF MLA as well as WAD celebrations where IAF and ILAC are given prominence by ABs and National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFPs) across the continent.
- AFRAC documents are aligned to the IAF requirements, with continued adoption and promotion of IAF mandatory and guidance documents by AFRAC.
- AB transitions to new standards are continuously monitored by AFRAC.
- The incorporation of AFRAC as a legal entity is in its final stages.



- AB transitions to new standards are continuously monitored by SADCA.
- SADCA documents are aligned to the IAF requirements, with continued adoption of IAF mandatory and guidance documents by SADCA.
- SADCA publishes an annual newsletter promoting SADCA AB and NAFB members, WAD and the IAF MLA.
- SADCA posts articles on the website under latest news and in the SADCA summit brochure.



Training

A number of training sessions, seminars and workshops took place during 2021 to extend the knowledge base, share best practices, and to maintain the competence of peer evaluators and assessment personnel:

EA

- In order to support the ongoing improvement of EA's pool of evaluators, three refresher training sessions were organised remotely in 2021 due to the health and travel conditions related to the COVID-19 pandemic:
 - » The first refresher training session held on 8-9 June 2021 was dedicated to Management Systems Certification and Certification of Persons. 31 participants from 20 NABs took part in the program covering:
 - ◊ The procedural aspects related to the peer-evaluation process.
 - ◊ The more technical aspects directly related to the specific fields and applicable standards, namely ISO/IEC 17021-1 and 17024.
 - » The second refresher training session held on 15-16 June 2021 gathered 26 team leaders and deputy team leaders from 16 NABs to discuss:
 - ◊ The specificities of on-site evaluations and remote evaluations.
 - ◊ The application review and preparation of the evaluation.
 - » The third refresher training session held on 8-9 December 2021 was dedicated to testing, medical examination and reference material producers. 33 peer evaluators from 22 NABs participated in the program covering:
 - ◊ The procedural aspects related to the peer evaluation process.
 - ◊ The more technical aspects directly related to the specific fields and applicable standards, namely ISO/IEC 17025, ISO 15189 and ISO 17034.

- Other training sessions:
 - » Jointly with the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (ENFSI), EA organised an online seminar on accreditation in the sector of crime scene investigation (CSI) on 22 March 2021. Initiated by the EA Inspection Committee (IC), this seminar enabled six speakers from ENFSI to share their experience in accreditation of forensic laboratories in Europe with almost 300 participants. As part of the AFORE (Accreditation of Forensic Laboratories in Europe) project, aiming to support forensic science laboratories across the European Union Member States to move towards accreditation, the objective of this seminar was to promote awareness of CSI processes towards EA and provide a better understanding of the whole forensic process, including:
 - ◊ CSI and laboratory activities (e.g., logistics, search for traces, different types of traces).
 - ◊ The different roles of personnel conducting CSI (e.g., crime scene manager, scene of crime examiner, forensic scientist).
 - ◊ The principles and importance of CSI (such as documentation of the scene, identification of the crime, etc.).
 - ◊ A concrete rape and murder case.
 - ◊ The benefits of accreditation of CSI.
 - » Another seminar was organised together with the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA) on 24 September 2021 to support EA NABs in the implementation of the European candidate cybersecurity certification (EUCC) scheme and to start with the accreditation of CBs and IT Security evaluation facilities (ITSEFs) as soon as the scheme is published in the Official Journal of the European Union in 2022. More than 100 participants including representatives from EA NABs and Recognised Stakeholders, as well as National Cybersecurity Certification Authorities (NCCA), attended this EA/ENISA webinar focused on the following issues under the Cybersecurity Act (CSA):
 - ◊ Common Criteria based EUCC.
 - ◊ EUCC: Guidelines on the accreditation of laboratories (ITSEFs: IT Security evaluation facilities).
 - ◊ Pilot run to the EUCC scheme.
 - » EA launched its eLearning platform in summer 2021. So far one e-Learning module dedicated to Regulation (EU) 2015/757 on the Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) of Carbon Dioxide Emissions from Maritime Transport has been made accessible.

APAC

No evaluator training took place in 2021.

IAAC

- IAAC held a virtual workshop on ISO/IEC 17029:2019 *Conformity assessment — General principles and requirements for validation and verification bodies* on 22 and 24 February 2021.
- IAAC held a virtual workshop for IAAC peer evaluators regarding ISO/IEC 17024, IAAC and IAF requirements.

ARAC

- Peer evaluators workshop on *ARAC MLAG Policy and Procedure for Guiding Remote Peer Evaluations*: Further to the publication of the *IAF/ILAC document IAF/ILAC Approach to Remote Peer Evaluations of Regions and Single Accreditation Bodies during the COVID-19 Pandemic*, a workshop for ARAC peer evaluators was conducted on 23 and 24 March 2021 on the developed ARAC MLA Group guidance document *ARAC MLAG Policy and Procedure for Guiding Remote Peer Evaluations*, which provides requirements and guidance for ARAC peer evaluators on how to plan, manage, and facilitate remote evaluations using information and communications technology as a complement or substitute to traditional evaluation techniques.
- Online Regional workshop on ISO/IEC 17024:2012: Within the framework of the implementation of the ARAC capacity building program, and with the participation of more than 60 ARAC ABs' personnel involved in the accreditation process (ARAC ABs' staff, lead assessors, technical assessors, technical experts and decision makers), the ARAC online Regional workshop on ISO/IEC 17024:2012 *Conformity assessment – General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons* requirements and the applicable IAF documents was successfully conducted during the period of 14–17 June 2021. The regional training workshop was facilitated by Dr. Cynthia D Woodley and was aimed at helping the ARAC ABs extend their activities in order to operate effectively in the area of accreditation of bodies certifying persons.

AFRAC

The following trainings/workshops took place in 2021:

- Evaluator and AB training on ILAC P15:2020 on 25-26 February 2021.
- Peer evaluator workshop on Remote Evaluation Processes presented via Zoom teleconference on 8 April 2021.
- Open training on ISO/IEC 17034 on 8 June 2021.
- Open training on ISO 15190 - *Medical Laboratories - Requirements for Safety* on 10 June 2021.
- Open training on calibration and metrological traceability in medical laboratories on 11 June 2021.
- Open workshop on Sharing of Experiences - Remote Technique in Assessments on 27 September 2021.

SADCA

On 8 April 2021, SADCA evaluators and AB members attended the training on remote evaluation processes and techniques, hosted by AFRAC. This training was aimed at evaluators and AB members.

Annex 1– New IAF MLA Signatories and Scope Extensions

IAF Resolution 2021-17 – Regional Accreditation Group IAF MLA Scope Extensions

The General Assembly noted the MLA scope extensions, since the 2020 General Assembly, of the following IAF Regional Accreditation Group members:



Sub-Scope: Level 4: ISO/TS 22003, FSSC 22000 Scheme Part 3 - Requirements for the Certification Process, FSSC 22000 Scheme Part 4 - Requirements for Certification Bodies; Sub-Scope Level 5: FSSC 22000 Scheme Part 2 - Requirements for organizations to be audited.



Sub-Scope: Level 4: ICAO CORSIA ETM - Volume IV, ISO 14064-3, ISO 14066; Level 5: ICAO CORSIA SARPs - Annex 16 Volume IV

IAF Resolution 2021-18 – New AB IAF MLA Signatories

The General Assembly noted the admissions to the IAF MLA, since the 2020 General Assembly, of the following IAF Accreditation Body Members:



GAC GCC Economies (APAC)

Main Scope: Product Certification – ISO/IEC 17065.

IAF Resolution 2021-19 – AB IAF MLA Scope Extensions

The General Assembly noted the MLA scope extensions, since the 2020 General Assembly, of the following IAF Accreditation Body Members:

- DSM Malaysia (APAC) – Main-Scope: Person Certification - ISO/IEC 17024
- **EIAC** United Arab Emirates, **KAB** Republic of Korea (APAC) – Sub-Scope: Level 4: ISO/IEC 27006; Sub-Scope: Level 5: ISO/IEC 27001
- **CNAS** China, **EIAC** United Arab Emirates, **JAB** Japan (APAC), **COFRAC** France, **SAS** Switzerland (EA), **INACAL-DA** Peru (IAAC) – Sub-Scope: Level 4: ISO/IEC TS 17021-10; Sub-Scope: Level 5: ISO 45001
- **ANAB** United States, **CNAS** China, **JAB** Japan, **TAF** Chinese Taipei (APAC) – Sub-Scope: Level 4: ICAO CORSIA ETM - Volume IV, ISO 14064-3, ISO 14066; Sub-Scope: Level 5: ICAO CORSIA SARPs - Annex 16 Volume IV
- **BoA** Vietnam, **JAB** Japan, **KAB** Republic of Korea (APAC) – Sub-Scope: Level 5: ISO 13485
- **INACAL-DA** Peru, **SAE** Ecuador (IAAC) – Sub-Scope: Level 4: ISO/IEC 17021-2, Sub-Scope: Level 5: ISO 14001
- **SADCAS** Southern Africa (AFRAC) – Sub-Scope: Level 4: ISO/TS 22003; Sub-Scope: Level 5: ISO 22000
- **IOAS** United States (APAC) – Sub-Scope: Level 4: GLOBALG.A.P. IFA General Regulations; Subscope: Level 5: GLOBALG.A.P. IFA Control Points and Compliance Criteria
- **AA** Austria, **ACCREDIA** Italy, **BELAC** Belgium, **CAI** Czech Republic, **COFRAC** France, **DAkks** Germany, **DANAK** Denmark, **ENAC** Spain, **ESYD** Greece, **FINAS** Finland, **INAB** Ireland, **IPAC** Portugal, **PCA** Poland, **RENAR** Romania, **RvA** Netherlands, **SAS** Switzerland, **SWEDAC** Sweden, **TURKAK** Turkey, **UKAS** United Kingdom (EA) – Sub-Scope: Level 4: ISO/TS 22003, FSSC 22000 Scheme Part 3 - Requirements for the Certification Process, FSSC 22000 Scheme Part 4 - Requirements for Certification Bodies; Sub-Scope Level 5: FSSC 22000 Scheme Part 2 - Requirements for organizations to be audited

- **UKAS** United Kingdom (EA) - Sub-Scope: Level 4: ISO/TS 22003, FAMI-QS Rules for CBs; Sub-Scope: Level 5: FAMI-QS Certification Scheme.

IAF Resolution 2021-20 – IAF and Foundation FSSC 22000 MLA Agreement

The General Assembly noted that the IAF-Foundation FSSC 22000 MLA Agreement had been approved by letter-ballot. In accordance with this Agreement and IAF PL3 Policies and Procedures for the Expansion of the Scope of the IAF MLA, the FSSC 22000 Certification Scheme has been endorsed as an IAF MLA sub-scope under the Main Scope of Management Systems Certification – ISO/IEC 17021-1.

IAF Resolution 2021-21 – IAF Validation and Verification MLA Structure

The General Assembly noted that, on the recommendation of the IAF Executive Committee, IAF Members had endorsed by letter-ballot the IAF MLA sub-scope expansion to the IAF Validation and Verification MLA under ISO/IEC 17029:2019 to include sub-scopes as included in IAF TC paper "IAF TC-04.1.1.20-1".

IAF Resolution 2021-22 – IAF Validation and Verification MLA Structure

The General Assembly noted that, on the recommendation of the IAF Executive Committee, IAF Members had endorsed by letter-ballot the transition to a single IAF Validation and Verification MLA under ISO/IEC 17029:2019 under the following conditions:

- Assessor Competence requirements for the transition to ISO/IEC 17029:2019: Competent for ISO 14065:2013, IAF MD 14, IAF MD 6 + training on ISO/IEC 17029:2019 by competent persons
- An on-site or remote assessment against the full ISO/IEC 17029:2019 be done on Validation and Verification Bodies before granting accreditation against ISO/IEC 17029:2019
- For ABs currently an MLA signatory to the main scope ISO 14065:2013: After the AB successfully transitions its IAF MLA signatory status to include ISO/IEC 17029:2019, the AB will be a signatory to both the main scope ISO/IEC 17029 and the level 4 sub-scope ISO 14065
- The IAF MLA for the main scope ISO 14065:2013 will cease existing at the end of the transition deadline to ISO 14065:2020 as stipulated in IAF Resolution 2019-19.

Required actions from Regional Accreditation Groups that are signatories to the IAF Validation and Verification MLA under ISO 14065:2013 have to be followed as included in the report of the IAF MLAC of 29 April 2021.

IAF Secretariat

Elva Nilsen
 Email: iaf@iaf.nu
www.iaf.nu



www.iaf.nu



@IAF_Global



IAFandILAC



international-accreditation-forum-inc



IAF News