

Copy of the Communication with ILAC

From: ilac ilac@nata.com.au
To: "ACCAB ." <info.accab@gmail.com>
CC: ilac <ilac@nata.com.au>
Date: Fri, Nov 11, 2011 at 4:53 AM
Subject: RE: CLARIFICATIONS REGARDING CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT - ACCREDITATION

Dear Rajiv

Thank you for interest in the requirements and membership of ILAC. I have included answers to your questions in the body of your email below.

I look forward to hearing from you regarding the level of membership of ILAC that ACCAB may be interested in, so that I can provide the relevant application form and further details on the membership process and fees. (Refer to answer for question 6.)

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions.

Kind regards

Sharon Kelly
ILAC Secretariat

From: ACCAB . [mailto:info.accab@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, 9 November 2011 8:08 PM
To: ilac
Subject: CLARIFICATIONS REGARDING CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT - ACCREDITATION

ACCAB/008-2

Date 09 Nov 2011

To,

The ILAC Secretariat
PO Box 7507
Silverwater
NSW 2128
Australia

SUB:- CLARIFICATIONS REGARDING CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT - ACCREDITATION

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are pleased to introduce ourselves as an international, independent, impartial, non-governmental accreditation body. The Accreditation Commission for Conformity Assessment Bodies (ACCAB) is a trading name for Accreditation Commission For conformity Assessment Bodies Private Limited a company limited by shares established in terms of Companies Act, 1956, Republic of India.

ACCAB operates in accordance with the requirements, criteria, rules and regulations laid down in the following documents:

- The requirements of the international standard ISO/IEC 17011, General requirements for bodies providing assessments and accreditation of conformity assessment bodies
- The requirements and other benchmarks as stipulated in the Publicly Available Documents (PAD) published by various international bodies and ACCAB
- Legally established objects as per Memorandum & Articles of Association with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India.

The Board of Director has overall authority and responsibilities for policies and procedures for the operations of ACCAB. The Board delegates to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of ACCAB the responsibility to implement the ACCAB policies and procedures. Accreditation Approval Committees make decisions concerning the granting and continuation of accreditation. An independent Impartiality Committee representing the broad range of stakeholders reviews and adjudicates on possible conflicts of interest. The authority vested in ACCAB is that assigned to them by the Conformity Assessment Bodies and other Organization it accredits and recognizes by virtue of these applicant and accredited bodies pledging support for the mission and objectives of ACCAB and ensuring that their actions are according to that policy. The ACCAB started operating from September 2010. Please check our website www.accab.org for further details on us.

We would be highly obliged if you could give certain clarifications to the following points/issues which we came across in the initial stages of establishing our accreditation services as many stakeholders enquire with us regarding our position with the ILAC.

1. Has ILAC received any exclusive/nonexclusive legal mandate/recognition from any Government to operate its scheme for the accreditation bodies ?

ILAC is not a government body and therefore there is no government mandate as such to operate the ILAC MRA. There are now many governments around the world referencing the need for calibration and testing work to be carried out by laboratories accredited by the signatories to the ILAC MRA. Some examples of these are included in the Success Stories on the ILAC website

<http://www.ilac.org/successstories.html> In addition the Accreditation Facts page of the website highlights the increased regulator recognition of the use of the ILAC MRA at http://www.ilac.org/facts_fig.html

2. Has any Government legislated that the all laboratories / Inspection Bodies are required to be accredited by ILAC Accreditation Body Members ?

Yes, there are examples in many economies of governments regulating that laboratories must be accredited. This usually occurs within specific sectors, eg food, medical, electrical, etc testing.

3. According to ILAC, is it mandatory/ necessary for an accreditation body to be a member of International Laboratories Accreditation Corporation ?

ILAC does not mandate membership. Membership of ILAC is voluntary.

4. Are we officially permitted to use ILAC publications/guidelines/practices for the benefit of conformity assessment stakeholders, even though currently we are not a member of ILAC ?

Yes, you can seek permission, as per the copyright statement included in the ILAC publications, for the use of the ILAC publications. This permission is generally granted regardless of whether the organisation is a member of ILAC or not.

5. National Accreditation Board for Laboratories (NABL), India is already a member of ILAC. Would this situation restrict ILAC to accept any other Accreditation Body such as ACCAB from India for its membership ?

No, the ILAC Rules do not restrict the number of accreditation bodies that can be members from one economy. You will see several examples in the membership list, ordered by economy, of economies with multiple accreditation bodies as members of ILAC. Some examples include USA, Japan and Thailand. The membership list is available from http://www.ilac.org/members_contact_details.html

6. What is the route for ACCAB to become a member of ILAC ?

I am not sure if you have reviewed the membership criteria for ILAC membership available from

<http://www.ilac.org/membershipcriteria.html> As you will see, at this stage, I imagine ACCAB will be interested in either Affiliate or Associate membership of ILAC at this stage. Once you advise on the level of membership ACCAB is interested in, I will be able to advise on the process for membership and the fees associated with that level membership. In general there are no application fees for membership of ILAC, there are however annual membership fees for which the members are invoiced every January. As soon as you

7. Currently what mechanism exists to ensure cooperation between ILAC members & non ILAC members ?

ILAC has formal partnerships with many associations that are not members of ILAC. This information is available from <http://www.ilac.org/partnerships.html>

8. Does ILAC have Accreditation Body Members who are privately owned ?

Yes, there are many examples of accreditation bodies that are members of ILAC that are privately owned.

Thanks and awaiting your early response

For Accreditation Commission for Conformity Assessment Bodies Pvt Ltd

Commander Rajiv Kubal (Retd)
Divisional Head



Suite # 114, Level 1, Master Mind – IV, Royal Palms, Aarey Colony, Goregaon (East), Mumbai - 400 065, India

Tele/Fax: +91-22-28794410 , +91-22-28794411 , +91-22-28794412

URL: www.accab.org Email: info@accab.org , info.accab@gmail.com,

This email, including any attached files, may contain confidential and privileged information for the sole use of the intended recipient(s). Any review, use, distribution or disclosure by others is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient (or authorized to receive information for the recipient), please contact the sender by reply email and delete all copies of this message. Thank you.