



SADCAS and TUNAC Sign Twinning Partnership Agreement

The Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) and the Tunisian Accreditation Council (TUNAC) have entered into a twinning partnership. The Twinning Partnership Agreement was signed by both parties on 20 February 2014.

The objective of the Twinning Partnership Agreement is to ensure that SADCAS has the necessary infrastructure for the handling of accreditation applications, assessment of conformity assessment bodies and surveillance assessment of accredited facilities in French and using a technically recognized quality management system. This will be achieved through conducting joint assessments during which SADCAS assessors will be mentored and monitored, granting accreditations to conformity assessment bodies applying to SADCAS for accreditation, and conducting the required surveillance assessments. Under this Agreement separate certificates will be issued by SADCAS and TUNAC and the accredited facility shall be listed on both the SADCAS and TUNAC directories of accredited organizations.

The Agreement is in line with international best practice and is designed to capacitate SADCAS so as to address the accreditation needs of French speaking SADC countries whilst at the same time assure the credibility of SADCAS accreditations on the market. TUNAC which offers accreditation services in French is signatory to both the ILAC and IAF multilateral agreements thus has the levels of expertise and resources in the areas of operation beneficial to SADCAS hence an appropriate twinning partner in accreditation services.

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Negotiations with TUNAC started in 2012 culminating in the signing of the agreement in February 2014 having gone through the respective accreditation bodies Boards of Directors. In a letter to the SADCAS Chief Executive Officer Mrs Maureen P Mutasa, after signing the agreement Mr Rezgui Taoufik General Director of TUNAC expressed his sincere gladness for the Agreement and which he said will bring our organizations to the new levels through this cooperation.

As at 31 March 2014 SADCAS had 4 accreditation applications from the Democratic Republic of Congo which will be processed under the SADCAS/TUNAC Twinning Partnership Agreement as soon as translation of SADCAS prioritized quality management system documents has been completed.

SADCAS Pays Courtesy Call on SADC Deputy Executive Secretary—Regional Integration

The SADCAS Chief Executive Officer, Mrs Maureen Mutasa paid a courtesy call on the newly appointed SADC Deputy Executive Secretary, Regional Integration, Dr Thembinkosi Mhlongo on 22 January 2014 at SADC House in Gaborone, Botswana.

The purpose of the courtesy call was to introduce SADCAS to the newly appointed SADC Deputy Executive Secretary, Regional Integration and to advise him of the challenges faced and how SADCAS was meeting the challenges and to articulate SADCAS' expectations from the SADC Executive.

SADCAS a subsidiarity institution of SADC, is a multi economy accreditation body established as part of the SADC infrastructure for standardization, quality assurance, accreditation and metrology (SQAM) in order to meet the accreditation needs of SADC Member States without own national accreditation bodies i.e. 13 countries in all namely: Angola; Botswana; Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC); Lesotho; Malawi; Madagascar; Mozambique; Namibia; Seychelles; Swaziland; Tanzania; Zambia; and Zimbabwe. The multi economy accreditation body is a cost effective model whereby a number of economies share one accreditation body. Accreditation which is the process by which an authoritative body i.e. SADCAS gives formal recognition that an organization/person is competent to carry out specific tasks involves the creation of confidence in the work carried by conformity assessment bodies such as testing/calibration/medical laboratories, certification and inspection bodies. Accreditation is the basis of trust amongst trading partners. SADCAS is in its 6th year of operation as a multi economy accreditation body. As at the time of visit SADCAS has issued 33 accreditation certificates to 22 accredited facilities in 6 SADC Member States namely: Botswana (4); Namibia (4); Seychelles (2); Tanzania (3); Zambia (2) and Zimbabwe (7) and had another 36 accreditation applications from 7 SADC Member States at the various stages of processing. At the same time SADCAS has undertaken 63 training courses on the key accreditation standards in most of the SADC Member States that are serviced by SADCAS.



From left to right Dr Thembinkosi Mhlongo, Ms Kuenta Molapo and Mrs Maureen Mutasa at SADC House

Dr Mhlongo was appointed as SADC Deputy Executive Secretary, Regional Integration in October 2013. A national of the Republic of South Africa, Dr Mhlongo previously served as a Chief Director at the SADC Secretariat from 2001 to 2005. He holds a PHD in economics from York University.

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In attendance at the meeting was Ms Kuena Molapo, the Programme Officer for SQAM issues at the SADC Secretariat. The meeting noted that the introduction of the SADC Free Trade Area has placed greater impetus on regional integration and the removal of non tariff barriers to trade and underscored the importance of SADCAS in facilitating this process.

With the achievements so far, and the assured continued support from the SADC Secretariat, SADCAS will continue to play its role in supporting the freedom of world trade, enhancing the competitiveness of SADC goods and services as well as protecting the consumers and the environment thus contributing to the SADC ultimate goal of achieving economic growth, alleviating poverty and enhancing the standard and quality of the life of its people.

9th SADCAS Annual General Meeting held on 18 March 2014

SADCAS held its 9th Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 18 March 2014 at the Tlotlo Conference Centre in Gaborone, Botswana. The SADCAS General Assembly which is the governing body of SADCAS comprises of subscribers to the Memorandum and Articles of Association, members of the Board of directors, appointed representatives of National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFPs) in each SADC Member State using the services of SADCAS, and individuals or organizations who apply for admission as members of SADCAS. The SADCAS General Assembly currently comprises of 40 members. Drawn out of the General Assembly is the Board of Directors which oversees the running of SADCAS and fulfils any functions that the SADCAS General Assembly may delegate to it. In line with its Articles of Association, SADCAS holds a general meeting in each year as its AGM. The AGM which was held in conjunction with the 29th meeting of SADC experts on standardization, quality assurance, accreditation and metrology was attended by 38 General Assembly members and observers.



9th SADCAS Annual General Meeting in session

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9th SADCAS Annual General Meeting in session

Mr Riundja Ali Kaakunga (Othy), the Chairman of the SADCAS Board of Directors who presides as the Chairman of AGM of SADCAS welcomed members and observers to the 9th SADCAS AGM. In his report to the AGM, Mr Kaakunga reviewed the progress made in the 5 key result areas of the 2013/14 annual implementation plan whose thrust was to consolidate, streamline and enhance service delivery to the target population, effectively promote and market the benefits of accreditation and SADCAS Services, build capacity and capability of SADCAS, enhance global acceptance of SADC products and services and to strive for sustainability. As at 28 February 2014, SADCAS had issued 34 accreditation certificates to 23 accredited facilities in six (6) SADC countries representing a 44% growth in number of accreditations since the last AGM. Most of the issued accreditation certificates i.e. 50% fall under the Testing Laboratories Accreditation Programme (TLAP), 38% fall under the Calibration Laboratories Accreditation Programme (CLAP), 9% fall under the Inspection Bodies Accreditation Programme (IBAP) and 3% fall under the Medical Laboratories Accreditation Programme (MLAP). During the period under review, SADCAS scored a first on the Inspection Bodies and Medical Laboratories Accreditation Programmes having accredited 3 inspection bodies and one medical laboratory respectively. At the same time SADCAS had 39 other accreditation applications under process from 8 countries namely: Angola (1), Botswana (9); DRC (3); Namibia (1); Tanzania (10); Zambia (3); Zimbabwe (11) with Swaziland recording its first application. SADCAS has witnessed increasing interest in the MLAP with 50% of the applications under process being medical laboratories. A further 19 expressed interests in accreditation are being handled. Training services grew by 33% with SADCAS successfully conducting 16 training courses since the last report to the AGM.

The meeting attended to the normal AGM business including the adoption of the 5th SADCAS annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013, ratification of the budget for the year 2014/15, appointed external financial auditors for the years 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16, appointed the Company secretary for the year beginning 1 April 2014 up to 31 March 2015. Elections were also held for 3 Board positions.

The 2014 NAFP Award was also presented during the 9th AGM with NAFP Swaziland receiving the Award.

Three Members Retire from the SADCAS Board of Directors

Three members namely: Mr Riundja Ali Kaakunga (Othy); Mrs Masego B Marobela; and Mr Cyprian T Mokhoro retired from the SADCAS Board of Directors having served 2 consecutive three year terms as non executive Board members.

Mr Kaakunga a lawyer by profession is the Chief Executive Officer of the Namibian Standards Institution and is the outgoing chairman of the SADCAS Board of Directors. Mr Kaakunga a signatory to the SADCAS Memorandum of Association and who together with Professor Erasmus were tasked to look into feasibility of establishing SADCAS, was first appointed to the SADCAS Board of Directors in 2006 and re-elected in 2011 to serve for the second three year term. During his tenure Othy as he was affectionately called by all, initially served as a member then served as the Chairman of the Board of Directors. Speaking during the 35th SADCAS Board meeting, Mr Kaakunga reminiscing to the conceptualization of SADCAS in 1995, its incorporation in 2005 and operationalization in 2009 marvelled at the progress made albeit the challenges faced being the first multi economy accreditation body in the world. He noted that SADCAS business is growing. "We have been able to persuade Governments to contribute towards SADCAS sustenance and SADCAS is also well on its way towards signatory status in international accreditation arrangements" he said. Great strides have been made towards meeting the accreditation needs of French speaking SADC Member States. "We are confident that SADCAS will continue to grow and appreciate the sacrifices that you have all put into making SADCAS a reality" he said. In conclusion Mr Kaakunga noted that there is a good clientele base of conformity assessment bodies operating in the region to support a sustainable multi economy accreditation body but reiterated the need for coaching of conformity assessment bodies in order to prepare them for accreditation. He then wished the Board the best in its endeavours as the Board takes SADCAS forward.



Messrs Kaakunga and Mokhoro and Mrs Marobela) receiving certificates of appreciation from Mrs Maureen Mutasa

Mr Mokhoro who was also a signatory to the SADCAS Memorandum of Association was first appointed to the SADCAS Board of Directors in 2006 and re-elected in 2011 to serve for the second three year term. During his tenure Mr Mokhoro also served on the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee since its establishment in 2009. The Finance, Risk and Audit Committee assists the Board in discharging its responsibilities relating to budget preparation, expenditure control and financial reporting, compliance with established policies, plans and procedures, safeguarding assets and maintenance of sound and adequate internal control system and ethical conduct.

Mrs Masego B Marobela the Managing Director of the Botswana Bureau of Botswana was first appointed to the SADCAS Board of Directors in 2006 and re-elected in 2011 to serve for the second three year term. During her tenure Mrs Marobela served as the Vice Chairman of the SADCAS Board of Directors and Chairman of the Human Resources and Remuneration Committee. The Human Resources and Remuneration Committee assists the Board in discharging its responsibilities of developing and implementing a comprehensive human resources and remuneration policy and strategy so as to ensure that SADCAS is able to attract, develop and retain the best possible skills required to support credible services to clients. The SADCAS General Assembly during the 9th AGM, thanked Mr Kaakunga for his valuable chairmanship of the SADCAS Board of Directors from April 2006 up to March 2014. The SADCAS General Assembly thanked Mrs Marobela for her valuable contributions as the Vice Chairman of the SADCAS Board of Directors and as the Chairman of the Human Resources and Remuneration Committee. Mr Mokhoro was also thanked for his valuable contributions as a member of the SADCAS Board of Directors and a member of the Finance Risk and Audit Committee.

Election of SADCAS Board of Directors

The SADCAS is governed by a General Assembly. Drawn out of the General Assembly is the Board of Directors which oversees the running of SADCAS and fulfils any function that the General Assembly may delegate to it. The Board is responsible for the overall policy and strategic guidance of the Company, approve amendments to the Company's rules and By-laws and approve strategic and business plans, annual accounts and budgets. The SADCAS CEO who reports to the Board of Directors leads the company and is responsible for the day-to-day operations of SADCAS.

According to Article 8 of the SADCAS Articles of Association the number of members of the Board of the Company shall not be less than 7 at any given time. At the 9th SADCAS AGM and noting the retirement of 3 Board members, elections were held for 3 Board positions. Mr Steve Sidney who had served 3 years as a non Executive Director was re-elected for a second term having put himself up for election. Ms Likonelo Lebone, who is the Chief Legal Officer in the Ministry of Trade and Industry in Lesotho, and had been co-opted onto the SADCAS Board of Directors in February 2014 was elected to serve her first term of 3 years. Among others, Ms Lebone has worked extensively with the Companies Act in Lesotho, much of which involved comparison with other laws in the Sub-region. She also attended the month-long Swedish training on Quality infrastructure development in support of world trade, which widened her horizon in terms of SQAM and its relevance to trade. She was co-opted to provide fiduciary and legal oversight to the Board. Mr Alfredo Siteo who is the Director General of the national standards body for Mozambique (INNOQ), and whose expertise is government policy on SQAM, was elected to serve his first term of 3 years.

Following the elections, the SADCAS Board of Directors now comprises of 7 non executive members and one Executive member namely:

- ❑ Mr Viki Mbuya Kanama (Non Executive)
- ❑ Mrs Christine Eve Gadzikwa (Non Executive)
- ❑ Ms Verily Molatedi (Non Executive)
- ❑ Mr Steven Bruce Sidney (Non Executive)
- ❑ Ms Boitumelo Gofhamodimo (Non Executive)
- ❑ Ms Likonelo Lebone (Non Executive)
- ❑ Mr Alfredo Siteo (Non Executive)
- ❑ Mrs Maureen Primrose Mutasa (Executive)

In line with Article 31 of the SADCAS Articles of Association the Board at its 36th meeting scheduled to be held on 9 May 2014 shall elect a chairman and vice chairman of the Board.

SADCAS Value Proposition

- ✓ **Delivering confidence**
- ✓ **Assuring competency**
- ✓ **Guaranteeing quality**

SADCA Executive Committee Meets

The SADC Cooperation in Accreditation (SADCA) Executive Committee held its meeting in Port Louis, Mauritius from 3 to 4 February 2014. The purpose of the meeting was to monitor progress on implementation of the SADCA agenda as outlined in the 2012 to 2017 Business Plan, to plan for the years programme and to prepare for the upcoming SADCA General Assembly meeting to be held on 20 March 2014. All the SADCA Executive members except two who due to other business commitments could not attend the meeting.

In his welcoming remarks Mr Robin Gopee the Chair of SADCA informed members of the reconstitution of the SADCA Executive Committee in line with the revised SADCA By laws which were approved at the last SADCA General Assembly. He advised that the Executive Committee now comprised of the Chair and Vice Chair of SADCA, Chairs from the SADCA Mutual Recognition and Technical Committees, SADC Secretariat, SADCA Secretariat and other members co-opted to provide expertise. The SADCA Executive now comprises of 10 members as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| ❑ Mr Robin N Gopee | Chair |
| ❑ Mr Viki Mbuya Kanama | Vice Chair |
| ❑ Mr Ron Josias | Member |
| ❑ Mr Davlin Chokazinga | Member |
| ❑ Mrs Maureen P Mutasa | Member |
| ❑ Mrs Masego B Marobela | Member |
| ❑ Dr Elsie Meintjies | Member |
| ❑ Ms Anna Marie Lotter | Member |
| ❑ Dr Elsabe Steyn | Regional Coordinator, SADCA Secretariat |
| ❑ Ms Nonhlanhla Halimana | SADCA Secretariat |

The Executive Committee reviewed the SADCA trademark (name and logo) and reaffirmed the name of SADC Cooperation in Accreditation and agreed to propose a correction on the trademark. Regarding the logo and after much deliberation the meeting agreed to maintain the map of Africa and the colours but with a focus on the region that SADCA operates in for accurate representation and to avoid any confusion with the AFRAC logo which also has a map of Africa. The meeting also agreed to keep the logo simple as the current one is rather too busy such that the name is obscured. A designer will be engaged to revise the logo and submit proposals for consideration by the Executive Committee taking into account the general principles developed during the meeting.



*Seated from left to right: Mr Robin Gopee & Mr Viki Mbuya Kanama
Standing from left to right: Mr Ron Josias, Dr Elsabe Steyn, Mrs Masego Marobela, Mrs Maureen P Mutasa and Ms Nonhlanhla Halimana*

The meeting reviewed the draft Technical Cooperation Agreement between AFRAC and SADCA and made some changes to the draft. The revised draft was subsequently approved at the 18th SADCA annual meeting held on 20 March 2014. The proposed cooperation between AFRAC and SADCA defines the working relationships between AFRAC and SADCA noting that the 2 co-operations share some common members. It covers the following areas of co-operation:

- ❑ **Training and development-** Foster participation in training activities organised jointly and/or by either Party, when deemed suitable and foster recruitment and/or secondment of qualified personnel through internships and consultancies for each other and for each other's member accreditation bodies.

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- ❑ **Proficiency testing programmes** - Foster participation in proficiency testing programs organised jointly and/or by each Party, when deemed suitable
- ❑ **Peer evaluation** - Foster participation in peer evaluations organised jointly and/or by either Party, when deemed suitable;
- ❑ **Information exchange** on the development of regional accreditation co-operations and other relevant topics
- ❑ **Support on matters of technical nature** related to accreditation;
- ❑ **Adoption of common positions** on issues of mutual interest in international fora



SADCA Executive Committee Meeting in session

The Agreement is designed to be of mutual benefit for the development of accreditation in Africa and the SADC region. A progress report was submitted on the applications for membership following the restructuring of SADCA membership as defined in the revised SADCA By laws. Although some applications had been received a reminder is to be circulated to all for the various categories of membership namely: the stakeholder; associate; and ordinary members for which applications had not yet been received by the time of the meeting. A membership signing ceremony was held during the 18th SADCA annual meeting held on 20 March 2014 during which admitted members signed a certificate as commitment to abide with the SADCA Bylaws.

A presentation was made by Dr Elsabe Steyn on a tool kit for conformity assessment bodies developed by SANAS. The tool kit which targets conformity assessment bodies is designed to assist applicant conformity assessment bodies or those conformity assessment bodies that are in process of acquiring accreditation by introducing them to accreditation, explaining some of the terminology that are used, outlining the process that they go through and the cost of accreditation, and providing tips on how to prepare a Quality Manual. The meeting noted that the SADCA Technical Committee was working on a similar initiative and proposed that the TC considers using the SANAS tool kit as a basis for the development of a template toolkit that the member accreditation bodies can adapt for their use. One of the challenges that SADCAS has been facing is the poor readiness of conformity assessment bodies for accreditation and such a tool kit will be very useful in preparing conformity assessment bodies for accreditation. The toolkit was adopted at the 18th SADCA annual meeting held on 20 March 2014 with a call for members to comment on it to ensure its suitability for use in the region.

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In the review of the 2013/14 Executive Committee, technical Committee and MRA Committee workplans, the meeting noted the progress made. Of interest to SADCAS is that the AFRAC pre peer evaluation confirmed for 24 to 27 February 2014 will in fact be held jointly by AFRAC and SADCA and that efforts were underway for the arrangements for the evaluation to take place. To this end SADCAS needs to submit an application to SADCA as soon as possible. The application was subsequently submitted, considered and accepted at the SADCA MRA Committee meeting held on 19 March 2014 with the pre peer evaluation rescheduled to be held from 23v to 27 June 2014.

Noting that the terms of reference for the SADCA MRA and Technical committees include vice chairs, the meeting considered changes to clauses 7.2.5 and 9 of the Bylaws which were presented to the 18th General Assembly for approval and subsequent election of the vice chairs. A working group on marketing and communication was also established and an invitation will be sent out to prospective members. SADCAS will be represented on the Working Group by Ms Linda Dirorimwe.

On participation in ILAC and the IAF, a Working group comprised of Mr Ron Josias, Mr Robin Gopee and Mrs Mutasa was established to identify the meetings and persons who would represent SADCA at these meetings. Mrs Mutasa who is a member of the SADCA MRA Committee was nominated to represent SADCA at the AFRAC MRA Committee.

In preparing for the 18th SADCA General Assembly, the meeting reviewed the minutes of the 17th SADCA General Assembly held in March 2013 in Luanda, Angola, prepared the agenda for the meeting and, developed and reviewed work plans for the various SADCA committees. The SADCA Technical and MRA Committees' meetings were held on 18 and 19 March 2014 respectively whilst the 18th SADCA General Assembly was held on 20 March 2014 at Tlotlo Conference Centre in Gaborone, Botswana.

A calendar of events from February 2014 was developed and the following meetings were planned most of which have since been held:

- ❑ Peer evaluator training - 17 to 18 February 2014 in Pretoria, South Africa.
- ❑ SADCA Executive Committee meeting - 16 March 2014 in Gaborone, Botswana
- ❑ Technical Committee meeting - 18 March 2014 in Gaborone, Botswana
- ❑ SADCA MRA Committee meeting - 19 March 2014 in Gaborone, Botswana
- ❑ 18th SADCA General Assembly meeting - 20 March 2014 in Gaborone, Botswana
- ❑ Mid - term AFRAC MRA and EXCO meetings in Tunis, Tunisia in May 2014.
- ❑ SADCA Executive Committee meeting - February 2015 venue to be advised
- ❑ SADCA MRA Committee meeting – February 2015 venue to be advised

In an update from the SADC Secretariat the meeting was advised that the TBT Annexe negotiations were almost complete with most of the articles dealing with SQAM issues having been adopted. A TBT Sub Committee which will meet once a year will deal with matters of the TBT Annexe.

The meeting also considered ways of reducing costs of SADCA Executive Committee meetings and encouraged members to now budget for attendance going forward. A suggestion was also made to consider having electronic meetings such as using WEBEX which some international organizations are already using.

SADCAS offers accreditation programmes for:

- ☞ Calibration laboratories in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025;
- ☞ Testing laboratories in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025;
- ☞ Medical laboratories in accordance with ISO 15189;
- ☞ Management systems certification bodies in accordance with ISO/IEC 17021;
- ☞ Product certification bodies in accordance with ISO/IEC 17065;
- ☞ Personnel certification bodies in accordance with ISO/IEC 17024; and
- ☞ Inspection bodies in accordance with ISO/IEC 17020.

SADCAS Admitted as Ordinary Member of SADCA

SADCAS is proud to announce its admission as an ordinary member of the SADCA. The admission is in acknowledgement of SADCAS having fulfilled the requirements of SADCA Ordinary membership, and committing itself to support the objectives of SADCA, and abiding by the requirements of the SADCA Bylaws.

According to the SADCA Bylaws, ordinary membership is open to government recognized accreditation bodies of SADC Member States, and NAFPs nominated by a Member State's government where National Accreditation bodies do not exist. SADCA has 4 membership categories namely: Arrangement members; ordinary members; associate members and stakeholder. SADCAS aspires to be an arrangement member of SADCA once the SADCA MRA is operational. Currently none of the accreditation bodies operating in the region are arrangement members.



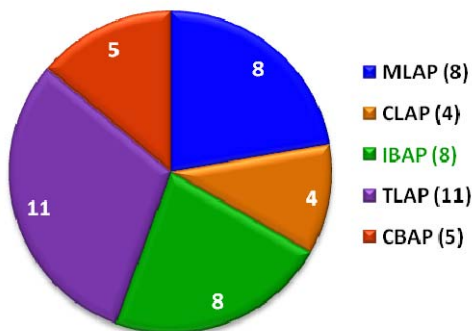
Mrs Mutasa—SADCAS CEO receiving the signed MoU from Mr Robin Gopee—SADCA Chairman with Ms Jeanne Ranorovelo—SADCAS Technical Manager witnessing the handover

The membership certificate was signed and presented during the 18th SADCA annual meeting held on 20 March 2014.

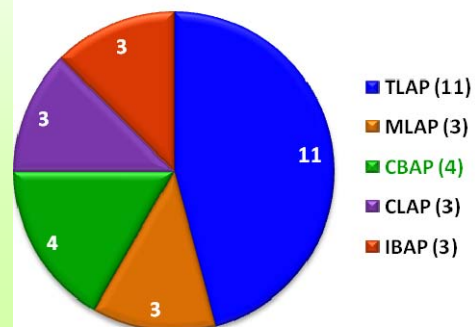
SADCAS Set to Train More Assessors

As at 31 March 2014 SADCAS had registered 36 technical assessors and 19 lead assessors. In terms of the accreditation program 8 of the technical assessors fall under the Inspection Bodies Accreditation Programme (IBAP), 11 under the Testing Laboratories Accreditation Programme (TLAP), 8 under the Medical laboratories Accreditation Programme (MLAP), 4 under the Calibration laboratories Accreditation Programme (CLAP) and 5 under the Certification Bodies Accreditation Programme (CBAP) whilst 4 of the registered lead assessors fall under the CBAP, 3 under the MLAP, 3 under the CLAP, 3 under the IBAP and 11 under the TLAP.

Breakdown of Technical Assessors by Field



Breakdown of registered Lead Assessor by Field



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Training of assessors started in 2005 with funding from PTB Germany, then in 2009/10 with funding from the EU under the auspices of the SADC SQAM EU EDF 9 programme and again during the 2013/14 with funding from PTB Germany.

SADCAS is set to have more assessors trained under the auspices of the SADC EU EDF 10 REIS Programme. In order to achieve SADCAS' mission of providing credible and cost effective accreditation services it is critical that more assessors are trained, qualified and registered taking into account the geographical and language diversity in the region and the areas of demand and anticipated areas of demand from the 13 SADC countries that are serviced by SADCAS and further taking into account the prioritized sectors of development as per the SADC Industrial Policy. A call for nomination of experts to be considered for training of assessors was made in February 2014 through the respective countries' NAFPs. An advertisement was also uploaded on the SADCAS website. Selection of experts will be undertaken by SADCAS in May 2014. The training of assessors is scheduled to take place in June 2014.

Upcoming Training Courses—May to July 2014

NO.	COURSE	DATE(S)	VENUE COUNTRY/CITY
1.	ISO/IEC 17020 Requirements & Internal Auditing	19 to 23 May 2014	Harare (Zimbabwe)
2.	ISO/IEC 17020 Requirements & Internal Auditing	9 to 13 June 2014	Gaborone (Botswana)
3.	ISO/IEC 17020 Requirements & Internal Auditing	7 to 11 July 2014	Namibia (Walvis Bay)
4.	ISO 15189 Requirements & Internal Auditing	7 to 11 July 2014	Mbabane (Swaziland)
5.	ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements & Internal Auditing	14 to 18 July 2014	Gaborone (Botswana)
6.	ISO 15189 Requirements & Internal Auditing	14 to 18 July 2014	Gaborone (Botswana)

New Training Course Introduced

SADCAS has introduced a new training course on **ISO 15189:2012 Requirements & Internal Auditing [Bridging]**. The objective of the 3-day training course is to impart internal auditing knowledge and skills to laboratory staff. The course is designed to cover the requirements of the new standard and highlight the changes made. For the benefit of those laboratories which are already at the various stages of the accreditation process the course will also elaborate on SADCAS TR 10: ISO 15189:2012 Transition Policy :

The course is made practical as it includes a practical internal auditing session.

The resource person for the course is drawn from a pool of SADCAS qualified and experienced experts who have up to date involvement in accreditation matters and in particular undertaking internal audits of laboratory systems.

For more information please contact SADCAS:

Email: info@sadcas.org

Financial Administrator Attend ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements and Internal Auditing Course

The SADCAS Financial Administrator attended the ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements and internal auditing course as part of the 2013/14 SADCAS staff continuous professional development programme. The training course which was held from 10 to 14 March 2014 at Safari Court Windhoek Namibia was attended by 16 participants from seven organizations from 3 SADC Member States namely: Namibia (13), Zambia (2) and Botswana (1). The participants had varying degrees of knowledge and dealings with ISO/IEC 17025 with 3 participants having had no exposure to the standard.

The objective of the 5 days' ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements and internal auditing open course was to promote a thorough understanding of ISO/IEC 17025 standard requirements and to impart internal auditing knowledge and skills to calibration/testing laboratories staff so as to monitor compliance with ISO/IEC 17025.

The course started off with a pre-course quiz then went through the requirements of standard in detail starting with the management requirements then the technical requirements and how laboratories may utilize the knowledge of the standard to develop their own Quality Management System (QMS). Internal auditing was then introduced to give a thorough understanding of how to carry out an internal audit. Method validation and uncertainty of measurement and how they affect the accreditation process were also covered during the training course. Throughout the course the relationship between the standard and accreditation was clearly explained as the course is aimed at those laboratories that intend to apply for accreditation. The course was very interactive with all participants getting an opportunity to share how they apply the standard in their respective organizations.

To the SADCAS Financial Administrator, the course was beneficial as understanding of SADCAS clients business and of the accreditation process has greatly been enhanced. Appreciation of the SADCAS QMS has also improved in terms of how it was developed and its importance.



Mr Mogae Molaoa Joins SADCAS an Intern

On 1 November 2013 SADCAS officially welcomed Mr Mogae Molaoa in the position of intern. This is in line with SADCAS' policy and efforts towards corporate social responsibility (CSR). His role amongst others is to provide support and assistance to the Accreditation Administration Unit. The SADCAS Accreditation Administration Unit is responsible for ensuring that all administration needed to effect the assessment processes are effectively managed. The Unit is also responsible for ensuring that training services are effectively and efficiently organized and administered.

Mr Molaoa, a BA Hons in Business Studies graduate also holds an Advanced Diploma in Business Administration with a marketing major. Youth unemployment continues to be a huge challenge in the region and SADCAS is proud to have a new comer into the workplace joining the organization on a two year internship period. Mr Molaoa is the first intern to be attached to SADCAS and he has settled well in his internship programme and has already attended a training workshop on ISO/IEC 17011 and the SADCAS Quality Management System held in December 2013.

The SADCAS staff and management would like to take this opportunity to welcome him into the organization and hope that this period will help towards his development and equipping him with the experience and expertise that will help him in the workplace.



National Accreditation Focal Points Meet

The 7th National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFP) annual meeting was held on 9 December 2013 in Gaborone, Botswana and was attended by 12 NAFPs from Angola (1); Botswana (2); Democratic Republic of Congo (1); Lesotho (2); Malawi (1); Mozambique (1); Namibia (1); Seychelles (1) and Swaziland (2). The purpose of the meeting was to update NAFPs on developments in SADCAS, to review the implementation of the 2013/14 SADCAS marketing plan, to develop the framework for the 2014/15 marketing plan and to review the NAFP roles and responsibilities and status of revised



Carmo dos Santos
NAFP-Angola

Apauline Matata Feza
NAFP-DRC

Motjoka Azael Makara & Mosito Jacob Kanono
NAFP-Lesotho

Patrician Kondowe
NAFP-Malawi



Guilhermina Nhampulo
NAFP-Mozambique

Jaanda Edla Maharero
NAFP-Namibia

Sthembiso S Dlamini & Phindile P Dlamini
NAFP-Swaziland

Mariam Cissoko Kanté
NAFP-Seychelles

job descriptions which had been sent to NAFPs for signing prior to the meeting. The NAFP annual meeting is also a platform for exchange of experiences in the implementation of national action and networking therefore during the meeting, all NAFPs had an opportunity to present reports on their respective activities, achievements and challenges.

The 2013 NAFP annual meeting was followed by the training workshop on ISO/IEC 17011 and SADCAS Quality Management Systems held on 10 and 11 December 2013 which was facilitated by Mrs Yolanda Vinnicombe the SANAS Quality Manager and attended by the 12 NAFPs mentioned above. During the training workshop, NAFPs went through the requirements of ISO/IEC 17011 clause by clause with discussions on how the SADCAS QMS has addressed the standard. SADCAS management and staff were also present at the training workshop to support the facilitator in the discussions on how SADCAS QMS addresses the various requirements of the standard. Towards the end of the course all NAFPs were appraised on the status of the SADCAS QMS. The training was an opportunity for NAFPs to understand accreditation and SADCAS processes better thus enhance their effectiveness as they undertake their duties in their respective countries.

The three-day of the 2013 NAFP annual meeting and training workshop were fully sponsored under the auspices of the SADC EU EDF 10 REIS Programme.

NAFP-Swaziland Wins 2014 NAFP Award

National Accreditation Focal Point (NAFP) for Swaziland which is housed within the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade is the winner of the 2014 NAFP Award. The NAFP Award ceremony is an annual event held in conjunction with the SADCAS Annual General Meeting to recognize NAFPs efforts and contributions towards SADC accreditation goals.

National Accreditation Focal Points who are appointed by their respective governments are mainly responsible for promoting accreditation and marketing of SADCAS services within their respective countries. Each of the countries that are serviced by SADCAS has an established NAFP. All the NAFPs are supported by their respective governments who established them. In executing SADCAS activities, NAFPs prepare annual implementation plans in support of SADCAS annual implementation plans in order to achieve SADCAS objectives. The implementation by NAFPs of national action plans is monitored for progress by SADCAS through quarterly reports.

The 2014 NAFP Award is the sixth to be held having had the inaugural ceremony in 2009. The Award is based on the reports for the period 1 January up to 31 December 2013 using five (5) criteria weighted according to their importance with the following 3 criteria considered key thus weighted high:

- ❑ Regularly and timeously submits quarterly reports on activities to SADCAS (20);
- ❑ Effectively progressed implementation of their respective country's action plan (30); and
- ❑ Contributed towards SADCAS goals (35).

NAFP-Swaziland which was established in 2006 is manned by 2 officers Mrs Sybil Sthembiso Dlamini and Ms Phindile Dlamini. The NAFP made very good progress during the period of review attaining the highest average estimate realization of 84%. The activities included awareness raising and promotional workshop and meetings with stakeholders, targeted promotional and marketing visits to conformity assessment bodies, handling of enquiries, contributing articles in the Pioneer, distribution of SADCAS promotional materials, and participation in an international trade fair, and production and distribution of marketing regalia. A workshop to commemorate World Accreditation Day which was hosted by the NAFP was successfully held in Swaziland on 18 July 2013 and attended by 65 participants from laboratories, inspection bodies, regulators etc. During the period of review SADCAS held its first training course in Swaziland and one application was received. NAFP – Swaziland is one of the four countries who have established and are maintaining the comprehensive database of conformity assessment service providers. The database has been very useful in promotional and marketing activities. The NAFP participated at the 2013 NAFP annual meeting and training on ISO/IEC 17011 held from 9 to 11 December 2013.



From left to right: Mrs Eve Gadzikwa SADCAS Board Member; Ms Sybil Dlamini (NAFP – Swaziland); Mr Riundja Ali Kaakunga SADCAS Board Chairman



Mr Viki Mbuya Kanama (NAFP – DRC) second from left receiving award for runner up

Ms Boikhutso Pheto second from left and Mr Edward Mmatli (NAFP – Botswana) third from left receiving award for runner up

Presiding over the Award ceremony, the SADCAS Chief Executive Officer, Mrs Maureen Mutasa, said that based on the evaluation and score matrices, the SADCAS Board of Directors at its 34th Meeting held on 20 February 2014 decided to award the 2014 certificate of recognition to NAFP- Swaziland with NAFP – Botswana and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) tied as first runners up.

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2014 Award winners pose for a photo with Mrs Eve Gadzikwa, Mr Riundja Ali Kaakunga and Mrs Maureen Mutasa, SADCAS CEO

In her acceptance speech and on behalf of the Kingdom of Swaziland, Ms Sybil Dlamini thanked SADCAS for the recognition. She committed to supporting accreditation in Swaziland not only to get awards but to see to it that conformity assessment bodies in Swaziland use accreditation as a tool to enhance trade.

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OR

Contact us: info@sadcas.org

Accreditation Promotion and Marketing Activities in Malawi

In Malawi the NAFP is housed within the Malawi Bureau of Standards with Mr Patrician Kondowe as the first NAFP – Officer and Mr. Lusungu Mwaungulu who is based at the Ministry of Industry and Trade as the second NAFP officer. The Director General of the Malawi Bureau of Standards Mr Davlin Chokazinga who acts as the NAFP supervisor is also the SADCA member for Malawi. National Accreditation Focal Points who are appointed by their respective governments are mainly responsible for promoting accreditation and marketing SADCAS services within their respective countries.

After its establishment, SADCAS found it necessary to bring awareness of its existence to the governments, regulators and stakeholders in the region. To this end the SADCAS Chief Executive Officer visited Malawi in March 2009. Following the visit further awareness was instituted on the NAFP's annual national action programmes in marketing and promoting accreditation services at national level through various activities ranging from courtesy visits made by the NAFPs to conformity assessment bodies, distribution of SADCAS promotional materials such as brochures, pamphlets, newsletters and annual reports.

Awareness visits by the NAFPs have since been made to the following conformity assessment bodies in Malawi: Medical Laboratories; Malawi Blood Transfusion and Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital; Industrial Laboratory, Malawi Dairibord, Southern Bottlers, Malawi Distilleries, Unilever South East Africa, and Project Peanut Butter, and to a Regulatory Body, the Malawi Bureau of Standards for the following, Testing Laboratory, Calibration Laboratory and Management System Certification.

A national survey was conducted by use of a questionnaire presented by SADCAS with the view to establish the types and numbers of conformity assessment bodies operating in Malawi in the following categories; Testing Laboratories, Calibration Laboratories, Medical Laboratories, Management Systems Certification Bodies, Inspection Bodies, Product Certification Bodies and Personnel Certification Bodies. The survey also aimed at establishing the level of implementation of accreditation standards and accreditation status. The information from the survey has been used to develop a database of conformity assessment bodies operating in Malawi. The database will assist reaching out to the same for accreditation services offered by SADCAS.

Malawi currently has three assessors trained through the assessor training programmes of SADCAS one of whom has been undertaking assessments on behalf of SADCAS. More experts have been identified for training as SADCAS assessors under the auspices of the SADC EU EDF10 REIS Programme.

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SADCAS conducted a one day ISO/IEC 17025 Standard requirements awareness course for testing laboratories operating in the Agro Food Production and Processing in Malawi with funding from USAID Southern Africa Trade Hub on 29 November 2012. The course which was attended by 20 participants from the following 6 organizations and departments; Bvumbwe Agriculture Research Laboratory, Dairibord Malawi, Malawi Bureau of Standards, Nali Limited, Unilever South East Africa, and Valid Nutrition was held at Sunbird Mount Soche Hotel. The course targeted and was attended by Chief Executives and Managers of organizations with an objective for them to appreciate the need for implementation of the standard for accreditation purpose. Following the awareness course SADCAS conducted a 5 days intensive training course on the same standard requirements implementation and internal auditing from 11 to 15 February 2013 with an objective to equip the organizations for implementation of the standard for accreditation purpose under the same funding by USAID Southern Africa Trade Hub. This course targeted laboratory scientists directly involved in daily laboratory testing. The course was held at the same venue, Sun Bird Mount Soche Hotel and was attended by 24 participants from 8 organizations and departments; Bvumbwe Agriculture Research Laboratory, Dairibord Malawi Ltd, Project Peanut Butter, Nali Ltd, Rab Processors Ltd, Unilever South East Africa, Valid Nutrition and Malawi Bureau of Standards.

Monitoring and follow up to Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) on implementation of accreditation standards are ongoing activities in the bid to serve conformity assessment bodies to accreditation level and their maintenance.



Participants attending the ISO/IEC 17025 training course



Participants pose for a group photograph with the Trainer

Malawi through one of its NAFFPs participated in an ISO/IEC 17011 Standard Training Course organized by SADCAS in Gaborone, Botswana in December 2013 and also participated in the annual NAFFP Meeting for 2013 held in Gaborone-Botswana in December 2013.

New Pamphlets for Accreditation Programs published in French and Portuguese

- ✓ Calibration Laboratories Accreditation Programme (CLAP)
- ✓ Inspection Bodies Accreditation Programme (IBAP)
- ✓ Medical Laboratories Accreditation Programme (MLAP)
- ✓ Testing Laboratories Accreditation Programme (TLAP)

To download visit: www.sadcas.org/promotionalMaterial.php

SADCAS Participates at the 2013 E-Salama Conference

The 12th East and Southern Africa Laboratory Managers Association (E-SALAMA) conference was held from 9 to 13 December 2013 at the University of Botswana, Gaborone and was hosted by the Botswana E-SALAMA Local Chapter. The theme of the conference was "Laboratory Management Systems: Key Drivers to Reliable Results and Global Competitiveness". The conference was attended by over 60 participants from all over Africa.

The Conference started off on Monday, 9 December 2013 with workshop on laboratory practices and a tour of the University of Botswana's Research Scientific Laboratories followed by a plenary session and presentations on various topics such as laboratory accreditation, associations and regional networks, good laboratory management, health safety and waste management, proficiency testing and validation of laboratory measurements, role of information systems, competences, governance etc. Mrs Masego Marobela the SADCAS Board Vice Chairman gave the key note address at the opening ceremony of the conference whilst Mrs Maureen Mutasa, the SADCAS Chief Executive Officer presented a paper on "The Importance of Accreditation".

E – SALAMA was established in 2002 with members from Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda and since then other countries have joined such as Zimbabwe, Sudan, Botswana, Ethiopia and Lesotho. E-SALAMA was established with the aim of training laboratory managers in member countries towards achieving accreditation for their laboratories. The E- SALAMA conference is held annually and hosting rotates around the membership. The objective of the 2013 conference was to share experiences on laboratory quality systems and to explore strategies to enhance provision of quality customer services in laboratories and all other related fields including the potential gains for global competitiveness for African goods and services. The first E-SALAMA conference was held in 2008 in Kenya, followed by the 2009 conference held in Ethiopia, Sudan in 2010, Zimbabwe in 2011, and Lesotho in 2012 with the 2013 conference being held in Botswana.

With so many stakeholders mainly laboratory managers in attendance, the conference provided an opportunity to promote accreditation and to market SADCAS with SADCAS promotional materials including the recently published annual report and the accreditation programmes' pamphlets being distributed to all the participants.

CAFMET Hosts 5th International Metrology Conference

The African Committee on Metrology (CAFMET) in collaboration with the National Metrology Institute South Africa (NMISA) hosted the 5th International Metrology Conference. The conference which was held from 31 March to 3 April 2014 at the CSIR International Convention centre in Pretoria, South Africa was attended by over 55 delegates from all over the world but mainly from Africa.

The Conference started off on Monday, 31 March 2014 with an opening session during which the President of CAFMET Dr G Bonnier gave some welcome remarks and outlined the objective and programme of the conference. This was followed by a presentation by Dr W Louw who gave an overview of the metrology infrastructure in Africa and the link with the international metrology bodies. In his presentation Dr Louw noted that the Intra Africa Metrology System (AFRIMETS) whose membership now included 90% of the African countries had grown over the past few years of its existence having started with a membership of 70% of the African countries. He noted however that there is no regional metrology hub in West Africa hence no link to the international metrology system. In his presentation Dr Louw also gave an overview of the metrology infrastructure in South Africa highlighting the role of NMISA. After the opening session delegates went on a tour of the exhibition hall where a number of companies including SADCAS showcased their services.

Following on the exhibition were various presentations on metrology and the economy, accreditation and certification and technical sessions on specialized topics such as dimensional and optical measurements, reliability, risk and uncertainty, mass and force, chemical and biological testing and energy. In her presentation entitled "Sharing accreditation goals the SADC Experience", Mrs Maureen Mutasa the SADCAS Chief Executive Officer, noted that accreditation is one of the pillars of a Quality Infrastructure and probably the least developed in Africa of all the quality infrastructures. Within the African continent of 54 countries there are eleven indigenous accreditation bodies namely: EGAC (Egypt); SANAS

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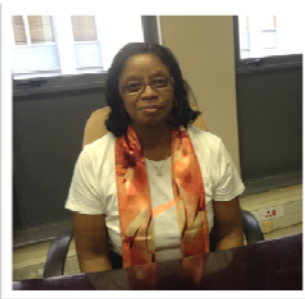
Ms N Ngombe manning the exhibition stand for AFRAC, SADCAS and SANAS

(South Africa); TUNAC (Tunisia); SADCAS (SADC); KENAS (Kenya); ALGERAC (Algeria); ENAO (Ethiopia); Mauritas (Mauritius); SEMAC (Morocco); and LNCMS (Libya) and the West African Accreditation System (SOAC). Only three out of the 11 accreditation bodies namely: [SANAS, EGAC and TUNAC] are signatory to the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation's Mutual Recognition Arrangement (ILAC MRA)/ International Accreditation Forum's Multilateral Arrangement (IAF MLA) hence internationally recognized. The rest are working towards signatory status in these international arrangements. Typically in the developed world each country has its own national accreditation body. She then outlined the SADC region's accreditation infrastructure, gave a background to the establishment of SADCAS and an overview of SADCAS, the developments in SADCAS and shared with delegates the lessons learnt in the short history of SADCAS operation then

concluded the presentation by saying that the multi economy accreditation body is a viable and cost effective way of meeting accreditation needs of a number of countries. During the session presentations was also made by SANAS and KENAS. On Tuesday 1 April 2014 a technical visit of NMISA was undertaken. Further presentations were made on metrology developments in countries, legal metrology, temperature, balances calibration with the conference ending on 3 April 2014.

The CAFMET is an independent agency whose objectives are to promote communication amongst industry, governmental agencies, higher education institutions and laboratories dedicated to research and development in the field of metrology. CAFMET 2014 provided a forum for industrialists and scientists to share information, ideas and experiences. To SADCAS it was an opportunity to promote accreditation, market SADCAS services and to promote the multi economy accreditation body model, a viable and cost effective means of meeting accreditation needs of a number of countries.

Highlights from the ILAC Technical Committee Meetings held in Oslo, Norway



Ms Jeanne Françoise Ranorovelo the SADCAS Technical Manager attended the ILAC Technical Committee meetings held in Oslo, Norway From 8 to 10 April 2014, during which she participated at the 19th ILAC Accreditation Committee (AIC) meeting on 7 and 8 April 2014 and the 35th ILAC Laboratory Committee (LC) meeting held on 9 and 10 April 2014.

The 19th ILAC AIC meeting was chaired by Ms Regina Robertson from NATA (Australia) and was attended by 60 participants from accreditation bodies from Austria, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Check Republic, China, Denmark, England, France, German, India, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakstan, Netherland, Norway, Poland, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Sweden,

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Thailand, Turkey, USA and representatives from OIML, EUROLAB, National Laboratory Association South Africa, BIPM and NCSLI USA. The purpose of the meeting was to review the terms of reference of the ILAC AIC, review progress on activities undertaken by the various working groups of the AIC namely: WG 1: Information from the AIC to the ILAC MCC; WG 2: Calibration and Traceability issues; WG 3: Reference Materials issues; WG 4: Scopes and Related Assessments; WG 5: Accreditation of Sampling; WG 6: Accreditation in the Medical Field; WG 7: Accreditation of Horse Racing Laboratories; WG 8: Accreditation of Fire Testing Laboratories; WG 9: ILAC/WADA Liaison group; WG 10: Forensic Laboratories; and WG 11: Case Studies. Regarding the activities undertaken by WG 2, two workshops were arranged during the meeting. The first workshop was on ILAC G 17: ILAC Policy introducing the concept of measurement in testing in association with the application of the standard ISO/IEC 17025 and the second workshop was on the "Revision of ISO/IEC 17025". The two workshops were an opportunity to have more inputs from the participants in preparation of the revision of the ILAC G 17 and ISO/IEC 17025. Apart the technical issues discussed by each working group, this meeting was also an opportunity to present the case studies being developed by WG 11 in liaison with the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) where the assessors were exposed to scenarios based on the clauses and sub-clauses of ISO/IEC 17025.

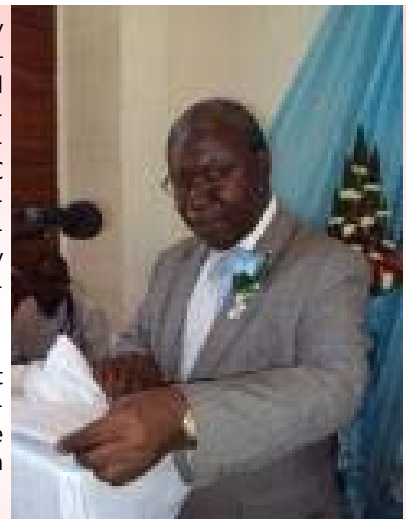
The 35th ILAC LC meeting was chaired by Mr Steve Sidney from the National Laboratory Association in South Africa and was attended by 20 participants composed of members, stakeholders and observers from Austria, Botswana, Canada, German, Europe, Kazakstan, Norway, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, UK and USA. The meeting started off with a closed session where the members discussed policy issues, finances and other confidential matters. This was followed by an open meeting which was attended by all participants. The purpose of the meeting was to review the terms of reference of the ILAC LC; to update the ILAC Strategic plan; to update members on the decision taken regarding the reading list which consists of identifying new areas where new standards or new documents are needed and to circulate them; to discuss proficiency testing issues; to review the ILAC Inspection Committee report; to update on the case studies developed and encourage all to provide inputs for case studies; to discuss ILAC LC position and its contribution to support ILAC AIC regarding the revision of ISO/IEC 17025 and to note the report of activities from other organizations present at the meeting.

Veritec Inspection Engineers Accredited

VERITEC Inspection Engineers is the 3rd inspection body to be accredited by SADCAS. VERITEC Inspection Engineers was accredited in the scope "Type A – Inspection authority in the field inspection of pressure equipment (In service and manufacturing) as defined in the Factories and Boiler Regulations, Zimbabwe Government Notice No. 279 of 1976 and Pressure Vessel Regulations, Zimbabwe Government Notice No. 303 of 1976 as amended, and in accordance with ISO/IEC 17020:1998 and SADCAS TR 05:2012. Through this accreditation, VERITEC Inspection Engineers has been granted the unique accreditation number INSP-5 003 indicating that it is now a SADCAS accredited Type A (third party) inspection authority for modifications, repairs and statutory examination and tests of pressure equipment and vessels.

The accreditation certificate handover ceremony was held on 3 December 2013 at Conquer House, in Harare, Zimbabwe. A member of the VERITEC Inspection Engineers Board of Directors, Mrs Jaya gave the welcoming remarks followed by the national anthem played by the famous Churchill High School Pipe Band and a prayer by Father Maxwell Jaya.

Speaking during the certificate handover ceremony, the guest of Honour Mr Patson Mbiriri chided in VERITEC Inspection Engineers' achievement and highlighted the importance of accreditation in the energy sector in Zimbabwe.



Guest of Honour Mr Patson Mbiriri delivering the key note statement

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In her remarks Mrs Maureen P Mutasa, the SADCAS Chief Executive Officer articulated what inspections involve and the need for inspection bodies to ensure that they have the people, facilities, technical expertise and management systems in order to undertake inspections professionally and competently thus deliver technically accurate inspection results to the client. Accreditation which is defined as the process by which an authoritative body gives formal recognition to an organization or person's competence to carry out specific tasks involves the creation of confidence in the work carried out by inspection bodies amongst other conformity assessment service providers. "Accreditation is the basis of trust" she added. The Chief Executive Officer of SADCAS then gave a brief background to the Memorandum of Understanding which was developed following NSSA's requirement that all inspection bodies be accredited in order to be registered as an inspection authority. She noted that out of the 9 applications, SADCAS has accredited 3 inspection bodies with NDT Inspection Solutions as the first followed by the Standards Association of Zimbabwe - Engineering and VERITEC Inspection Engineers the latter having been accredited on 10 September 2013. Mrs Mutasa encouraged VERITEC Inspection Engineers to maintain their accreditation throughout the validity period of 5 years for the accreditation certificate. She further encouraged other sectors to embrace accreditation so as to safeguard the health and safety of workers and the public at large.



VERITEC Inspection Engineers management and staff pose for photo with the accreditation certificates

Mrs Mutasa encouraged VERITEC Inspection Engineers to maintain their accreditation throughout the validity period of 5 years for the accreditation certificate during which SADCAS would undertake surveillance assessments annually to ensure continued compliance. She also reminded VERITEC Inspection Engineers of the need to transition to the 2012 version of ISO/IEC 17020 within the stipulated timelines failing which the accreditation will be suspended. She also encouraged VERITEC Inspection Engineers to extend its scope of accreditation to other scopes of operation under the SADCAS Inspection bodies' accreditation programme.



Mr Jaya the CEO of VERITEC Inspection Engineers giving his remarks



Hon. Prof. Paul Mavima Deputy Minister of Primary and Secondary Education giving his remarks

In his very emotional remarks Mr Jaya the CEO of VERITEC Inspection Engineers shared with delegates the humble beginnings of his Company, the growth of the Company which he said is based on sound values and the journey towards accreditation and thanked his staff for their dedication and efforts which had resulted in the Company being amongst the first to be accredited by SADCAS.

The ceremony was also attended by Honourable Professor Paul Mavima Deputy Minister of Primary and Secondary Education who gave remarks of encouragement to the Company. A vote of thanks was given by Mr Kennedy Sakonda after which the guests were treated to eats and drinks in celebration of this notable achievement.

SAZ Accredited in the Field of Inspection

The Standards Association of Zimbabwe (SAZ) certificate handover ceremony was held on 18 December at the Tree of Life in Goromonzi, Zimbabwe. The SAZ is the second inspection body to be accredited by SADCAS. The SAZ was accredited in the scope "Type A – Inspection authority in the field inspection of pressure equipment (In service and manufacturing) as defined in the Factories and Boiler Regulations, Zimbabwe Government Notice No. 279 of 1976 and Pressure Vessel Regulations, Zimbabwe Government Notice No. 303 of 1976 as amended, and in accordance with ISO/IEC 17020:1998 and SADCAS TR 05:2012. Through this accreditation, SAZ has been granted the unique accreditation number INSP-5 002 indicating that it is now a SADCAS accredited Type A (third party) inspection authority for modifications, repairs and statutory examination and tests of pressure equipment and vessels.

The Director General of SAZ, Mrs Eve Gadzikwa welcomed all to the certificate handover ceremony and introduced Mrs Maureen Mutasa, the Chief Executive Officer of SADCAS. The SAZ Director Technical Services, Mr Cyril Siringwani outlined the journey towards accreditation which started earnestly in 2010 culminating in SAZ being accredited by SADCAS in August 2013. He paid tribute to the staff of SAZ Engineering under which inspection activities fall especially Mr Danmore Mabambe, the division's Manager who drove the initiative to fruition.



SAZ Staff at certificate handover ceremony held in conjunction with the Team building workshop on 18 December 2013 at Tree of Life in Goromonzi, Zimbabwe

Speaking during the ceremony which was held in conjunction with the SAZ team building workshop Mrs Maureen P Mutasa, the SADCAS Chief Executive Officer noted that team work and goal congruency are critical for the success of any organization and in particular in the implementation of management systems. She then articulated the need and importance for inspection bodies to ensure that they have the people, facilities, technical expertise and management systems in order to undertake inspections professionally and competently thus deliver technically accurate inspection results to the client. Accreditation involves the creation of confidence in the work carried out by inspection bodies amongst other conformity assessment service providers. "Accreditation is the basis of trust and key in ensuring occupational health and safety of the public" she added. The Chief Executive Officer of SADCAS then advised the staff that SAZ was the first conformity assessment body to submit an application for the accreditation of its inspection activities following NSSA's requirement that all inspection bodies operating under the Factories and Works Act be accredited in order to be registered as an inspection authority. She noted that out of the 9 applications received from inspection bodies in Zimbabwe, SADCAS has accredited 3 inspection bodies with NDT Inspection Solutions as the first followed by the Standards Association of Zimbabwe - Engineering and Veritec Engineering with the SAZ having been accredited on 19 August 2013. Mrs Mutasa encouraged SAZ to maintain their accreditation throughout the validity period of 5 years for the accreditation certificate during which SADCAS would undertake surveillance assessments annually to ensure continued compliance. She also reminded SAZ of the need to transition to the 2012 version of ISO/IEC 17020 within the stipulated timelines. "If by 1 November 2014, SADCAS cannot confirm compliance with the new version of ISO/IEC 17020 then accreditation against ISO/IEC 17020: 1998 shall be suspended on 1 March 2015", she said. She also encouraged SAZ to extend its scope of accreditation to other scopes of operation under the SADCAS Inspection bodies' accreditation programme.

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From left to right Mr Danmore Mabambe SAZ Manager Engineering, Mrs Maureen Mutasa SADCAS CEO, Mrs Eve Gadzikwa SAZ Director General and Mr Cyril Siringwani SAZ Director Technical Services pose for a photo after the certificate handover

SAZ Engineering staff holding their accreditation certificate and schedules

The vote of thanks was given by Ms C Kabande, the SAZ Manager- Marketing and PR who in the team building spirit, called upon the SAZ staff to give a war cry in appreciation of the certificate and Mrs Mutasa presence at the certificate handover ceremony.

SADCAS Accredits its First Medical Laboratory

SADCAS is proud to announce the accreditation of **National Health Laboratory Quality Assurance and Training Centre (NHL – QATC)** in the scopes: clinical chemistry; serology; molecular biology; and microbiology in accordance with ISO 15189: 2007. This makes **National Health Laboratory Quality Assurance and Training Centre** the first medical laboratory to be accredited by SADCAS. Through this accreditation, **National Health Laboratory Quality Assurance and Training Centre** has been granted the unique accreditation number MED 001 indicating that **NHL – QATC** is now a SADCAS accredited medical laboratory.

The SADCAS Medical Laboratories Accreditation Programme (MLAP) was established in June 2010. The MLAP is multi disciplinary accreditation programme operated in accordance with ISO/IEC 17011. Over the years and with challenges such as HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria etc. there has been global rapid growth in the various branches of health care services. As part of this growth, laboratory diagnosis has gained tremendous importance in today's practices. The main purpose of a medical laboratory is to provide diagnosis and management system for the physician to use in the care of patients. Therefore the competence and efficient operation of a medical laboratory and timeous delivery of medical laboratory services to the physician is critical in any health care delivery system. Accreditation which is the process of providing recognition to a conformity assessment body for its competence in performing specific tasks is the strategy for a medical laboratory to achieve this. The international standard ISO 15189 specifies the requirements for quality and competence particular to medical laboratories.

Accreditation of a medical laboratory in accordance with ISO 15189 provides a number of benefits:

- ❑ It is a means of demonstrating competence to clients both internal and external;
- ❑ It is a guarantee for accurate and reliable results;
- ❑ It improves patient care;
- ❑ It strengthens community confidence in results;
- ❑ It provides continuous staff education and attracts professional reference due to accuracy and competence.

SADCAS Accredits Another Medical Laboratory—Bugando Medical Centre

SADCAS is proud to announce the accreditation of Bugando Medical Centre in Mwanza, Tanzania in the scopes of Biochemistry, Microbiology, Parasitology and Molecular Biology in accordance with ISO 15189. This is the second laboratory to be accredited by SADCAS under its Medical Laboratories Accreditation Programme (MLAP).

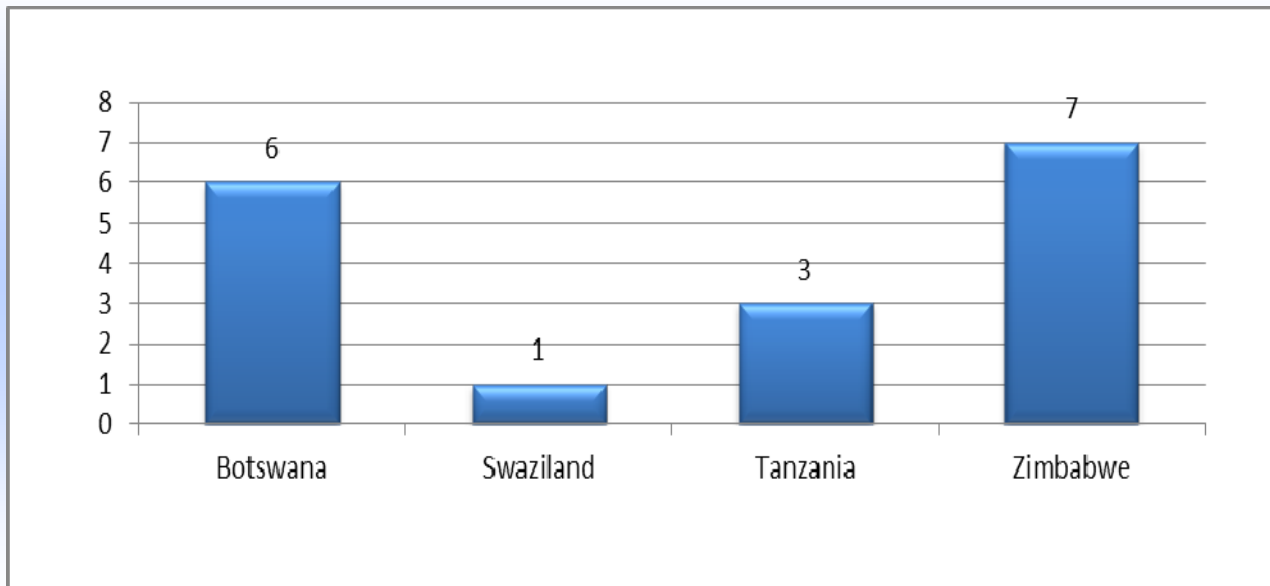
Bugando Medical Centre accreditation covers the following scopes and methods:

- ❑ **Biochemistry:** Glucose, creatinine, urea, uric acid, cholesterol, aspartate aminotransferase, alanine aminotransferase, total protein, alkaline phosphatase, triglycerides, magnesium, albumin, calcium, total bilirubin and phosphate in serum;
- ❑ **Microbiology:** Aerobic culture, identification, grain stain, cell count, Leishman staining and India ink in blood, body fluid, acetic, pleura and CSF, urine, pus, stool and sputum; AFB smear (direct) in sputum;
- ❑ **Parasitology:** Urine microscopy, dipstick, stool microscopy and haemoparasites in urine, stool and BS; and
- ❑ **Molecular Biology:** Quantitative PCR and HIV infant diagnosis in DBS.

Through this accreditation, Bugando Medical Centre has been granted the unique accreditation number MED 002 indicating that Bugando Medical Centre is a SADCAS Medical accredited laboratory.

As at 15 April 2014, SADCAS had under process, 17 accreditation applications from medical laboratories in Botswana (6), Swaziland (1), Tanzania (3) and Zimbabwe (7). Medical laboratories now constitute 43% of the accreditation applications under process with SADCAS.

Breakdown of Applications under Process for the Medical Laboratories Accreditation Programme



SADCAS Holds ISO/IEC 17025 Course at Konkola Copper Mines in Zambia

SADCAS was engaged by Nchanga Analytical Services, Konkola Copper Mine, to conduct a five-day training course on ISO/IEC 17025 requirements, implementation and internal auditing for the Mine's laboratory staff. Konkola Copper Mine is one of Africa's largest integrated copper producer.

The mine has four laboratories but the course participants were from three of the laboratories namely Nchanga, Nkana and Konkola Copper Mine. The training was held in the training room at Nchanga Analytical Services in Chingola, Zambia. A total of 12 participants most of whom are senior laboratory personnel including the Heads of the three laboratories who are also the Quality Managers for the respective laboratories attended the course. Konkola Copper Mine has ISO/IEC 17025 management system in place and is preparing for accreditation of its laboratories at Nchanga and Nkana. The mine is certified to the following standards; ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001. The Konkola Copper Mine's Quality Coordinator for all the standards also attended the training.

The training started on Monday 17 March 2014 with the SADCAS Trainer welcoming the participants and briefly explaining the course programme. The Training Manager for Konkola Copper Mine welcomed the Trainer and gave the opening remarks. She urged all the participants to take the training course seriously. The participants then introduced themselves and highlighted their expectations from the training. Participants wanted to gain knowledge on ISO/IEC 17025 standard requirements, implementation and internal auditing. As the mine is certified to other standards, some participants also wanted to know the differences between ISO/IEC 17025 standard and other standards. The participants then wrote the pre course quiz and all completed the quiz in 25 minutes.



Participants pose for a photo during the training

The Trainer then walked the participants through the requirements of standard in detail starting with the management requirements then the technical requirements and how laboratories may utilize the knowledge of the standard to develop their own Quality Management System (QMS). Internal auditing was then introduced to give a thorough understanding of how to carry out an internal audit. Method validation and uncertainty of measurement and how they affect the accreditation process were also covered during the training course.

Judged from the feedback from participants the course was a success and greatly appreciated by all the participants. The participants enjoyed the training and promised to go back and make a difference at their workplaces. This was the 4th training course successfully conducted in Zambia by SADCAS.

Another ISO/IEC 17025 Training Course Held in Botswana

The Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) conducted a five-day training course on ISO/IEC 17025 requirements, implementation and internal auditing for participants from laboratories from the public and private sectors in Botswana. The training course which was held from 17 to 21 February 2014 at Oasis Motel, Gaborone, Botswana was attended by 7 participants from 3 organizations. The laboratories fall under the following sectors: calibration, geology and energy. One of the laboratories is accredited, one laboratory has started working on the management system whilst the one laboratory has not yet started developing a management system. This was the 10th training course to be held in Botswana by SADCAS.

The training course started on Monday, 17 February 2014. The SADCAS Technical Manager Ms Jeanne Ranorovelo in her opening remarks, briefly outlined the training programme and urged all participants to be serious during training as they will be evaluated continuously during the course of the week with an examination at the end of the training. She then introduced the SADCAS Trainer, Mrs Wedzerai Makaya by giving a brief background about Mrs Makaya's qualifications and experience in laboratory management systems and quality. The NAFP – Botswana representative Ms Boikhutso Pheto attended the opening ceremony of the training course.

The participants then introduced themselves and highlighted their expectations from the training. Participants indicated that they expected to gain more knowledge in ISO/IEC 17025 standard requirements but with main focus on technical requirements and on internal auditing skills and knowledge. Participants from one laboratory indicated that they had not started to work on ISO/IEC 17025 management system hence wanted basic understanding of both the requirements and internal auditing.

All the participants showed interest in the training. The participants asked a lot of practical questions especially those participants who have no management system in place as they wanted to go back and develop the system. Participants from the accredited laboratory were eager to understand the standard requirements and how to conduct audits so as to prepare their laboratory for surveillance assessments.

All the participants appreciated the training, enjoyed the course and promised to go back and implement what they had learnt and be converted quality people.

The training course was a success and met its objectives. It changed participants' attitude towards quality and accreditation and provoked the interest in participants to work on management systems. Participants from the accredited laboratory promised to go back and work on improving their management system and prepare for surveillance assessment whilst those without management systems in place promised to go and start working on developing a management system.



Participants pose for a photo during training

Invitation to Register your Organization with SADCAS

The Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) is in the process of creating a database of conformity assessment service providers (testing laboratories, certification bodies (management systems/ product/ personnel) and calibration laboratories operating in those countries that are serviced by SADCAS. The database will be used by SADCAS in order to keep you updated on developments in accreditation.

SADCAS invites your organization to **complete the registration form** below and return form to:

SADC Accreditation Service (SADCAS)

Registration Form

1. Name of Organization _____

2. Contact Details:
 - 2.1 Postal Address: _____
 - 2.2 Physical Address: _____
 - 2.3 Country: _____
 - 2.4 Telephone: _____ 2.5 Mobile: _____
 - 2.6 Fax: _____ 2.7 Email: _____
 - 2.8 Name of Contact person: _____
 - 2.9 Title: Mr/Mrs/Ms/Dr: _____
 - 2.10 Position: _____
 - 2.11 Type of Operation *[Please tick (✓) as appropriate]*

Private <input type="checkbox"/>	Semi Government <input type="checkbox"/>
Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <i>[specify]</i> _____
 - 2.12 Scope of Conformity Assessment Body *[Please tick (✓) as appropriate]*

Calibration Laboratory <input type="checkbox"/>	Management System Certification Body <input type="checkbox"/>
Testing Laboratory <input type="checkbox"/>	Product Certification Body <input type="checkbox"/>
Medical Laboratory <input type="checkbox"/>	Inspection Body <input type="checkbox"/>
 - 2.13 Nature of business *[Please tick (✓) as appropriate]*

Regulatory <input type="checkbox"/>	Voluntary <input type="checkbox"/>
-------------------------------------	------------------------------------
 - 2.14 Sector *[Please tick (✓) as appropriate]*

Chemical <input type="checkbox"/>	Food & Fisheries <input type="checkbox"/>	Leather <input type="checkbox"/>	Construction <input type="checkbox"/>
Forestry <input type="checkbox"/>	Mining <input type="checkbox"/>	Electrical <input type="checkbox"/>	Health <input type="checkbox"/>
Textiles <input type="checkbox"/>	Fisheries <input type="checkbox"/>		

2014/15 Training Calendar

NO.	COURSE	DATE(S)	VENUE COUNTRY/CITY
1	ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements & Internal Auditing (for UNIDO)	7 to 11 April 2014	Swaziland (Mbabane)
2	ISO/IEC 17020 Requirements & Internal Auditing	19 to 23 May 2014	Zimbabwe (Harare)
3	ISO/IEC 17020 Requirements & Internal Auditing	9 to 13 June 2014	Botswana (Gaborone)
4	ISO/IEC 17020 Requirements & Internal Auditing	7 to 11 July 2014	Namibia (Walvis Bay)
5	ISO 15189 Requirements & Internal Auditing	7 to 11 July 2014	Swaziland (Mbabane)
6	ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements & Internal Auditing	14 to 18 July 2014	Botswana (Gaborone)
7	ISO 15189 Requirements & Internal Auditing	14 to 18 July 2014	Botswana (Gaborone)
8	ISO 15189 Requirements & Internal Auditing	11 to 15 August 2014	Namibia (Windhoek)
9	ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements & Internal Auditing	11 to 15 August 2014	Mozambique (Maputo)
9	ISO 15189 Requirements & Internal Auditing	25 to 29 August 2014	Zimbabwe (Harare)
11	ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements & Internal Auditing	8 to 12 Sept 2014	Zimbabwe (Harare)
12	ISO 15189 Requirements & Internal Auditing	8 to 12 Sept 2014	Tanzania (Dar es Salaam)
13	ISO/IEC 17020 Requirements & Internal Auditing	22 to 26 Sept 2014	Tanzania (Dar es Salaam)
14	ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements & Internal Auditing	6 to 10 October 2014	Swaziland (Mbabane)
15	ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements & Internal Auditing	20 to 24 October 2014	Botswana (Gaborone)
16	ISO/IEC 17020 Requirements & Internal Auditing	10 to 14 Nov 2014	Botswana (Gaborone)
17	ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements & Internal Auditing	3 to 7 Nov 2014	Namibia (Walvis Bay)
18	ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements & Internal Auditing	17 to 21 Nov 2014	Tanzania (Dar es Salaam)
19	ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements & Internal Auditing	1 to 5 December 2014	Botswana (Gaborone)
20	ISO/IEC 17020 Requirements & Internal Auditing	5 to 9 February 2015	Swaziland (Mbabane)
21	ISO/IEC 17025 Internal Auditing	24 to 26 February 2015	Tanzania (Dar es Salaam)
22	ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements & Internal Auditing	10 to 14 March 2015	Namibia (Walvis Bay)
23	ISO/IEC 17021 Requirements & Internal Auditing	10 to 14 March 2015	Swaziland (Mbabane)

SADCAS Additional Promotional Materials Available in French and Portuguese

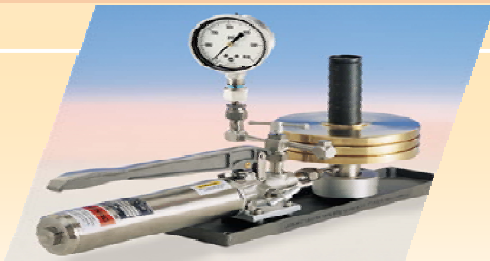
In an effort to ensure that SADCAS captures the entire SADC market the SADCAS has published its new pamphlets in French and Portuguese. The pamphlets are intended to provide a microcosm to stakeholders on the SADCAS' accreditation programmes and accreditation process.

The four pamphlets are on the Calibration Laboratory Accreditation Programme, Inspection Bodies Accreditation Programme, Medical Laboratory Accreditation Programme and Testing Laboratory Accreditation Programme.

The pamphlets briefly explain the background to accreditation, the need for accreditation, the fields or scopes of accreditation on offer, the accreditation criteria, the accreditation process, assessors, the accreditation certificate and the appeals process.

The pamphlets can be downloaded from the SADCAS website by following link:

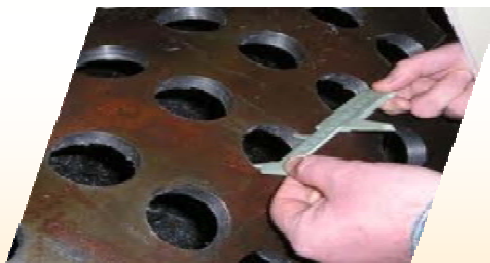
<http://www.sadcas.org/promotionalMaterial.php>.



- Programme d'accréditation des laboratoires d'étalonnage (CLAP)
- Programa de Acreditação de Laboratórios de Calibração (CLAP)



- Programme d'accréditation des laboratoires d'essais (TLAP)
- Programa do SADCAS de Acreditação dos Laboratórios de Ensaios (TLAP)



- Programme d'accréditation des organismes d'inspection (IBAP)
- Programa do SADCAS de Acreditação dos Organismos de Controlo (IBAP)



- Programme d'accréditation des laboratoires de biologie médicale (MLAP)
- Programa da SADCAS de Acreditação de Laboratórios Médicos (MLAP)

SADCAS Training Courses

The Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) provides training for conformity assessment bodies' management and staff. Conformity assessment bodies (CABs) include calibration/testing laboratories, medical laboratories, certification and inspection bodies.

SADCAS Trainers

SADCAS draws its trainers from a pool of qualified and experienced experts from the SADC region who have up to date involvement in accreditation matters be it system implementation and/or assessments.

Training Programmes

SADCAS currently offers the following accreditation training courses:

Five-Day Requirements and Internal Auditing Training Courses on the Various Key Accreditation Standards

- ISO 15189 Requirements and Internal Auditing **for medical laboratories**
- ISO 15189:2012 Requirements and Internal Auditing [Bridging course] **for medical laboratories**
- ISO/IEC 17020 Requirements and Internal Auditing **for inspection bodies**
- ISO/IEC 17021 Requirements and Internal Auditing **for management systems certification bodies**
- ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements and Internal auditing **for calibration/testing laboratories**

The objective of the 5 days courses is to provide an insight into the respective system standard's requirements and implementation as well as to guide CAB's personnel on how to prepare and carry-out an internal audit so as to monitor compliance with the system standard. These courses are made relevant and practical as they include case studies and exercises that reflect the respective professional disciplines. In order to objectively assess participants, an examination is written at the end of each course. Participants are also evaluated throughout the course.

Three-Day ISO/IEC 17025 International Auditing

The objective of the 3-day training course is to impart internal auditing knowledge and skills to laboratory staff. The course covers the following main topics:

- ✓ Introduction to Auditing
- ✓ The Audit process
- ✓ Reporting and corrective actions
- ✓ Auditor competence
- ✓ Benefits of an auditing

One-day Awareness Training Courses on the Various Key Accreditation Standards

- ISO 15189 for **medical laboratories**
- ISO/IEC 17020 **for inspection bodies**
- ISO/IEC 17025 **for calibration/testing laboratories**

The objective of the one day awareness training courses is to create awareness on the benefits and importance of accreditation and the requirements of the respective accreditation standards.

The SADCAS courses can be conducted in-house. In-house courses have the following benefits:

- ✓ You choose the venue of the course in
- ✓ You choose the date of the course
- ✓ Cost effective as a number of staff can be trained at the same time
- ✓ Promotes team work as members have access to the same consistent information

For more details please contact SADCAS
Email: info@sadcas.org

Status of Key Accreditation Standards and IAF/ILAC Documents

STANDARD	STATUS
ISO/IEC 17000:2004 Conformity assessment – Vocabulary and general principles	Close of review
ISO/IEC 17011:2004 Conformity assessment – General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies	Close of review
ISO/IEC DIS 17021-1 Conformity Assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems - Part 1: Requirements	Draft International Standard - Ballot initiated
ISO/IEC TS 17021-5:2014 Conformity Assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems - Part 5: Competence requirements for auditing and certification of asset management systems	International Standard published Document available as at 2014-04-01
ISO/IEC DTS 17021-6 Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems – Part 6: Competence requirements for auditing and certification of business continuity management systems	Committee Draft – Ballot initiated
ISO/IEC DTS 17021-7 Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems – Part 7: Competence requirements for auditing and certification of RTS/road traffic safety management systems	Committee Draft – Ballot initiated
ISO/IEC AWI TR 17026 Conformity assessment – Guidance on a third party certification system for products	New Project – Ballot initiated
ISO/IEC TS 17027:2014 – Vocabulary related to competence of persons used for certification of persons	International Standard published Document available as at 2014-02-24
ISO 13528:2005 Statistical methods for proficiency testing by inter laboratory comparisons	International Standard to be revised
ISO/IEC 27006:2011 Information Technology – Security Techniques – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of information security management systems	International Standard to be revised
ISO Guide 27:1983 Guidelines for corrective action to be taken by a certification body in the event of misuse of its mark of conformity	Close of review

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STANDARD	STATUS
ISO/IEC Guide 28:2004 Guidance on a third-party certification system of products	International guide to be revised
ISO/IEC Guide 53:2005 Conformity assessment – Guidance on the use of an organization’s quality management system in product certification	International guide to be revised
IAF/ILAC A1:02/2014 IAF/ILAC Multi-Lateral Mutual Recognition Arrangements (Arrangements): Requirements and Procedures for Evaluation of a Regional Group	This document provides ILAC and IAF with requirements or criteria and procedures for evaluating Regional Groups for the purpose of recognition Document available as at 2014-02-24
IAF/ILAC A2:02/2014 IAF/ILAC Multi-Lateral Mutual Recognition Arrangements (Arrangements): Requirements and Procedures for Evaluation of a Single Accreditation Body	This document provides ILAC and IAF with requirements and a procedure for evaluating single Accreditation Bodies for the purpose of qualifying them to sign applicable multi-lateral mutual recognition Arrangement(s) Document available as at 2014-02-24
IAF MD6:2014 – Application of ISO 14065:2013 ISO 14065:2013 provides to Greenhouse Gas (GHG) programme administrators, regulators and accreditors, a basis for assessing and recognizing the competence of validation or verification bodies (V/VBs)	Issue 2, published on 23 March 2014 Application from 23 March 2015 This mandatory document provides additional application guidance to enable harmonization by IAF members for the assessment of validation or verification bodies (V/VBs) against ISO 14065 and related standards

Diary of Upcoming Events

DATES	MEETINGS	VENUE
27-29 April 2014	ILAC/IAF Mid-Term Meetings	Frankfurt, Germany
8 May 2014	SADCAS Board/ Committee meetings	Pretoria, South Africa
11-17 May 2014	SPS Awareness Raising Workshops	Mbabane, Swaziland
14 May 2014	SADCAS/SANAS TPA M17 meeting	Pretoria, South Africa
19-23 May 2014	Eurachem Workshop on “Quality in Analytical Measurements” and Eurachem General Assembly	Lisbon, Portugal
20 May 2014	ARAC Committee Meeting	Dubai
21 May 2014	ARAC Executive Committee Meeting	Dubai

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Diary of Upcoming Events (concluded)

DATES	MEETINGS	VENUE
22 May 2014	ARAC General Assembly	Dubai
26 May 2014	EA Executive Committee	Prague, Czech Republic
27-28 May 2014	EA General Assembly	Prague, Czech Republic
29-30 May 2014	37 th EEE-PT WG meeting	Rome, Italy
2-6 June 2014	SADC SPS Committee Meeting	Gaborone, Botswana
11-13 June 2014	CASCO WG 21	Geneva, Switzerland
16-20 June 2014	AFRAC MRA Mid-Term Meeting	Tunis, Tunisia
21-27 June 2014	APLAC/PAC 20 th General Assembly	Guadalajara Jalisco, Mexico
22-28 June 2014	SPS Thematic Workshops	Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
23-27 June 2014	Joint AFRAC/ILAC Pre- peer Evaluation of SAD-CAS	Gaborone, Botswana
23-27 June 2014	ARSO General Assembly	TBC
27 June 2014	ISO TC 69 Plenary & WG meetings	Vienna, Geneva
29 June 2014	SADC Committee of Trade Ministers	Lilongwe, Malawi
1-4 July 2014	SADC TBT SC Workshop	Harare, Zimbabwe
8-11 July 2014	ISO REMCO Plenary & WG Meetings	Boulder, Colorado

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