

SADCAS/SANAS JOINT COMMUNIQUE - SADCAS EXTENDS INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION TO IAF MLA

The Southern African Development Community Accreditation Services (SADCAS) extended its international recognition in the African Accreditation Cooperation (AFRAC) Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) and subsequently in the International Accreditation Forum Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (IAF MLA) to the Main Scope Management Systems Certification (ISO/IEC 17021-1) in the following Sub-scopes:

- Quality Management Systems (ISO/IEC 17021-3), QMS (ISO 9001:2015) granted on 25 September 2019 by AFRAC and on 9 November 2019 by IAF.
- Environmental Management Systems (ISO/IEC 17021-2), EMS (ISO 14001:2015) granted on 4 May 2020 by AFRAC and on 19 June 2020 by IAF.
- Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems (ISO/IEC TS 17021-10), OHSMS (ISO 45001) granted on 4 May 2020 by AFRAC and on 19 June 2020 by IAF.

With this additional achievement, the accreditation certificates issued on seven (7) out of the eight (8) accreditation schemes offered by SADCAS are internationally recognized. This means that the certificates issued by SADCAS accredited calibration/testing/veterinary/verification/medical laboratories, and certification and inspection bodies are recognized in 103 countries worldwide thus removing the need for repetitive conformity assessment checks. Effectively this means that through internationally recognized accreditation SADC Member States serviced by SADCAS have better access to 103 foreign markets – A truly global reach.

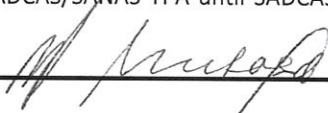
SADCAS is recognized by the SADC Council of Ministers as a subsidiarity institution of SADC. SADCAS draws its mandate from Article 15 B of the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Annex to the SADC Protocol on Trade and as per the Memorandum of Understanding signed between SADCAS and SADC. SADCAS provide accreditation services to 14 SADC Member States namely; Angola; Botswana; Comoros; Democratic Republic of Congo; Lesotho; Madagascar; Malawi; Mozambique; Namibia; Seychelles; Swaziland; Tanzania; Zambia and Zimbabwe.

This communique serves to inform all management systems certification bodies about the way forward regarding accreditation following SADCAS' achievement. A number of scenarios are considered as follows:

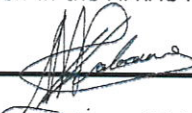
1. **For all management systems certification bodies accredited under the SADCAS/SANAS Twinning Partnership Arrangement (TPA)**, The South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) certificate will be valid until the upcoming periodic assessment and thereafter SADCAS will be the sole provider of accreditation services to your facility. Your organization's listing will be removed from SANAS directory of accredited facilities and you will be required to return the SANAS accreditation certificate and schedule of accreditation, and to destroy any other materials that refer to SANAS accreditation.
2. **For all management systems certification bodies** whose applications are in progress in the recognized sub-scopes, only a SADCAS certificate will be issued.
3. **All management systems certification bodies' applications** in the sub-scopes not yet internationally recognized such as Food Safety Management Systems, HACCP etc shall be processed under the SADCAS/SANAS TPA.
4. **All new applications for accreditation under the main scope management system received by SANAS from the 14 SADC Member States serviced by SADCAS** from 10 November 2019 shall be referred to SADCAS.

SADCAS accreditation documents and application forms are available from the SADCAS website www.sadcas.org/policies_n_procedures.php or else we refer you to contact the SADCAS Scheme Coordinator for the Management System Certification Bodies Accreditation Scheme on vmundembe@sadcas.org for more information.

Meanwhile SADCAS is also working towards signatory status for its certification bodies - product (ISO/IEC 17065) accreditation scheme, and any applications from such certification bodies shall continue to be processed under the SADCAS/SANAS TPA until SADCAS has achieved international recognition in the AFRAC MRA and the IAF MLA.



Maureen P Mutasa (Mrs)
SADCAS Chief Executive Officer



Mpho Phaloane (Mr)
SANAS Acting Chief Executive Officer