

## AFRIMENTS Hosts Metrology School in Nairobi, Kenya

The Intra- Africa Metrology System (AFRIMETS) together with the United Nations Industrial development Organization (UNIDO), the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) and the Measures Department of Kenya, hosted a metrology school at Red Court Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya. A first of its kind, the AFRIMETS Metrology School was held from 7 to 16 February 2011. The school was attended by over 85 participants mainly from African countries following a rigorous selection process. Amongst the participants, were also seven young metrologists from Asia and the Americas in order to facilitate networking and inter regional knowledge exchange.



*SADCAS CEO responding to a question during the AFRIMETS Metrology School*

The AFRIMETS Metrology School was designed to give young metrologists from Africa an introduction to the components of a quality infrastructure and the elements that make up a sound measurement system for a country. Presentations on the various technical aspects were made by 17 international speakers from national and international metrology institutes and supporting organizations. Mrs Maureen P Mutasa, the SADCAS Chief Executive Officer (CEO) presented two papers on accreditation. The program which also involved technical visits provided participants with hands on experience in a number of technical fields.

Metrology is the science and practice of measurement. It is the cornerstone of any quality assurance process. Metrology is strategically important in a country's development. AFRIMETS was established in 2006 with the goal of harmonizing accurate measurements across the continent of Africa, establish new

measurement facilities and gain international acceptance for all measurements critical to export, environmental monitoring and sanitary and phyto-sanitary issues. AFRIMETS mission is to promote metrology in Africa, facilitate intra African and international trade.



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## SADCAS Receives Trademark Registration Certificate from ARIPO

The SADCAS trademark which forms the core of the SADCAS accreditation mark has now been registered in Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Swaziland, Tanzania and Zimbabwe through the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO). The trademark has been registered in 5 classes 35, 41 42, 44 and 45 following a rigorous process which took almost 2 years. The trademark registration certificate which is valid for 10 years from the date of filing in November 2008 and may be renewed for further periods of ten years each, was handed over to Mrs Maureen P Mutasa the SADCAS CEO by Mr G H Sibanda the Director of ARIPO at a ceremony held on 14 January 2011 in Harare, Zimbabwe. The ceremony was also attended by Messrs M E Appiah and Mulenga both of whom are legal officers with ARIPO.

The SADCAS trademark has already been registered in Botswana, Mauritius, Mozambique, Zambia and Angola with the latter country having issued interim registration certificates. The registration process is still underway in DRC and Seychelles.



*SADCAS CEO receiving certificate from Mr G H Sibanda—Director General, ARIPO*



## SADCAS Holds its 6th Annual General Meeting

The SADCAS 6<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting was held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March 2011 at the Gaborone International Conference Centre in Gaborone, Botswana. The meeting was attended by 57 delegates including SADCAS General Assembly members, invited guests and observers from outside the SADC region.

The SADCAS General Assembly members are comprised of the following:

- Subscribers to the Memorandum and Articles of Association;
- Members of the Board of Directors;
- Duly appointed members of the SADC Cooperation in Accreditation from each member state;
- Appointed representatives of NAFPs in each SADC member state using the service of SADCAS; and
- Individual or organizations who apply for admission as members of SADCAS.

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SADCAS Annual General Meeting in session

At the 6<sup>th</sup> AGM the members

- Adopted the second SADCAS annual report including the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March;
- Ratified the budget for the 2011/12 financial year;
- Re-affirmed the appointment of PWC for the 2010/11 external audit; and
- Appointed UPT Secretarial Services as company secretary for the 2011/12 financial year.

Elections were also conducted for members of the Board with the following Board members being re-elected for a second consecutive 3-year term:



Mr Riundja Ali  
Kaakunga [Othy]



Mrs Masego  
Marobela



Mr Cyprian Tlhako  
Mokhor



Mr Steven Bruce  
Sidney

Mr Steven Bruce Sidney who was co-opted on to the Board of Directors in May 2010 was also elected on to the Board of Directors for a 3-year term.



### SADCAS Value Proposition

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

## Seychelles Bureau of Standards' Metrology Laboratory Accredited

The Seychelles Bureau of Standards' (SBS) Metrology Laboratory has been accredited in the scope of mass, by SADC Accreditation Service (SADCAS). SBS Metrology Laboratory is the third facility to be accredited by SADCAS and the first facility in Seychelles to be accredited.

Speaking during the certificate handover ceremony held at The Standards House Providence in Mahe, Seychelles on 2 March



*Mrs Amy Quatre, Director General SBS receiving the Accreditation Certificate from SADCAS CEO Mrs Maureen P Mutasa*

2011, Mrs Amy Quatre, Director General SBS outlined the journey towards accreditation which started in 2009 culminating in the Metrology Laboratory being accredited in the scope of mass. Mrs Quatre thanked the European Union, PTB Germany, SADC Cooperation in Metrology and the Ministry of Investment Natural Resources and Industry for their support throughout the process. She also paid tribute to the staff of SBS who had worked tirelessly to make the accreditation dream a reality.

In her congratulatory speech Mrs Maureen P Mutasa the SADCAS CEO explained to dignitaries present that SBS Metrology Laboratory had been accredited in the scope of mass pieces in the range 1 to 100 grams in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025. This accreditation demonstrates SBS Metrology Laboratory's competence in the scope of mass and the operation of a laboratory quality management system, a guarantee for reliable, accurate and traceable calibration results. SADCAS was delighted that SBS Metrology Laboratory was the first facility in Seychelles to be accredited as metrology which is the science and practice of measurement, is the cornerstone of any quality assurance process. Mrs Mutasa encouraged SBS Metrology Laboratory to maintain their accreditation throughout the validity period of 5 years for the accreditation certificate.

She further encouraged SBS Metrology Laboratory to extend the scope of accreditation into the other measurements areas.

Honourable Peter Sinon, the Minister of Investment, Natural Resources and Industry commended SBS for the achievement and for being the first facility in Seychelles to be accredited. He noted that the achievement had come at an opportune time when Seychelles is preparing its bid to accede to the World Trade Organization. He further noted the new European accreditation requirements regarding fish exports. Fish exports together with tourism are the mainstays of Seychelles' economy. He therefore challenged SBS to get its fish testing and inspection services accredited so as to avoid the costly and time consuming, retesting of Seychelles fish exports. The Minister commended SADC for the establishment of SADCAS which provides ready access to cost effective accreditation services and congratulated SBS management and staff for the achievement.

The certificate handover ceremony was attended by members of the diplomatic mission, principal secretaries, chief executive officers, SBS board members and staff and followed by a tour of SBS laboratories.



## BOBS' Industrial Metrology Unit Accredited

Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 2011 was a momentous day for the Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service (SADCAS) and the Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS). The day was marked by a ceremony at which SADCAS handed over the accreditation certificate to the BOBS' Industrial Metrology Unit, the first facility to be accredited by SADCAS. The ceremony was attended by members of the diplomatic missions, senior government officials, business executives, BOBS Council members, SADCAS Board members, BOBS and SADCAS staff members.

The guest of Honour, Honourable Dorcas Makgato-Malesu, the Minister of Trade and Industry, in her address commended BOBS on their achievement. She noted that as the government they were delighted to see some return on their investment in BOBS. She acknowledged that the journey to accreditation was demanding but it was through perseverance that BOBS managed to get the Industrial Metrology Unit accredited.



*Honourable Dorcas Makgato-Malesu—Minister of Trade and Industry Botswana delivering the key note address*

The Honourable Minister thanked the European Union who provided funding for the accreditation process through the SADC/EU standards, quality assurance, accreditation and metrology (SQAM) project.



*Mrs Masego Marobela—BOBS Managing Director (right) receiving the accreditation certificate from SADCAS CEO Mrs Maureen P Mutasa*

The Southern African development Community's (SADC) through the SADC SQAM expert Dr Oswald Chinyamakobvu who delivered the SADC Executive Secretary, Dr Salomão's speech remarked that they were celebrating a SADC success story in that SADCAS a subsidiarity organization of SADC had accredited its first three facilities amongst which is the BOBS Industrial Metrology Unit. He further encouraged conformity assessment bodies in Botswana to utilize the SADCAS services.

Mr Ron Josias, the CEO of the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS), expressed his pride in sharing this point in history with SADCAS the first multi-economy accreditation body in the world. SANAS the oldest accreditation body in SADC is working together with SADCAS under a Twinning Partnership Arrangement through which international recognition of the SADCAS accreditation certificate is achieved.

The SADCAS CEO Mrs Maureen P Mutasa congratulated Mr Kajani, the Manager— Laboratory Services (Industrial Metrology) and the BOBS' team on being the first metrology laboratory in Botswana to be accredited. She however reminded them of the annual surveillance visits which will be conducted in order to ensure maintenance of accreditation throughout the five-year period of the certificate

Mrs Masego Marobela, the Managing Director of BOBS thanked all those who had made it possible for BOBS to achieve their accreditation and encouraged other manufacturers, service providers, consumers, BOBS' staff and the public at large heed the Minister's call to effectively take advantage of and leverage on the services provided by BOBS and contribute to the development Botswana's economy.



## SADCAS CEO Meets with Heads of Medical Laboratories in Seychelles

As part of the SADCAS promotional and marketing plans for 2010/11, the SADCAS CEO Mrs Maureen P Mutasa was in Seychelles from 2 to 4 March 2011. The purpose of the visit to Seychelles was to attend the accreditation certificate handover ceremony of the Seychelles Bureau of Standards' Metrology Laboratory as well as to promote accreditation and to market SADCAS service offerings.

The main conformity assessment bodies in Seychelles are the Seychelles Bureau of Standards and the Ministry of Health. The SBS is responsible for calibration, testing, fish inspection and certification activities. The SBS Metrology laboratory whose accreditation certificate was handed over by the SADCAS CEO on 2 March 2011 is the first facility to be accredited in Seychelles and the third facility to be accredited by SADCAS. The SBS Metrology Laboratory was accredited in the scope of mass. The SBS Environment Laboratory has already been assessed whilst the SBS Inspection Unit and certification Unit are working towards accreditation.



*Meeting with Heads of Medical Laboratories in Seychelles*

The Ministry of Health is responsible for public health and testing of food, water, clinical and pharmaceutical samples. The SADCAS CEO met with four representatives of three medical laboratories on 3 March 2011. The meeting was held at the Ministry of Health's Offices in Mahe, Seychelles.

The meeting was attended by Mr Philip Palmore, Public Health Laboratory, Mr Prosper Kinabo, Clinical Laboratory, Dr Albert Hoho, Clinical Laboratory, Ms Lucile de Comarmond, Director Pharmaceutical Services and Ms Dhana Sasikumar, Quality Control Manager Drug Control Laboratory. The SADCAS CEO was accompanied to the meeting by Mrs Nair the SADCA Committee member for Seychelles. SADCAS was briefed on the accreditation status of each of the laboratories and challenges faced. None of the laboratories are accredited but all the laboratories are aware of the need for accreditation and two of the laboratories are already working towards accreditations. In turn the SADCAS CEO updated the delegates on developments in SADCAS and responded to the various accreditation issues raised during the briefings and in particular explained the why a laboratory should go for accreditation in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025 or ISO 15189 as relevant and not ISO 9001 certification noting that one of the laboratories represented had been certified to ISO 9001. Mrs Mutasa also outlined the accreditation process in response to a question raised by all the representatives on where to start emphasizing the need for awareness training and specialized training on the relevant accreditation standard. She also talked about Proficiency Testing issues, the need for accredited calibration services for traceability of measurements. In response to the question on accreditation costs Mrs Mutasa outlined the SADCAS cost structure highlighting how SADCAS was ensuring the competitiveness of its accreditation rates. Mrs Nair shared with participants SBS experiences in accreditation. Mrs Mutasa suggested the establishment of a laboratory network so as to share experienced in accreditation matters.

The targeted visit to Seychelles was very successful. The meeting with medical laboratories representatives was worthwhile as it cleared some myths on accreditation resulting with expressed interest in SADCAS training services for which duly completed training request forms are awaited.



## SADCAS Contact Details for Communicating with Clients

### 1. APPLICATION FOR ACCREDITATION

Clients submit application forms and quality documents (Manual policy, procedures, forms, other support documents) to SADCAS.

Ms Jeanne Françoise Ranorovelo  
Technical Manager  
Tel: +267 3132909/3132910 – Ext 112  
Mobile: +267 72495508  
Email: [jfranorovelo@sadcas.org](mailto:jfranorovelo@sadcas.org)

### 2. QUOTATIONS

Any queries on accreditation quotations

Ms Jeanne Françoise Ranorovelo  
Technical Manager  
Tel: +267 3132909/3132910 – Ext 112  
Mobile: +267 72495508  
Email: [jfranorovelo@sadcas.org](mailto:jfranorovelo@sadcas.org)

### 3. INVOICES

Any queries on accreditation invoices

Mrs Laureen Gudo  
Financial Administrator  
Tel: +267 3132909/3132910 – Ext 108  
Mobile: +267 71470424  
Email: [lrgudo@sadcas.org](mailto:lrgudo@sadcas.org)

### 4. TRANSPORT AND ACCOMMODATION

All arrangements for assessors

Ms Linda Dirorimwe  
Accreditation Administrator  
Tel: +267 3132909/3132910 – Ext 108  
Mobile: +267 75051525  
Email: [ldirorimwe@sadcas.org](mailto:ldirorimwe@sadcas.org)

### 5. DOCUMENTATION REVIEW

Any queries on accreditation documentation review

Ms Jeanne Françoise Ranorovelo  
Technical Manager  
Tel: +267 3132909/3132910 – Ext 112  
Mobile: +267 72495508  
Email: [jfranorovelo@sadcas.org](mailto:jfranorovelo@sadcas.org)

### 6. ASSESSMENT

To be done by the assessment team (Lead assessor and Technical assessors)

Ms Jeanne Françoise Ranorovelo  
Technical Manager  
Tel: +267 3132909/3132910 – Ext 112  
Mobile: +267 72495508  
Email: [jfranorovelo@sadcas.org](mailto:jfranorovelo@sadcas.org)

### 7. CLEARANCE OF FINDINGS

Submission of corrective actions reports and processing of corrective actions

Ms Linda Dirorimwe  
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Tel: +267 3132909/3132910 – Ext 108  
Mobile: +267 75051525  
Email: [ldirorimwe@sadcas.org](mailto:ldirorimwe@sadcas.org)

### 8. ACCREDITATION DECISION

Any queries on accreditation decision

Mrs Maureen P Mutasa  
Chief Executive Officer  
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Mobile: +267 75051426  
Email: [mpmutasa@sadcas.org](mailto:mpmutasa@sadcas.org)

### 9. ACCREDITATION CERTIFICATE

Any queries on accreditation certificates

Ms Jeanne Françoise Ranorovelo  
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Tel: +267 3132909/3132910 – Ext 112  
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Email: [jfranorovelo@sadcas.org](mailto:jfranorovelo@sadcas.org)

### 10. TRAINING

Any inquiries on training services

Ms Linda Dirorimwe  
Accreditation Administrator  
Tel: +267 3132909/3132910 – Ext 108  
Mobile: +267 75051525  
Email: [ldirorimwe@sadcas.org](mailto:ldirorimwe@sadcas.org)

## March 2011 IAF Technical Committee Meetings

Ms Jeanne Françoise Ranorovelo, the SADCAS Technical Manager attended the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) Technical Committee (TC) meetings held at the Conference Centre, Epsom Downs Racecourse in Surrey, England from 5 to 11 March 2011. The meetings were attended by representatives of accreditation and certification bodies and industries from Australia, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, China, Korea, France, Germany, Great Britain, India, Japan, Norway, Russia, South Africa, Taiwan, Thailand, USA, and from ISO/CASCO in Geneva. Ms Ranorovelo represented SADCAS at the meetings which were relocated at very short notice from Tunis, Tunisia to Surrey, England, UK. The meetings were organized by Mr Roger Bennett who is the representative of the Independent Organization for Certification (IIOC) and also IAF Board of Director for Conformity Assessment Body Association Members.



Participants attending the TC meetings

The Surrey meetings focused on certification issues. The main discussions were on the competence of assessors involved in the accreditation services. Regarding competence of assessors, the results of the survey conducted from April to August 2010 were presented and a final document related to training needs, assessment criteria and evaluation checklist to measure the assessors' competence were discussed and will be issued. The meetings also discussed the amendment of some IAF/ILAC documents where the competence of assessors needs to be included, cross frontier policy, management of crises, product certification, certification of personnel, food safety management systems, market surveillance, forest certification, auditors,' competence, medical devices, greenhouse gas management and the Multilateral Recognition Arrangement.



<a href="#">Home</a>	<a href="#">What is Accreditation?</a>	<a href="#">Accreditation</a>	<a href="#">Training Services</a>	<a href="#">Accredited Organizations</a>	<a href="#">Publications</a>	<a href="#">Latest News</a>	<a href="#">Events Calendar</a>	<a href="#">Contact us</a>	<a href="#">Extranet</a>	<a href="#">Links</a>
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With the SADCAS website [www.sadcas.org](http://www.sadcas.org) for information on accreditation and SADCAS service offerings. The following SADCAS promotional materials are available in English, French and Portuguese and can be downloaded:

- Benefits of accreditation
- Accreditation
- Corporate brochure
- Accreditation or ISO 9001 Certification of a Laboratory?
- Training services

Just go Publications then click under "Promotional Materials and identify the materials you need then click on language you wish to view or download the materials.



## SADCA Executive Committee Meets in Pretoria, South Africa



*Mrs Masego Marobela—SADCA ExCo Chairman*

The SADC Cooperation in Accreditation's Executive Committee (SADCA ExCo) held its 6<sup>th</sup> meeting on 18 February 2011 at Elegant Lodge in Pretoria, South Africa. The meeting was attended by Mrs Masego B Marobela, the SADCA ExCo Chairman, Mr Ron Josias, the SADCA Regional Coordinator, Mr Riundja Ali Kaakunga (Othy) (Member), Mrs Maureen P Mutasa (Member), Ms Kuena Molapo, SADCA SQAM Expert who attended in place of Dr Oswald Chinyamakobvu (Member) and Ms Nonhlanhla Halimana, SADCA Secretary.

During the one day meeting, the SADCA ExCo reviewed the short term mission report on the performance of a needs assessment survey on proficiency testing schemes in SADC member states undertaken by Dr Mukayi T Musarurwa as part of the SADC/EU SQAM project. The report provides some useful insights into the status, operations, challenges and needs in the area of PT services in the region. The SADC region like other developing regions worldwide faces many challenges on availability of information on PT schemes and accessibility to PT schemes. Participation in PT /Inter-laboratory Comparisons (ILCs) is a requirement of ISO/IEC 17025. It is therefore imperative that the region through its SQAM structures facilitates information dissemination and capacity development in this essential component of any laboratory management system. Noting the importance of the subject matter and insights provided on PT issues in the report, the SADCA ExCo agreed to request the SADC Secretariat to have the report formally considered by other interested SADC SQAM structures for a consolidated view on the conclusion and recommendation of the report and to determine the way forward with regards to the issues raised in the report. In the meantime, SADCA will endeavour to, subject to availability of funds, participate at the upcoming workshop on ISO/IEC

17043 to be held in Montreux, Switzerland in April 2011. The workshop is designed to share experiences on the implementation of the recently published ISO/IEC 17043. SADCA will also explore the hosting of a regional training workshop on the new standard ISO/IEC 17043.

As part of the SADCA Business Plan development process, the SADCA ExCo, at its previous meeting held on 17 November 2010, reviewed the SADCA By laws and relevant parts of the TBT Annex to the SADC Protocol on Trade. The reviews of these documents were finalized at the February 2011 meeting. A draft of the revised SADCA By Laws and the proposed amendments to the TBT Annex to the SADC Protocol on Trade will be presented at the upcoming SADCA General Assembly meeting. The SADCA ExCo further finalized the programme for the development process of the Business Plan. According to the programme, a series of strategic planning sessions/consultations will be held during the year culminating with the presentation of the Business Plan at the 2012 SADCA Annual General Meeting.

A considerable part of the day's meeting was spent on preparing for the 2011 SADCA Annual General Meeting during which the ExCo reviewed the SADCA annual report and finalized the agenda for the annual meeting which will be held on Thursday, 24 March 2011 in Gaborone, Botswana in conjunction with other SQAM meetings.

The SADCA ExCo was appointed in 2009 following the disbandment of the SADCA Project Management Committee. The SADCA ExCo is responsible for the effective pursuit of SADCA's objectives and for the day to day management of SADCA.

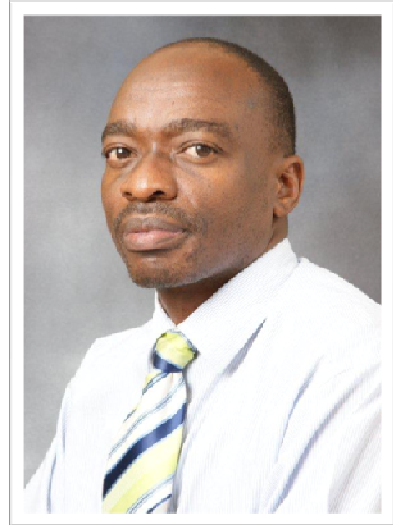


## NAFP-Botswana Pays Courtesy Visits to Laboratories

In an effort to promote and market accreditation and SADCAS, NAFP- Botswana officers Messrs Goitseone Seitshiro and Edward Mmatli paid courtesy visits to the National food control laboratory, Lamworld Technology and the Department of Water Affairs.

The National Food Control Laboratory is located in Gaborone under the Ministry of Health and is mandated to monitor food and drinking water quality throughout Botswana. The laboratory carries out routine analyses for nutrient (*e.g.*, fat, carbohydrate, vitamins, proteins, metals and anions) and microbiological content in both food and water. The laboratory which is made up of a chemical and microbiology sections is headed by Principal Scientific Officer I, Mrs AF Kashani. The laboratory also tests food under the following circumstances:

- All the food acquired for Botswana Government under the government feeding programme
- Food in the local market in conjunction with environmental officers/ health inspectors from various district councils
- All consumer complaints (relating to foodstuff) in conjunction with Department of Consumer protection.
- Emergencies, *e.g.*, in case of food poisoning and water borne disease outbreaks.



NAFP- Botswana—Mr Goitseone Seitshiro

The National Food control laboratory is working towards accreditation and has already had its staff trained on ISO/IEC 17025. Development of the Quality manual is underway and the laboratory is already participating in Inter laboratory comparisons coordinated by the Botswana Bureau of Standards. Because the laboratory is not yet accredited samples are sent outside the country for confirmation which is costly to the government. Accreditation is therefore high on the National laboratories agenda.

Lamworld Technologies is a private calibration laboratory with clientele from various sectors of the economy (such as companies in mining industry, hospitals, police, *etc*) within and outside Botswana. Lamworld Technologies which has two (2) facilities in Gaborone offers calibration services for pressure, mass, torque and volume, electrical ACDC and low frequency and radio frequency (RF) and temperature, and repairs of equipment that fails calibration. It has over 70 customers from all over the country in diverse fields such as mining, health-hospitals, police, civil engineering firms involved in the construction of roads and buildings, consultants and manufacturing. The Laboratory boasts of an online complete solution calibration system that automates the entire calibration system made by INDYSOFT. The system contains the entire list of clients and their equipment and makes a reservation for a particular calibration of the equipment, makes quotations as well as sends reminders for the equipment due for calibration among others. The advantage of this system is that it can serve as an asset management tool of clients. Lamworld Technologies has already submitted an application for accreditation to the ISO/IEC 17025 and aims to be accredited before the end of the year. As a part of company introspection, Lamworld Technologies undertake internal audits and have been audited by their various clients such as Air Botswana, Civil Aviation Authority and Ministry of Transport among others as part of tender requirements.

The Department of Water Affairs Laboratory carries out water analysis including waste water analysis. The Laboratory handles samples from villages and councils from all over the country. However the number of samples is declining since some of the activities *e.g.* water supply which used to be carried out by the Department of Water Affairs have been transferred to Water Utilities Corporation. The Laboratory mainly undertakes routine analysis for physical parameters in water, *i.e.* pH, conductivity, trace metals and anions. The Laboratory is working towards accreditation and has already had its staff trained and has benefited from the SADC EU SQAM project through which a consultant was assigned to assist the laboratory in its journey towards accreditation. The main challenges encountered by the Laboratory are the failure to validate most of their procedures due to lack of suitable certified reference materials (CRM). The laboratory has only so far validated 6 out of their 23 test procedures. The Laboratory participates in Inter Laboratory Comparisons and Proficiency Testing Schemes.

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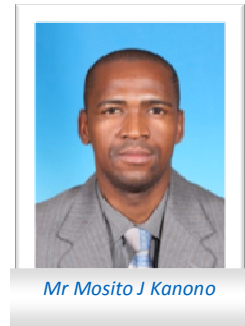
Generally all the laboratories appreciated the visits and see the need to have their facilities accredited. The main challenges faced by the laboratories are related to availability of resources for accreditation activities a matter which is being pursued with the laboratories' respective management.



### Lesotho Appoints Second NAFFP



In an effort to improve realization of NAFFP activities in Lesotho, Mr Mosito Jacob Kanono has been appointed second NAFFP officer for Lesotho. Mr Kanono a Technical Inspector in the Department of Standards and Quality Assurance in the Ministry of Trade, Industry, Cooperatives and Marketing will support Mr Azael Makara. He holds a degree in Chemical Engineering.



Mr Mosito J Kanono



### NAFFP-Zimbabwe Receives the 2011 NAFFP Award

The National Accreditation Focal Point (NAFFP) for Zimbabwe is the recipient of the prestigious NAFFP Award for 2011. The Award was received by Mr Christopher Ngwenya and Mrs Mildred Machiri at a ceremony held on 22 March 2011 at the Gaborone International Convention Centre, Gaborone, Botswana in conjunction with the 6<sup>th</sup> SADCAS Annual General Meeting. The first runner up was NAFFP-DRC whilst the second runner up was NAFFP- Seychelles.

This 2011 Award is the third to be presented with the first Award having been presented in 2009 to NAFFP-Tanzania and the second to NAFFP-DRC in 2010. The Award is SADCAS way of showing its recognition and appreciation for the hard work and commitment by NAFFPs towards SADCAS goals thus motivate them. National Accreditation Focal Points who are appointed by their respective governments are responsible for the coordination, administration, promotion and marketing of accreditation and SADCAS within their respective countries. They play the key role of being SADCAS tentacles of reaching out to clients/potential clients as well as stakeholders including the general public in SADC member states. All NAFFPs are supported by their respective governments who established them.



NAFFP-Zimbabwe—Mr Christopher Ngwenya and Mrs Mildred Machiri

In executing SADCAS activities, NAFFPs prepare annual implementation plans in support of SADCAS annual implementation plans in order to achieve SADCAS objectives. The implementation by NAFFPs of national action plan is monitored for progress by SADCAS through quarterly reports. Upon evaluation of the reports by SADCAS, each NAFFP is given feedback for improvement as necessary. Summaries of NAFFP quarterly reports are circulated to all NAFFPs, SADCA members and SADCAS Board members and are subject of discussion at Board meetings.

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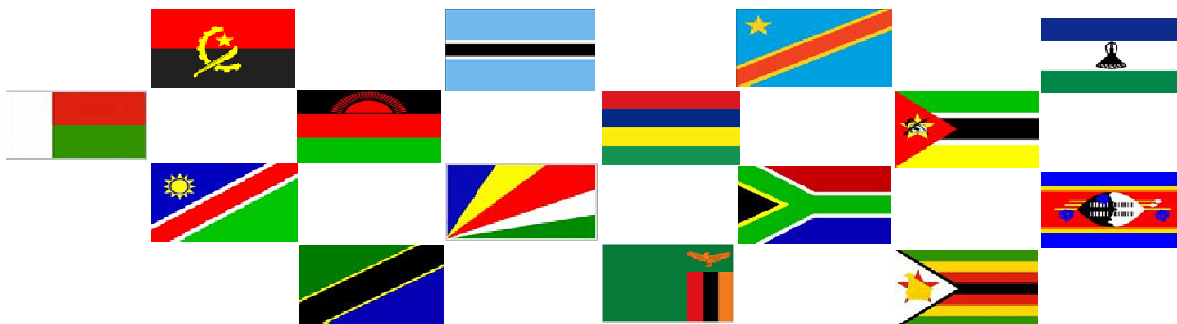
*Mr Ranganai—right receiving the Award Certificate on behalf of NAFP-Zimbabwe from SADCAS Board Chairman, Mr R A Kaakunga [Othy] and Vice Chairman Mrs M Marobela*

The Award is open to NAFPs who have served as an NAFP for at least two years, regularly submit and timeously submit quarterly reports on activities undertaken, have effectively progressed the implementation of their respective country's action plan on accreditation and contributed towards SADCAS goals. The 2011 Award is based on the reports for the period 1 January up to 31 December 2010. NAFP- Zimbabwe was established in 2005 with the appointment of the now late Mr Francis Karani who was subsequently replaced in 2008 by Mr Christopher Ngwenya as the first officer and Mrs Mildred Machiri as the second officer. The NAFP has made very good progress during the period under review. The activities included awareness raising workshops and meetings with stakeholders and governments, counseling visits to potential clients, production of own NAFP promotional materials, distribution of SADCAS promotional material, press releases, exhibition at the Zimbabwe Trade Fair, participation in NAFP training programmes and annual meeting. Some of these activities were undertaken in partnership with other key stakeholder associations such as the National Laboratory Association of Zimbabwe (NLAZ). The NAFP also managed to successfully negotiate with government for a NAFP Office budget to support NAFP activities during the year. Through all these NAFP-Zimbabwe activities SADCAS managed to successfully hold 3 training courses in Zimbabwe the highest number of courses held in any of the SADC countries being serviced by SADCAS. Furthermore by 31 December 2010 SADCAS had received 11 accreditation applications and 11 expressed interests in accreditation from Zimbabwe.

In receiving the Award, Mr Ranganai on behalf of NAFP-Zimbabwe thanked SADCAS for the recognition and the Government of Zimbabwe for its support.



**A Multi-economy Accreditation Body!!**



## SADCAS Registers Two More Assessors

SADCAS has registered two (2) more assessors both of whom fall under the medical laboratories accreditation program.

Mrs Vijay Padayachee has been registered as a Lead Assessor and technical assessor under the scope "medical". Mrs Padayachee holds a National Diploma in Medical Technology and a Certificate in Quality Assurance. She has worked in medical pathology laboratories both in the private and public sectors and as a Field Manager for the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) for the medical laboratories accreditation program. Mrs Padayachee is a qualified World Anti Doping Association (WADA) assessor and has over 10 years experience as a technical assessor, lead assessor and as a mentor for trainee assessors. She has mentored SADCAS assessors trained under the SADC EU SQAM project which ended in November 2010.



Mrs Vijay Padayachee

Mrs Sibongile Zimuto has been registered as a technical assessor under the scope "medical". Mrs Zimuto holds a General and a Specialist Diploma in Medical Laboratory Sciences. She has worked in clinical diagnostic laboratories and is currently the Executive Director of the Zimbabwe National Quality Assurance Program (ZINQAP). Mrs Zimuto has undertaken assessments on behalf of SANAS and she is also a WHO AFRO accreditation assessor.

This brings the total number of SADCAS registered assessors to 7 technical assessors and one Lead assessor.

Breakdown of assessors According to Accreditation program

- 4 Medical Laboratories Accreditation program
- 1 Testing Laboratories Accreditation Program
- 1 Inspection Bodies Accreditation Program
- 1 Calibration Laboratories Accreditation Program

### Vision

SADCAS vision is to be a leading, regionally accepted and internationally recognized regional accreditation body aimed at supporting and enhancing industry and government's efforts and to be at the cutting edge of accreditation.

### Mission

SADCAS mission is to provide internationally recognized cost effective, regional accreditation services for SADC member states aimed at supporting regional and international trade, enhance the protection of consumers and improve the competitiveness of SADC products and services in both the voluntary and regulatory areas.

### Values

- Impartiality
- Non-discriminatory
- Transparency
- Integrity

## Zimbabwe Embraces Accreditation as a Strategy for the Competence of Medical Laboratories

The credibility and efficient operation of a medical laboratory is paramount to any health delivery system. Realizing the importance of laboratory services as an integral part of the health delivery system, the Zimbabwe Government through the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare, launched a Health Laboratory Policy covering the period 2010 to 2014. The policy embraces accreditation as a strategy for the competence and efficient operation of medical laboratories' quality system at all levels in Zimbabwe.

In order to strengthen the implementation of medical laboratories' quality system, the Zimbabwe National Quality Assurance Program (ZINQAP) hosted a 5 days' ISO 15189 training course for medical laboratories in Zimbabwe. A total of 25 health professionals from various medical laboratories attended the course which was held from 13 to 17 December 2010 at the Rainbow Towers in Harare. The course was delivered by a SADCAS trainer.

The objectives of the 5 days course were to promote a thorough understanding of ISO 15189 standard requirements and to impart internal auditing knowledge and skills to medical laboratories staff so as to monitor compliance with the standard. The course covered an overview of accreditation, the ISO 15189 requirements i.e. management and technical requirements, internal auditing tools, techniques and the process as well as validation methods and procedures. The intensive and practical course was very well received by participants who at the end of the course were motivated to go and implement the standard in their respective organizations.

ZINQAP is a non-profit organization whose mandate is to provide accredited proficiency testing services and continuous professional development program for medical laboratory experts so as to attain and maintain a high level of quality testing. ZINQAP is a SANAS accredited proficiency service provider.



## SADCAS Holds its First ISO/IEC 17020 Training Course for Inspection Bodies

SADCAS successfully held a 5-day ISO/IEC 17020 course for inspection bodies in Zimbabwe. The course which was attended by 15 participants from 6 inspection bodies was held from 29 November to 3 December 2010 at the Rainbow Towers in Harare.

Inspection bodies need to ensure that they have the people, facilities, technical expertise and management systems in order to undertake inspections professionally and competently thus deliver accurate and reliable inspection results to their clients. Accreditation which is the process of providing recognition to a conformity assessment body for its competence in performing specific tasks is the strategy for achieving this. For inspection bodies concerned with demonstrating competence underpinned by a quality system, the appropriate international standard is ISO/IEC 17020 which specifies general criteria for the competence of impartial inspection bodies irrespective of the sector involved. In order to have confidence in the data generated by inspection bodies operating in Zimbabwe the National Social Security Authority (NSSA) now requires all inspection bodies to be accredited in order to be registered as an inspection authority.



*Participants attending the ISO/IEC 17020 course*

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The objectives of the 5 days course were to promote a thorough understanding of ISO/IEC 17020 standard requirements and to impart internal auditing knowledge and skills to inspection bodies staff so as to monitor compliance with the standard. The course was made relevant as it involved exercises which gave participants an opportunity to show their knowledge and experience on the subject matter. The exercises were a source of invaluable practical experience and information on the development, implementation, maintenance and improvement of a quality management system that meets ISO/IEC 17020 requirements.



## **SADCAS Training Services**

SADCAS provides training for conformity assessment bodies' management and staff. Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) include calibration/testing laboratories, medical laboratories and certification and inspection bodies.

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

**Courses on Offer** – Currently SADCAS offers the following training courses:

- ISO 15189 Requirements and Internal Auditing
- ISO/IEC 17020 Requirements and Internal Auditing
- ISO/IEC 17021 Requirements and Internal Auditing
- ISO/IEC 17025 Requirements and internal Auditing

**Course Structure** - Each of the above courses is 5 days' long. The courses can be conducted in-house or as open courses. SADCAS courses are made relevant and practical as they include case studies and exercises that reflect professional disciplines. In order to objectively assess participants, an examination is written at the end of the course.

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If interested please contact:

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**OR**

Visit our website: [www.sadcas.org](http://www.sadcas.org) for more information!

## Status of Key Accreditation Standards/Guides under Development

STANDARD	STATUS
<b>ISO/IEC 17020:1998:</b> General criteria for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection	The Draft International Standard (DIS) was published for comment for a period of 5 months ending 31 March 2011.
<b>ISO/IEC 17021: 2006:</b> Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems	<p>The revised standard was published on 1 February 2011. IAF has agreed on a two (2) years of transition period from the date of publication. Therefore the deadline of implementation date of this new standard will be 1 February 2013.</p> <p>It contains principles and requirements for the competence, consistency and impartiality of the audit and certification of management systems of all types (e.g. quality management systems or environmental systems) and for bodies providing these activities. Certification bodies operating to ISO/IEC 17021 need not offer all types of management system certification.</p> <p>Certification of management systems is a third- party conformity assessment activity. Bodies performing this activity are therefore third party conformity assessment bodies .</p>
<b>ISO/IEC WD TS 17022</b> Conformity Assessment – Minimum requirements and additional recommendations for content of a third –party audit report on management systems	The Working Draft (WD) of this document was circulated and the comment period is closed .
<b>ISO/IEC WD 17024</b> Conformity assessment – General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons	<p>The document was approved as DIS and was circulated for comment. The comments received were reviewed by IAF WG 30 on 6 March 2011.</p> <p>The revised version is proposed to be published by March/April 2012 .</p>
<b>ISO/IEC 17025:2005:</b> General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories	The document is still under review.
<b>ISO/IEC 17065</b> Conformity assessment – Requirements for certification certifying products, processes and services	This document was approved as DIS and is expected to be circulated to members for comment.
<b>ISO/IEC 17067</b> Conformity assessment – Fundamentals of product certification	The first WD was circulated and discussed. The ISO/CASCO WG 32 is now at the WD 2 stage.
<b>ISO 15189: 2007</b> Medical Laboratories – Particular requirements for quality and competence	The revision of this international standard is under consideration by ISO/TC 212

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Status of Key Accreditation Standards/Guides under Development

STANDARD	STATUS
<b>ISO 13528:2005:</b> Statistical methods for proficiency testing by inter laboratory comparisons	The revision of this international standard is under consideration by ISO/TC 69/ SC 6.
<b>ISO/FDIS 14066</b> Greenhouse Gas Management	The Final Draft International Standard (FDIS) ballot was initiated by TC 207/SC7
<b>ISO 14067</b> Carbon Foot Printing	The comment period for the DIS was closed.
<b>ISO 19011:2002:</b> Guidelines for Quality and/or Environmental Management Systems Auditing	The revision of this international standard is under consideration by ISO/TC 176/SC3.
<b>ILAC P3:07/2007:</b> ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement – Procedures for the evaluation of Unaffiliated Bodies for the purpose of Recognition	In accordance with ILAC Resolutions GA 14.14 and 14.15 from the General Assembly held in Shanghai, the two ILAC documents have been withdrawn
<b>ILAC G10:1996:</b> Harmonized Procedures for Surveillance and Reassessment of Accredited Laboratories	
<b>IAF ML4:2005:</b> Policies and Procedures for a Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA) on the level of accreditation bodies and on the level of regional groups	Following agreement by the MLA Committee, the draft revision of IAF ML 4 was sent to IAF members for 60 days comment on 22 February 2011



To be at the cutting edge of accreditation service delivery

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## Diary of Upcoming Events

DATES	MEETINGS	VENUE
3–9 April 2011	Africa QIS meeting	Nairobi, Kenya
5–6 April 2011	Pan African Quality Infrastructure Stakeholder Institutions meeting	Nairobi, Kenya
8 April 2011	SADCAS/SANAS Review TPA meeting	SANAS, Pretoria, South Africa
11–12 April 2011	Regional SPS/Food Safety meeting	Johannesburg, South Africa
11–15 April 2011	ISO 15189 Requirements and Internal Auditing Training course	Harare, Zimbabwe
11–12 April 2011	ILAC Laboratory meeting	Montreux, Switzerland
12–14 April 2011	ILAC MCC & IAF CMC meetings	Sydney, Australia
13 April 2011	ILAC / PTCG	Montreux, Switzerland
14–15 April 2011	ILAC/AIC	Montreux, Switzerland
14 April 2011	Finance, Risk and Audit Committee	South Africa
14 April 2011	HRRC meeting	South Africa
15 April 2011	Board of Directors meeting	South Africa
28–29 April 2011	LEA - SMME Seminar	Gaborone, Botswana
April TBC	Tripartite RECs SQAM Experts meeting	Pretoria, South Africa
23–24 May 2011	4 <sup>th</sup> International Conference on Metrology - CITAC	Jerusalem, Israel
May TBC	SADC TBT Stakeholders Committee Executive meeting	Pretoria, South Africa
May TBC	Laboratory Inter comparisons and Proficiency Testing workshop	Pretoria, South Africa
1–25 June 2011	ISO/TC 207 Environmental Management System Standards conference	Oslo, Norway
6–7 June 2011	Workshop on Measurement Uncertainty – Eurachem/CITAC	Lisbon
19–21 June 2011	Smart Partnership Dialogue	Kuala Lumpur Malaysia
22–24 June 2011	ILAC & IAF Executive meeting	Istanbul, Turkey
28–30 June 2011	WTO SPS Committee meeting	Geneva
June TBC	Tripartite SQAM Structures meetings	Lusaka, Zambia
19–21 July 2011	ISO/CASCO WG 31	Geneva

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