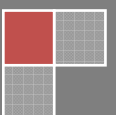


**2018**

# **ISO/IEC 17011:2017 TRANSITION PLAN**

**AFRICAN ACCREDITATION COOPERATION**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

In line with the ILAC and IAF ISO/IEC 17011 Transition Plan, AFRAC is required to define and set the specific dates for the critical process steps to ensure the mandatory deadlines defined below are met. AFRAC will take into consideration factors such as its evaluation schedule, availability of peer evaluation Team Leaders (TLs) and decision-making processes, etc., to ensure all signatory ABs have transitioned to ISO/IEC 17011:2017 within the transition period.

ISO/IEC 17011:2017, Conformity assessment - Requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies was published on 30 November 2017.

*IAF/ILAC-A2:01/2018 "IAF/ILAC Multi-Lateral Mutual Recognition Arrangements (Arrangements): Requirements and Procedures for Evaluation of a Single Accreditation Body"* was published in January 2018. The implementation period for the revised IAF/ILAC A2 is for all peer evaluations that commence from the date of publication.

At the AFRAC EXCO meeting held on 28 September 2017, it was agreed that AFRAC will apply a 2-year transition period from the date of publication of the ISO/IEC 17011:2017. The Transition period therefore ends on 30 November 2019.

A presentation on the new version of ISO/IEC 17011 is available on the ISO Website (<https://www.iso.org/resources-for-conformity-assessment.html>). It shows the main changes from the 2004 version and the key elements, and contains a cross reference table between ISO/IEC 17011:2017 and ISO/IEC 17011:2004. Compliance with the requirements of ISO/IEC 17011:2017 other than those requirements identified as new, will be considered sufficient to demonstrate continued compliance with ISO/IEC 17011:2004.

## 2. PLAN FOR TRANSITION

### 3.1 Evaluations conducted from 1 July 2018

- 3.1.1 All evaluations from 1 July 2018 will be carried out using ISO/IEC 17011:2017 as the requirements document. This includes all initial, re-evaluations, extensions and follow-up evaluations.
- 3.1.2 An AB that has an evaluation scheduled between 1 January to 1 July 2018 may request the evaluation be carried out in accordance with ISO/IEC 17011:2017.
- 3.1.3 IAF/ILAC-A3:01/2018 *"IAF/ILAC Multi-Lateral Mutual Recognition Arrangements (Arrangements): Template report for the peer evaluation of an Accreditation Body (AB) based on ISO/IEC 17011:2017"* shall be used for all evaluations carried out to ISO/IEC 17011:2017.

- 3.1.4 Findings against the **new** requirements in ISO/IEC 17011:2017 will be raised in accordance with the definitions for NCs and Concerns included in IAF/ILAC A3 Part 3B.

NCs and Concerns must be closed out in accordance with the requirements for the respective category of finding with the exception that AFRAC Arrangement Members must close out findings against **new** ISO/IEC 17011:2017 requirements by 30 September 2019, to allow the decision-making process to be completed prior to 1 December 2019.

If the findings against the new requirements are not closed out by 30 September 2019, a decision on compliance with ISO/IEC 17011:2004 must still be carried out to confirm on-going signatory status. A further decision will be required to confirm compliance with the new requirements prior to the transition date.

- 3.1.4 The decision-making processes for all evaluations of AFRAC Arrangement Members must be completed prior to 30 November 2019.

### **3.2 Document Review for the ABs that will NOT be evaluated during the transition period**

- 3.2.1 All Arrangement Members that are not peer evaluated to ISO/IEC 17011:2017 and their compliance confirmed by a **decision-making process prior to 30 November 2019**, must complete IAF/ILAC A3:2018.
- 3.2.2 A document review must then be carried out by a team leader that should have already been allocated to conduct the next on-site evaluation of the AB.
- 3.2.3 Any findings from the document review will be identified, coded in accordance with the definitions for NCs and Concerns and addressed by the AB.
- 3.2.4 The TL that has carried out the document review will need to report to the MRA Council, confirming the document review has been completed, that the findings have been addressed by the AB and that this will be further verified as part of the next scheduled evaluation (specifying the date of that evaluation).
- 3.2.5 The document review and decision-making process must be completed before 30 November 2019.

## **3. REPORTING TO ILAC AMC/IAF MLA MC**

AFRAC is required to provide a report to the ILAC AMC and IAF MLA MC in October 2019 and October 2020 detailing the progress of transitioning the AB signatories to their MRA. This report will include for each AB the evaluation process used, i.e. evaluation or document review, and status of this process. In addition, a final report will be provided to the ILAC AMC and IAF MLA MC in March 2021 including the actions taken to address any ABs that did not meet the ISO/IEC 17011:2017 transition deadline.

#### 4. PLANNED EVALUATION PROCESS

AB	Next Scheduled Evaluation	Evaluation Process	Planned Decision-making	Notes
<b>KENAS</b>	26-30/11/2018	Re-Evaluation	March 2019	
<b>SADCAS</b>	27/05 – 1/06/2019	Re-Evaluation	Oct 2019	
<b>ENAO</b>	2-6/09/2019	Re-Evaluation	Jan 2020	Consider bringing evaluation forward to April 2019
<b>SANAS</b>	31/07-4/08/2021	Document Review & Evaluation by TL – February 2019	Aug 2019	
<b>EGAC</b>	15-20/07/2021	Document Review & Evaluation by TL – March 2019	Sept 2019	
<b>TUNAC</b>	20-24/11/2021	Document Review & Evaluation by TL – April 2019	Oct 2019	
<b>MAURITAS</b>	21-25/05/2018	Initial Evaluation		<b>To ISO/IEC 17011:2004</b>
<b>MAURITAS</b>				

#### 5. ACCREDITATION BODY (AB) TRANSITION PLAN

Each AB is required to put into place a transition plan to define their process guidelines and approach for the seamless transition and implementation of ISO/IEC 17011:2017 by 30 November 2019.

Progress reports on the transition shall be provided to the AFRAC Secretariat on request.

The AB transition progress reports will be presented to the AFRAC MRA Committee at their scheduled meetings in 2018 and 2019. In addition, a final report will be provided to the AFRAC MRA Committee in May 2020 including the actions taken to address any ABs that did not meet the ISO/IEC 17011:2017 transition deadline.