



Inter American Accreditation Cooperation

IAAC Report to SIM

This report includes IAAC activities from September 2006 to August 2007

IAAC recognized by ILAC and IAF

The Inter American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC) received formal recognition of its Multilateral Arrangements (MLA) on November 12, 2006 during the ILAC and IAF meetings in Cancun. This recognition was granted following an extensive peer evaluation process and culminates 4 years of hard work undertaken by accreditation bodies in the Americas that contributed to the achievement of this historic milestone. The ILAC recognition is for testing and calibration and signatories to the IAAC MLA, who are also members of ILAC, are now eligible to also become ILAC Full Members, i.e., Signatories to the ILAC Arrangement. The IAF recognition is for a scope in Quality Management Systems (QMS).

Signatories of the IAAC MLA

For testing and calibration

A2LA – USA
ACCLASS - USA
ECA – Costa Rica (testing only)
ema - Mexico
SCC – Canada
Cgre/INMETRO – Brazil
OAA - Argentina
ONARC - Cuba

For quality management system

ema - Mexico
SCC – Canada
Cgre/INMETRO – Brazil
OAA - Argentina
CRT/INDECOPI - Peru

IAAC Membership

IAAC currently has a total of 41 members from 22 countries in the Americas. 23 are full members, 7 are associate members and 11 are stakeholder.



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The IAAC new members as of January 1, 2007 include the following:

- TTLABS/TTBS of Trinidad & Tobago as a Full member
- DIGENOR of Dominican Republic as an Associate member
- UCAB of Venezuela as a Stakeholder member

The IAAC new members as of August 17, 2007 include the following:

- AIHA of United States as a Full member
- JANAAC of Jamaica as an Associate member
- Microbóticos Analises Laboratoriais of Brazil as a Stakeholder member

IAAC officers

IAAC Chair Ana Maria Coro of INN (Chile)

IAAC Vice-Chair Pat Paladino of SCC (Canada)

Treasurer Keith Greenway of ACLASS (USA)

MLA Committee Fabian Hernandez of ema (Mexico)

Technical Committee Beatriz Garcia of OAA (Argentina)

Laboratories Subcommittee Bertha Munguia of A2LA (USA)

Certification Bodies Subcommittee Randy Dougherty of ANAB (USA)

Inspection Bodies Subcommittee Pat Paladino of SCC (Canada)

Management Committee Maria Miranda of ONARC (Cuba)

Training Subcommittee Francisco de la Barrera of CNA (Panama)

Promotions Subcommittee Jo Ann Given of ASCLD-LAB (USA)

Documentation Subcommittee Maria Marta Mazzinni of OAA (Argentina)

Training

IAAC conducts a vigorous training program for all aspects of accreditation. The following is a list of courses:

- Course on Methods validation to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in March 2008.
- Course on ISO 22000 to be held in Santiago, Chile in November 2007.
- 3rd Part Workshop: "Identifying the demand and Proficiency Testing providers" to be held in San Jose, Costa Rica, at the end of 2007.
- Workshop on ISO/IEC 17021 – "Conformity assessment - requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems" was held in Ottawa, Canada, in August 18-19, 2007.
- 2nd Part Workshop: "Identifying the demand and Proficiency Testing providers" was held in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, in August 8-11, 2007



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- 1st Part Workshop: "Identifying the demand and Proficiency Testing providers" was held in Lima, Peru, April 24-26, 2007.
- IAAC peer evaluator training course was held in Mexico, in October 2006.
- Course on preparing for a peer evaluation was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in August 2006

IAAC Peer Evaluator Training

IAAC held a training course for peer evaluators and trainees in Mexico City in October 2006. More than 30 peer evaluators participated, therefore the IAAC peer evaluator registry has increased within the last year. IAAC is planning to hold a peer evaluator training course in Costa Rica at the end of 2007.

IAAC meetings

11th General Assembly, Ottawa, Canada, August 2007

10th General Assembly, Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 2006

27th Executive Committee meeting, Ottawa, Canada on August 2007

26th Executive Committee meeting, Santiago, Chile on May 2007

25th Executive Committee meeting, Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 2006

MLA Committee meeting held in Ottawa, Canada on August 2007

MLA Committee meeting held in Santiago, Chile on May 2007

MLA Committee meeting, Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 2006

Technical Cooperation Projects

2005-2006 Organization of American States (OAS) Project

The 2005-2006 OAS project was completed in November 2006. The project's activities included: 2 witnessings of IAAC evaluations, 2 peer evaluations of ABs, 3 training courses, 3 consultancies to a developing AB, 3 internships for staff of developing ABs, a seminar on accreditation and 2 proficiency testing programs.

2007-2010 OAS Project

IAAC has received approval by the (OAS) of a technical cooperation project for accreditation bodies in the region for the 2007-2010 term.

2005-2006 Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) Project

The IDB project titled "Reduction of Technical Barriers to Trade Through the Strengthening of Accreditation Systems", with the participation of Mexico, Paraguay, Costa Rica and Trinidad & Tobago, was completed in November



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2006. The following activities were executed: training courses for evaluators of laboratories of participating ABs; technical advice to laboratories, certification bodies and inspection bodies; participation of laboratories in proficiency testing programs; joint evaluations to CABs for accreditation purposes; and IAAC pre-evaluations of TTBS, Trinidad & Tobago and of ONA, Paraguay.

2007 IDB Project

INN of Chile, OGA of Guatemala, OUA of Uruguay, and ONA of Nicaragua are in the process of submitting a technical cooperation project proposal for 2007.

2007 PTB Project

The PTB project includes the following activities to be performed in 2007:

- Proficiency Testing workshop held in Lima, Peru, on April 24-26, 2007.
- Proficiency Testing workshop (second part), held in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, on August 8-11, 2007.
- Training course on ISO/IEC 17011 to be held in San Jose, Costa Rica, in November or December, 2007.

IAAC Information and Publications

IAAC documents and information on member are available at the IAAC web site:
www.iaac.org.mx