



Report from the Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated (APAC)

23 September 2019

ESTABLISHMENT OF APAC

1. The former Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated (APLAC) and Pacific Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated (PAC) adopted resolutions at their 2018 annual meetings in Kyoto to create a new single regional accreditation body cooperation. This new regional cooperation is called the [Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated \(APAC\)](#) and it began operations on 1 January 2019.
2. APAC has 47 Full Members (APAC MRA signatories), 19 Associate Members, and 9 Affiliates. As stated in [APAC GOV-001 APAC Constitution](#) the definition for Asia Pacific is:

includes Asia and the Pacific Rim. Asia refers to the region bounded on the east by the Pacific Ocean, the south by the Indian Ocean, the north by the Arctic Ocean, and the west by an indirect line that follows the Ural Mountains, the Caucasus Mountains, and the Caspian and Black seas. It comprises of Central Asia, East Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and Western Asia. This provides the reference framework for the purpose of this Constitution and does not restrict nor exclude any participation. The Executive Committee will have the full discretion to determine which areas fall within the aforementioned labels and if an economy is within the reference framework.

3. This region contains economies that have an extremely wide diversity of cultures, languages and levels of economic development. Based on 2016 figures, these economies account for over half of total world trade and two thirds global human population.
4. As of September 2018, APAC's Full Members have accredited 50,422 laboratories, inspection bodies, reference material producers and proficiency testing providers; and 3,201 certification bodies and greenhouse gas (GHG) validation and verification bodies.
5. The International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) have both accepted APAC as a regional cooperation member and have recognised the APAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) and its signatories.
6. APAC held its inaugural annual meetings from 14-22 June 2019 in Singapore, kindly hosted by the Singapore Accreditation Council (SAC). The General Assembly confirmed the election results for APAC Officers and Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs (See Annex A). Ms. Chang Kwei Fern (SAC – Singapore) was confirmed as APAC Chair and Ms. Jennifer Evans (NATA – Australia) as APAC Vice Chair for three-year terms.

APAC MUTUAL RECOGNITION ARRANGEMENT (MRA)

7. The APAC MRA covers the following scopes:
 - Calibration
 - Greenhouse gas validation and verification
 - Inspection

APAC Secretariat

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- Management systems certification
 - Energy management systems (EnMS)
 - Environmental management systems (EMS)
 - Feed additives and premixtures quality system (FAMI-QS)
 - Food safety management systems (FSMS)
 - Information security management systems (ISMS)
 - Medical device quality management systems (MDQMS)
 - Occupational health and safety management systems (OHSMS)
 - Quality management systems (QMS)
 - Person certification
 - Person certification - IPC
 - Product certification
 - Product certification - GlobalGAP
 - Proficiency testing providers
 - Reference materials producers
 - Testing
8. The current signatories of the APAC MRA and their specific scopes are listed in [APAC FGOV-011 Register of Members and Affiliates](#).
9. APAC has 201 peer evaluators, and 50 nominated peer evaluators. Training sessions for peer evaluators on the new APAC MRA procedures and IAF and ILAC peer evaluation requirements are being held as follows:
- 30 Apr – 2 May 2019 Lead Evaluator training, Chinese Taipei, hosted by TAF
 - 3 - 5 Sep 2019 Nominated Evaluator training, Bangkok, hosted by NSC
 - 1-3 Oct 2019 Lead Evaluator training, Singapore, hosted by SAC
 - 10-12 Dec 2019 Nominated Evaluator training, Beijing, hosted by CNAS
 - 4-6 Feb 2020 Nominated Evaluator training, Frederick, MD, USA, hosted by A2LA

ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE THE APAC MRA, IAF MLA and ILAC MRA

10. In 2019 APAC approved its strategic plan ([APAC FGOV-021](#)) which includes actions to promote the APAC MRA, IAF MLA and ILAC MRA to regional bodies such as the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC). APAC continues to work closely with the ILAC Marketing and Communications Committee (MCC) and the IAF Communication and Marketing Committee (CMC) in this regard.

CAPACITY BUILDING

11. In 2019 APAC will undertake the following capacity building activities:
- 15-16 May, Workshop on accreditation in the medical sector using ISO 15189, Hong Kong
 - 15 Jun, Workshop on ISO/IEC 17011 for AB middle management, Singapore
 - 16 Jun, Workshop on Use of risk management in accreditation, Singapore
 - 12-14 Aug, ISO/IEC 17021-1 Energy management systems (ISO 50003), Fullerton, CA-USA
 - 2-4 Oct, ISO/IEC 17011 Training and risk management, Tashkent

- 4-6 Nov, ISO/IEC 17029 Validation and verification (with focus on GHG (ISO 14064-3 and ISO 14065)), Seoul
- 12-14 Nov, ISO/IEC 17025 Accreditation experience sharing, Vladivostok

12. In addition, APAC will continue to work with PTB to deliver the multi-year Strengthening Accreditation Networks in Asia Pacific (SANAP II) programme that helps to build the capacity of developing country accreditation bodies to become APAC MRA signatories.

NEXT ANNUAL MEETINGS

13. The next APAC Annual Meetings are as follows:

- 20 June - 28 June 2020, Abu Dhabi, hosted by ENAS and GAC
- 25 June – 3 July 2021, New Delhi, hosted by NACCB, NABL and NABET
- 24 June – 2 July 2022, Indonesia, hosted by KAN
- 23 June – 1 July 2023, Los Angeles, hosted by IAS
- 21 June - 29 June 2024, Russia, hosted by RusAccreditation

Annex A - APAC Officers and Positions

APAC Chair

Ms. Chang Kwei Fern (SAC – Singapore)

APAC Vice-Chair

Ms. Jennifer Evans (NATA – Australia)

APAC Executive Committee

Ms. Chang Kwei Fern (SAC – Singapore), Chair

Ms. Jennifer Evans (NATA – Australia), Vice-Chair

Mr. Kukuh Achmad (KAN – Indonesia)

Mr. Reinaldo Figueiredo (ANAB – USA), Treasurer

Mr. Brahim Houla (GAC – Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Member States)

Mr. Bruce Li (TAF – Chinese Taipei)

Mr. Trace McInturff (A2LA – USA)

Mr. Vu Xuan Thuy (BoA – Viet Nam)

Ms. Yuko Yoneoka (JAB – Japan)

MRA Council

Mr. Trace McInturff (A2LA – USA), Chair

Mr. Bruce Li (TAF – Chinese Taipei), Vice-Chair

MRA Council Management Committee

Mr. Trace McInturff (A2LA – USA), Chair

Mr. Bruce Li (TAF – Chinese Taipei)

Ms. Jennifer Evans (NATA – Australia)

Dr. Vijay Krishna (ANAB – USA)

Ms. Kathryn Lockyer (JAS-ANZ – Australia and New Zealand)



Ms. Sashi Rekha (NABCB – India)
Mr. Mohan Sabaratnam (IAS – USA)

Technical Committee 1 (Laboratories, Inspection Bodies, Reference Material Producers and Proficiency Testing Providers)

Mr. Adam Gouker (A2LA – USA), Chair
Mr. Zhaowei He (CNAS – China), Vice-Chair

Proficiency Testing Subcommittee

Mr. He Ping (CNAS – China), Chair
Ms. Martha Luna Meija (ema – Mexico), Vice-Chair

Technical Committee 2 (Certification Bodies, and Validation and Verification Bodies)

Ms. Kathryn Lockyer (JAS-ANZ – Australia and New Zealand), Chair
Ms. Bussaba Saelim (NSC – Thailand), Vice-Chair

Capacity Building Committee

Mr. Brahim Houla (GAC – Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Member States), Chair
Mr. J. E. J. (Ned) Gravel (IAS -USA), Vice-Chair

Communication and Promotion Committee

Dr. Aparna Dhawan (NABCB – India), Chair
Dr. Sitaram Joshi (AERSCC – Nepal), Vice-Chair

APAC Quality Manager

Mr. Yang Zhe (CNAS – China)

APAC Secretary

Mr. Graeme Drake