INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT BOARD (CAB) Meeting 48, remote, 2020-11-09&10

SUBJECT Agenda item 8.3
Report from the IEC Affiliate Country Programme Leader, Mr Rojas Manyame.

BACKGROUND
This B version updates and replaces the A version (CAB/2028A/R) which was circulated on the 8th of October 2020. This B version corrects the number of the Affiliate countries that have adopted IEC standards under the term of the ACP from 51 to 64.

ACTION
This report is provided for the information of the CAB
AFFILIATE LEADER’S REPORT

to

IEC Conformity Assessment Board

October 2019 – September 2020

Rojas Manyame – Namibia
Message from IEC Affiliate Leader

This is my third and last year as Affiliate Leader and I am pleased to give CAB Members an update of the Affiliate Country Programme’s activities related to Conformity Assessment since the last General Meeting 2019 in Shanghai, China.

First, I would like to thank CAB and the IEC Conformity Assessment Systems for their continued and active support. Through this support, it has been possible to continue providing capacity building, reaching out to Affiliate countries and Members on aspects of IEC Conformity Assessment.

I am extremely pleased to note that the initiatives of the Affiliate Country Programme have well progressed during 2020 despite the current public health crisis. The events and workshops taking place during the IEC General Meeting will be held online encouraging participation from more Affiliates, interacting and networking in a virtual environment. Remote participation was one of my key objectives when I joined as Affiliate Leader in 2018.

I would also like to inform you that Ms Battsengel Gurragchaa, Head of Standardization and Conformity Assessment Policy Department at the Mongolian Agency for Standardization and Metrology (MASM) is appointed as Affiliate Leader for a period of three years with effect from 1 January 2021. I take the opportunity to wish her best of luck in this role supporting the Affiliate Countries.

IEC Affiliate Country Programme

- Free programme to help developing countries comply with WTO TBT Agreement
- 84 countries committed (see Annex A)
- 59 countries with National Electrotechnical Committees (NECs), 3 since Shanghai (Eswatini, Myanmar, and Uzbekistan)
- 64 countries (11 of which became IEC Members) have adopted IEC International Standards since the launch of the Programme in 2001, 4 since Shanghai (Cabo Verde, Congo, Mali, and Uzbekistan)
- 32 countries have upgraded to Affiliate Plus, 2 since Shanghai (Myanmar and Uzbekistan)
- 3 active mentoring partnerships
- 2 countries applied for the Affiliate Conformity Assessment Status (ACAS)
- 1 country started to use the Programme since Shanghai (Cabo Verde).
- Technical participation: 1 country has used its commenting rights (Ecuador)

What is ACAS

- A special status for Affiliate countries within the IEC CA Systems
- The objective is to train Affiliates to benefit from IEC CA environment
- Affiliate commitment
  - The Pledge (see Annex B)
  - The Declaration (see Annex C)
• Affiliate benefits
  o E-learning
  o Awareness events
  o Observer status
  o Webinars upon request

### ACAS countries

- 35 Affiliate countries (See Annex D) in total have signed the ACAS Pledge  
  o 2 new ACAS Pledge signatures since Shanghai: Niger, Tanzania
- 26 Affiliate countries in total have signed the ACAS Declaration  
  o 2 new ACAS Declaration signatures since Shanghai: Burkina Faso, Senegal

### Survey on the ACAS e-Learning modules platform

In June 2020, the IEC Affiliate Secretariat launched a survey to have a better understanding of the current situation of the use of the ACAS e-Learning modules and platform, to target the needs of the ACAS participants, and to make improvements in order to meet their expectations.

According to the results, 56.9% of the answers are from Africa, 23.5% from Latin America, and 19.6% from Asia Pacific. It was noticed that their main interest is the IECEE, with more or less the same interest for IECEx, IECQ and IECRE. Amongst the three formats for the ACAS e-Learning (video, PowerPoint, PDF) that are available from the IEC website, they seemed to have a slight preference for using the downloadable PDF versions. It was also interesting to have received requests for other languages versions such as Arabic, French, Mongolian, Russian, and Spanish.

Taking into consideration a valuable contribution from the IEC community, the Academy Capacity Building team, in close collaboration with the Affiliate Country Programme Secretariat, is working on a new forms of the ACAS e-Learning modules.

### Recognition of Achievement certificate

In 2016, after having signed the ACAS Pledge and having implemented the Conformity Assessment as part of their national standards body’s strategy for improving national production, the former Ecuador NEC President and former CEO of INEN (Servicio Ecuatoriano de Normalización) successfully achieved the three levels of the ACAS IECEE e-Learning modules. He was the very first to be awarded with the ACAS Recognition of Achievement certificate. This first award certificate has been followed-up with over 40 Ecuadorian participants having successfully achieved the three levels of the same IEC CA System e-Learning modules.

Following the first wave of achievements of ACAS participants from Ecuadorian national standards body (INEN), participants from six countries have accomplished the three levels of one or more IEC CA System’s e-Learning modules. Amongst those countries, the IEC is pleased to report that Burkina Faso has two participants having achieved all three levels of
all four IEC CA Systems’ e-Learning modules. A participant from Mauritius has also achieved all three levels of the IECEE modules.

The IEC encourages the Affiliate countries to participate actively in the ACAS e-Learning modules and reinforce their knowledge in the IEC CA Systems.

### Affiliate Forum Shanghai 2019

- 67 delegates from 23 countries
- IEC Affiliate Leader presented the annual report on the new developments of the Programme and its main achievements over the past twelve months.
- Presentation on ordering standards under the terms of the Affiliate Country Programme from the IEC-AFRC
- Presentations on the Affiliates rights on sales and possibility for Affiliates to comment on CD and CDV stages from the IEC CO
- Case studies from Ethiopia and Brunei Darussalam on the ordering and adoption of Standards by the respective NEC Presidents
- Presentation on the IEC Academy and capacity Building from the IEC CO
- Breakout sessions on Africa, Latin America and Asia Pacific

### World Trade Organization

- IEC presented comprehensive reports on its activities in developing countries in November 2019, February, May and October 2020 (See IEC website – WTO section).

### Objectives 2021

- Increase the number of ACAS Pledges and Declarations signed by Affiliate countries
- Promote the e-Learning modules to the ACAS participants and introduce the modules in the new IEC e-Learning platform in 2021.
- Continue collaborations with partners for the organization of regional ACAS events
### 84 IEC Affiliates (as per 2020-09-30)

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Mongolia MN January 2002
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Myanmar MM November 2007
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Nepal NP October 2001
Nicaragua NI June 2019
Niger NE October 2006
Palestine PS April 2009
Panama PA April 2003
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Paraguay PY December 2001
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Saint Lucia LC April 2002
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines VC February 2008
Sao Tome and Principe ST March 2018
Senegal SN April 2002
Seychelles SC November 2001
Sierra Leone SL March 2003
South Sudan SS April 2013
Sudan SD April 2004
Suriname SR November 2008
Syrian Arab Republic SY July 2016
Tanzania TZ October 2001
Togo TG April 2006
Trinidad and Tobago TT January 2007
Turkmenistan TM December 2001
Uruguay UY October 2001
Uzbekistan UZ October 2015
Yemen YE April 2002
Zambia ZM March 2002
Zimbabwe ZW October 2001
Annex B

ACAS Pledge

IEC ACAS Pledge
Learning Phase

The Organization of the country, located in City/Country, wishes to be granted the IEC Affiliate Conformity Assessment Status and, in doing so, pledges:

- To be located in an IEC Affiliate Country Programme;
- That Country has declared the national adoption of at least one IEC International Standard used within the scope of one or more of the IEC Conformity Assessment Systems;
- To nominate at least one individual to use the Level 0 and Level 1 ACAS e-learning Modules and
- To sign the ACAS Declaration within 5 years, failing which the Country ACAS becomes null and void.

First_name Last_name
Director

Data: ..... / ..... / .........

Philippe Metzger
IEC General Secretary & CEO

Data: ..... / ..... / .........
Annex C

ACAS Declaration

IEC ACAS Declaration
Implementation Phase

- The Organization of the country, located in City/Country, wishes to be granted access to Level 2 ACAS e-learning Modules and conditional observer status within one or more of the IEC Conformity Assessment Systems.

- The Organization of the country, declares that, as it relates to the IEC International Standard(s) adopted by Country, it accepts associated Certificates and Reports issued within one or more of the IEC Conformity Assessment Systems at national level and will promote their use.

________________________________________________________________________

First_name Last_name
Director

Date: ..... / ..... / .......

________________________________________________________________________

Philippe Metzger
IEC General Secretary & CEO

Date: ..... / ..... / .......

Annex D

ACAS countries

*IEC Full or Associate Members