



SANAS and the acceptance of Conformity Assessment Results

Mpho Phaloane: Executive Accreditation



OUTLINE

1. BRIEF OVERVIEW OF SANAS

- PURPOSE
- REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PICTURE
- ILAC/IAF MULTILATERAL MRA's
- ROLE OF ILAC AND IAF
- ACCEPTANCE OF CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT RESULTS
- WTO INDICATIVE LIST OF CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES
- RECOMMENDATIONS



OUTLINE

Contribute to the thematic session on how accreditation and related policies can be advanced to further reduce technical barriers to trade in goods, including those on the use of regional and international systems for conformity assessment.

STATUS OF SANAS

SANAS is recognized as the sole national body for the Republic of South Africa responsible for carrying out accreditation in respect of conformity assessment and good laboratory practices, which includes:

- **Calibration, testing and verification laboratories:**
- **Medical laboratories;**
- **Certification Bodies;**
- **Inspection Bodies;**
- **B-BBEE Rating agencies (*National Accreditation Programme*) ; and**
- **Monitoring of GLP compliance with principles adopted by the OECD**

SANAS is signatory to the ILAC/IAF/AFRAC Mutual Recognition Arrangements, and a monitoring authority for the OECD GLP compliance. As such, SANAS is internationally recognized.

***The Accreditation for Conformity Assessment, Calibration and Good Laboratory Practice Act,
19 of 2006.***

IAF/ILAC Multilateral MRAs



European
Cooperation
for
Accreditation
(EA)



Inter-American
Accreditation
Cooperation
(IAAC)



Asia Pacific
Accreditation
Cooperation
(APAC)



Southern African
Development
Community
Accreditation
(SADCA)



African
Accreditation
Cooperation
(AFRAC)

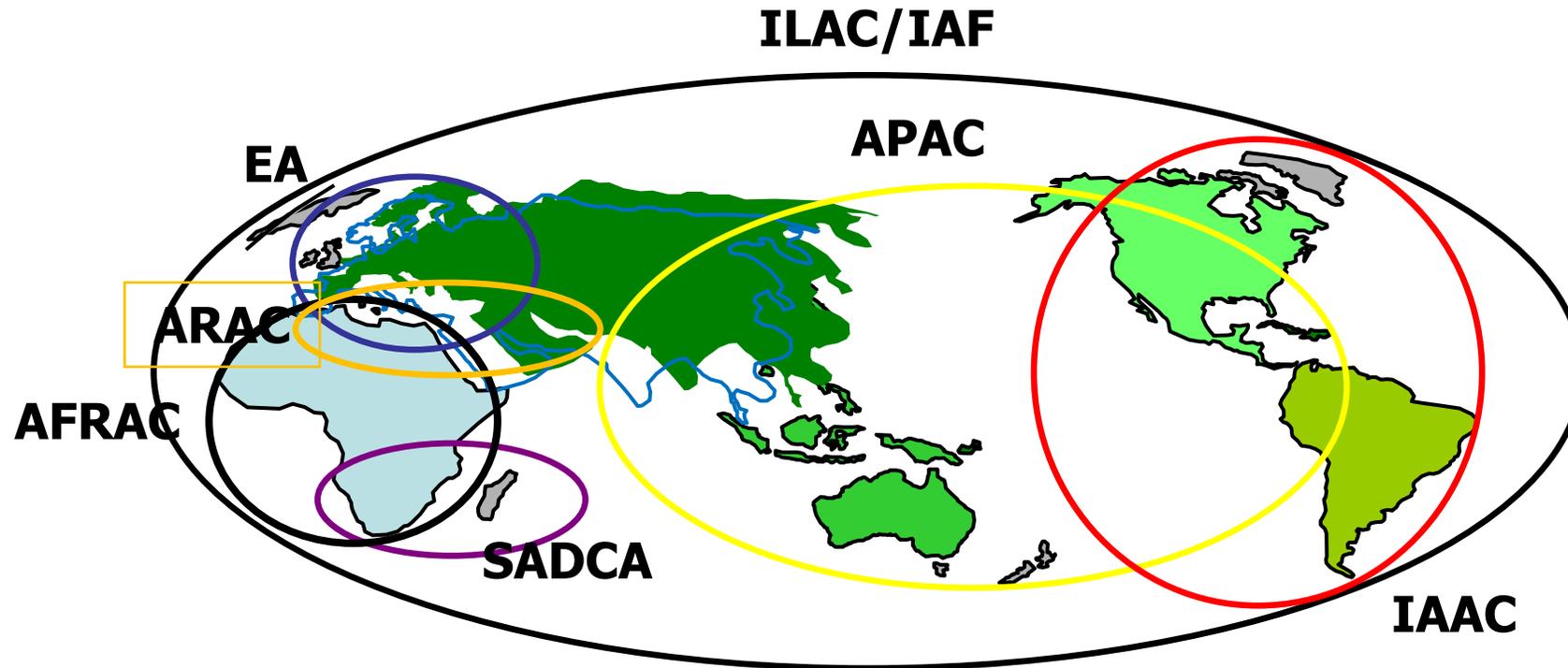


Arab
Accreditation
Cooperation
(ARAC)

- **A laboratory, inspection body, certification body, proficiency testing provider, reference material producer or validation/verification body accredited by one partner has equivalent competence to a laboratory, inspection body, certification body, proficiency testing provider, reference material producer or validation/verification body accredited by the other partner(s).**
- The structure of the global accreditation system is divided into two levels: the regional level (EA, ARAC, APAC, SADCA, AFRAC and IAAC) and the global level (ILAC and IAF).
- The IAF MLA recognises AFRAC, APAC, ARAC, EA and IAAC
- The ILAC MRA recognises AFRAC , APAC, ARAC, EA and IAAC



THE REGIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PICTURE



- EA** European co-operation for Accreditation
- APAC** Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation
- IAAC** Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation
- SADCA** Southern African Accreditation Cooperation
- AFRAC** African Accreditation Cooperation

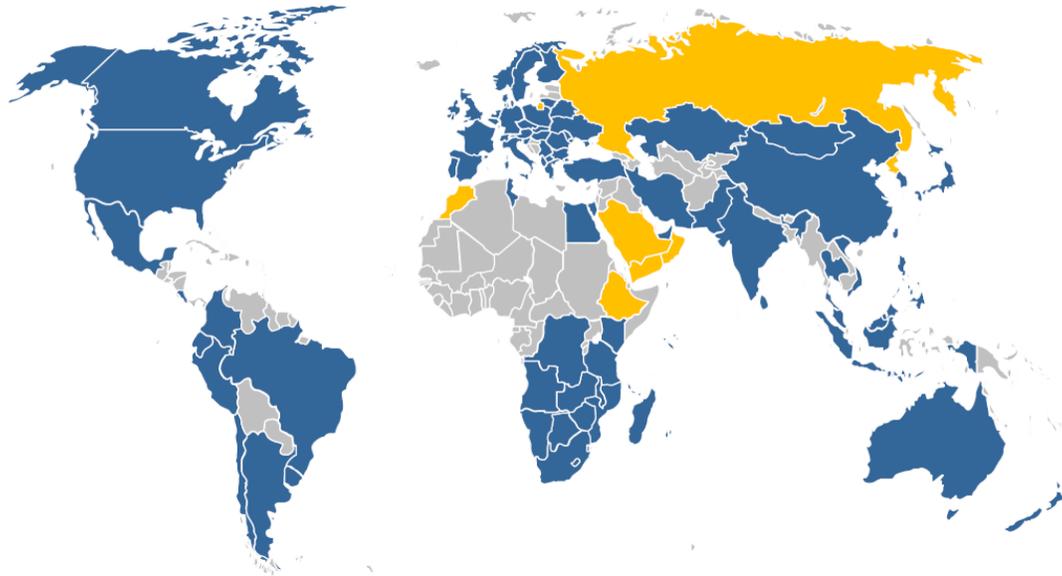
Common Aims of IAF and ILAC

- Support conformity assessment schemes which reduces risk for businesses, regulators and the consumer by ensuring that accredited services can be relied upon

105 Economies; 82 000 labs; 12 200 IB's; 550 PTS
6 Regional Cooperation bodies

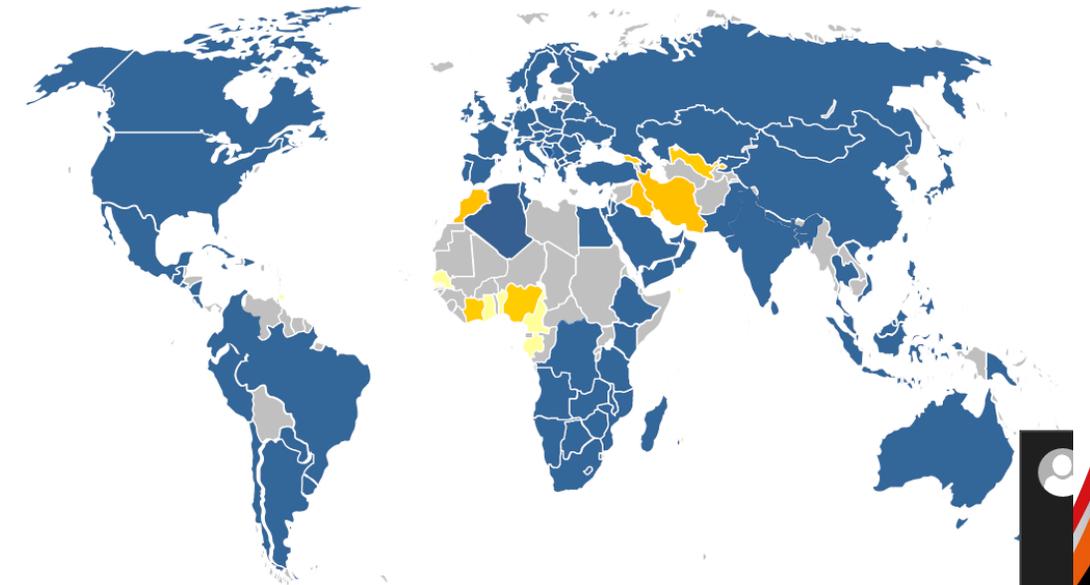
88 Accreditation Bodies; 76 AB MLA signatories;
6 Regional Cooperation bodies

Coverage of the IAF MLA (July 2021)



■ IAF MLA Signatories
■ IAF Members not yet Signatories

Coverage of the ILAC MRA (2 March 2021)



■ ILAC MRA Signatories
■ ILAC Associate Members
■ ILAC Affiliate Members

ACCEPTANCE OF CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT RESULTS

- The IILAC / IAF MRA/MLA is broadly accepted in the voluntary domain. However, although progress had been made with many regulators relying on the ILAC/IAF MRA/MLA to provide the required trust in the conformity assessment, (Such as in the case of South Africa) must work still remain to adopt a system in the regulatory domain which eliminated the barriers cause by differing conformity assessment procedures.
- A few years ago, the WTO proposed an Indicative list of Conformity Assessment Procedure, comprising 6 such procedures.

• Although they seems different, evidently, all the procedures have one thing in common:

All six CA procedures requires a level of assurance of the competence of bodies performing the conformity assessment for the results to be trusted.

Mutual recognition agreements concluded between governments	• Mutual recognition agreements that can be concluded between governments that will result in the acceptance of the results of conformity assessment originating in the territory of either part.
Co-operative (voluntary) arrangements	• Co-operative (voluntary) arrangements between domestic and foreign conformity assessment bodies.
The use of accreditation	• The use of accreditation to qualify conformity assessment bodies.
Government designation	• Governments may designate specific conformity assessment bodies, including bodies located outside their territories, to undertake conformity assessment. In most such cases, competence is assumed through designation.
Unilateral recognition	• A government may unilaterally recognize the results of foreign CAP's.
Manufacturer's / supplier's declarations	• Manufacturer's/supplier's declaration of conformity is a procedure by which a supplier provides written assurance of conformity to the specified requirements (ISO/IEC Guide 22:1996).

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The ILAC/IAF Mutual Recognition Arrangements and Multilateral Agreements are well established globally, and signatories recognise certificates, reports and results issued by other signatories.
2. The use of the existing MRA/MLA structure should be encouraged for regulators to accept the conformity assessment results from CABs accredited by AB's that are signatories.
3. National accreditation bodies play an important role in ensuring that Conformity Assessment Bodies can produce reliable trustworthy CA that give comfort that the relevant requirements are complied with in terms of safety of imported goods and services.

4. Thus,

to ensure that the WTO requirement for the removal of differing conformity assessment procedures, it is advisable for WTO Member States to use the existing global structures as presented by ILAC and IAF for the mutual acceptance of conformity assessment results .





Thank you

