



**ACCREDITATION COMMISSION FOR CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT BODIES**

**CAB Accreditation Advisory Document**

**Document Title:        Advisory Document on Transition to ISO/IEC 17020:2012**

**Document Number:    ACCAB-CAB-AD-2.0**

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<b>Revision Number</b>	<b>Revision Date</b>	<b>Paragraph Number</b>	<b>Description of Revision</b>	<b>Revision Author</b>

<b>AD-2.1</b>	<b>Purpose:</b>
AD-2.1.1	To ensure that the ACCAB applicants and accredited Inspection Bodies get enough time to plan and implement the new requirements as published in the ISO/IEC 17020:2012 Version.
<b>AD-2.2</b>	<b>Scope:</b>
AD-2.2.1	This advisory note is published for the informative use for the applicants and accredited Inspection Bodies who follow the ACCAB accreditation.
<b>AD-2.3</b>	<b>Details:</b>
AD-2.3.1	ISO/IEC 17020:2012 has been published by ISO on 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2012.
AD-2.3.2	International Laboratory Accreditation Co-operation (ILAC) has passed resolution to replace ISO/IEC 17020:1998- General criteria for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection with ISO/IEC 17020:2012 – Conformity assessment – Requirements for the operation of various types of inspection bodies performing inspection. According to this resolution a three year transition period for the implementation of ISO/IEC 17020:2012 is agreed, therefore the three years transition period will conclude on 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2015.
AD-2.3.2	ISO/IEC 17020:2012 incorporates following changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 4.1.3 Identification of risks to IB’s impartiality;</li> <li>2. 4.2.1 Legally enforceable commitments;</li> <li>3. 5.1.4 Adequate provision (e.g. insurance or reserves);</li> <li>4. 6.1.1 Define and document the competence required for all personnel;</li> <li>5. 6.1.3 Relevant knowledge of significance of deviations found with regard to normal use of the products, the operation of processes and the delivery of services;</li> <li>6. 7.1.1 Inform the client if the inspection method proposed by the client is considered to be inappropriate;</li> <li>7. 7.3.2 Traceable to performing inspector(s);</li> <li>8. 7.4.2 Inspection report/certificate shall include all of the following: a) to g);</li> <li>9. 7.5 Complaints and appeals;</li> <li>10. 7.6 Complaints and appeals process;</li> <li>11. 8.1.1 Management system options A or B available;</li> <li>12. 8.8.1 Preventive actions procedure required.</li> </ul>
AD-2.3.3	ACCAB will continue to accept any new application for accreditation to the ISO/IEC 17020:1998 version till 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2013. ACCAB may not accept any new application for accreditation to ISO/IEC 17020:1998 version after 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2013. However, Inspection Bodies may choose to apply for accreditation to ISO/IEC 17020:2012 immediately.
AD-2.3.4	ACCAB will not issue any new accreditation to ISO/IEC 17020:1998 version for the applications received after 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2013.
AD-2.3.5	ACCAB expects that all applicants and accredited Inspection Bodies should plan for the transition to ISO/IEC 17020:2012 as soon as possible that may require them to establish processes and systems including changes to processes, procedures, training and other arrangements.
AD-2.3.6	ACCAB expects that the transition to ISO/IEC 17020:2012 will be complete by 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2013.