



Agenda Item 15.3:
Updates by other organisations in liaison

Agenda Item 15.3a:
Update from ILAC



ILAC Report for the 58th CIML Meeting 16 - 19 October 2023

ILAC Meetings

All ILAC meetings and joint ILAC-IAF meetings were again held virtually during 2022.

An extraordinary virtual meeting of the ILAC General Assembly (EGA) was held on 15 September to consider specific topics related to the establishment of the single international organisation for accreditation. The Joint IAF/ILAC General Assembly (JGA) was held virtually on 10 November 2022 and the 26th ILAC General Assembly was held virtually for the third year running on 15 November 2022. The [Adopted Resolutions](#) are available to download from the ILAC website.

The IAF/ILAC mid-term meetings were held in Belfast, Northern Ireland, 1 - 8 May 2023 with both virtual and on-site participation being possible. The on-site and virtual management of these meetings was provided by Say Something Communications.

The IAF/ILAC annual meetings will be held as an in-person event in Montréal, Canada from 6 - 15 November 2023.

In addition to the in-person meetings noted above all ILAC Committees, Working Groups and Task Forces continue to progress the items on their work plans via a combination of email and remote meetings.

Information on future meetings and events, including major regional meetings, can also be found in the [ILAC Calendar](#).

Decision to Establish a Single International Organisation for Accreditation

Work commenced on the IAF-ILAC Single Organization Project on 1 March 2021 to establish a Single International Organisation for Accreditation in accordance with the 2019 JGA Frankfurt Resolutions. The contractor managing this process is Dr.-Ing. Thomas Facklam.

The contractor is currently working closely with the Joint Steering Committee in addition to the IAF and ILAC Executive Committees (JEC) on various tasks associated with this project. The latest information on the key documents and other important topics will be provided in the near future in preparation for the annual meetings in Montreal in November.

The ILAC MRA

The scope of recognition of the recognised regions to the ILAC MRA is available from [Recognised Regional Cooperation Bodies International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation \(ilac.org\)](https://www.ilac.org)

Information on the acceptance of calibration, testing and inspection results, programs provided by PTPs and reference materials produced by RMPs via the ILAC MRA is available from [ILAC MRA and Signatories International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation](https://www.ilac.org).

There are currently 113 signatories to the ILAC MRA representing 117 economies. The ILAC MRA covers recognition for accreditation in the areas of calibration (ISO/IEC 17025), testing (ISO/IEC 17025), medical testing (ISO 15189), inspection (ISO/IEC 17020), proficiency testing providers (ISO/IEC 17043) and reference material producers (ISO 17034). The list of signatories to the ILAC MRA is available from the [ILAC MRA Signatory Search](https://www.ilac.org).

The *ILAC MRA Annual Report 2022* and associated infographic was published in June 2023 and is available from [ILAC Promotional Brochures International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation](https://www.ilac.org).

Work to extend the ILAC MRA to include the accreditation of biobanks has now reached the stage where applications for recognition can be accepted. This follows the publication of the revised supporting documents as outlined in the resolution adopted during the 25th ILAC General Assembly in 2022: **ILAC Resolution GA 25.09** *The General Assembly endorses the recommendation of the ARC to extend the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) to include accreditation of biobanking as a Level 2 activity, to the criteria specified in the Level 3 normative document, ISO 20387. ILAC will therefore accept applications for recognition as soon as the documents within ILAC applicable to the MRA are updated to cover this new scope.*

Case studies and research on the recognition of the ILAC MRA by governments and regulators are available from the [Public Sector Assurance website](https://www.ilac.org). The website is a collaborative initiative of the INetQI members and there are over 330 case studies, 90 research papers and 60 supporting materials available to view.

The [Business Benefits website](https://www.ilac.org) a reference website designed to demonstrate the monetary value of standards, conformity assessment and accreditation for businesses. The website represents another successful collaboration of the INetQI partners with over 95 case studies categorised into 6 areas of value. All of the case studies identify a clear financial benefit. The site also includes more than 75 research papers.

Both the Public Sector Assurance and the Business Benefits websites both contain a dedicated search function for each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The case studies on these sites are now all linked to applicable goals.

ILAC Membership

The ILAC membership as of 11 September 2023 is:

- 113 Full Members (signatories to the ILAC MRA) representing 117 economies;
- 17 Associates representing 19 economies;
- 20 Stakeholders;
- 6 Recognised Regional Cooperation Bodies

As per the 2019 revised ILAC Articles of Association, the ILAC Affiliate category of membership ceased to exist on 1 January 2022.

The ILAC membership consists of 156 organisations from 132 different economies worldwide. Over 88,000 laboratories, 13,900 inspection bodies, 604 PTP and 260 RMP are accredited by the ILAC Full Members (signatories to the ILAC MRA). The latest statistics and graphs on the number of accreditation bodies, accredited laboratories, inspection bodies, PTPs and RMPs are available from the [ILAC Facts & Figures page](#).

ILAC Executive

The Executive continued to meet virtually during 2022 with meetings held on 28 March, 6 September, and 31 October 2022.

Joint meetings of the IAF and ILAC Executive Committees were held in April, August and October during 2022.

The ILAC Executive met in-person in Belfast in May 2023 for the first time since October 2019 and virtually in July 2023. Similarly, the first in-person joint meeting of the IAF and ILAC Executive Committees since October 2019 was also held in Belfast in May and a subsequent virtual meeting was held on 6 September 2023.

ILAC Liaisons and other International Activities

The current list of ILAC liaison activities includes:

ILAC Liaisons with ISO and ISO/CASCO Policy Committees

- ISO-IAF-ILAC JSG (Joint Strategic Group)
- ISO/CASCO Plenary
- ISO/CASCO CPC (Chairman's Policy Committee)
- ISO/CASCO STAR (Strategic Alliance and Regulatory Group)
- ISO/CASCO TIG (Technical Interface Group)
- ISO/CASCO TIG -Technical Expert Group (TEG)
- ISO TC 69/ SC6 (Application of statistical methods)
- ISO TC 176 (Quality Management & Quality Assurance)
- ISO TC 212 Plenary (Clinical Laboratory Testing and In-Vitro Diagnostic Systems) and WG1 (ISO 15189)
- ISO TC 272 WGs 1-5 (Forensic Sciences)
- ISO TC 276 WG2 (Biobanking)
- ISO TC 334 (Reference Materials - formerly ISO/REMCO)

ILAC Liaisons with ISO/CASCO Working Groups/Task Forces

- ISO/CASCO CPC TG Future of CASCO Toolbox
- ISO/CASCO WG CASCO WG 31, Revision of ISO/IEC 17020
- ISO/CASCO WG 61, ISO TS 17012

ILAC Liaisons with Other Organisations

- BIPM-ILAC WG Bipartite
- BIPM-ILAC-ISO-OIML Quadripartite
- OIML-CS Management Committee (MC)
- Meeting of Signatories to the Joint Statement on the digital transformation in the scientific and quality infrastructure.
- CITAC (Cooperation on International Traceability in Analytical Chemistry)
- EUROLAB Conference
- IEC/IECEE International Electro-technical Commission (ILAC-IAF-IEC Steering Committee)
- INetQI International Network on Quality Infrastructure
- JCGM Joint Committee for Guides in Metrology Plenary and WGs 1 (GUM) and 2 (VIM)
- JCTLM Joint Committee on Traceability in Laboratory Medicine
- ITU International Telecommunication Union
- OECD Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
- UNECE-WP6- Metrological recommendations
- WADA World Anti-Doping Agency

ILAC and OIML have a long-standing partnership, the framework for which is detailed in the Joint ILAC-IAF-OIML Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). A scheduled review of the MoU by all parties has been carried out in 2023 and will be finalised before the end of the year. There is a strong history of liaison participation by both organisations in each other's technical work and the resulting publications can be seen on the ILAC website at <https://ilac.org/about-ilac/partnerships/international-partners/oiml/> .

Information on ILAC's partnerships, including copies of communiqués, joint procedures, press releases and MoUs, is available from the [ILAC Partnerships page](#).

ILAC thanks all of the ILAC liaison officers, and their organisations, who volunteer their time to assist ILAC in carrying out these activities for the benefit of all ILAC members. The Liaison information page, located in the member's area of the ILAC website, continues to serve as the main repository for the reports and documents produced as part of ILAC's liaison activities. ILAC members can also find copies of all ILAC comments submitted during ISO/CASCO ballots on international standards pertinent to the work of ILAC. The *ILAC Liaison Procedure*, which provides information relating to ILAC's liaison activities, can also be downloaded from this page.

ILAC Secretariat

The ILAC Secretariat staff currently includes Annette Dever, Sharon Kelly, Hannah Yeoh, Stephanie Sun (0.6 FTE), Rose De Rota (0.7 FTE), and Joelle Nicolas (0.8 FTE).

A new Secretariat will be taking over from 1 January 2024 when the current contract between the ILAC Executive and NATA for the provision of the Secretariat services concludes.

World Accreditation Day (WAD)

World Accreditation Day 2023 was celebrated on 9 June with the theme being:

“Accreditation: Supporting the future of Global Trade”

A contest was held to develop the official poster for World Accreditation Day 2023. Information and materials associated with WAD are all available from the ILAC website [World Accreditation Day 2023 International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation \(ilac.org\)](https://www.ilac.org/World-Accreditation-Day-2023-International-Laboratory-Accreditation-Cooperation).

Documents and Brochures

Publications finalised and released since July 2022 include:

ILAC-G24:2022 *Guidelines for the determination of calibration intervals of measuring equipment*

Follow [@ILAC_Official](https://twitter.com/ILAC_Official) on Twitter to receive the latest ILAC news, including information on meetings, events, liaison activities and new publications.

The April 2023 edition of ILAC News is available from [News International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation \(ilac.org\)](https://www.ilac.org/News-International-Laboratory-Accreditation-Cooperation). The next edition will be published in October 2023.

[Subscribe to the latest news](#) to receive updates from ILAC members and liaisons.