

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE 37th EA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

25 & 26 MAY 2016

WINDSOR, UNITED KINGDOM

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 01

The General Assembly ratifies the results of the electronic ballots completed since the last General Assembly meeting according to Document EAGA(16)29.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 02

The General Assembly elects Lucyna OLBORSKA (PCA, Poland) as one additional member of the Executive Committee for the current mandate ending on 1 January 2018.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 03

The General Assembly, acting upon recommendation from the Executive Committee, agrees to disband the EA Directive Networks.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 04

In addition to resolution 2015(36)04 the General Assembly, acting upon recommendation from the Executive Committee, endorses the final report of the Accreditation for Notification package (AfN) project. That includes the listing of Preferred Harmonised Standards (Document EAGA(16)37), for use by the EA and its members, as the EA recommendation for the accreditation in support of Notified Body accreditation, together with the inclusion of the final list in a revision of EA-2/17 INF: 2014.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 05

The General Assembly, acting upon recommendation from the Executive Committee, agrees that the Horizontal Harmonisation Committee starts a new work item to further revise EA-2/17 INF: 2014 - *EA Document on Accreditation for Notification Purposes* in light of the Accreditation for Notification (AfN) project results, and to transfer the status of EA-2/17 from an informative to a mandatory document. The EA GA agreed, based on the recommendation from the Executive Committee, that the revised draft EA-2/17 will be distributed directly to the EA members for a 30-day comment period. The comments shall be dedicated to the proposed amendments only.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 06

The General Assembly, acting upon the recommendation from the Executive Committee, approves the Final Report on EA Work Programme 2015 dated April 2016 (Document EAGA(16)06).

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 07

The General Assembly, acting upon the recommendation from the Executive Committee, approves the EA Work Programme for 2017 (Document EAGA(16)07).

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 08

The General Assembly decides to adopt the EA Articles of Association and authorise each member of the Executive Committee of the association, as well as Mr. Jan Carel van der Poel, born on April, 23, 1951 and each of the candidate civil-law notaries and notarial assistants employed by Trajectum Notariaat in Utrecht (The Netherlands), aforementioned, to have the notarial deed of amendment of Articles of Association executed and to perform all other legal acts which the attorney deems necessary in respect of the foregoing.

The General Assembly gives the Executive Committee the mandate to address any issue that may be raised by the Notary in the final process of publication of the Articles and Rules of Procedure.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 09

The General Assembly, acting upon the recommendation from the Executive Committee, approves the revised EA-1/13 *EA's relationship with accreditation bodies of countries not being members of the EU or EFTA* (Document EAGA(16)25).

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 10

The General Assembly endorses the decision of the Executive Committee to offer EA Recognised Stakeholder status to the International Federation of Inspection Agencies (IFIA), and to enter into an agreement with IFIA in accordance with EA-1/15 A: 2014 - *EA Policy for Relations with Stakeholders*.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 11

The General Assembly endorses the decision of the Executive Committee to offer EA Recognised Stakeholder status to the European Testing, Inspection and Certification System (ETICS) and to enter into an agreement with ETICS in accordance with EA-1/15 A: 2014 - *EA Policy for Relations with Stakeholders*.

The Recognized Stakeholder Agreement between EA and the European Electrical Products Certification Association (EEPCA) will be terminated with immediate effect.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 12

The General Assembly mandates the Executive Committee to finalize the negotiations on, and the Chairman and the Executive Secretary to sign the Bilateral Cooperation Agreement between EA and the Standards Council of Canada (SCC), once the Executive Committee is satisfied that all issues raised during the negotiations have been satisfactorily addressed.

In case that the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) will not be signed by the EU and Canada or the text of Paragraph 27 "Protocol on the Mutual Acceptance of the Results of Conformity Assessment" will be amended significantly, the BCA shall be terminated or, if appropriate, reconsidered.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 13

The General Assembly receives the information about the change of the contract for the EA Executive Secretary from a time limited to an unlimited one based on a unanimous decision of the EA Executive Committee with appreciation.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 14

The General Assembly adopts:

- the Annual Financial Audit Report for 2015 (Document EAGA(16)46);
- the certificate of expenses claimed under 2015 Operating Grant (Document EAGA(16)47) and
- the expenditure verification report of the Services Contract for "Approximation of the EU and RF accreditation systems" (Documents EAGA(16)48 and EAGA(16)49).

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 15

The General Assembly accepts the Financial Oversight Committee's Report on EA 2015 Accounts (Document EAGA(16)66) and endorses the Executive Committee's response to the Financial Oversight Committee's Report on EA 2015 Accounts (Document EAGA(16)67).

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 16

The General Assembly approves the financial accounts for 2015 (Document EAGA(16)45).

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 17

The General Assembly approves that the financial result of 2015 amounting to 47.173 Euro will be transferred to the reserves, thereof 30.173 Euro due to the additional membership fee to meet EA Reserves Policy.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 18

The General Assembly grants discharge from liability to the members of the EA Executive Committee for the policy conducted by them during the financial year 2015 in accordance with Article 18.5 of the EA Articles of Association.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 19

The General Assembly, acting upon recommendation from the Executive Committee, agrees that the Secretariat starts a new work item to revise EA-1/17 Supplement 5 A-AB: 2015 - *Levying of Membership Fees* (Document EAEX(16)19).

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 20

The General Assembly, acting upon the recommendation from the Executive Committee, approves the following principles, which shall come into force with immediate effect and shall be implemented in EA-1/17 S5:

- EA shall levy the fees for EA membership or MLA Signatory status from the date when the membership or signatory status comes into force. Hence, for the first calendar year of membership or signatory status, the NAB shall pay the fees calculated from the month of participation to the end of the year on a pro rata basis.
- In case the EA member changes its EA membership status from Associate to Full member, or becomes an MLA Signatory, the membership fee shall be calculated according EA-1/17 S5 clause 1 from the month of the new EA membership status or MLA signatory status.
If the invoice for the membership fee of the year was already issued, a second invoice shall be issued for the difference due to the new EA membership or MLA Signatory status.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 21

The General Assembly, acting upon recommendation from the Executive Committee, approves the revised activity-based budget for 2016 (Document EAGA(16)52).

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 22

The General Assembly, acting upon recommendation from the Executive Committee, approves the proposed EA activity-based budget for 2017 (Document EAGA(16)54) and EA membership fee schedule for 2017 (Document EAGA(16)55).

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 23

The General Assembly mandates the Executive Committee, in compliance with EA-1/20 A:2012, to review, adjust and submit the revised activity-based budget 2017, Work Programme 2017 and EA Plan 2014-2017 to the General Assembly for endorsement. Endorsement may be realized by electronic ballot if necessary.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 24

The General Assembly approves that 26.949 Euro additional membership fee from the financial result of 2014 will be transferred to the reserves to meet EA Reserves Policy.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 25

The General Assembly, acting upon the recommendation from the Executive Committee, approves the revised EA-1/20 *Procedure for the control of expenditures and preparation of budgets* (Document EAGA(16)57) and the revised EA-1/20 S1 *Terms and Conditions for Financial Compensation from the Operating to an EA Member Accreditation Body* (Document EAGA(16)59)

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 26

The General Assembly agrees that the Executive Committee starts the new work item to revise EA-1/17 Supplement 3 A:2011 *EA Procedure for the Investigation and Resolution of Complaints and Appeals* (Document EAEX(16)18).

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 27

The General Assembly, acting upon recommendation from the Executive Committee, agrees that ILAC or IAF approved documents that are mandatory for EA members as well as for EA shall be automatically adopted in the future.

This policy comes into force with immediate effect and will be implemented in EA-1/14 *Procedure for Development and Approval of EA Documents and the Adoption of ILAC/IAF Documents*, taking into account the procedure set out in document EAGA(16)24.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 28

The General Assembly approves the 2017 Work Programme of the Multilateral Agreement Council (Document EAGA(16)16).

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 29

The General Assembly, acting upon recommendation from the Multilateral Agreement Council, agrees that the MAC starts a new work item to revise EA-2/02 at least in order to:

- define and document a methodology to make representative samples of the scope of recognition during peer-evaluations;

- document the process for monitoring transitions to new or revised EA MLA Level 3 and Level 4 standards.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 30

The General Assembly, acting upon the recommendation from the Multilateral Agreement Council, approves the launching of the EA MLA for PT Providers (ISO/IEC 17043) during the Council meeting in April 2017, provided that at least three members are successfully peer-evaluated by that date and have positive decision by the EA MAC.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 31

The General Assembly, acting upon the recommendation from the Multilateral Agreement Council, agrees that EA applies to ILAC for extending the scope of EA as a recognized region for the scope "Proficiency Testing - ISO/IEC 17043".

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 32

The General Assembly adopts the following IAF documents as mandatory documents for all EA members signatories to the IAF MLA:

- IAF ML 1:2016 *Guidance for the Exchange of Documentation among MLA Signatories for the Assessment of Conformity Assessment Bodies,*
- IAF ML 2:2016 *General Principles on the Use of the IAF MLA Mark.*

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 33

The General Assembly adopts IAF ML 4:2016 *Policies and Procedures for a MLA on the Level of Single Accreditation Bodies and on the Level of Regional Accreditation Groups* as a mandatory document for all EA members.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 34

The General Assembly approves the 2017 Work Programme of the Horizontal Harmonisation Committee (Document EAGA(16)17).

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 35

The General Assembly, acting upon recommendation from the Horizontal Harmonisation Committee, approves the following:

- It is not for EA to have a position on the conditions under which national authorities and the Commission may accept the certificates/reports issued by Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) under accreditation delivered by a NAB whose activities are terminated or whose MLA signatory status has been suspended or withdrawn.
- Certificates and reports issued by accredited CABs before withdrawal of MLA signatory status are considered to be covered by the EA MLA. For Certification Bodies, certificates issued before withdrawal, MLA coverage will apply until 6 months after withdrawal of MLA signatory status.
- Certificates/reports issued after withdrawal are not covered by the EA MLA.
- As soon as MLA signatory status has been withdrawn, all EA MLA/BLA signatories shall make information available to their accredited CABs about the consequences as described above.

In case of termination of a NAB's operations, the above applies with the same effects.

The General Assembly agrees that suspension and its consequences on accreditation are properly covered in the current EA-2/02.

The General Assembly decides that this shall be introduced in EA-2/02 in the next revision of the document.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 36

The General Assembly, acting upon recommendation from the Horizontal Harmonisation Committee, agrees that the HHC starts a new work item to revise EA-3/01 M: 2012 - *EA Conditions for the use of accreditation symbols, text reference to accreditation and reference to EA MLA signatory status* (Document EAAB(16)07).

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 37

The General Assembly adopts *ILAC P4:02/2016 - ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement: Policy and Management* as a mandatory document for all EA members.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 38

The General Assembly adopts ILAC P5:02/2016 - *ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement: Scope and Obligations* as a mandatory document for all EA members signatory to the ILAC Arrangement.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 39

The General Assembly adopts IAF MD 20:2016 - *Generic Competence for AB Assessors: Application to ISO/IEC 17011* as a mandatory document for all EA members.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 40

The General Assembly approves the 2017 Work Programme of the Communications and Publications Committee (Document EAGA(16)19).

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 41

The General Assembly approves the 2017 Work Programme of the Inspection Committee (Document EAIC(16)04).

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 42

The General Assembly approves the 2017 Work Programme of the Certification Committee (Document EACC(16)08).

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 43

The General Assembly adopts the following IAF documents as mandatory documents for all EA members:

- IAF MD 12: 2016 - *Accreditation Assessment of Conformity Assessment Bodies with Activities in Multiple Countries, Issue 2*,
- IAF MD 19:2016 *IAF Mandatory Document for the Audit and Certification of a Management System operated by a Multi-Site Organization (where application of site sampling is not appropriate)*.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 44

The General Assembly approves the 2017 Work Programme of the Laboratory Committee (Document EALC(16)22).

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 45

The General Assembly, acting upon recommendation from the Executive Committee, confirms the publication of EA-INF/04 *Statement on acceptance and recognition of activities under the EA MLA*.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 46

The General Assembly, acting upon recommendation from the Executive Committee, endorses that the warning/disclaimer in EA-INF/04 *Statement on acceptance and recognition of activities under the EA MLA Annex C* shall be replaced by

“Important notice: EU Regulation (EC) 765/2008 requires that, where a conformity assessment body requests accreditation, it shall do so with the national accreditation body of the Member State in which it is established (or with the national accreditation body to which it had recourse under the conditions of Article 7(1)). If that is not the case, we recommend to check acceptance of the certificate by authorities or the marketplace.”

With this amendment EA-INF/04 shall be published immediately.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 47

The General Assembly, acting upon recommendation from the Laboratory Committee, endorses the mandatory application of:

- ISO 22870:2006 *Point-of-care testing (POCT) -- Requirements for quality and competence*;
 - ISO 15195:2003 *Laboratory medicine -- Requirements for reference measurement laboratories*;
 - ISO CEN/TS 15675:2007 *Air quality. Measurement of stationary source emissions. Application of EN ISO/IEC 17025:2005 to periodic measurements*
- as level 4 standards for all EA members.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 48

The General Assembly, acting upon recommendation from the Certification Committee, endorses the mandatory application of:

- ISO/IEC TS 17021-2:2012 *Conformity assessment - Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems - Part 2: Competence requirements for auditing and certification of environmental management systems*;

- ISO/IEC TS 17021-3:2013 *Conformity assessment - Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems - Part 3: Competence requirements for auditing and certification of quality management systems*;
 - ISO/IEC TS 17021-4:2013 *Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems - Part 4: Competence requirements for auditing and certification of event sustainability management systems*
- as level 4 standards for all EA members.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 49

The General Assembly agrees the following dates and venues for future meetings:

- 23-24 November 2016 in Boras, Sweden;
- 23-24 May 2017 in Bled, Slovenia.

EA Resolution 2016 (37) 50

The General Assembly expresses its appreciation for the superb arrangements and support services provided by UKAS for the 37th General Assembly on 25-26 May 2016.

End of resolutions adopted at the 37th EA General Assembly.