



## **ILAC Report for the Inaugural APAC General Assembly**

**21 June 2019, Singapore**

### **ILAC Meetings**

The 2018 ILAC and IAF Joint Annual Meetings were held in Singapore during 22 – 31 October. The adopted resolutions of the 22<sup>nd</sup> ILAC General Assembly can be downloaded from the ILAC website at [Resolutions of the Twenty-Second ILAC General Assembly, Singapore, 29 and 31 October 2018](#).

The ILAC Marketing and Communications Committee (MCC) held their meetings in Washington DC on 11 - 13 March 2019.

The 2019 ILAC and IAF mid-term meetings were held at the Hilton Mexico City Reforma, Mexico City during 4 – 11 April 2019. The ILAC Accreditation Committee (AIC), Inspection Committee (IC), Laboratory Committee (LC), Joint Working Group A Series, Arrangement Committee (ARC), Arrangement Management Committee (AMC), Joint meeting of the ILAC and IAF Management Committees (JMC), ILAC Executive Committee and Joint meeting of the ILAC and IAF Executives (JEC) were held during this period.

The 2019 ILAC and IAF Joint Annual Meetings will be held at the InterContinental Hotel, Frankfurt, Germany during 21 – 30 October.

In 2020, ILAC and IAF will hold their mid-term meetings in Beijing, China from 30 March to 6 April and the annual meetings will be held in Montreal, Canada from 27 October to 5 November.

Information on future meetings and events can be found in the [ILAC Calendar](#).

### **The ILAC MRA**

ILAC is pleased to announce that The ILAC MRA has now been extended to include the accreditation of proficiency testing providers (PTP) using ISO/IEC 17043.

This extension of the ILAC MRA has been implemented as a result of the recent publication of ILAC R6 that allows for the expansion of the MRA with a positive decision by the Arrangement Council of one region and the decision of the members of the ILAC Arrangement Council, taken in May 2018, that endorsed the recommendation of the AMC to recognise the EA MLA for the accreditation of PTP, as a result of the extra-ordinary evaluation of EA carried out in 2017.

We are therefore pleased to advise that the recognition of the EA MLA to the ILAC MRA now includes the accreditation of PTP using ISO/IEC 17043. The full list of signatories to the ILAC MRA and now including the signatories for the accreditation of PTP using ISO 17043, is available from <https://ilac.org/signatory-search/>. This directory is searchable by economy and scope of signatory status as well as the name and acronym of the accreditation bodies that are signatories to the ILAC MRA. The scope of recognition of the recognised regions to the ILAC MRA is available from <https://ilac.org/ilac-mra-and-signatories/recognised-regional-cooperation-bodies/>.

Information on the acceptance of calibration, testing and inspection results and programs provided by PTPs via the ILAC MRA is available from <https://ilac.org/ilac-mra-and-signatories/>.

As at 31 May 2019, there are **100 ILAC MRA signatories**, representing **103 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) and proficiency testing providers (ISO/IEC 17043). The list of signatories to the ILAC MRA is available from the [ILAC MRA Signatory Search](#).

The *ILAC MRA Annual Report 2017* is available from the [ILAC MRA and Signatories page](#). The 2018 report is in the final stages of preparation and will be available in the near future.

Case studies and research on the recognition of the ILAC MRA by governments and regulators are available from the [Public Sector Assurance website](#). The website is a collaborative initiative between ILAC, ISO, IAF, IEC and IIOC and as of April 2019, there were **324** case studies, **87** research papers and **52** supporting materials available to view.

The [Business Benefits website](#) was launched in 2017. This is a reference website designed to demonstrate the monetary value of standards, conformity assessment and accreditation for businesses. The website was developed by the ILAC MCC / IAF CMC in partnership with IIOC and ISO and represents another successful collaboration between the 4 organisations. Examples of suitable case studies for inclusion on the Business Benefits website are added as they become available and there is a standing request to the memberships of ILAC and IAF to send in examples as they arise. In April 2019 there were **96** case studies categorised into 6 areas of value. All of the case studies identify a clear financial benefit. The site also includes **60** research papers and contains a powerful filter that allows users to source information by standard, economy and sector.

A resolution was adopted at the 2016 ILAC GA in New Delhi that allows the implementation of the extension of the ILAC MRA to include accreditation of reference material producers (ISO/IEC 17034), when the appropriate peer evaluation documents within ILAC are updated to cover this new scope. These document updates have been completed and the evaluations to cover the scope of accreditation of reference material producers are well advanced.

The ILAC GA and IAF GA agreed that a transition period of 3 years from the date of publication be adopted for ISO/IEC 17011:2017 *Conformity assessment — General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies*. The revised standard was published on 30 November 2017 and ILAC and IAF members adopted a further resolution during the 2017 Joint General Assembly on the implementation of the transition to the 2017 version of the standard (*JGA Vancouver Resolution 2 - Implementation of transition to ISO/IEC 17011:2017*). Details of the resolution and the transition plan are available from the [Joint ILAC-IAF Documents \(A-Series\) page](#) in the Publications section of the ILAC website.

ISO and ILAC have issued a joint communiqué that re-confirms the three-year transition period for accredited laboratories to transition to the 2017 version of the ISO/IEC 17025. While both the 2005 and 2017 versions of ISO/IEC 17025 will remain valid during the three-year transition period, [accreditations to ISO/IEC 17025: 2005 will be invalid from 30 November 2020](#), as per the ILAC Resolution GA 20.15 adopted in November 2016. The ISO/IEC 17025: 2017 Transition Communiqué is available from the [ILAC-ISO Partnerships page](#).

Following the publication of ISO 17034 *General requirements for the competence of reference material producers*, in November 2016, the ILAC GA had agreed that accreditation of reference material producers be conducted in accordance with ISO 17034:2016. The implementation period of 3 years will conclude in November 2019.

## ILAC Membership

ILAC membership as at 31 May 2019 is as follows:

- 100 Full Members (signatories to the ILAC MRA) representing 103 economies;
- 14 Associates representing 20 economies;
- 10 Affiliates representing 14 economies;
- 25 Stakeholders;
- 6 Regional Cooperation Bodies (includes 5 Recognised Regional Cooperation Bodies)

The ILAC membership consists of 155 organisations from 127 different economies worldwide. Over 76,500 laboratories and more than 10,000 inspection bodies 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 and inspection bodies are available from the [ILAC Facts & Figures page](#). This information will be updated on the website, to include the statistics for accredited proficiency testing providers, once the ILAC Full Members who are now eligible to become signatories to the ILAC MRA for accreditation of PTP have completed the required paperwork.

## ILAC Executive

The 2018 ILAC GA was notable as being the last General Assembly meeting for the ILAC Chair, Ms Merih Malmqvist Nilsson. The ILAC members and international colleagues took the opportunity to acknowledge and thank Merih for her outstanding contribution to the work of ILAC over many years (since 1998). The ILAC members also offered their thanks to the out-going Committee Chairs; Mr Steve Sidney (Laboratory Committee Chair) and Ms Liliane Somma (ILAC Co-Chair of the Joint Development Support Committee).

The elected Executive Committee members for 2019 – 2020 are:

Chair	Ms Etty Feller
Vice-Chair	Ms Maribel López Martínez
Arrangement Committee	Ms Dana Leaman
Accreditation Committee	Mr Erik Oehlenschlaeger
Inspection Committee	Mr Arne Lund
Marketing & Communications Committee	Mr Jon Murthy
Joint Development Support Committee	Ms Sharonmae Shirley
Arrangement Management Committee	Ms Jennifer Evans
Laboratory Committee	Mr Jeff Gust

The ILAC Executive Committee continues to review the implementation of *ILAC-R3 ILAC Strategic Plan 2015-2020* and the actions detailed in *Supplement 1 to ILAC R3*. The ILAC Committees and the Executive task force groups established to address the implementation of the ILAC Strategic Plan, continue to progress their respective action items and the results of these efforts were seen throughout 2018, with the number of completed actions rising from 14 to 24. Of particular note, is the progress made on two projects, namely the review of the ILAC Committee structure and the consideration of ILAC's resource needs (now and into the future) and the optimal mechanism for delivering those resources. The ILAC Strategic Plan is a standing

item for the agenda of each of the ILAC committees. ILAC-R3 can be downloaded from the [ILAC Publications and Resources section](#).

A major focus for the ILAC Executive Committee since 2016 has been the revision of the ILAC Articles and Bylaws. During the ILAC GA in Vancouver 2017, there was a request from EA to provide an alternative proposal for voting in the General Assembly for consideration. The EA alternative proposal was received in late January 2018 and was subsequently distributed to the ILAC members for information while the ILAC Executive, in consultation with the Dutch Notary, prepared the information package to be distributed to ILAC members to seek their feedback on the two voting proposals being presented.

The member feedback period concluded on 31 August 2018 and feedback was received from 102 members (65,8 %), of which 58 % supported the Executive developed proposal based on one vote per AB and 37 % supported the EA alternative proposal based on one vote per economy. 42 members also provided written comments as part of their feedback.

Based on the responses from members and the comments received, it was agreed during the 2018 ILAC GA that work would now proceed on the revision of the Articles of Association and would be based on the voting model initially developed by the Executive Committee, and the Executive Committee will include provisions in the Articles of Association aimed at reducing or removing the risk of national domination.

Also following the 2018 ILAC GA in Singapore, the Articles and Bylaws were updated to take into account the results of member feedback and the Executive recommendations arising from that feedback. A second formal 60 day member comment period on the ILAC Articles and Bylaws concluded on 18 March 2019. The member feedback was reviewed by the ILAC Executive during their April meeting and agreement on addressing the comments received was confirmed. The revised version of the Articles is currently being reviewed by the Dutch Notary and preparations to commence the required translations are underway. A further update will be provided to members in the coming weeks and at this time the work is on schedule to allow for formal voting to take place during the ILAC General Assembly in Frankfurt in October 2019.

The call for nominations of Team Leaders (Lead Assessors/Management Systems Experts) and Legal Metrology Experts to participate in assessments of Test Laboratories seeking recognition under the OIML Certification System (OIML-CS) was undertaken in early 2019.

The revised MoU between ILAC, IAF and OIML was signed by the ILAC and IAF Chairs and the CIML President during the 53<sup>rd</sup> CIML meeting in Hamburg, Germany on 10 October 2018.

The MoU between ILAC, IAF and IEC was revised during 2018 and provided to IEC for a final review and it was signed in March 2019.

ILAC and IAF also signed MoUs with the World Bank and with IHAF (International Halal Accreditation Forum) on 30 October 2018 during the IAF-ILAC Joint General Assembly held in Singapore. These MoUs provide a framework for cooperation in areas of mutual interest.

The MoU between ILAC and IFCC was re-signed in January 2019.

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

### **ILAC Liaisons and other International Activities**

ILAC carries out a number of regular liaison activities with our international partners, participating in both the routine meetings that underpin these relationships as well as any relevant ad hoc events that may be scheduled throughout the year. During 2018 ILAC has been represented at numerous international conferences, workshops and meetings and this continues in 2019.

In March each year, the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM) hosts the annual BIPM and ILAC bipartite working group meeting and the BIPM, ILAC, OIML and ISO quadripartite meeting. The ILAC delegation to these meetings is led by the ILAC Accreditation Committee Chair, Erik Oehlenschlaeger and includes Neville Taylor and Dana Leaman. The 2019 meetings took place on 18 and 19 March.

ILAC liaison officers, including Erik Oehlenschlaeger, Steve Sidney, Martina Bednarova and Graham Jones attended the following meetings as the ILAC liaisons during 2018:

- Joint Committee for Guides in Metrology (JCGM): WG 1 (GUM) meetings in June and December 2018, Plenary meeting in December 2018. A meeting of WG 1 was held in May 2019 and WG 2 is scheduled to meet in June 2019.
- Joint Committee for Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (JCTLM): Executive meeting and Members meeting was held in December 2018 and the next meeting is scheduled for December 2019.

OIML and BIPM representatives regularly participate in meetings of the ILAC Accreditation Committee (AIC), with the most recent meeting being held in Mexico City on 4 and 5 April 2019.

The (2017 – 2018) then ILAC Chair, Merih Malmqvist Nilsson, represented ILAC at the 53<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the International Committee of Legal Metrology (CIML), held in Hamburg, Germany in October 2018.

The second meeting of the OIML-CS Management Committee was held in Delft, Netherlands on 20 – 21 March and was attended by Andre Barel.

Merih Malmqvist Nilsson, represented ILAC at the 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of the General Conference on Weights and Measures (CGPM) in Versailles, 13 – 16 November 2018. The revised *Joint BIPM, OIML, ILAC and ISO Declaration on Metrological Traceability* was also re-signed by representatives from all four organisations during the CGPM meetings. This document builds on the 2006 tripartite statement and presents the principles that should be used when demonstrating metrological traceability for international acceptance.

ILAC continues to be represented at the ISO/CASCO policy meetings and at a number of ISO technical committee and working group meetings.

Meetings of the CASCO CPC, STAR and TIG and the JSG were held in Geneva during 26 – 29 November 2018, where ILAC was represented by Merih Malmqvist Nilsson and Annette Dever.

In April 2019, the ILAC Vice Chair Maribel Lopez represented ILAC at meetings of the CASCO Chairman's Policy Committee (CPC), the Strategic Alliance and Regulatory Group (STAR), the Technical Interface Group (TIG) and the CASCO Plenary, in Nairobi, Kenya.

During 2019, ILAC representatives, including Jennifer Evans, Arne Lund, Lorraine Turner, He Ping, Zhai Peijun, Andrew Griffin, Brian Brookman and Pamela Sale will participate in the following meetings as ILAC liaison representatives:

- ISO CASCO WG49, ISO/IEC 17000 revision *Conformity Assessment - Vocabulary and general principles*: 23 – 25 September 2019.
- ISO CASCO WG 23, PROC 33 revision *CASCO Common Elements*: 26 – 27 September 2019.
- ISO TC 212 (WG 1, Plenary & revision of ISO 15189 meetings) *Clinical laboratory testing and in vitro diagnostic test systems*: 28 – 30 May 2019 and October 2019.
- ISO TC 272 *Forensic science*: 20 – 24 May 2019.
- ISO TC 69 *Applications of statistical methods*: 17 – 21 June 2019.

- ISO/REMCO *Reference Materials Committee*: 10 – 13 June 2019.

The IEC-ILAC-IAF Steering Committee meeting was held on 19 October 2018 in Busan, Republic of Korea, with ILAC representatives, Etty Feller and Erik Oehlenschlaeger participating via WebEx. The next meeting is scheduled to be held in conjunction with the CASCO policy committee meetings in Geneva on 2 December 2019. Etty Feller, Erik Oehlenschlaeger and Annette Dever will participate.

Etty Feller, (2017 – 2018) ILAC Vice-Chair, once again represented ILAC at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) meeting on “International Regulatory Cooperation: Fostering the contribution of international organisations to better rules of globalisation” in Geneva on 12 and 13 April 2018 and also attended the follow up meeting in Paris on 27 November 2018. The most recent meeting was held on 10 April 2019 in New York City, USA and was attended by Roger Muse on behalf of ILAC.

Maire Walsh represented ILAC at the Annual Members meeting of the Cooperation on International Traceability in Analytical Chemistry (CITAC) in Paris during April 2019.

Merih Malmqvist Nilsson also represented ILAC at the UNECE event in Geneva on 26 September 2018 titled *Standards and SDGs*.

Merih Malmqvist Nilsson, began a two year term as Chair of the DCMAS Network in 2018. This organisation has changed its name and scope of activity to become a group for all economies providing a platform for the global organisations in the quality infrastructure to meet and exchange information on relevant topics including opportunities for cooperation. The transition to the new organization is now complete with the new name, International Network on Quality Infrastructure (INetQI) and logo confirmed and the first meeting was held in Geneva on 30 November 2018.

During the first INetQI meeting it was confirmed that ILAC would provide the Chair for 2019 and 2020, and the ILAC Executive subsequently confirmed that the retired former ILAC Chair, Merih Malmqvist Nilsson would continue in her role as Chair of INetQI on behalf of ILAC. INetQI meets in Geneva on 4 June 2019. Jon Murthy will also participate in this meeting representing ILAC.

Jon Murthy once again participated in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardisation Policies (WP. 6) Annual Session, in Geneva on 14 – 16 November 2018. He also represented ILAC at the 36<sup>th</sup> IFIA General Assembly and associated Seminars on 12 – 13 December 2019 in Paris and he will represent ILAC at the June 2019 TIC Council Conference in Brussels.

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 is currently staffed as follows: Annette Dever (F/T), Sharon Kelly (F/T), Stephanie Sun (F/T), Nicole Kam (0.6 FTE), Rose De Rota (0.7 FTE) and Joëlle Nicolas (0.8 FTE). Stephanie joined the Secretariat in July 2018 filling the vacant Project Officer role and Nicole joined the Secretariat in January 2019 as the ILAC Finance Officer, working 3 days per week.

In 2019, World Accreditation Day will be celebrated on 9 June and the theme is:

**“Accreditation: Adding Value to Supply Chains”**

Documents and brochures published since June 2018 are as follows:

**ILAC-G28:07/2018** *Guideline for the Formulation of Scopes of Accreditation for Inspection Bodies*

**ILAC-G26:11/2018** *Guidance for the Implementation of a Medical Accreditation Scheme*

**IAF/ILAC B1:09/2018** *The route to signing the IAF or ILAC Arrangement*

**IAF/ILAC B2:09/2018** *How do I gain confidence in an Inspection Body? Do they need ISO 9001 Certification or ISO/IEC 17020 Accreditation*

**IAF/ILAC B6:09/2018** *Accreditation: Delivering confidence in the provision of energy*

**ILAC-P8:03/2019** *ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement (Arrangement): Supplementary Requirements for the Use of Accreditation Symbols and for Claims of Accreditation Status by Accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies*

**ILAC-P4:05/2019** *ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement: Policy and Management*

**ILAC-P5:05/2019** *ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement: Scope and Obligations*

**ILAC-R6:05/2019** *Structure of the ILAC Mutual Recognition Agreement and Procedure for Expansion of the Scope of the ILAC Arrangement*

Many of the ILAC documents and brochures have been translated into a range of different languages.

Follow [@ILAC\\_Official](#) on Twitter to receive the latest ILAC news, including information on meetings, events, liaison activities and new publications.

The latest edition of the newsletter can be accessed via the following link [ILAC Newsletter, Issue 55 – April 2019](#). Past editions of the ILAC Newsletters are also available to download from the ILAC website.

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