



ILAC Update to 42nd EA General Assembly Meeting

21 – 22 November 2018, Bucharest, Romania.

ILAC Meetings

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

The 2019 ILAC and IAF mid-term meetings will be held at the Hilton Mexico City Reforma, Mexico City during 4 – 11 April 2019 and the 2019 ILAC and IAF Joint Annual Meetings will be held at the InterContinental Hotel, Frankfurt, Germany during 21 – 30 October 2019.

The 2020 ILAC and IAF mid-term meetings will be held in Beijing, China during the first two weeks of April and the 2020 ILAC and IAF Joint Annual Meetings will be held in Montreal, Canada during the last two weeks of October.

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

The ILAC MRA

As at 14 November 2018, 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), and inspection (ISO/IEC 17020). 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 ILAC MRA acts as an internationally recognised 'stamp of approval' to demonstrate compliance against agreed standards and requirements. Many specifiers, such as government agencies, have recognised the importance of credible accreditation programs that are developed against internationally recognised standards. Accreditation and the ILAC MRA help regulators meet their own legislated responsibilities by providing a globally recognised system to accept accredited test reports. 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 in September 2018 there were 294 case studies, 85 research papers and 50 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 September 2018 there were 83 case studies categorised into 6 areas of value. All of the case studies identify a clear financial benefit. The site also includes 58 research papers and contains a powerful filter that allows users to source information by standard, economy and sector.

A resolution was adopted at the 2014 ILAC General Assembly (GA) in Vancouver that allows implementation of the extension of the ILAC MRA to include accreditation of proficiency testing providers (ISO/IEC 17043), when the appropriate peer evaluation documents within ILAC are updated to cover this new scope. These document updates have now been completed and the evaluations to cover the scope of accreditation of proficiency testing providers are underway.

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 now been completed and the evaluations to cover the scope of accreditation of reference material producers are underway.

The ILAC GA and IAF GA had previously agreed during the Joint General Assembly in 2016 that a transition period of 3 years from the date of publication be adopted for the revised ISO/IEC 17011:2004 *Conformity assessment — General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies*. The revised standard, ISO/IEC 17011:2017 was published on 30 November 2017 and ILAC and IAF members adopted a 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/ILAC 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 is currently underway.

ILAC Membership

ILAC membership as at 14 November 2018 is as follows:

- 100 Full Members (signatories to the ILAC MRA) representing 103 economies;
- 13 Associates representing 12 economies;
- 10 Affiliates representing 18 economies;
- 24 Stakeholders;
- 6 Regional Cooperation Bodies (includes 5 Recognised Regional Cooperation Bodies)

The ILAC membership consists of 153 organisations from 126 different economies worldwide. Almost 68,000 laboratories and over 9,500 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](#).

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. The ILAC Strategic Plan is a standing item for the agenda of each of the ILAC committee meetings. ILAC-R3 can be downloaded from the [ILAC Publications and Resources section](#).

A major focus for the ILAC Executive Committee throughout 2017 and still on-going in 2018 is the revision of the ILAC Articles and Bylaws. The draft revision of the Articles underwent a 30-day preliminary comment period and a formal 60 day member comment period during 2017. Members were provided with a summary of the major developments during the ILAC GA in Vancouver, including details of the 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 and was subsequently distributed to the ILAC members for information while the ILAC Executive, in consultation with the Dutch Notary, proceeded to prepare 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 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 that may reduce or remove the risk of national domination.

The ILAC Executive concluded a review of the draft Bylaws in 2017 and an update of the major changes being proposed was provided to the ILAC members during the Vancouver General Assembly. The formal 60 day member comment period on the draft Bylaws was subsequently launched in early 2018, concluding on 18 March 2018 and the ILAC Executive has reviewed and confirmed the proposed actions to the comments received from members. Work has once again

resumed on the revised Bylaws now that the results of the request for feedback from members, on the two ILAC voting proposals, has been finalised.

The *Joint ILAC-OIML Assessment Procedure in the field of legal metrology* has been revised to include the information from the recently implemented *OIML Certification System* (OIML-CS) that commenced operation on 1 January 2018.

The IAF-ILAC-UNIDO MoU was re-affirmed by the UNIDO Director General, the ILAC Chair and the IAF Chair on 24 November 2017 at a signing ceremony held at the UNIDO offices in Vienna, Austria.

The MoUs that ILAC has signed with IEC (together with IAF) and IFCC are currently being reviewed as part of the scheduled periodic review and the MoU with OIML (together with IAF) was reviewed one year earlier than scheduled to make the necessary updates following the commencement of the *OIML Certification System* (OIML-CS). The revised MoU with OIML was signed by the ILAC and IAF Chairs at the 53rd CIML meeting in Hamburg, Germany on 10 October 2018.

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.

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 will continue through to the end of 2018.

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 2018 meetings took place on 6-7 March 2018.

ILAC liaison officers, including Erik Oehlenschlaeger, Hidetaka Imai, Steve Sidney, Jon Murthy, Graham Jones and Martina Bednarova have attended a number of meetings at various liaison organisations during 2018 and this will continue through to the end of the year as follows:

- Joint Committee for Guides in Metrology (JCGM): WG 1 (GUM) meetings in June and December 2018, Plenary meeting in December 2018.
- Joint Committee for Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (JCTLM): Executive meeting and Members meeting in December 2018.
- CIPM Task Group for the promotion of the SI in January 2018.

OIML and BIPM representatives regularly participate in meetings of the ILAC Accreditation Committee, with the most recent meeting being held in April 2018 in Frankfurt.

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

The first meeting of the OIML-CS Management Committee was held in Sydney, Australia on 21 and 22 March 2018 and was attended by John Styzinski, representing ILAC and IAF and Annette Dever.

The ILAC Chair, Merih Malmqvist Nilsson, represented ILAC at the 26th 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.

In April 2018, the ILAC Secretary Annette Dever, 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 Mexico City. Meetings of the CASCO CPC, STAR and TIG and the JSG will be held in Geneva during 26 – 29 November 2018, where ILAC will be represented by Merih Malmqvist Nilsson and Annette Dever.

ILAC representatives, including Jennifer Evans, Arne Lund, Lorraine Turner, He Ping, Dana Leaman, Zhai Peijun and Pamela Sale have attended a number of CASCO Working Group meetings and ISO TC meetings during 2018 and this will continue through to the end of the year as follows:

- ISO CASCO WG49: ISO/IEC 17000 revision *Conformity Assessment - Vocabulary and general principles*: February 2018 and the next meeting is scheduled for 19-21 November 2018.
- ISO CASCO WG 23: PROC 33 revision *CASCO Common Elements*: February 2018 and the next meeting is scheduled for 22-23 November 2018.
- ISO TC 212: *Clinical laboratory testing and in vitro diagnostic test systems*, May 2018 and October 2018.
- ISO TC 272: *Forensic sciences*, May 2018 and 19 – 23 November 2018.
- ISO/REMCO meetings, July 2018.

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.

Etty Feller, 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 will also attend the next meeting in Paris on 27 November 2018.

Maire Walsh represented ILAC at the Annual Members meeting of the Cooperation on International Traceability in Analytical Chemistry (CITAC) in Paris during April 2018.

The ILAC Chair, 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 underway with the new name, International Network on Quality Infrastructure (INetQI) and logo confirmed and now the first meeting is scheduled to take place in Geneva on 30 November 2018.

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

Jon Murthy is again participating 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.

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, Sharon Kelly, Stephanie Sun, Rose De Rota and Joëlle Nicolas. Stephanie joined the Secretariat in July this year filling the vacant Project Officer role.

World Accreditation Day was celebrated on 9 June 2018 and the theme this year was:

“Accreditation: Delivering a safer world”

Documents and brochures published since May 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*

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 News 54, October 2018](#). Past editions of the ILAC Newsletters are also available to download from the ILAC website.

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