



## **REPORT EAAB TO THE EA GENERAL ASSEMBLY – BUCHAREST, NOVEMBER 2018**

### **Selection of issues discussed at the 40<sup>th</sup> EAAB meeting – 17 October 2018, Brussels**

- Renewal of the Board
- New EA projects and work items
- Applications for EA recognised stakeholder status
- EAAB work program and expectations of members
- Impartiality and confidentiality
- EA policy to speak with “one voice”
- IHAF

## Renewal of the Board in October 2018

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- The new three-year period of the EAAB started at the last meeting
- The Board agreed unanimously to the election of
  - Maureen Maria Logghe as the new Chair
  - Martin Stadler and Christian Priller as reappointed Vice-Chairs
- The Board appointed
  - Maureen Maria Logghe as EAAB MAC observer and
  - Emmanuel Geneiatakis as EAAB HHC observer

## The new composition of the Board (22 Members)

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- European conformity assessment bodies (5)
- European industry, services and trade, including small and medium sized enterprises (5)
- National authorities of the EU and EFTA members states (5)
- Services of the European Commission (1)
- Secretariat of the European Free Trade Association (1)
- European standards organisations (1)
- European metrological organisations (2)
- European consumers (1)
- Private scheme-owners who are EA recognised stakeholders (1) **new**

## Private scheme-owners who are EA recognised stakeholders were given a seat on the Board

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- Membership of the EAAB was extended by one seat: private scheme-owners who are EA recognised stakeholders are given a seat on the Board.
- There are currently six scheme-owners who are EA recognised stakeholders.
- It is up to the six scheme-owners to appoint one representative to coordinate and express their views on political issues.

## New EA projects and work items (NWIP) endorsed by the EAAB at the last Board meeting

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- Revision of EA-1/14: *Procedure for Development and Approval of EA Documents and Adoption of ILAC/IAF Documents*
- Revision of EA-2/02 *EA Procedure for the evaluation of a National Accreditation Body*
- Revision of EA-4/02 *Evaluation of the Uncertainty of Measurement in Calibration*
- Revision of EA-4/09 *Accreditation for Sensory Testing Laboratories*
- Revision of EA-INF/13 *Accreditation of Opinions and Interpretations*
- Revision EA-6/02 *Guidelines on the use of EN 45011 and ISO/IEC 17021 for certification to EN ISO 3834*

## **Applications for EA recognized stakeholder status supported by the EAAB**

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The Board:

- endorses the application of AEBIOM's (Bioenergy Europe)

for being granted the EA recognised stakeholder status.

## **Private scheme-owners who are EA recognised stakeholders (current state)**

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- EOQ (European Organization for Quality)
- FAMI-QS (The Quality and Safety System for Speciality Feed Ingredients aisbl)
- FSSC 22000 (Food Safety System Certification)
- GLOBALG.A.P. (worldwide standard for Good Agricultural Practice)
- IFS Management GmbH (International Featured Standards) as of May 2018
- PEFC (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes)

## EAAB work program and expectations of members

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The Board:

- agreed to review the EAAB document on the stakeholders' expectations towards accreditation and EA. Board members are invited to send comments and proposals for amendments to the EA Secretariat for discussion at the next meeting;
- asks EA to come up with a list of points and examples where you encounter concerns, and issues in the implementation of the EA policy for relations with stakeholders (EA-1/15: 2010).

## Impartiality and confidentiality – current developments

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The Board:

- supports the start of the exchange of information process between EA and the CAB and industry colleges;
- welcomes the approach driven by the HHC to look for examples / scenarios of good practice regarding impartiality and confidentiality with respect of the work of CABs;
- believes that drafting such scenarios could help the work of the assessors in their decision making process.

## **Impartiality and confidentiality – CERTIF 2015-02 rev.03**

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The Board:

- again refers to the document CERTIF 2015-02 rev.03 and points out that it follows the principle that typically the individual case in question needs to be considered;
- takes note of need, as stated by EA, to reconsider the CERTIF 2015-02 rev 03 document in the relevant places and that the resolution taken by EA is to reflect a common position by EA members.

## **EA resolution 2017 (40) 13 - Position on consultancy activities provided by Notified Bodies**

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The Board:

- takes note of the statement made by EA that the EA resolution is reflecting a common position of EA member ABs.
- does not want to see it as a binding rule for AB but rather as input for discussion at the Internal Market of Products (IMP) expert group meeting;
- agrees that the advice of the Board, reflecting the common position of all members, should be laid down in the form of a resolution:

RESOLUTION: EAAB calls upon EA to suspend the implementation of the EA resolution 2017 (40) 13 regarding consultancy until further consensus on the interpretation of the CERTIF 2015-02 rev 03 document has been reached.

## EA policy to speak with “one voice”

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The Board:

welcomes the approach taken by EA in this policy in order to arrive at greater consistency and harmonization;

finds, however, that the current version of the policy still contains language in the form more of a “discussion” document than a “policy” document as such, and advises EA to have another look at the relevant parts of the document.

## IHAF International Halal Accreditation Forum

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The board

- agrees that regarding the point on IHAF (International Halal Accreditation Forum), it would be desirable that the EA members follow the same voice (coordinated opinions) at international level;
- takes note of the request from the European Commission to keep some distance in the discussions given the uncertainty in the sector and the thin line with human rights.

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## Dates and place of the next EAAB meetings

- Spring 2019 41<sup>th</sup> meeting 14<sup>th</sup> of May, Brussels
- Autumn 2019 42<sup>th</sup> meeting 7<sup>th</sup> November, Brussels
- Spring 2020 43<sup>th</sup> meeting 28<sup>th</sup> May, Brussels

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**Thank you  
for your attention!**