



DAC Policy on Cross Frontier Accreditation

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DUBAI ACCREDITATION DEPARTMENT – DUBAI MUNICIPALITY

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FOREWORD

Dubai is a rapidly expanding Emirate, and the Government places great emphasis on providing quality services. The main role of Dubai Municipality (DM) is to formulate the Emirate's urban strategic plans as well as the provision of essential infrastructure, environmental and health services for the continued development of Dubai as a modern, safe and dynamic Emirate. The DM, through its Dubai Accreditation Department (DAC) undertakes assessment and accreditation of various Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) according to International Standards, guidelines and world best practices.

This policy document has been prepared to define the policy of the Dubai Accreditation Department for the implementation of the requirements of ILAC Cross Frontier Accreditation – Principles for Avoiding Duplication (ILAC- G21:2002) and IAF Guidance on Cross Frontier Accreditation, Issue 1, Version 3 (IAF GD 3:2003). This document shall be read in conjunction with both these documents.

This document is subject to revision whenever deemed necessary

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1. OBJECTIVE

To define the DAC policy for the implementation of the requirements of ILAC Cross Frontier Accreditation – Principles for Avoiding Duplication (ILAC-G21:2002) and IAF Guidance on Cross Frontier Accreditation, Issue 1, Version 3 (IAF GD 3:2003) for Conformity assessment Bodies (CABs) including laboratories, certification bodies and inspection bodies.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all type of CABs operating from outside the geographical borders of UAE and seeking accreditation from DAC, herein after referred to as foreign CAB.

3. POLICY

3.1 DAC may accept application for accreditation from a foreign CAB in following cases:

- The local accreditation body/bodies do(es) not offer the required scope.
- The local accreditation body/bodies is/are not signatory/signatories to the ILAC/IAF Arrangement.
- There is no local accreditation body.
- Its clients demand a specific accreditation and will not be persuaded to accept an equivalent
- It is part of a chain of CABs with a single owner who wants all the CABs to have the same accreditation and who is not willing to work with the ILAC/IAF Arrangement partners.
- CAB's preference based on commercial or other business reasons.
- Regulatory requirements require accreditation by DAC.

3.2 If there is an ILAC/IAF Arrangement signatory/signatories covering the scope of the required accreditation in the country or economy of the applicant, the DAC should:

- Enquire whether the applicant is aware of the local accreditation body/bodies,
- Suggest that the accreditation could be more economically performed by a local body,
- Point out the equivalence of the local accreditation demonstrated through the ILAC/IAF Arrangement.

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- 3.3 Only if the applicant still persists in requiring its accreditation should it proceed, in which case it should request the applicant to be allowed to inform the local accreditation body/bodies that it will be undertaking the work, to explain the circumstances, and to invite any relevant local accreditation body to be an observer at the assessment. It may also suggest that a joint accreditation be offered by it and a local accreditation body.
- 3.4 If there is an ILAC/IAF member accreditation body/bodies in the country or economy of the applicant that is not an ILAC/IAF signatory for the scope, it should enquire whether the applicant would be prepared to have any relevant local accreditation body informed of the application with the option of
- Observing the assessment for experience
 - Providing a team member or members to the accreditation body's assessment team, or
 - Performing a joint assessment with the objective of dual accreditation.
- 3.5 In all these cases except when required by law/regulation, DAC is intended to eventual handover of the accreditation to the relevant local accreditation body, either when that body joins the ILAC/IAF Arrangement for the scope, or when the applicant CAB may choose.