



MOSTI

STANDARDS
MALAYSIA

**DEPARTMENT OF STANDARDS MALAYSIA
SCHEME FOR THE ACCREDITATION OF CERTIFICATION BODIES
(The ACB Scheme)**

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**TERMS AND CONDITIONS GOVERNING STANDARDS MALAYSIA ACCREDITED
CERTIFICATION BODIES ON CLAIMS OF EQUIVALENCE OF ACCREDITATION AND
USE OF IAF MLA MARK**

Authority To Issue

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1** The Department of Standards Malaysia (STANDARDS MALAYSIA) accreditation programmes for QMS and EMS have achieved global recognition through the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and the Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (PAC) Multilateral Recognition Arrangement.
- 1.2** IAF promotes the international acceptance of accreditations granted by its signatory accreditation body members of the IAF Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA), based on the equivalence of their accreditation programs.
- 1.3** In order to indicate the international multilateral recognition status of accredited certification bodies, they may use ACB symbol and IAF MLA mark within the accredited scope and they may also make claims on the equivalence of accreditation by using appropriate words described in this document subject to the terms and conditions of this document and the rules of procedure and requirements of the respective accreditation schemes administered by STANDARDS MALAYSIA.

2. APPLICATION AND SCOPE

- 2.1** This document sets out the terms and conditions governing STANDARDS MALAYSIA Accredited Certification Bodies on Claims of Equivalence of Accreditation and use of IAF MLA mark.
- 2.2** These conditions shall be met by all STANDARDS MALAYSIA accredited certification bodies.

3. REFERENCES

- 3.1** Standards of Malaysia Act 1996 (Act 549)
- 3.2** MS ISO/IEC 17011 "General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies"
- 3.3** ISO/IEC 17000 "Conformity assessment – Vocabulary and general principles"
- 3.4** IAF-BD-00-038 "Procedure for the Identification of Equivalence of Accreditation"
- 3.5** IAF ML 2:2004 "General Principles on Use of the IAF MLA Mark"
- 3.6** ACB 1 "Terms and Conditions governing the Scheme for the Accreditation of Certification Bodies (ACB)"
- 3.7** ACB 2 "Terms and Conditions governing the use of ACB Symbol or reference to STANDARDS MALAYSIA accreditation by certification bodies"

4. DEFINITIONS

- 4.1** For the purpose of this document, definitions in the relevant ISO standards and the relevant ISO/IEC Guides shall apply. The following definitions and abbreviations shall also apply:

Accreditation: Third-party attestation related to a conformity assessment conveying formal demonstration of its competence to carry out specific conformity assessment tasks.

Accredited Certification Body: A body that has been accredited by STANDARDS MALAYSIA in accordance with specific STANDARDS MALAYSIA criteria, procedures and requirements to operate, on a continuing basis, as a certification body.

ACB Symbol: Symbol issued by STANDARDS MALAYSIA under the Scheme for the Accreditation of Certification Bodies (the ACB Scheme) to be used by accredited certification bodies to indicate their accredited status.

Accreditation system: A system that has its own rules of procedure and management for the conduct of assessment and for granting of accreditation.

Certification Body (hereinafter referred to as CB): An impartial body, governmental or non-governmental, possessing the necessary competence and reliability to operate a certification system and in which those with an interest in the process of certification are represented without any single interest predominating.

STANDARDS MALAYSIA Secretariat (hereinafter referred to as Secretariat): Staff employed by STANDARDS MALAYSIA with delegated powers to implement the policies and procedures of STANDARDS MALAYSIA and manage accreditation activities.

5. RIGHT TO MAKE CLAIMS OF EQUIVALENCE OF ACCREDITATION

- 5.1 Subject to such limitations or conditions imposed by STANDARDS MALAYSIA Terms and Conditions, ACB 1, ACB 2 and requirements of this document, STANDARDS MALAYSIA accredited certification bodies are entitled to make claims of equivalence of accreditation on all its stationery and literature and publicity material.
- 5.2 STANDARDS MALAYSIA Accredited Certification Bodies, when they operate within the scope of the IAF MLA, may use the words “**Accredited by member of the International Accreditation Forum Multilateral Recognition Arrangement for Quality Management Systems** (hereinafter referred to as “**the MLA Words**”) alongside the ACB Symbol as detailed in **Figure 1**.

6. RIGHT TO USE IAF MLA MARK

- 6.1 STANDARDS MALAYSIA accredited certification bodies for QMS and EMS may be authorised to use IAF MLA mark in combination with ACB Symbol in accordance to the following;
- a) License Agreement for use of the IAF MLA Mark between STANDARDS MALAYSIA and an accredited CB
 - b) IAF General Principles on Use of the IAF MLA Mark
- 6.2 Accredited certification bodies may use the IAF MLA Mark on its pre-printed letterhead, accredited certificates, quotations for work, advertisement, websites and other documents as stated in the License Agreement.

- 6.3 The License Agreement for use of the IAF MLA Mark can be obtained from STANDARDS MALAYSIA and the certification body that intent to use IAF MLA Mark should complete and stamped the agreement and forward to STANDARDS MALAYSIA.
- 6.4 The IAF MLA Mark cannot be used or referred to unless both STANDARDS MALAYSIA and the accredited certification bodies have signed the License Agreement.
- 6.5 The CB must ensure and shall not allow their certified organisations to use the combined mark.
- 6.6 The combined mark shall be used by accredited CB for programmes within the scope of their accreditation, which has been recognised under the IAF MLA.
- 6.7 The CB shall ensure that the combined mark is not used in such a manner as to imply that IAF accepts responsibility for activities carried out under the scope of accreditation.

7. FORM AND SIZE

- 7.1 Where practicable, the MLA words may be reproduced in the form and size as detailed in **Figure 1**.
- 7.2 The MLA words shall be printed in a single colour, black and white, or in the case of preprinted letterhead, paper, stationery, newspaper and magazine articles should conform with the existing predominant colour of these items.
- 7.3 When use on paper, it may also be embossed or stamped.
- 7.4 Example of the use of the combination of ACB Symbol and IAF MLA Mark is as shown in **Figure 2**.

8. TERMINATION

- 8.1 An accredited certification body shall, upon termination of STANDARDS MALAYSIA accreditation, immediately cease to use and distribute any stationery and literature bearing the MLA words and IAF MLA Mark.
- 8.2 An accredited certification body shall upon termination of STANDARDS MALAYSIA accreditation in respect of some of its accredited activities, immediately cease distribution of all certificates or items on which the MLA Words and/or IAF MLA Mark, is displayed, saving those which relate in whole or in part to activities which remain accredited.
- 8.3 The CB shall stop the use of the combined mark if it fails to comply with the signed License Agreement between STANDARDS MALAYSIA and CB concerned.

Figure 1: Example of the Use of the MLA Words



Figure 2: Example of the Use of the IAF MLA Mark and ACB Symbol

