



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

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**RECOGNITION OF NORMATIVE DOCUMENTS AS BEING APPROPRIATE FOR
ACCREDITED CERTIFICATION**

Authority To Issue

**Director General
Department of Standards Malaysia**

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Recognition of Normative Documents as Being Appropriate for Accredited Certification is applicable to all accredited certification bodies and applicants.
- 1.2 As a basis, Standards Malaysia recognizes relevant international standards, produced by International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO), International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) or other international standards making body that is recognized by the World Trade Organization (WTO) or international and regional associations that it is a member such as the International Accreditation Forum (IAF), International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and the Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (APAC) . Annex 3 to the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, there is a need for standards that are being developed to achieve a national consensus.
- 1.3 This document outlines Standards Malaysia policy for the recognition of normative documents as being appropriate for accredited certification. This is to ensure Standards Malaysia can consider what competencies are required of the certification body to enable it to assess competence and compliance effectively. The normative documents of which is the basis for accredited certification are also referenced in the scope of the accreditation granted by Standards Malaysia.
- 1.4 This policy shall apply to all accreditation programmes, other than where the Malaysian Standards and Accreditation Council has determined a different policy for a specific programme.

2. REFERENCES

- 2.1 World Trade Organization Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, Annex 3 -Code of Good Practice for the Preparation, Adoption and Application of Standards
- 2.2 ISO/IEC 17007 – Conformity assessment – Guidance for drafting normative documents suitable for use for conformity assessment

NOTE: For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references the latest edition of the referenced document (including amendments) applies.

3. POLICY

- 3.1 Standards Malaysia only offers accreditation programmes based on the following normative documents:
 - a) Standards developed by Standards Malaysia, ISO, IEC or other international standards making body that is recognized by the World Trade Organization, where that body regards the standard¹ as being appropriate for certification;

b) Normative document that is used by a national or State regulatory authority in a regulatory context and is regarded by them as being a normative document that is appropriate for accredited certification²;

c) Standards developed by an industrial association, where the body regards the standard as being appropriate for certification;

or

d) Normative documents that meets the following criteria:

i. has been developed with the participation of technically competent representatives of interested parties, or has been subjected to formal review by such parties and subsequently revised as appropriate;

ii. is such that it is possible to assess whether an applicant is in compliance;

iii. has credibility with industry, appropriate regulatory authorities and relevant professional groups;

iv. is periodically reviewed and updated with the involvement of representatives of interested parties;

v. is publicly available for implementation without restriction by number or membership or other limitation³.

3.2 Standards Malaysia may seek advice from appropriate regulatory authorities or technical experts, or establish a Technical Working Group (TWG) to determine whether a standard meets any of the above criteria.

¹ In this context the term "standard" includes a provisional -standard

² In such cases, the scope of accreditation of a certification body would normally make reference to the regulatory authority or authorities concerned

³ The levying of a reasonable fee for the purchase of the standard would not be regarded as a restriction or limitation, but, for example, the imposition of a fee as a condition of the implementation of the standard would be likely to be regarded as such.