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STANDARDS
MALAYSIA

The Scheme for the Accreditation of Certification Bodies (The ACB Scheme)
ACB CIRCULAR 2/2017

**ISSUANCE OF NON-ACCREDITED CERTIFICATION WHERE THE
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CERTIFICATION BODY IS ACCREDITED FOR THE
SAME SCOPE**

1. Introduction

In the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) General Assembly held in New Delhi, India on 4 November 2016, IAF passed a resolution **Accredited Management Systems (MS) Certification Document** as a follow-up to the resolution passed in Rome on 5 November 2015, on **Non-Accredited Certification Where the Management System Certification Body (CB) is Accredited for the Same Scope** whereby the General Assembly, acting on the recommendation of the Technical Committee, resolved that in order for a management system certification body to be considered accredited, it must display the accreditation symbol, and/or, reference the accreditation status of the CB including the identification of the Accreditation Body (AB).

The General Assembly further agreed that management system certification bodies:

1. Must transition certification documentation to include the accreditation symbol, and/or, reference the accreditation status of the CB including the identification of the AB, at the time of recertification decision; no later than 6 November 2019;
2. When granted initial accreditation (for a standard or scope), as of 06 November 2016, the CB must transition (re-issue) previous unaccredited certification documents, within one year after the accreditation decision;
3. Must apply the resolution to all management system standards.

Note: If there is an exception to the above, the client must justify the exception to the CB and AB, and if accepted by both the CB and AB, the certification is still considered accredited.

2. Objective

This circular is aimed to inform all accredited management system CBs on the IAF resolution and requirements under the Department of Standards Malaysia (Standards Malaysia) accreditation.

This circular applies to all Certification Bodies (CBs) accredited to management systems programmes and cancels and replaces ACB Circular 7/2016.

3. Requirements

- i. Effective 5 November 2016, CBs shall no longer issue non-accredited certification to its clients for accredited scopes.
- ii. For existing non-accredited certification to clients of accredited scopes, procedures shall be in place for the transfer of these clients to accredited certification upon expiry. The transfer procedures shall include compliance to accreditation criteria.
- iii. A transition period of three (3) years (6 November 2016 - 6 November 2019) is given to transition all certification documentation to include Standards Malaysia accreditation symbol, and/or reference Standards Malaysia accreditation status of the CB at the time of recertification decision.
- iv. If the CB has been granted initial accreditation (1st accreditation cycle) for a standard or scope, as of 6 November 2016, the CB shall transition (re-issue) unaccredited certification documentation within one year after the accreditation decision.
- v. This applies to all management system standards.

4. Implementation

- a. Implementation of this circular takes immediate effect from the date of publication of this circular.
- b. Implementation of this circular shall be assessed during scheduled office assessments.
- c. Failure to comply with the above shall result in either, non-compliance, or suspension, or withdrawal of Standards Malaysia accreditation.

THANK YOU

Director of Accreditation