

Date : November 2016



**STANDARDS**  
MALAYSIA

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**The Scheme for the Accreditation of Certification Bodies (The ACB Scheme)**  
**ACB CIRCULAR 7/2016**  
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**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 Rome on 5 November 2015, IAF passed a resolution on **Non-Accredited Certification Where the Management System Certification Body is Accredited for the Same Scope** whereby the General Assembly, acting on the recommendation of the Technical Committee, resolved that IAF Accreditation Body members shall have legally enforceable arrangements with their accredited CABs that prevents the CAB from issuing non-accredited management systems certificates in scopes for which they are accredited. The General Assembly further agreed that the transition period will be one year from the date of endorsement.

This circular applies to all Certification Bodies (CBs) accredited to management systems programmes.

**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.

**3. Requirements**

- a. FM 614 – Undertaking to Comply with the Terms and Conditions Governing the ACB Scheme
  - i. As you all are aware, on 29 June 2016, certification bodies were required to sign FM 614 – Undertaking to Comply with the Terms and Conditions Governing the ACB Scheme.
  - ii. Clause II(i) states that the Certification Body shall at all times comply with the Accreditation Criteria. This includes the commitment to adapt to changes in the requirements for accreditation notified by Standards Malaysia from time to time.

- iii. This clause includes all IAF requirements which also encompass IAF resolutions.
- b. Actions by Certification Bodies (CBs)
  - 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 Standards Malaysia criteria.
  - iii. This resolution also includes certification accredited by non-Standards Malaysia accredited bodies under the Standards Malaysia accredited scope of accreditation.

#### **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 may result in suspension of Standards Malaysia accreditation.
- d. Please contact the ACB Scheme Manager or the Director of Accreditation if you would like to seek further clarification on this circular.

**THANK YOU**

Director of Accreditation