MINISTRY OF INVESTMENT, TRADE AND INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT OF STANDARDS MALAYSIA

MALAYSIA INSPECTION BODIES ACCREDITATION SCHEME (MIBAS)

MIBAS CIRCULAR 1/2026

TRANSITION TO ISO/IEC 17020:2026 – CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT – REQUIREMENTS FOR BODIES PERFORMING INSPECTION

1 INTRODUCTION

The latest edition of the ISO/IEC 17020:2026 - Conformity Assessment - Requirements for bodies performing inspection was published on 27 March 2026. This new standard replaces the previous version.

The standard applies to all inspection bodies. International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) Resolution GA 29.22 have agreed on a three (3) year transition period from the date of publication of the new ISO/IEC 17020:2026 standard for inspection bodies to bring their operations and processes in line with the requirements of the new standard. As such, JSM will require all of its accredited and applicant inspection bodies to conform to the new standard by 26 March 2029. During this transition period, both the previous version and ISO/IEC 17020:2026 are considered valid and applicable.

2 OBJECTIVE

This circular is aimed to inform all JSM applicants and accredited inspection bodies under the Malaysia Inspection Bodies Accreditation Scheme (MIBAS) on the transition process that will be carried out by JSM for the transition to the new ISO/IEC 17020:2026 standard, within the transition deadline, by or before 26 March 2029.

3 JSM REQUIREMENTS FOR TRANSITION TO ISO/IEC 17020:2026

Inspection bodies are advised to train their personnel to the new standard, review the changes, conduct a gap analysis and establish a transition plan (Annex 1) to incorporate the changes into their management system.

3.1 Applicant Inspection Bodies

	Requirement
New Applicants	For inspection bodies whose application is received by JSM after 1 January 2027, the assessment will be based on the new ISO/IEC 17020:2026 standard.
Existing Applicants (Ongoing)	Applicants with ongoing applications can be assessed against the previous standard until 1 January 2028.

3.2 Accredited Inspection Bodies

	Requirement
Transition Plan	Accredited bodies are required to document and submit a transition plan (Annex 1) to JSM by 1 January 2027.
Assessment Schedule	Beginning 1 January 2028, all scheduled assessments (surveillance or reassessment) shall be conducted against the new ISO/IEC 17020:2026 standard. However, the inspection body may request early transition assessment against the new standard from JSM.
Failure to Transition	If an inspection body fails to transition by 26 March 2029, they shall be suspended for a maximum of 3 months. Failure to take the required action within the suspension period would result in withdrawal of accreditation.

3.3 Extension of Scope (EOS)

Beginning 1 June 2027, any EOS application can only be made after the inspection body has successfully transitioned to the new ISO/IEC 17020:2026 standard.

3.4 Documented Information Requirements

Inspection bodies shall submit evidence of compliance using the transition checklist (Annex 2), covering:

- Company profile and legal entity information;
- Updated organisational charts;
- Revised policies and objectives;
- Risk assessment analysis/report;
- Internal audit reports and management review minutes based on the new standard.

4 SPECIFIC EXCEPTIONS

The Director of Accreditation may, at his discretion, grant specific exceptions to the transition requirements for compliance with the new ISO/IEC 17020:2026 standard, provided that the inspection body submits valid and well-justified reasons supporting the request. Such exceptions shall be considered on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the nature of the non-compliance, the associated risks and the inspection body's readiness and commitment towards achieving full compliance within an agreed timeframe.

Thank you.

Director of Accreditation

Annex 1

TRANSITION PLAN FOR ISO/IEC 17020:2026

The inspection bodies shall fill up and submit this transition plan to JSM at email ainol@jsm.gov.my, **3 months** prior to the transition proposed date (applicant inspection body) or latest **by 1st January 2027** (accredited inspection bodies).

Inspection Body Name:	
CAB No.:	MIBAS xxx
Proposed date of transition assessment: (Refer Assessment Programme in E-accreditation 2.0 system or AF118)	

	Processes to comply to ISO/IEC 17020:2026	**Planned date** (dd/mm/yyyyy)
1.	Gap analysis	
2.	Documentation approval (e.g.: policy and procedure documents)	
3.	Implementation of management system	
4.	Internal audit conduct	
5.	Management review conduct	
6.	Others (Please specify)	

Confirmed by Inspection Body's authorised personnel
(however named)

Signature: ……..…….

Name:…….

Date: ……..……..

Annex 2

TRANSITION ISO/IEC 17020:2026 CHECKLIST

Inspection Body Name : ……..

CAB No. : MIBAS ……

Proposed date of transition assessment: …….

(Refer Assessment Programme in E-accreditation 2.0 system or AF118)

Note: Please complete this checklist and submit documents to JSM at least **two (2) months** before assessment.

No.	Particulars	Yes (✔)	Remark, if any
1.	Company profile and information about the inspection body including legal entity and its activities		
2.	Structure / organisation chart		
3.	Policies and objectives		
4.	List of key personnel including name and responsibility in accordance to ISO/IEC 17020:2026		
5.	Risk assessment analysis / report		
6.	Internal audit report		
7.	Management review minutes		

Confirmed by Inspection Body's authorised personnel
(however named)

Signature: ……..……..…..

Name: …….

Date: ……..……