

Dear ILAC Full Members and Associates

Members will be aware that the standard *ISO/IEC 17025:2005 General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories* is scheduled to undergo a Systematic Review by the *International Organization for Standardization (ISO)* in 2015.

During the 2013 ILAC General Assembly, the ILAC Laboratory Committee (LC) requested that ILAC, as an A Liaison organisation to ISO, submit a New Work Item Proposal to ISO/CASCO to revise *ISO/IEC 17025:2005* as soon as practicable.

An extract from the Draft Minutes of the 17th ILAC General Assembly follows:

“(The LC Chair) noted that the LC had a long discussion about ISO/IEC 17025 during their meeting in Seoul. People may remember that a few years ago the LC was one of the primary instigators of a vote for ‘no change’ being made to the standard during the systematic review that, had it been successful, would have resulted in the revision of ISO/IEC 17025 being undertaken starting in 2010. Now ISO/IEC 17025 is again up for systematic review in 2015 which means that after the ISO formal processes have concluded it will most likely be 2016 before the actual revision of the document will be able to commence. It is true to say in the context of the LC that they felt the need to encourage some further action..... The standard is now 8 years old and it will likely take several years to finalise a revision....”.

As a result of the General Assembly discussion on the LC proposal, the draft resolution was amended to take into account the request from members, to consult with their accredited laboratories before being asked to vote on whether or not to proceed with submitting a proposal for the revision of ISO/IEC 17025 to ISO/CASCO. The resolution was subsequently amended to reflect this request.

The resolution was also amended to reflect the members’ direction that this ballot should be conducted on the basis of **1 vote per member** rather than by the standard voting method of 1 vote per economy.

The resolution is provided below for your information.

ILAC Resolution GA 17.16

The General Assembly notes the recommendation from the Laboratory Committee, that ILAC in its capacity as an A Liaison organisation to ISO, request that ISO/CASCO establish a new work item to comprehensively revise ISO/IEC 17025:2005 as soon as practicable. The General Assembly agrees to allow accreditation bodies to have a 90 day consultation period with their accredited laboratories, commencing on 1 November 2013. A letter ballot, based on one vote per member, on whether to proceed with the request to submit a new work item to ISO/CASCO will be commenced on 1 February 2014.

The 90 day consultation period has concluded and the proposal is now being submitted to ILAC members for voting by letter ballot.

As agreed by the ILAC General Assembly on 25 October 2013 and as documented in ILAC Resolution GA17.16, voting will be conducted on the basis of one vote per member, as exercised by the fully paid-up Full Members and Associates only.

Accordingly, each Full Member and Associate is required to submit their individual organisation’s vote to the Secretariat for this ballot.

The voting form is available in the Member's Area of the ILAC Website, under Ballots:

- Voting form (ILACSEC-201.0.2014 (VF))

Members are reminded that it is an obligation of membership to participate in ILAC Ballots. Could members therefore please return either a 'Yes', 'No' or 'Abstain' vote, as the latter contributes when determining the numbers for a quorum (Article 10.3(a)).

Completed voting forms should be **sent by each individual member** to the ILAC Secretariat, by email: ilacvoting@nata.com.au by **15 March 2014**.

Yours sincerely

Annette Dever
ILAC SECRETARY
14 February 2014

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