

**AFRICAN ACCREDITATION COOPERATION (AFRAC) REPORT
FOR THE
AFRIMETS GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETINGS
July 2021**

Date of Report: 26/07/2021

This report covers AFRAC activities from July 2020 to date.

1. AFRAC Meetings

The 11th AFRAC General Assembly and Meetings 2 were successfully held from 1 – 25 September 2020, also via Zoom Teleconference due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

2. Current AFRAC Office Bearers

The following office bearers were elected at the 11th AFRAC General Assembly meeting held on 25 September 2020:

Position	Name	Term of Office	Body	Country
AFRAC Vice-Chair	Mr Hanie El Desouki	Sept 2020 – Sept 2023	EGAC	Egypt
AFRAC Treasurer	Mr Steve Sidney	Sept 2020 – Sept 2024	SRLA	South Africa
Marketing & Communications Committee Chair	Dr Lawrena Okoro	Re-elected for a 2 nd term: Sept 2020 – Sept 2022	NiNAS	Nigeria
Marketing & Communications Committee Vice-Chair	Mr Mohamed Hassan	Sept 2020 – Sept 2022	EGAC	Egypt
Technical Committee Vice-Chair	Mrs Felista Nyakoe	Sept 2020 – Sept 2022	KENAS	Kenya

3. Status of the AFRAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement Membership

AFRAC currently has a total of 24 Members:

- 6 Arrangement Members (MRA Signatories):
 - EGAC, SANAS, SADCAS, ENAO, KENAS and MAURITAS
- 5 Full Members:
 - ALGERAC, NiNAS, SOAC, SDAC and TUNAC
- 1 Associate Member:
 - GhaNAS
- 13 Stakeholder Members.

New AFRAC Memberships:

The following members were admitted as Stakeholder Members:

- The Africa Society for Blood Transfusion (**AfSBT**) – 18 August 2020

3.1 AFRAC MRA Signatories

The scopes of recognition of the AFRAC Signatories are as follows, which the scopes granted in the last year highlighted in yellow.:

Signatory	Calibration	Testing	Medical	Inspection	QMS	EMS	FSMS	OH&SMS	EnMS
EGAC	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
ENAO		Y	Y	Y					
KENAS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		
SADCAS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	
SANAS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
MAURITAS	Y	Y			Y		Y		
Total Signatories per scope	5	6	5	5	5	4	4	3	2

4. AFRAC MRA Documents

The following 24 AFRAC documents were approved and are available on the AFRAC Website. These included the revision of 19 documents, and 5 newly published documents.

Doc. No. & version	Title	Date approved
A002-03	AFRAC Quality Manual	2020-12-26
A004-02	Rules for the use of the AFRAC Trademark and Tagline	2020-07-09
A005-02	AFRAC Code of Ethics and Business Conduct	2021-01-08
A009-09	AFRAC Executive Committee 2021 Work Plan	2020-09-25
A011-09	AFRAC Technical Committee 2021 Work Plan	2020-09-25
A012-05	MRA Committee Terms of Reference	2020-09-25
A013-09	AFRAC MRA Committee 2021 Work Plan	2020-09-25
A020-04	MRA Council Terms of Reference	2020-09-25
A021-02	AFRAC Documents Working Group Terms of Reference	2020-12-21
A023-03	AFRAC Marketing & Communication Committee 2021 Work Plan	2020-09-25
A024-01	Marketing & Communication Committee Terms of Reference	2020-09-25
A025-01	Marketing & Communication Committee 2020-2022 Strategic Plan	2020-09-25
F002-02	Documents Comment Form	2021-04-07
F007-06	Application from an AB to join or Extend the AFRAC Arrangement	2020-09-24
F017-02	TFG Evaluation Summary Report and Recommendation to the MRA Council	2021-01-08
F020-02	AFRAC Record of an Appeal and/or Complaint	2021-04-07
F027-05	AFRAC Evaluation Plan Template	2021-04-13
F029-01	AFRAC MRA Scope Expansion Report	2021-04-15
F030-01	AFRAC Remote Evaluation Checklist and Risk Assessment	2021-03-26
M002-03	AFRAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement	2021-01-08
M003-02	Structure of the AFRAC MRA and procedure for the expansion of the	2021-01-08

	scope of the MRA	
M004-01	AFRAC Policy and procedure for remote evaluations	2021-04-07

5. AFRAC Peer Evaluators & Training Plans

	Total	Testing	Medical	Calibration	Inspection	QMS	EMS	FSMS	Product Cert	Personnel Cert	Proficiency Testing	Reference Materials
Trainee Evaluators	17	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	5	3	8	0
Qualified Evaluators	15	11	5	3	5	6	5	5	2	0	2	1

AFRAC includes 1 to 2 trainee evaluators onto each evaluation and allocates current experienced evaluators as Deputy Team Leaders to gain experience in order to be qualified as Team Leaders.

The following evaluators were qualified as AFRAC Team Leaders (TL), bringing the total number of TL's to 8:

- Ms Susan Munyiri-Ochieng (KENAS)
- Mr Robin Gopee (MAURITAS)

The following trainees were qualified as AFRAC Evaluators (TM), bringing the total number of evaluators to 15:

- Mr Getnet Tsigemelak (ENAO) - Medical
- Mr Mahesh Koolwont (MAURITAS) - Testing and Medical Testing
- Mr Mpho Phaloane (SANAS) - Inspection

In August 2020, AFRAC hosted a workshop, which was held via Zoom teleconference and facilitated by Eng. Mahmoud Eltayeb, on the revised AFRAC GD002 "Peer Evaluators Guide" and on changes to the IAF/ILAC A3 document.

In December 2020, AFRAC hosted the 1st session of training on the ILAC P15:05/2020 "Application of ISO/IEC 17020:2020 for the Accreditation of Inspection Bodies". The training was presented by Zoom teleconference and facilitated by Eng. Mahmoud Eltayeb. Due to a high number of participants, and not everyone able to attend the 1st session, a 2nd session of the training was held in Feb 2021. A total of 140 participants attended the trainings.

On 8 April 2021, AFRAC presented a training on remote evaluation processes and techniques. This training was aimed at AFRAC's evaluators and AB members.

AFRAC, ARAC and SADCA have a combined Peer Evaluator register, to ensure access to expertise and the sharing of evaluators.

6. AFRAC Peer Evaluations

AFRAC has not undertaken any evaluations in 2020, and as such the COVID-19 restrictions did not affect any AFRAC evaluations. AFRAC undertook its first remote evaluation in April 2021, which was an initial evaluation held very successful. The next re-evaluations are scheduled for 2 AB's in July and August 2021 and will also be conducted remotely.

7. Extension of AFRAC's scopes of recognition by ILAC and IAF

AFRAC has applied to ILAC for the extension of its scopes to include Proficiency Testing Providers (PTP) and Reference Material Producers (RMP).

AFRAC has also applied to IAF for the extension of its scopes to include Product Certification and Certification of Persons.

These scopes will be witnesses in the re-evaluation of AFRAC, which commenced in February 2021.

Following the approval by the AFRAC MRA Council of 3 signatories under the Main Scope Management Systems Certification (ISO/IEC 17021-1), Sub-scope ISO/IEC 17021-10 OH&SMS (ISO 45001), the AFRAC MRA was extended in this sub-scope.

8. Challenges

AFRAC currently has 6 Arrangement Members. Our challenge is exposing the current 17 trainee evaluators to AFRAC evaluations. AFRAC has approached other regional groups to consider including our trainees onto their evaluation teams in order to expose them to evaluations.

9. Improvements

AFRAC has developed a new and improved website, which went live in November 2020. The website includes various on-line capabilities such as:

- Registration for meetings;
- Voting;
- Access to meeting documents, as well as documents for commenting;
- Submission of complaints / appeals; etc.

9. Future AFRAC Meetings

MEETING/EVENT	DATE	VENUE
2021 General Assembly Meetings	20 - 24 Sept 2021	Zoom Teleconference

10. Contact Details

The contact details of the Chair and Secretariat are:

AFRAC CHAIR

Dr Ron Josias

Email: ronj66@outlook.com

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AFRAC SECRETARIAT

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