

Policy

PL - 05

POLICY SNAS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ACCREDITATION SCHEMES

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PURPOSE: This document determines SNAS policy on activity extension.

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1 SNAS POLICY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ACCREDITATION SCHEMES

1.1 GENERALLY

SNAS, as the sole accreditation body in the SR recognized by the Government, is interested in covering all important fields and sectors of economic and social activities in SR, where accreditation is required. Therefore, SNAS consistently follows the development and requirements of the market on the national, regional and global level and examines their feasibility in Slovak conditions.

Accreditation requirements and their procedures are being homogenized globally. These are dynamically developing processes which, besides improvement, offer possibilities for the extension of SNAS activities as regards conformity assessment or new technical fields.

SNAS's primary and natural interest is:

- the consistent fulfilment of accreditation requirements laid down in international Standards, regulations and EU/EFTA decisions and in mandatory international application documents of organizations associating accreditation bodies;
- to carry out accreditation competently, trustfully and in accordance with above-mentioned mandatory documents;
- maintenance of international recognition on the regional also on global level;
- the creation of preconditions for global recognition of results of activities of accredited bodies through withholding the signatory of mutual recognition agreements of EA MLA, ILAC MRA and IAF MLA.
- in accordance with Regulation No. 765/2008 use any opportunity and method to inform national authorities and regulators about importance of accreditation in regulated area and highlight its importance for society, international trade, international cooperation and global recognition of CABs.

1.2 IMPLEMENTATION OF ACCREDITATION SCHEMES

SNAS has implemented procedures for implementation of new accreditation schemes or for extension of existing schemes and for determination of their suitability. SNAS has policy and procedure for determination suitability of accreditation schemes harmonized by mandatory application document EA-1/22 A-AB: 2023 EA procedure and criteria for the evaluation of conformity assessment schemes by EA accreditation body members transposed into SNAS documentation through PL-18 and mandatory document IAF MD 25: 2023 Criteria for Evaluation of Conformity Assessment Schemes transposed into SNAS documentation through MSA-09. Prior to implementation of new accreditation scheme takes into concern results of analysis of current capability and resources, the availability and use of expertise, necessity of application documents and instructions and implementation of transitional procedures. SNAS tries to implement the requirements of the interested parties properly into the service extension process and adequately react to

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them. It is the SNAS top management who assesses, based on expertise from external sources, appropriateness of extension, sources in the new activity or technical field, necessity of new application documents, selection and training of staff. These external sources are:

- the SNAS Accreditation Council;
- the SNAS Technical Committees;
- the national regulators;
- experts of the conformity assessment bodies;
- experts of the manufacturing and trading organizations and consumer associations;
- experts of the scientific, research and controlling organizations.

1.3 SUSPENSION OR TERMINATION OF ACCREDITATION SCHEME

Before SNAS partially suspend or completely terminate provision of services in corresponding scheme SNAS must take into the account opinions of interested parties, contractual obligations, transitional provisions, external communication concerning suspension or termination of scheme and also published information.

2 RELATED DOCUMENTS

ISO/IEC 17011: 2017	Conformity assessment. Requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies
PL-06	SNAS Policy on the Cooperation with Interested Parties
PL-18	EA procedure and criteria for the evaluation of conformity assessment schemes by EA accreditation body members (EA-1/22 A-AB: 2023)
MSA-09	Criteria for Evaluation of Conformity Assessment Schemes (IAF MD 25: 2023)
Regulation 765/2008	Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council setting out the requirements for accreditation and market surveillance relating to the marketing of products and repealing Regulation (EEC) No 339/93
Decision 768/2008	Decision No. 768/2008/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on a common framework for the marketing of product, and repealing Council Decision 93/465/EEC
Act No. 53/2023 Coll.	on accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies

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