BUILDING QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE IN AFRICA

Overview of Accreditation & Pan African Quality Infrastructure (PAQI)

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By

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The International Response

ILAC/IAF
EA
APLAC
& PAC
SADCA
IAAC

EA
European co-operation for Accreditation
APLAC
Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation
IAAC
Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation
SADCA
SADC Accreditation Cooperation
ARAC
ARAB Accreditation Cooperation
AFRAC
African Accreditation Cooperation
Unveiling of the AFRAC plaque: From left to right—Mr Hassan Shaarawi (EGAC); Professor Mohammed Elarbi Aouani (NEPAD) and His Excellency Dr Ahmed Darwish

Delegates at the First AFRAC General Assembly meeting held from 29 to 30 September 2010 in Cairo, Egypt
Quality Infrastructure

• African Quality Infrastructure has three key elements namely: metrology, standardization and accreditation of conformity assessment services such as certification, testing, calibration and inspection.

• These elements are independently managed however, they form a close network based on a technical hierarchy.
African Quality Infrastructure has three key elements namely: metrology, standardization and accreditation of conformity assessment services such as certification, testing, calibration and inspection.

These elements are independently managed however, they form a close network based on a technical hierarchy.
• The African Accreditation Cooperation (AFRAC) was established in 2010.

• AFRAC is a cooperation of accreditation bodies, sub-regional accreditation co-operations and stakeholders whose objective is to facilitate trade and contribute to the protection of health, safety and the environment, in Africa and improvement of Africa’s competitiveness.

• AFRAC will build confidence in African produced goods and services thus facilitate their acceptance on the global market through Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRA).
• The **Intra-Africa Metrology System** (AFRIMETS) was formed in the year 2006.

• The Principal members of AFRIMETS are the 6 sub-regional metrology organizations.

• AFRIMETS promotes harmonisation industrial and legal metrology issues across Africa and to operate as a fully-fledged Regional Metrology Organization in accordance to the Mutual Recognition Arrangement of the International Committee for Weights and Measures, the CIPM MRA.

• AFRIMETS facilitates inter and intra Africa trade through use of accurate measurements and ensuring safety, health of consumers and environmental protection.
The African Electrotechnical Standardisation Commission (AFSEC) was established in February 2008.

AFSEC identifies existing standards and prioritizes standards needs, and harmonizes existing standards through either the adoption of international standards; or where necessary their adaptation to African conditions.

Common standards and conformity regimes in the electrotechnical area have a multiplier effect especially in electricity generation and transmission (power pools and common manufacturing facilities) and trading in electrical systems and in support of universal access to electricity.

• ARSO develops tools for standards development, standards harmonization and implementation of these systems to enhance Africa’s internal trading capacity, increase Africa’s product and service competitiveness globally and uplift the welfare of African consumers.

• Creating viable, sustainable and effective continental standardization infrastructure, forms the basis for ARSO strategic direction.
Link to International Quality Infrastructure
QUALITY FOR AFRICA

Integrated PAQI Structure

AU/AUC

PAQI Joint Committee

Liaison Committee/PAQI JC secretariat

AFRIMETS  AFRAC  ARSO  AFSEC
PAQI’s Contribution to the AU Sectors

Accurate measurement
Harmonization of Standards
Adoption of Standards
Confidence in
• Testing
• Calibration
• Certification
• Inspection
Through Accreditation
Training
Research and innovation
Education

Agriculture
- Agro food and agriculture programmes of CAADP & 3ADI

Infrastructure, Transport & Energy
- Power sector (generation)
- Power trade
- Renewable energy

Environmental & Natural Resources
- Mining Industry
- Air & water quality
- Land use
- Climate Change

Health
- Pharmaceutical Industry
- Traditional Medicine
- Medical devices

Trade & Industry
- Support to SMEs
- Reduction of Trade barriers
- Africa Trade Support Web Portal
- Awareness & Education
Contribution to the CFTA

1. Reduction of Technical Barriers to Trade
2. Improve the quality of life
3. Inter-connectivity – Power Trade
The PAQI initiative is supported by

quality for africa
Thank you

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