The Association

By October 2013, EA counts 35 Full Members out of which 33 ABs are signatories to the EA MLA and 28 of them have signed for all accreditation scopes. As a result of the decisions made at the MAC meeting held on 2-3 October, indeed, RENAR has been accepted to join the MLA as a signatory for two new activities, inspection and personnel certification. Amongst the 13 EA Associate Members, 4 are signatories to the MLA through a bilateral agreement with EA: ISRAC (Israel), TUNAC (Tunisia), NAAU (Ukraine) and BATA.

In May 2013, the 31st EA General Assembly held in Paris, taking into account that EA NABs do not provide PT services, endorsed the recommendation by the Executive Committee that EA NABs shall not provide such services. This new requirement is being introduced in EA-1/17 Supplement 1: Criteria for Membership.

Discussions are progressing about the renewal of the framework partnership agreement by which EA receives financial support for activities agreed within annual work programmes. The EC has given its full support to the EC ambitions with regards to developing the peer evaluation system and its capacities to contribute better to regulation development. The new FPA should be signed by the end 2013 for a new 4-year period.

Work is also on-going to change the EA membership fee formula. A discussion paper was distributed for comments until early July. Comments have been reviewed in the Executive and a final recommendation will be put to the General Assembly in November. The objective is to present the final proposal and invite comments through the normal commenting process.

A specific agreement for an action grant supporting the work undertaken in relation to the implementation of the EU/ETS regulations has been signed in August 2013. Discussions are also on-going with the EC about a European Breast Cancer Accreditation Services project. EA has declared its willingness to participate for all aspects related to accreditation and how accreditation could best serve the scheme in future. A new Services contract could be signed in the mid-term to support cooperation.

Shortly before Christmas 2012, another Services contract was signed with the European Commission to support a project for the “Approximation of the EU and Russian Federation Accreditation”. The project has entered its implementation phase, after presentation of a report on the inception phase at a meeting in Moscow held in early July. For that project, a consortium has been set up with EA as the Coordinator. DAkkS (Germany) and ESYD (Greece) are the other two members of the Consortium.

Reinforcing the EA Secretariat remains a high priority on the EA strategy agenda. Recruitment of the future EA Executive Secretary is progressing well and should be completed by early 2014; in parallel steps are taken to ensure transfer of the operations of the MAC Secretariat to the Central Secretariat in Paris by early April when Marga Zaffe, the current MAC Secretary steps down.

At the last MAC meeting in October, the MAC members paid tribute to Marga’s outstanding contribution and support to the EA MAC and peer evaluation system for a number of years. Jos Leferink who first started to work with Marga attended the meeting and addressed warm words to Marga. The whole assembly expressed its thanks and congratulations to Marga and wished her the best for… when she leaves EA and the MAC Secretariat, which is not going to happen until end of March 2014…

Elections for the renewal of the Executive Committee took place in May 2013 during the General Assembly. The following officers were elected for a two-year mandate starting on 1 January 2014:

- **EA Chair**: Thomas FACKLAM (DAkkS)
- **EA Vice-Chair**: Geir SAMUELSEN (NA)
- **EA Multilateral Agreement Council Chair**: Nicole MEUREE - VAN LAETHEM (BELAC)
- **EA Horizontal Harmonisation Committee Chair**: Ignacio PINA (ENAC)
- **EA Laboratory Committee Chair**: Paolo BIANCO (ACCREDIA)
- **EA Certification Committee Chair**: Leopoldo CORTEZ (IPAC)
- **EA Inspection Committee Chair**: Rolf STRAUB (SAS)
- **EA Communications & Publications Committee Chair**: Peter KRONVALL (SWEDAC)
Four additional members of the Executive Committee: Vagn ANDERSEN (DANAK)
Biserka BAJZEK-BREZAK (HAA)
Rozsa RING (NAT)
Jan VAN DER POEL (RvA)

Three members of the Financial Oversight Committee: Claudio BOFFA (NAB-MALTA)
Elza JANEVA (BAS)
Paul STENNETT (UKAS)

The General Assembly in May 2013 was also the last meeting attended by Daniel Pierre - the current EA Vice-Chair and Managing Director of COFRAC, the French AB - who will leave the accreditation scene by the end of October. Daniel Pierre, whose experience, ideas and energy have been pivotal in shaping and taking forward the major developmental changes faced by EA, received many well deserved accolades during that General Assembly.

Finally, the EA General Assembly in May 2013 endorsed the decision of the Executive Committee, supported by the EA Advisory Board, to offer the EA Recognised Stakeholder status to 3 new organisations:

- the European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines & Health Care of the Council of Europe (EDQM);
- the European Federation for Non-Destructive Testing (EFNDT);
- the Quality and Safety System for Specialty Feed Ingredients and their Mixtures (FAMI-QS asbl).

By summer 2013, EA will be entering into an agreement with a total of 14 Recognized Stakeholder agreements in accordance with EA-1/15: EA Policy for Relations with Stakeholders.

The MLA Council (MAC)

A pilot project is running to test the implementation of a proposed set of measures for the improvement of the peer evaluation process. Those measures aim in particular to reinforce monitoring of the system by the Secretariat and improve deadlines; more specifically the application review is under consideration for a better focus and management and more efficient evaluations. Discussions about improving management of the peer evaluation resources continue. Feedback on the new measures is being collected and analysed for a detailed report to be discussed in MAC during the 1st meeting in 2014.

In 2013, 14 ABs should undergo peer evaluation. Activities for GHG verification have also started according to the agreed road map. A training of experts especially appointed for that process took place in March.

In January a Team Leader training seminar brought together 16 TLs over two days and an additional session has been planned in December 2013.

Finally, Paulo Tavares, IPAC and Gokhan Birbil, TURKAK, have been elected respectively Vice Chair of the MAC and Convenor of the MAC WG Training. Congratulations to both of them!

The Certification Committee (CC)

The EA Certification Committee held its 26th meetings on 1 and 2 October 2013 in Madrid, Spain. The first day, usually fully dedicated to the preparatory meeting with EA-member ABs, was this time partially open to stakeholder organizations to approve and finalize the answers given by the EACC with regard to the previous questions asked by CC members and the revision of EACC FAQs.

The comprehensive updating work of EACC FAQs, i.e. the “frequently asked questions” raised by CC Members and answered at the successive CC preparatory meetings, is nearing completion within the CC Review Panel in cooperation with stakeholders.
The objectives are not only to revisit the FAQs when standards are revised themselves, but also to synthetize the FAQ format and improve legibility and transparency for a wider use and publication. The revision of FAQs on ISO/IEC 17021 and 17024 should come to an end by spring 2014.

As usual, the second meeting day gathered stakeholder organizations such as CEOC International, EFAC, EFNDT, EUROLAB, FAMI-QS, PEFC Council and IIOC; about 60 delegates participated in the full meeting.

**Environmental issues still highly focussed**

The EACC working group for accreditation of greenhouse gas verifiers (or WG GHG), convened by Niels-Christian Dalstrup from the Danish NAB (DANAK), was set up within the CC in February 2012 to meet the European Commission (EC)’s expectation to have a formal network established between EA-member ABs so as to improve European harmonization of accreditation in the field of greenhouse gas emissions. The WG GHG members met twice on 7 May 2013 in Paris, France, and on 24 September 2013 in Milan, Italy.

The Accreditation & Verification (A&V) and Monitoring & Reporting (M&R) Regulations were published on 12 July 2012; both are applied from 1 January 2013. The accreditation scheme based on ISO 14065 is mandatory, and the EA MLA should include accreditation of GHG verifiers as a new activity.

A specific agreement for an EC action grant supporting the work undertaken in relation to the implementation of the EU/ETS regulations has been signed by EA in August 2013.

The revision of **EA-6/03: EA Document for Recognition of Verifiers under the EU ETS Directive** has been completed by a small dedicated task force of the WG GHG; the revised document was circulated among both the CC membership and the EA community for parallel comments by this summer. In October, the EACC agreed that the document is now ready for being set out for ballot within EA. The ballot will be closed on 18 November 2013. This mandatory document supports a harmonised interpretation and approach to the accreditation of verification bodies according to ISO 14065 and the A&V Regulation. It is intended to be used by accreditation and verification bodies in the process of accreditation for verification of emissions and data in the EU ETS (Emissions Trading System) scheme.

The EACC also intended to put forward a resolution to the next EA General Assembly in November 2013, stating that the transition from EN ISO 14065:2012 (ISO 14065:2007) to EN ISO 14065:2013 (ISO 14065:2013) can be made on an administrative basis. It was further noted that according to the Commission communication 2013/C 258/05 (list of harmonized standards), the presumption of conformity with the previous version ended on 31 October 2013.

The terms of reference of **EACC WG Environment**, convened by Casper van Erp from the Dutch NAB (RvA), have been fine-tuned during the first WG meeting, which gathered nearly 30 AB representatives on 16-17 April 2013 in Antalya, Turkey. Further discussions took place in October with regard to the distribution of GHG/14065 subjects between the Environment and GHG WGs. The EACC concluded that it would be more efficient that the WG GHG can expand to similar regulated areas in order to benefit from the competencies acquired with the A&V Regulation. Voluntary areas and non-regulatory schemes would remain on the scope of WG Environment. This still need final approval by the WGs, notably by the WG Environment who will meet on 28-29 October 2013 in Vilnius, Lithuania.

**EA-6/02: EA Guidelines on the Use of EN 45011 and ISO/IEC 17021 for certification to EN ISO 3834**

After having been approved by the EA General Assembly in November 2011, a first revision of EA-6/02 building upon the outcome of a workshop jointly organized by EA and the European Welding Foundation (EWF) in December 2010, swiftly progressed within an equally EA-EWF composed TFG convened by Kevin Belson from the UK NAB (UKAS) before being adopted as an EA document in summer 2013.
In order to carefully review the implications of new ISO/IEC 17065 rather than just changing references from EN 45011 to ISO/IEC 17065, the CC had previously agreed to revisit the document in late 2013 or early 2014 once experience is gained with new versions of EA-6/02 and ISO/IEC 17065. So in October, the EACC agreed to submit a new work item to the next EA General Assembly in November 2013 with the aim of further revising EA-6/02 in order to align it with ISO/IEC 17065. It was also agreed to withdraw the current version of EA-6/02 in the day after the transition period from EN 45011 to ISO/IEC 17065 has finished (16 September 2015).

Work items on progress

The elaboration of a mandatory guidance document on witnessing practices for management system certification has been progressing through several online meetings. Because it proved difficult to find compromises between very large discrepancies, a cluster approach has been privileged by the TFG convened by Leopoldo Cortez, the EACC Chair, from the Portuguese NAB (IPAC). The CC welcomed the harmonisation purpose of the document which was circulated for comments within the CC by early 2013.

In March 2013, the CC discussed the preferred table of clusters for EMS and QMS, on which the document intends to focus for now. A quick survey was launched further to the meeting to select the most appropriate cluster table for the largest number of CC members.

A second, more consensual draft that was elaborated on in light of the comments received as well as the instructions agreed at the March meeting on several outstanding issues, was presented at the CC meeting in October. The CC agreed that this document should now be sent out for comments within EA for a 60-day period. The next version should be presented at the CC in March 2014.

Approved by the EA General Assembly in November 2011, the drafting of an EA harmonization guidance on the application of ISO/IEC 17021:2011 for OHSAS 18001 has been progressing within a CC TFG. After national regulations referring to OHSAS 18001 were put forward to the TFG, a first draft document was discussed in March 2013. In October 2013, further to similar developments in ISO where ISO/PC 283 Occupational health and safety management systems – Requirements was created and a future ISO/IEC 17021-x Requirements for third party certification auditing of occupational health and safety management systems standard is under development, the CC agreed that EA work should continue, focussing in priority on the scope for certification, the scope for accreditation, legal compliance and the man-day issue; auditors competence should be left to ISO for them to deal with it.

In 2013, the CC has also been tackling with a new certification scheme for trust service providers. As electronic signatures are to be subject to a new European regulation, the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) is developing a new certification scheme, which was presented at the CC meeting in October 2013. In March, the CC had previously agreed to set up a TFG convened by Kevin Belson (who has local contacts with ETSI in the UK) in order for EA to get involved as from the start of the development process of the ETSI regulatory certification scheme. CC members were requested to send any comments to ETSI through the EA Secretariat and EACC TFG by mid-November 2013.

The next CC meetings will take place on 25 and 26 March 2014 in Oslo, Norway.

The Inspection Committee (IC)

The 26th EA IC Meeting took place on 3 October 2013 in Madrid, Spain, with the participation of CEOC International and EUROLAB as stakeholder organizations.

Car Inspection

Since several IC meetings, accreditation of car inspection is being paid special attention for the purposes of harmonization and mutual recognition of PTI (Periodical Technical Inspections) in Europe within the framework of the European Commission’s Road Safety Programme for 2011-2020.
Due to great national discrepancies, a technical network specific for car inspection has been running since 2012 for an expertise group to share information, experiences and practices. A survey had also been carried out in 2012 within the IC to get a more comprehensive picture of the car PTI issue in European countries.

In March 2013, Tomas Holm from SWEDAC, the Swedish AB, the convener of TN Car Inspection, clarified about a new EC Regulation on roadworthiness tests that each Member State will have to opt for either complying with more detailed supervision rules, or putting in place accreditation. The IC Chair, Rolf Straub from the Swiss NAB (SAS), advocated IC members to get ready for convincing national regulators that accreditation is the best route with a real added value to reach mutual recognition in the field.

After finalization by the EAIC in March 2013, the terms of reference and work programme of the TN Car Inspection were endorsed by the EA Executive Committee in May 2013.

In March 2013, the IC also agreed to submit a new work item proposal for the revision of EA-5/02: Guidance on the application of EN 45004 in recurrent inspection of motor vehicles, which will be checked against ISO/IEC 17020:2012. The EA-5/02 revision has been approved by the EA General Assembly in May 2013; a revised draft should be presented at the EAIC meeting in March 2014 and forwarded to ILAC IC as soon as available.

ETV

Since the establishment of an EA IC ETV Informal Leading Group in October 2011 in order for those EA NABs already active in verification projects within the framework of the EU Environmental Technological Verification (ETV) Programme, to exchange experiences and best practices with a view to influence the relevant European authorities, an increasing number of outstanding issues have been arising, thus demonstrating a real need for a consistent EA approach to be achieved. It was strongly reiterated in October 2013 that EA NABs should have a clear understanding of what they will have to do when they will receive future applications for accreditation.

Because the French (COFRAC), Danish (DANAK) and Czech (CAI) NABs are those which have already gained the greatest experience in the ETV field, the EAIC representatives of these 3 NABs set up a small pioneering TFG in March 2013, and reported on their national situations in October 2013, focusing on scope definition and technical competences. One of the biggest difficulties is to recruit assessors with appropriate skills for each technical area.

It was recognized that, in a majority of countries, little activity was still recorded in the ETV area so far. One issue for NABs is to get things started with low activity and interest from clients.

An update of national situations should be done within one year.

Crime scene investigation

Because some concern was voiced in 2012 about the use of EA-5/03: Guidance for the implementation of ISO/IEC 17020 in the field of crime scene investigation, the IC launched a survey within EA to measure relevance of the document and any need for revision. The outcome in February 2013 showed that the majority of NABs regards the document as useful, though it should be revised to become clearer and more specific. The participation of forensic actors in the revision work is also highly recommended.

After the IC highlighted the need to revise EA-5/03 as a new work item for 2014 together with the cooperation of ENFSI and in parallel with the agenda of ILAC AIC WG 10 which is dealing with quality in the forensic process, the EA General Assembly in May 2013 agreed that the IC, after the approval of the ILAC G19 document on this topic, shall review if EA-5/03 should be revised or revoked. At the October meeting, the EAIC Chair asked then IC Members to look at currently commented ILAG G19 from an inspection and forensic perspectives.
Accreditation of clinical autopsy

A survey among EA ABs was led this summer to get feedback with regard to accreditation of clinical autopsy. The survey was initiated by SWEDAC, the Swedish AB, which has been discussing the issue in Sweden and would like EA’s support for sharing any possible experience and best practice in this area. It was designed to identify whether EA ABs provide accreditation to organizations under the scope of clinical pathology– pathological anatomical diagnosis (PAD) and clinical autopsy – and, if yes, which conformity assessment standards they apply, i.e. ISO/IEC 17020 or ISO/IEC 17025/15189. If they applied ISO/IEC 17020 for clinical autopsy, EA ABs were asked which conformity assessment standard they select for supplementary analysis (histopathology and microscopic evaluation). The outcome of the survey, led by Thomas Holm from SWEDAC, was concluded at the IC meeting in October 2013: 4 EA ABs accredited clinical autopsy, all applying ISO/IEC 17025/15189. Actually both standards are possible and, after further analyzing the survey outcome at home, SWEDAC now requests their clients to use ISO/IEC 17020 for clinical autopsy.

Essential health and safety requirements

Initiated by the previous IC Chair who had organized a specific workshop in 2011, the issue arises from some European directives that require the certification of products by “notified bodies” before they can be placed on the market. Inspection and testing are two important elements to gain qualified information about conformity and are being used for the certification of the item, good, product or equipment.

Rolf Straub launched the issue again at the March 2013 meeting, presenting an introductive paper and a draft EA survey relating to assessment against the essential health and safety requirements (EHSR) based on harmonized, and in absence of harmonized, standards. The survey has a twofold objective: get a better image of NABs’ understanding of the issue, and identify whether there is a need for keeping this matter on board for further discussions.

A fine-tuned survey was presented in October 2013. IC members’ feedback was requested for the next IC meeting on 27 March 2014 in Oslo, Norway, before the survey can be formally launched.

The Laboratory Committee (LC)

The LC met on 18-19 September 2013 in Brussels, Belgium, with the participation of 55 delegates.

Following the March workshop on Opinions & Interpretations which highlighted a need for harmonization, a survey was conducted during summer. Its results confirmed the preliminary conclusion that guidance should be developed. In particular, it appears that boundaries for accreditation of opinions & interpretations should be defined, and that the difference between opinions & interpretations and product certification should be clarified. The appointed TFG came up with a first draft guidance which was presented to the Committee in September. Comments have been invited until the next meeting in March 2014.

Work is also ongoing with regards to the extension of the EA MLA to cover accreditation of proficiency testing providers and reference materials producers in accordance with ISO/IEC 17043 and ISO Guide 34. The Laboratory Committee appointed 2 EA representatives to participate in the APLAC November Workshop.

The two WGs ILC in Calibration and Testing held back-to-back meetings in March 2013. The objective was to facilitate a joint session of both WGs to discuss items of common interest, such as implementation of the EA Strategy on ILCs and how to improve further synergies for work within the 2 groups. The outcome of the session was that strategic issues are not the same in both areas; PT providers are not the same type of bodies in both fields and issues related to availability of PTs vary from one field to the other. Finally, the 2 WGs do not have the same members. All this led the Committee to confirm that the merge of the WGs would not be relevant. However it was decided to continue to hold the meetings back-to-back, as far as possible for the host ABs.
The Convener of the TFG of the WG Health Care in charge presented the proposed draft guidance on **Point of Care Testing** (POCT). The draft has been circulated for comments within the LC for review at the March 2014 meeting. Training about the new ISO 15189 has been planned in 2014.

Upon proposal by the Technical Network **Food and Feed**, the LC approved GMO guidance prepared jointly with the European Network of GMO Laboratories (ENGL). The document will be published by EA with the status of a technical, advisory document.

The Committee decided also to publish two documents by EWDTS, the European Workplace Drug Testing Society: *Guidelines for legally defensible workplace drug testing – Specimen collection procedures* and *Drug and alcohol testing in hair – Collection and analysis*. The 2 documents will have the status of technical, advisory documents.

The next LC meeting will take place 12-13 March 2014 in Valletta, Malta, then on 10-11 September 2014.

**The Communications and Publications Committee (CPC)**

The 24th EA CPC Meeting was held on 18 and 19 September 2013 in Warsaw, Poland, where Lucyna Olborska from PCA, the polish NAB, audited the meeting in particular, and the CPC work, in general.

The **main discussions** dealt with the following issues, whose conclusions are still being discussed with the EA Executive Committee:

- the project of restructuring the EA Intranet;
- the rationale and process for changing the EA logo;
- the process for establishing the EA database for EU ETS verifiers, as provided for in the EC-EA agreement supporting the implementation of the EU/ETS regulations;
- how to speed up and increase the publication of EA e-bulletins and news on the EA website.

Some discussions took also place about the implementation of **EA-3/01: EA Conditions for the Use of Accreditation Symbols, Text Reference to Accreditation and Reference to EA MLA Signatory Status** adopted in late 2012. It was agreed that some parts of the document should be further clarified and refined, upon the EA HHC’s request as well, in the near future. One of the reasons for revision lies in the fact that nowadays all reporting is not made on hard/paper copies. It was reported that more and more reporting is made electronically with no reference made to accreditation, whereas an accredited service has to be reported.

A representative of the **Independent International Organization for Certification (IIOC)** made a presentation on his organisation, looking for the CPC’s collaboration to communicate and promote high quality accredited certification, for instance among the public sector. Marcus Long should come back to the next meeting in March 2014.

This was the last time that the CPC meeting was chaired by Vagn Andersen from DANAK, the Danish NAB, whose great contribution to the CPC was highlighted and very much thanked at the dinner offered by PCA.

The next CPC meeting to be chaired by Peter Kronvall from SWEDAC will be held on 5-6 March 2014 in Belgrade, Serbia.

**The Horizontal Harmonisation Committee (HHC)**

The last HHC meeting was held on 24-25 September in Brussels. 43 delegates attended the meeting, representing 32 ABs and 5 Recognised Stakeholders and a representative of the European Commission.
**Outcome of surveillance activities**

A survey was conducted during summer. It shows that most of the ABs apply the “4-eyes” principle to formulate a decision as a result of surveillance activities. Four ABs, though use another route and they have been appointed to form a TFG mandated for reviewing the situations where the principle may not be applied, and identifying the appropriate safeguards and firewalls.

**Benchmarking activities**

The Committee first clarified the objectives and expectations of possible activities. It was then agreed to collect a list of topics for future activities. The point will be reviewed in March 2014.

**Scoping, sampling of surveillance activities**

A TFG was appointed to elaborate on the point of which activities and processes NABs should focus on for planning surveillance activities at their accredited CABs. It was recommended to also check existence of similar guidance published by the other regions and which could be referred to by the TFG in its work. The proposed new work item will be submitted to the EA Advisory Board, EX and General Assembly for final approval by the end of the year.

A separate procedural document, meant to help ABs implement **EA-2/13 EA Cross Frontier Policy for Cooperation between EA Members** for aspects related to multisite assessment in particular, was developed by a TFG of the Committee and submitted to EA vote. Comments were raised during the ballot and reviewed by the EX according to the EA process. The positive results of the ballots were eventually confirmed and the Supplement published.

**EA-1/06:** The **EA Multilateral Agreement** has gone through a deep review after EA-2/02: **Policy and Procedures for the Multilateral Agreement** was also revised to take out all elements describing a requirement or giving information on the MLA. A final draft was circulated for comments in EA until 30 June 2013. Comments were reviewed at the HHC meeting in October and a final draft endorsed for submission to EA’s vote. The ballot is open until 27th October.

The **EA-1/22 Policy and Procedures for Conformity Assessment Schemes** is also being fundamentally reviewed. A basic change of approach was discussed and approved in the Executive Committee. It provides that the assessment work should be shifted from EA to the EA AB members. The concept of “home AB” is introduced to be the body in charge of the assessment and managing relations between the scheme owner, EA and the EA NABs as necessary. Information about schemes will be centralised and made available to the EA Membership on the website.

The appointed TFG came up with an advanced revision to the policy that was discussed at the October meeting. A number of points remain to be further revisited. A new draft will be submitted to the Committee in March 2013. In the meantime, it has been agreed to test the “home AB” approach for the assessment of schemes. Feedback on the process will also be discussed in March 2014.

One of EA’s and the HHC Chair’s major objectives is to create the tools for supporting ABs in their role in relation to notification of conformity assessment bodies. The proposals the Chair presented to the Executive Committee at its Strategy session in January 2013 were very well received. The HHC therefore supported the suggestion to develop an “Accreditation for notification” package. The package, to be designed as a toolbox for national accreditation bodies, comprises:

- **EA-2/17:** **EA Guidance on the horizontal requirements for the accreditation of conformity assessment bodies for notification purposes.** As agreed in May 2013 by the General Assembly revision to EA-2/17 to align it with the new ISO/IEC 17020 and 17065 has been completed.
- An introduction on the contents and how to use the package;
- A table showing the mapping of directives/modules and recommended standards. This is a work item which has been developed by a HHC TFG under the so-called “1+ approach”.

The next HHC meeting will take place on 18-19 March and 16-17 September in Brussels.
The EA Advisory Board (EAAB)

The 31st EAAB Meeting is to be held on 30 October 2013 in Brussels, Belgium.

Main discussions of the Board will deal with revising the Stakeholders’ Expectations from Accreditation, a key document of the EAAB, in order to update it in the light of Regulation (EC) 765/2008. The revised document should outline not only the common expectations of the Board, but also the specific expectations of each college/stakeholder constituency. A drafting group in charge of collecting and putting together all inputs from the colleges and members of their stakeholder constituencies was set up in April 2013 with a view to coming up with a revised draft to be discussed at the forthcoming meeting.

EA Meetings – From September to December 2013

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<td>Accreditation for Sensory Testing Laboratories</td>
<td>Out for comments within LC</td>
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<tr>
<td>EA-4/10</td>
<td>Accreditation of Laboratories Performing Microbiological Testing</td>
<td>Under revision, in cooperation with EURACHEM</td>
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<tr>
<td>EA-5/02</td>
<td>Guidance on the application of EN 45004 in recurrent inspection of motor vehicles</td>
<td>Under revision</td>
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<tr>
<td>EA-6/02</td>
<td>EA Guidance on the Use of EN 45011 and ISO/IEC 17021 for Certification to EN ISO 3834</td>
<td>Further revision to start upon approval of new work item</td>
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<tr>
<td>EA-6/03</td>
<td>EA Document for Recognition of Verifiers under the EU ETS Directive</td>
<td>Out for voting</td>
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<tr>
<td>EA-4/XX</td>
<td>Guidance on POCT accreditation</td>
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<tr>
<td>EA-4/XX</td>
<td>Guidance on Opinions &amp; Interpretations</td>
<td>Preliminary draft out for comments within LC</td>
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EA Secretariat, 16 October 2013
secretariat@european-accreditation.org