

22nd General Assembly of EA – Estoril, 18-19 November 2008

EA Resolution 2008 (22) 14

The General Assembly welcomes the adoption by the Council of the European Union and by the European Parliament of the “New Internal Market Package for Goods” and resolves that:

Under the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement and IAF Multilateral Agreement, EA **recognises** that:

Accredited reports and certificates issued in accordance with the requirements of ISO/IEC 17011 and the provisions of the relevant ILAC and IAF application documents by conformity assessment bodies that are accredited by non EA Full Member country based accreditation body signatories to the above international agreements but which are not signatories to the EA Multilateral Agreement (MLA) or hold a Bilateral Agreement (BLAs) with EA, are considered to be equally reliable to those issued under accreditation within the EA MLA and BLAs.

Accreditation bodies that are not Members of EA may not meet all of the criteria specified in Regulation (EC) 765/2008 that EA Members have to meet from January 1st 2010 at the latest (for example, having been appointed by the Government as a single national accreditation body and recognized by the Government as acting with public authority in the public interest, being independent of commercial motivations and non-profit distributing, not competing with other accreditation bodies, not performing cross-frontier accreditation beyond the given limitations, etc).

Accreditation bodies that have a BLA with EA shall, by 1 January 2012, be required to meet the same requirements as an EA Full Member that is a signatory to the EA MLA, but, in the transition period from 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2011 may not have been evaluated to show compliance with all the relevant criteria.

Accreditation bodies that have a Cooperation Agreement with EA shall, by 1 January 2012, be required to meet the same requirements as an EA Full Member that is not an MLA signatory, but, in the transition period from 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2011 may not have been evaluated to show compliance with all the relevant criteria.

From 1 January 2010 onwards, new BLAs shall be established by EA only with accreditation bodies fully complying with the provisions of Regulations (EC) 765/2008.

Up-to-date details of the status of BLAs and Cooperation Agreements shall be maintained on the EA web site www.european-accreditation.org.