

# MEMO



**TO:** IAS Accreditation Committee  
**FROM:** Raj Nathan, IAS President  
**DATE:** December 11, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** Proposed Revisions to The Accreditation Criteria for Product Certification Agencies (AC370).

As required by Clause 4.2.2 of the IAS Rules of Procedure – Accreditation Committee and Accreditation Committee Meeting (“Rules”), proposed revisions to AC370 were posted on the IAS website on October 23, 2020 for public review and comments. Clause 4.2.3 of the Rules allows interested parties to deliver written comments to IAS within approximately 30 days of such posting. IAS staff is required to inform the committee of all pertinent written communications received by IAS regarding the proposed criteria.

In accordance with clause 6.10.2 of the Rules, all communications and submissions received by IAS as part of the committee meetings are non-confidential and available for discussion in open session of the committee meeting. By means of this memo, received communications are being disclosed to the public.

Since the posting of the Criteria, IAS received the following feedback from Interested Parties and Applicants on the proposed criteria:

Line/Section	Proposed Change	Justification for Change
Section 3.3	<p>Remove the requirement that the certification body provide certification services for at least six months in a major category before being eligible for accreditation.</p> <p>Also add the following to the end of Section 3.3. “If the certification agency has not completed a certification in a major category of certification or requires accreditation prior to certification in a major category, the certification body shall Present a Pilot Project during the initial assessment.”</p>	<p>Most certification body clients require the certification body to be accredited before they will apply for certification. It is impossible for the certification body to receive an application for certification if they are not accredited.</p>

This input was provided by two IAS applicants during the leadup to the initial assessment and not in a written form. IAS staff has reviewed this comment and intends to make the recommendation as indicated above during the committee meeting on December 14, 2020.

No further comments were received by IAS as of December 10, 2020.

\*\*\*End\*\*\*