



April 21, 2025

TO: IAS – VALIDATION AND VERIFICATION BODIES (VVBs) AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES.

SUBJECT: Proposed Revisions to the Accreditation Criteria for Validation and Verification Bodies (VVBs), AC800-202506-R0 (MN/MS)

Hearing Information:

IAS Accreditation Committee

Wednesday, June 11, 2025

8:30 am (Pacific Time Zone)

WebEx Meeting – Refer to IAS website for details.

Dear Madam or Sir:

Proposed Revisions to the Accreditation Criteria for Validation and Verification Bodies (VVBs), (AC800) have been placed on the agenda for committee consideration at the above-noted meeting.

Proposed changes include:

1. Lines 37-38: Added ISO 14067, Greenhouse gases – Carbon footprint of products – Requirements and Guidelines for Quantification as reference to normative document with the intent to include VVB accreditation covering carbon footprint of products scope.
2. Lines 47 and 49: Updated titles of IAF MD 4 and IAF MD 6 as per latest version of IAF publication.
3. Lines 50-51: Added IAF MD 7 as it includes ISO/IEC 17029 requirements for validation and verification bodies as normative reference for harmonized sanction requirements.
4. Lines 56-57: The reference to IAF MD 20 has been removed as this MD is no longer in effect.
5. Line 63: Added IAF ID 12 Principles on Remote Assessment, as this ID clarifies the requirements and provides guidelines for remote assessments including surveillance, investigations, verifications, etc.
6. Line 64: Added IAF ID 15 Dealing with Fraudulent Behaviour, as this ID clarifies the requirements and provides guidelines for any fraudulent behaviour that directly contravenes accreditation rules and is likely to be dealt with under existing sanctions.

7. Lines 81-83: Updated the definition of Virtual Site as per latest version of IAF MD 4.
8. Lines 96 and 115: Added reference example for carbon footprint of products – ISO 14067 as relevant additional requirements.
9. Line 130: Clarified cross reference to section 3.1.6 for VVB assessment requirements.

You are cordially invited to submit written comments, or to attend the WebEx committee hearing and present verbal comments. Written comments will be forwarded to the committee, **prior to the hearing**, if received by **May 30, 2025**. For your convenience, a comment form is provided. The link can be found on the Accreditation Committee meeting page on the IAS website, www.iasonline.org. Comments must be emailed to iasinfo@iasonline.org.

Parties interested in proposed revised criteria may deliver written communications and submissions regarding such proposed criteria to IAS within approximately 30 days of posting of the public notice on the IAS website. The committee shall be informed of all pertinent written communications received by IAS. Any relevant communication and changes to a criteria arising from the written communication/submission shall be posted to the IAS website prior to the meeting.

Participants at the accreditation committee meetings shall have the opportunity to speak on the proposed criteria to provide information to the committee. Committee meetings are generally held by electronic means. Participants are responsible to ensure access to appropriate computer equipment, software, and internet connectivity to ensure effective participation during the meeting.

Your cooperation is requested in forwarding to IAS, as noted above, all material directed to the committee. Prior to the hearing, parties interested in the deliberations of the committee should refrain from communicating, whether in writing or verbally, with committee members regarding agenda items. The committee reserves the right to refuse communications that do not comply with this request.

If you have any questions, please contact IAS at 562-364-8201. You may also reach us by e-mail at iasinfo@iasonline.org.

Yours very truly,

International Accreditation Service

IAS Management

Enclosure: Proposed Revised AC800

cc: Accreditation Committee



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PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE ACCREDITATION CRITERIA FOR VALIDATION AND VERIFICATION BODIES (VVBs)

AC800

**Proposed June 11, 2025
Effective xxxxx**

PREFACE

The attached accreditation criteria have been proposed to provide all interested parties with an opportunity to comment. These criteria may be further revised as needed. The criteria are developed and adopted following public hearings conducted by the International Accreditation Service, Inc. (IAS), Accreditation Committee and are effective on the first of the month following approval by the Accreditation Committee, but no earlier than 30 days following the approval.

21 **PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE ACCREDITATION CRITERIA FOR VALIDATION AND**
22 **VERIFICATION BODIES (VVBs)**

23
24 **1 INTRODUCTION**

25 1.1 **Scope:** These criteria set forth the requirements for obtaining and maintaining International
26 Accreditation Service, Inc. (IAS), Validation and Verification Bodies (VVBs) accreditation. The
27 criteria supplement the IAS Rules of Procedure for Validation and Verification Accreditation.

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29 1.2 **Normative and Reference Documents:** Publications listed below refer to current editions
30 (unless otherwise stated).

31 1.2.1 ISO/IEC 17029, Conformity assessment – General principles and requirements for
32 validation and verification bodies.

33 1.2.2 ISO 14065, General principles and requirements for bodies validating and verifying
34 environmental information.

35 1.2.3 ISO 14066, Environmental information – Competence requirements for teams
36 validating and verifying environmental information.

37 1.2.31.2.4 ISO 14067, Greenhouse gases – Carbon footprint of products – Requirements
38 and Guidelies for Quantification.

39 1.2.41.2.5 ISO 14064-1, Greenhouse gases – Part 1: Specification with guidance at the
40 organization level for quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and
41 removals.

42 1.2.51.2.6 ISO 14064-2, Greenhouse gases – Part 2: Specification with guidance at the
43 project level for quantification, monitoring and reporting of greenhouse gas emission
44 reductions or removal enhancements.

45 1.2.61.2.7 ISO 14064-3, Greenhouse gases – Part 3: Specification with guidance for the
46 verification and validation of greenhouse gas statements.

47 1.2.71.2.8 IAF MD 4:~~2023~~ IAF Mandatory Document for the Use of Information and
48 Communication Technology (ICT) for Auditing/Assessment Purposes

49 1.2.81.2.9 IAF MD 6:~~2023~~ IAF Mandatory Document for the Application of ISO 14065:2020

50 1.2.91.2.10 IAF MD 7 IAF Mandatory Document for the Harmonization of Sanctions and
51 Dealing with Fraudulent Behaviour

52 1.2.101.2.11 IAF MD 12:~~2023~~ Accreditation Assessment of Conformity Assessment Bodies
53 with Activities in Multiple Countries

54 1.2.111.2.12 IAF MD14:~~2023~~ Application of ISO/IEC 17011 in Greenhouse Gas Validation and
55 Verification (ISO 14065:2013)

56 1.2.121.2.13 IAF MD 20:~~2023~~ Generic Competence for AB Assessors: Application to ISO/IEC
57 17044

58 [1.2.13](#)~~1.2.14~~ IAF MD25:2023 Criteria for Evaluation of Conformity Assessment Schemes
59 [1.2.14](#)~~1.2.15~~ IAF Resolutions related to accreditation bodies and transitions as available on
60 the IAF website.
61 [1.2.16](#) IAF ID 3:2014 Informative Document for Management of Extraordinary Events or
62 Circumstances Affecting ABs, CABs and Certified Organizations.
63 [1.2.17](#) IAF ID 12 Principles on Remote Assessment
64 [1.2.15](#)~~1.2.18~~ IAF ID 15 Dealing with Fraudulent Behaviour
65 [1.2.16](#)~~1.2.19~~ ISO/IEC 17000 Conformity assessment – Vocabulary and general principles.
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67 2 DEFINITIONS

- 68 2.1 Applicable definitions found in ISO/IEC 17000 series apply.
69 2.2 **APAC:** Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation
70 2.3 **CAB:** Conformity Assessment Body
71 2.4 **GHG:** Greenhouse Gases
72 2.5 **IAF:** International Accreditation Forum
73 2.6 **Remote Assessments:** Accreditation Body's assessment of the physical location or virtual site
74 of a CAB office or CAB's client, using electronic means.
75 2.7 **VVB:** Validation and Verification Body applicant or accredited by IAS.
76 2.8 **Validation:** Confirmation of a claim, through the provision of objective evidence, that the
77 requirements for a specific intended future use or application have been fulfilled.
78 2.9 **Verification:** Confirmation of a claim, through the provision of objective evidence, that
79 specified requirements have been fulfilled.
80 2.10 **Virtual site:** ~~An online environment allowing persons to execute processes, e.g., in a cloud~~
81 ~~environment.~~ Virtual location where a client organization performs work or provides a service
82 using an online environment allowing persons irrespective of physical locations to execute
83 processes.
84 2.11 **Witness Assessments:** Validation/Verification activities/audits that are observed by an IAS
85 assessor.
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87 3 ELIGIBILITY

- 88 3.1 Accreditation services are available to all validation and verification bodies that meet the
89 following requirements:
90 3.1.1 Have at least a minimum of one completed validation/verification engagement for each
91 type of validation/verification program and sector group in the requested scope of
92 accreditation.
93 3.1.2 Have completed at least one Internal Audit and one Management Review.

- 94 3.1.3 Have a complete and demonstrable management system based on the requirements of
95 ISO/IEC 17029 and other relevant additional requirements. (e.g., for GHG
96 validation/verification ISO 14065, [for carbon footprint of products ISO 14067](#) and
97 applicable program/scheme requirements).
- 98 3.1.4 Demonstrate compliance with all applicable IAF Mandatory Documents (MD).
- 99 3.1.5 Have competent validation/verification teams in the requested scope of accreditation.
- 100 3.1.6 All office and witness assessments are conducted onsite unless agreed by IAS for
101 remote or virtual assessments or mandated by IAF under special circumstances.
- 102 3.2 All documents submitted to IAS must be in English.
- 103 3.3 The VVB or any part of the same legal entity or any entity under the organizational control of
104 the VVB cannot offer or provide consultancy.
- 105 3.4 The IAS Accreditation cycle for VVBs is four (4) years (see Annex A).
- 106 3.5 The VVB shall identify relevant regulatory and/or voluntary program requirements applicable to
107 its validation/verification operations, and comply with such regulatory and/or voluntary program
108 requirements as applicable.
- 109 3.6 If VVB is seeking accreditation based on a voluntary scheme(s), then such scheme(s) should
110 be validated in accordance with IAF MD25, as applicable.

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112 4 REQUIRED BASIC INFORMATION

113 Applicant VVBs must demonstrate compliance with the following requirements:

- 114 4.1 ISO/IEC 17029 and level 4 standards, and other relevant additional requirements. (e.g., for
115 GHG validation/verification ISO 14065, [for carbon footprint of products ISO 14067](#) and
116 applicable program/scheme requirements), as applicable.
- 117 4.2 All relevant IAF Mandatory Documents (MD). (https://iaf.nu/en/iaf-documents/?cat_id=7)
- 118 4.3 IAF relevant Resolutions related to accreditation bodies and transitions as available on the IAF
119 website.
- 120 4.4 All relevant IAF Informative Documents (ID). (https://iaf.nu/en/iaf-documents/?cat_id=10)
- 121 4.5 ISO/IEC Standard 17000, Conformity assessment – Vocabulary and general principles.
- 122 4.6 Relevant IAS policy documents.
- 123 4.7 IAS Policy on the Use of IAS Endorsement by Accredited Organizations in Restricted Zones.
- 124 4.8 IAS Policy on the use of the ILAC/IAF/IAS Combined Marks.
- 125 4.9 All relevant regulatory and/or voluntary program requirements, as applicable.

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127 5 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (AS APPLICABLE)

- 128 5.1 All requested scopes shall be in the format used in the IAS VVB application form.

- 129 5.1.1 Applicant VVBs shall undergo onsite office and witness assessments, as described in
130 IAS Rules of Procedure for Validation and Verification Accreditation and Sections [3.1.6](#)
131 [and](#) 3.4 of this criteria.
- 132 5.1.2 Identification of the program for the particular validation/verification that needs to be
133 operated.
- 134 5.1.3 Program description shall specify definitions, principles, rules, processes and
135 requirements for validation/verification process steps, as well as for the competence of
136 validators/verifiers for a specific sector.
- 137 5.1.4 Programs can be legal frameworks, international, regional or national standards, global
138 initiatives, sector applications as well as individual agreements with clients of the
139 validation/verification body.
- 140 5.1.5 Information and disclosure regarding current or past accreditation status or sanctions
141 brought against the VVB shall be requested during the application.
- 142 5.1.6 Formal application is through iasinfo@iasonline.org
- 143 5.1.7 IAS will only accept Validated/Verified client's project reports provided directly by the
144 VVBs.
- 145 5.2 Accredited VVBs – Transitions to IAS requirements, international standards or IAF MDs: The
146 following are required when transitioning:
- 147 5.2.1 A transition plan to be provided by the VVB to IAS,
148 5.2.2 Competent personnel of VVB,
149 5.2.3 Audit records, if any, relating to the transition or a witness assessment as needed.

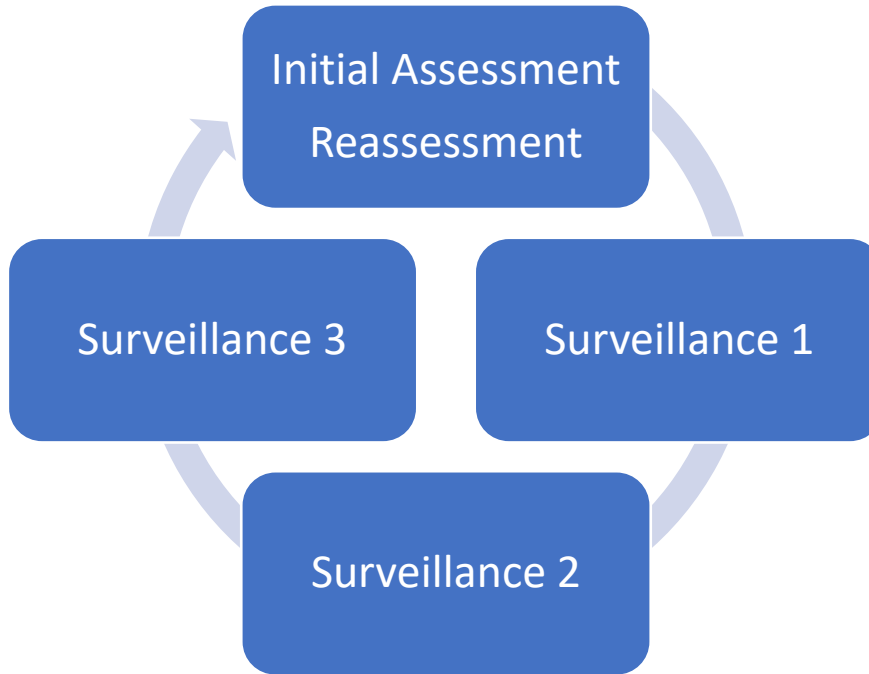
151 **6 LINKS TO ADDITIONAL REFERENCES**

- 152 6.1 International Accreditation Forum (IAF) – www.iaf.nu
153 6.2 International Organization for Standardization (ISO) – www.iso.org
154 6.3 Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (APAC) - <https://www.apac-accreditation.org/>

157 *These criteria were previously issued October 2023.*
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Annex A IAS ACCREDITATION CYCLE



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164 1st Cycle

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|---|--|---|---|--|
| Example of VVB Assessment Schedule | Initial Accreditation Decision date to Surveillance 1 Assessment date (12 months apart) June 1, 2021 to June 1, 2022 | Surveillance 1 Assessment date to Surveillance 2 Assessment date (12 months apart) June 1, 2022 to June 1, 2023 | Surveillance 2 Assessment date to Surveillance 3 Assessment date (12 months apart) June 1, 2023 to June 1, 2024 | Surveillance 3 Assessment date to Reassessment 1 date (12 months apart) June 1, 2024 to June 1, 2025 |
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166 2nd Cycle

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| Example of VVB Assessment Schedule | Reassessment 1 date to next Surveillance 1 Assessment date (12 months apart) June 1, 2025 to June 1, 2026 | Surveillance 1 Assessment date to Surveillance 2 Assessment date (12 months apart) June 1, 2026 to June 1, 2027 | Surveillance 2 Assessment date to Surveillance 3 Assessment date (12 months apart) June 1, 2027 to June 1, 2028 | Surveillance 3 Assessment date to Reassessment 2 date (12 months apart) June 1, 2028 to June 1, 2029 |
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