



AKREDITACIONO TELО СРБИЈЕ

ATS-PA05

RULES OF CROSS-FRONTIER ACCREDITATION

Any differences between the Serbian and English versions of this document are not intended, but if in doubt, the Serbian version should be consulted.



1 SCOPE

This document shall lay down the policy applied by the Accreditation Body of Serbia (ATS) when accreditation is provided to a conformity assessment body (CAB) with the head office outside the Republic of Serbia or to a CAB established in the Republic of Serbia, but that has sites and/or key activities in another country, and the policy related to cooperation with other accreditation bodies in case of cross-frontier accreditation.

This policy shall be applied to all types of CABs, whose competence is assessed by ATS i.e. testing laboratories, medical laboratories, calibration laboratories, **proficiency testing providers (PT providers)**, certification and inspection bodies.

2 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

The Rules of Cross-frontier Accreditation are based on the principles defined in the following documents:

- Law on Accreditation (“Official Gazette of the RS”, No. 73/2010),
- SRPS ISO/IEC 17011:2007 – Conformity Assessment-General Requirements for Accreditation Bodies Providing Accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies
- EA- 2/13 M:2012 - EA Cross Border Accreditation Policy and Procedure for Cross Border Cooperation between EA Members,
- EA- 2/13 S1 M:2013 Supplement 1 to EA-2/13 EA Cross Border Accreditation Policy and Procedure for Cross Border Cooperation between EA Members - Interpretation of terminology Used in clause 5.1 and Guidelines to assessment focus
- ILAC-G21:09/2012, Cross Frontier Accreditation - Principles for Cooperation,
- IAF ML 1:2016 Guidance for the Exchange of Documentation among MLA Signatories for the Assessment of Conformity Assessment Bodies,
- IAF ML 4:2016, Policies and Procedures for a MLA on the Level of Single Accreditation Bodies and on the Level of Regional Accreditation Groups
- IAF/ILAC-A5:11/2013, IAF/ILAC Multi-Lateral Mutual Recognition Arrangements (Arrangements): Application of ISO/IEC 17011:2004,
- Rules of Accreditation ATS-PA01,
- Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 setting out the requirements for accreditation and market surveillance relating to the marketing of products and repealing Regulation (EEC) No 339/93.



3 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this document the following definitions apply:

- 3.1 EA region:** The geographical region covered by countries of the EA (European Co-operation for Accreditation) members, the countries which have been formally identified by the EU or EFTA as candidate countries for membership in the EU or EFTA and countries of accreditation bodies with which EA has signed a bilateral agreement.
- 3.2 Local accreditation body (LAB):** The national accreditation body of the country where the accredited conformity assessment body is established. The term also refers to the accreditation body of a country where there is a site included in an Scope of accreditation of CAB granted by ATS..
- 3.3 EA MLA(BLA)/ILAC MRA/IAF MLA:** multilateral (bilateral) mutual recognition agreement promoting equivalence of accreditation systems within EA/ mutual recognition agreement promoting equivalence of accreditation systems within ILAC (International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation)/mutual recognition agreement promoting equivalence of accreditation systems within IAF (International Accreditation Forum).

4 POLICY

- 4.1** ATS undertakes that it shall not promote or market its accreditation services in the country of another accreditation body and that it shall not compete with other accreditation bodies.
- 4.2** ATS can refer a CAB established in the Republic of Serbia to submit an application for accreditation to an accreditation body from another country if ATS does not perform accreditation in respect of the conformity assessment activities for which accreditation is sought.
- 4.3** ATS can ask an accreditation body from another country to carry out a part of accreditation activities. ATS can, at the request of an accreditation body from another country, perform part of activities on the occasion of accreditation of a CAB from that country.
- 4.4** ATS performs accreditation activities only in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, except in cases that are in keeping with the reference documents of EA, ILAC and IAF provided under 4.4.1, 4.4.3 and 4.5 of these Rules.
- 4.4.1** As a rule, ATS can accept applications for accreditation submitted by CABs outside the Republic of Serbia in the following situations:
- (a) where the country in which the CAB is established has decided not to establish a national accreditation body/accreditation body and has not had recourse to the national accreditation body/accreditation body of another country;
 - (b) where the national accreditation body/accreditation body in the country where the CAB is established does not provide accreditation service in respect of the conformity assessment activities for which accreditation is sought;
 - (c) where the accreditation body in the country where the CAB is established has not signed the multilateral mutual recognition agreements (EA MLA(BLA) for the EA region or ILAC



MRA/IAF MLA for other countries) in respect of the conformity assessment activities for which accreditation is sought.

- 4.4.2** Pursuant to 4.4.1 b) and c), ATS shall inform the accreditation body in the country where the applicant is established (LAB) that it accepts to perform accreditation procedure and shall explain the reasons for accepting the application and shall propose to the LAB that it **can act** as an observer during the assessment that will be carried out by ATS. ATS shall seek the cooperation of the Local AB, when it should pay utmost attention to using the specific competence needed (adequate assessors), taking into account factors such as language, local laws and regulations, culture, etc. The Local AB shall facilitate the access of ATS to competence resources if and when available. The said cooperation rules shall also be observed in case of CAB surveillance assessments and reassessments. Prior to the cooperation with the LAB, ATS shall provide written approval from the CAB by means of the contract on accreditation.
- 4.4.3** When ATS accredits a conformity assessment body from the Republic of Serbia and the conformity assessment body has foreign sites performing key activities (defined in keeping with SRPS ISO / IEC 17011 and IAF/ILAC A5), these foreign sites can be covered under the accreditation granted to the CAB and covered by the Scope of accreditation issued by ATS. For the purposes of this document this is called multisite accreditation. In that case ATS shall cooperate with the LAB as defined under 4.4.2, and if the LAB is a signatory to relevant multilateral mutual recognition agreements (EA MLA(BLA)/ILAC MRA/IAF MLA) in respect of the conformity assessment activities for which accreditation is sought, ATS shall cooperate with the LAB in the EA region as defined in Chapters 6 and 7 of this document, i.e. in accordance with clause 8.2 in case of countries outside the EA region the LAB of which are signatories to ILAC MRA/IAF MLA.
- 4.5** ATS can, except in cases described under 4.4.1, accept an application for accreditation from a CAB established outside the territory of the Republic of Serbia under the conditions and procedure provided in Chapter 8 of these Rules and when there is an accreditation body in the country where the accredited CAB is established covering the scheme and/or field of accreditation being sought and that is a signatory, for that particular scheme of accreditation, to the multilateral mutual recognition agreements (ILAC MRA or IAF MLA).
- 4.6** When the conditions under 4.4.1 or 4.4.3 have changed and at each re-assessment, ATS shall confirm that previously accepted conditions for providing cross-frontier accreditation still apply as prescribed in these Rules.
- 4.7** This policy does not address operations of ATS accredited CABs in foreign countries when the activity is not classified as a key activity. However, it is the responsibility of ATS to ensure that accredited CABs operating in foreign countries have the necessary competence and when this involves witnessing activities of the CAB in the foreign country, ATS will, in those cases, ask for the support and cooperation of the LAB in which country the CAB performs activities.
- 4.8** Furthermore, when ATS accredits a CAB in its own country for conformity assessment according to foreign national regulation, ATS shall ask for support while assessing from the national accreditation body of the country issuing the regulation in order to make sure that it has full information on the implementation of that regulation.
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4.9 This policy is consistent with the Law on Accreditation, Rules of Accreditation, SRPS ISO/IEC 17011 and the procedure entitled EA- 2/13 M:2012 and EA- 2/13 S1 M:2013 (i.e. EU Regulation (EC) 765/2008), and takes into account the IAF and ILAC cross-frontier guidelines contained in reference documents IAF ML 4 and ILAC-G21.

4.10 The intention of this policy is to ensure further development of the network of ABs signatories to EA MLA/BLA, IAF MLA and ILAC MRA which will then contribute to the upgrade of international trade through application of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade of the World Trade Organization (WTO/TBT) and other regional trade agreements when technical barriers to trade are removed by means of mutual recognition of national conformity assessment systems and avoidance of repeated accreditations.

5 COOPERATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CROSS-FRONTIER ACCREDITATION IN THE EA REGION

- 5.1** Where ATS is going to accredit a CAB in a foreign country that is in the EA region, it shall inform the Local Accreditation Body of the country where the CAB was established about its intentions in writing and keep it informed of its following actions ATS shall take all necessary steps to cooperate as much as possible with the Local Accreditation Body.
- 5.2** ATS can accredit a CAB from another country in the EA region only in the cases of fulfillment of conditions described in 4.4.1 (a) or 4.4.1 (b) or 4.4.1 (c) (which in case of the EA region require negative outcome of the EA peer evaluation of a national accreditation body of the country where the CAB was established in case of conformity assessment activities for which accreditation is sought, i.e. if the said national accreditation body is not a signatory to a required EA MLA/BLA).
- 5.3** When ATS accredits a CAB from the Republic of Serbia and the CAB has foreign sites performing key activities in the EA region (multisite accreditation), these foreign sites are covered under the accreditation granted to the CAB and stated in the Scope of accreditation under the conditions given in Chapter 4 of this document.
- 5.4** Prior to accepting an application under the conditions described in 4.4.1 (b) and (c), ATS shall confirm in writing with the Local AB that one of these conditions apply.
- 5.5** When ATS, in the situations described in 5.2 and 5.3, is requested to provide accreditation services in another country in the EA region, it should pay attention to using the specific competence needed taking into account factors such as language, local laws and regulations, culture, etc. in addition to normal technical competence requirements. ATS shall seek the cooperation of the Local AB for such data that may not be readily available for ATS. The Local AB shall facilitate the access of ATS to these data and to competence resources if and when available. ATS shall use resources of the Local AB as much as possible to ensure access to relevant competence.
- 5.6** When the conditions under 5.2 or 5.3 have changed and at each re-assessment/surveillance assessment ATS shall confirm that previously accepted justifications and conditions for
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providing cross-frontier accreditation still apply. The records of these justifications shall be retained and be subject to evaluation during Peer Evaluations by the EA.

- 5.7** In the exceptional cases where ATS and the Local AB have not been able to establish cooperation according to EA procedures (EA- 2/13 M:2012), ATS shall produce records of the reason why this cooperation was not possible. This information shall be documented, retained and provided on request.
- 5.8** ATS shall ensure that the contracts with its clients include clauses that enable the Local ABs to be used for assessments of conformity assessment activities performed in other countries without the need for prior approval or informing CAB, if the Local AB is a signatory of the relevant EA MLA/BLA and provides accreditation for the relevant conformity assessment activity. In addition, the contracts shall contain provisions about consent of CAB concerning the exchange of information between ATS and LAB with regards to CAB, which were received during accreditation. Furthermore, the contract shall contain provisions requiring that CAB local sites cannot, in case of multisite accreditation, reject the participation of the Local AB in the assessment, reassessment nor surveillance processes.
- 5.9** ATS will, on the occasion of granting cross-frontier accreditation to CABs from the EA region (see 5.2), cooperate with the LAB in line with the rules and procedure under 5.1-5.9 of these Rules. However, when CABs from the Republic of Serbia are granted accreditation by other EA members and when ATS acts as the LAB, ATS will abide by the requirements from the relevant Chapters pertaining to the LAB.
- 5.10** ATS will, on the occasion of granting cross-frontier accreditation to multisite CABs from the Republic of Serbia (see 5.3), cooperate with the LAB in line with the rules and procedure under Chapters 6, 7 and 9 of these Rules. However, when multisite CABs from the EA region are granted accreditation to operate in the Republic of Serbia and when ATS acts as the LAB, ATS will abide by the requirements from the relevant Chapters pertaining to the LAB.

6 COOPERATION PROCEDURE BETWEEN EA MEMBERS ON CROSS-FRONTIER, MULTISITE ACCREDITATION

- 6.1** Where a CAB with a Head Office established in the Republic of Serbia also has local sites situated in other countries of the EA region, it may seek ATS accreditation to cover the activities for all of its sites (see clause 5.3). For multisite accreditation the following conditions shall be met and apply irrespective of the legal personality of the CAB sites outside the Republic of Serbia.
- 6.1.1** The accreditation certificate issued by ATS shall name one legal entity, that of the head office to a legal entity, and it shall be this legal entity that holds the multisite accreditation and is responsible for the performing accredited activities of the CAB, also including any activity performed by the local sites outside the Republic of Serbia and which are stated in the Scope of Accreditation.
- 6.1.2** The CAB head office and all of the sites stated in the Scope of accreditation shall operate under *the same management* and the *same quality management system*. The same management (leadership) is comprised with same set of persons or organisational entities of the same organization taking overall responsibility for the accredited activities. *The same quality*
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management system presents a set of linked rules and procedures defined by the *same management* in order to take responsibility for the accredited activities. The linkage is achieved through table of or by reference. For assessing whether there is the same management (leadership), the following is checked:

- Organisation charts linked to named individuals;
- Reporting lines from sites to the head office;
- Descriptions of authorities and responsibilities of persons:
 - approving policies and instructions for conformity assessment activities
 - approving authorities and responsibilities of personnel involved in conformity assessment activities, and
 - authorising certificates and reports.
- Names of persons at the head office assigned authorities and responsibilities to control and monitor activities performed at local sites, including decisions concerning resource management etc.;
- Evidence of monitoring from head office to the local site in every aspect (managerial, financial and operational). (Note that the sole performance of internal audits is not considered sufficient for taking responsibility for accredited activities.) Evidence of monitoring may be written instructions and records produced and maintained;
- Evidence of effective communication within the organisation. Special care should be taken where there is not a single language of communication within the organisation used by all members of the management in a position to influence the quality of the accredited services ;
- Is transfer of overall managerial and operational responsibility for activities of the local site to personnel employed by a foreign company (Head Office) possible according to the company legislation in the country where the local site is established?

6.1.3 In order for the quality management system to be considered as the same it shall be designed to provide the same outcome of accredited activities regardless of where the activities are carried out or by whom. The policies governing conformity assessment activities shall be the same throughout the organisation. To provide consistency of results:

- The same management is to define in the same quality management system any subsets of alternative rules and procedures, used e.g. by different local sites or throughout different geographical regions.
 - All activities defined by the same quality management system are covered by an internal audit program managed and approved by the same management, and the outcome of individual audits, including decisions on corrective actions, is channelled through affected management at all levels as the situation warrants.
 - All activities of the same quality management system are subject to a management review by the same management. The outcome of the management review, including any decisions, is channelled through affected management at all levels as the
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situation warrants. The same management has the authority and legal means to enforce corrective and preventive actions.

In order to assess whether it is *the same quality management system*, the following is assessed:

- Management system structure.
- Rules for approval of policies and instructions.
- Implementation of policies.
- Application of requirements for competence, procedures for qualification and monitoring of personnel involved in conformity assessment activities.
- Internal audit program. Documentation of internal audits. Communication of corrective actions. Lack of same or similar non-conformances recurring throughout the organization.
- Procedure for management review. Documentation of management reviews. Communication and implementation of decisions. Lack of similar problems recurring throughout the organization.

- 6.1.4** The CAB head office shall have the means to substantially influence and control the activities of the sites. The CAB head office shall be able to demonstrate that such influence and control is in place and properly working.
- 6.1.5** The CAB local sites shall not offer accredited services to the local (foreign) market under their own name and their own logo within the ATS multisite accreditation.
- 6.1.6** The accredited CAB, i.e. the head office, maintains *the final responsibility for the activities* – performed by the local sites covered under the scope of the multisite accreditation of the head office.
- 6.1.7** Where these local sites carry out key activities as defined in SRPS ISO/IEC 17011 and IAF/ILAC A5, then the ATS multisite accreditation certificate shall in its annex стандарту (Scope of Accreditation) clearly identify the address of these sites..
- 6.1.8** The local sites may offer conformity assessment activities under the multisite accreditation to the local (foreign) market, only on behalf of the accredited CAB, i.e. the head office. Certificates of conformity (certificates and reports) issued under the multisite accreditation shall contain the name and address of the accredited legal entity i.e. the CAB head office, without the logo of the local site.. However, these certificates may make reference to the contact details of the site issuing the certificate or report in question. Issued certificates shall not create any confusion as to the CAB which holds the accreditation.
- 6.1.9** The multisite accreditation is meant only for use by the CAB and its local sites within *the same organisation* and where the head office maintains the *responsibility* for the activities performed and certificates/reports issued by the local sites. *The same organisation by definition is a group of legal entities, which consists of the head office and local sites which are connected on the basis of contractual or equivalent legal relationships, operating under the same commercial name and logo. The names of the individual legal entities may be slightly different but shall include the commercial name of the organisation. In order to assess whether it is the same organisation, the following is audited: contractual agreements or documentation of other legal relationships between head office and local sites; registration of the commercial name and logo; marketing material; issued reports and/or certificates.*
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6.1.10 The responsibility shall be demonstrated on the basis of contractual or equivalent legal relationships between the head office and the local sites and internal regulations in the organisations that further specify these relationships in terms of management and responsibilities.

6.1.11 Multisite accreditation can be applied to all types of local sites such as subsidiaries, branches, agencies, offices, etc. regardless of their legal personality and is valid for all types of CABs, as long as they carry out clearly defined and relevant activities within the Scope of the multisite accreditation. **The names of the individual legal entities may e.g. include letter codes defining type of organisation (e.g. “Ltd” or “GmbH”) or regional identifiers (e.g. “Svenska” or “Deutsche”). The commercial name may be translated, partially or in full, to accommodate the local market.**

6.1.12 Responsibility for the accredited activities in points 6.1.1, 6.1.6 and 6.1.9 is the responsibility for performing and the result of accredited conformity assessment activities. So as to assume responsibility for the accredited activities, the seat of organisation (head office), needs to have full operational control over activities. To this end, the head office shall have appropriate technical competence and the resources to assure control over the full scope of accreditation. To take responsibility for the outcome of accredited activities is to take responsibility for; the competence and resources used, the rules and procedures applied, the consistency obtained and quality achieved through the application of these rules and procedures, the impartiality displayed applying these rules and procedures, and the contents of issued reports and/or certificates. It is necessary to support responsibility towards the customer, authorities, the public and in court. When assessing whether the head office has responsibility for the accredited activities, the focus is on:

- harmonising conformity assessment outcomes through;
 - common or equivalent procedures,
 - common or equivalent competence, training, qualification and monitoring requirements,
 - supervising conformity assessment activities, e.g. by means of:
 - internal audits,
 - participation in proficiency testing schemes,
 - monitoring activities,
 - the checking of data, calculations, analyses and reports or certificates;
 - documentation of communication with authorities;
 - handling of complaints and appeals, both at the level of the head office and at the level of the local sites;
 - handling of impartiality issues, both at the level of the head office and at the level of the local sites;
 - handling of media coverage, both at the level of the head office and at the level of the local sites;
 - handling of legal cases, both at the level of the head office and at the level of the local sites.
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When these conditions are not met in all aspects, multisite accreditation shall not be granted by ATS.

- 6.2** The ATS principles of multisite cross border accreditation require CABs and the sites outside the Republic of Serbia that are included in the multisite accreditation to abide by the following:
1. The multisite CAB having local sites in different countries from the EA region shall fully cooperate with the NABs from the CAB site countries (LABs).
 2. Local CAB sites cannot reject the participation of the Local AB in the assessment, reassessment and surveillance processes.
- 6.3** Holding the final responsibility, as mentioned in 6.1.12 of this document, for activities performed by the local site implies that the head office takes the operational, financial and legal responsibility for activities performed by the local site, and this responsibility shall be confirmed in the conditions set by ATS for its multisite accreditation of the head office under the conditions defined in these Rules. ATS shall require that the CAB shall state in its contracts with its customers that the head office takes full operational, financial and legal responsibility for activities performed by the local site.
- 6.4** If a local site, as referred to in 6.1.7 is removed from the list of local sites on the accreditation certificate, i.e., the Scope of Accreditation, for lack of fulfilment of requirements, the impact on the status of the full scope of accreditation shall be determined by ATS. In this regard particular consideration shall be given to the requirements on the head office/CAB seat for controlling activities (see 6.1.4) and for taking responsibility for performed activities (see 6.1.5).
- 6.5** Each site where key activities are performed shall during initial assessment be visited and assessed by ATS before it can be covered under the Scope of multisite accreditation.
- 6.6** The programme for follow-up assessment (surveillance visit) of sites where key activities are performed shall normally take place at the same frequency as at an equivalent single site CAB. The frequency of surveillance assessments may be reduced or increased based upon a risk assessment undertaken by ATS. Justifications for a reduction or increase in frequency for each case shall be recorded and kept by ATS and these shall be made available during the EA Peer Evaluations.

7 PROCEDURE BETWEEN EA MEMBERS ON CROSS BORDER, MULTISITE ACCREDITATION

In all circumstances where ATS knows that it will need the cooperation of a Local AB for performing assessments, it shall report this as soon as possible. ATS shall inform the Local AB of its needs in the coming calendar year at the latest three months before the beginning of the calendar year. At this stage, the exact scope of the assessment may not be clear, but such early information is



essential to allow for resource planning by the Local AB. The scope of the assessment will have to be reported to the Local AB by ATS at the latest three months before the due date of the assessment.

- 7.1 Cooperation between Local and ATS can only function efficiently, if both parties are committed to responding, to all requests in a timely manner and announce at an early stage any difficulties they may encounter.
- 7.2 When a LAB performs assessments for ATS, SRPS ISO/IEC 17011 clause 7.4.1 applies given that these pertain to subcontracting of assessments, i.e. ATS shall adhere to the relevant provisions of the Quality Manual ATS PK01.
- 7.3 When a LAB agrees to undertake assessments on behalf of ATS, the LAB may use its own accreditation assessment procedures, systems and reports. The report shall, in any case, contain sufficient information about the findings and supporting evidence to ensure that a sound decision can be taken by ATS. ATS shall specify the scope of the requested assessment in such detail that the risk for misunderstanding is minimised. The LAB shall ensure that it follows the instructions of ATS in such matters. ATS shall provide the LAB with all information needed to ensure effective assessment within the agreed time frame according to the agreement signed.

ATS shall inform the LAB of the outcome of the accreditation decision as soon as it is made.

- 7.4 The language to be used during the assessment and in reports shall be agreed between the LAB and ATS and the CAB in advance of the assessment.
- 7.5 The approach to the cooperation between ATS and the Local AB will differ depending on the specific circumstances of the CAB. For cross border multisite accreditation, there are 3 possible cases:
 1. The accredited CAB has a site ca with key activities in a country where the site is itself a CAB accredited by the Local AB for an identical scope.
 2. The accredited CAB has a site with key activities in a country where the site is itself a CAB accredited by the Local AB for a different scope.
 3. The accredited CAB has a site with key activities in a country where the site is not at all accredited as a CAB by the Local AB.

The following table defines the principles of the cooperation between ATS which has accredited the multisite CAB and the Local AB from countries having CAB sites and that performs part of conformity assessment activities on behalf of ATS. This table applies only if the Local AB has the appropriate competence for the work it is being asked to deliver, i.e. if it is a signatory to the EA MLA/BLA..

While exchanging documentation with other accreditation bodies, ATS shall implement principles of good cooperation among bodies stated in the document IAF ML 1:2016 Guidance for the Exchange of Documentation among MLA Signatories for the Assessment of Conformity Assessment Bodies.



Conditions	Type of site with key activity to be assessed		
	1. The site with key activity = a CAB accredited by the Local AB for an identical scope	2. The site with key activity = a CAB accredited by the Local AB for a different scope	3. The site with key activity = not accredited by the Local AB
Assessment cycle	Cycle of the Local AB (the assessment is part of the Local AB assessment). If ATS under accreditation of which the site is being assessed uses a more stringent requirement, the more stringent requirement applies, unless otherwise agreed with the Local AB.	Cycle of the Local AB (the assessment is performed during the assessment of the Local AB). If ATS under accreditation of which the site is being assessed uses a more stringent requirement, the more stringent requirement applies, unless otherwise agreed with the local AB.	Cycle of ATS (assessment by the Local AB dedicated solely to ATS scope).
Assessment content of the site on behalf of ATS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Files and records under ATS accreditation - Witnessing as defined by ATS for the activities under the ATS accreditation. - Any additional ATS requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key activities as defined by ATS in line with IAF/ILAC A5. - Files and records under ATS accreditation. - Witnessing as defined by ATS for the activities under ATS accreditation. - Any additional ATS requirements. 	
Output of the assessment to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment results to be reported immediately to ATS when a major nonconformity has been detected which may influence the scope of accreditation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment results as soon as possible or as stated in the agreement between ATS and LAB. - Assessment report within the time frame stated in the agreement between ATS and 	



be provided to ATS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Assessment report to be provided within the time frame stated in the agreement between ATS and LAB.- Statement on how findings have been closed, if these are closed by the Local AB according to the agreement between ATS and LAB.- Decision or confirmation of decision of the local AB on its local accreditation of the site (granting, surveillance, renewal).-	LAB. <ul style="list-style-type: none">- statement on how findings have been closed, if these are closed by the Local AB according to the agreement between ATS and LAB.
Information to be provided to the Local AB by ATS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Report of the last head office assessment.- Any specific additional requirements or activities to be particularly assessed by the Local AB.- Any requirements from regulators which may have an impact on the activities of the foreign site when accreditation is being granted for the purposes of notification.- Full scope of the activities which can be performed by the local site abroad under the multisite accreditation.- Detailed description of the scope to be assessed, including any sector schemes.- Surveillance plan for the CAB site over the full accreditation cycle.- Global surveillance plan if necessary.- Global witnessing plan if necessary.	
Planning to be elaborated by ATS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Global planning for all assessments to be performed by ATS during the CAB accreditation cycle so that the Local AB can plan its resources. For that purpose ATS will have to have some type of plan on the basis of which it will select its activities and multi-site of the CAB to be assessed so that the Local AB has an approximate understanding of what will be expected of it concerning resources since there will always be changes.- At least 3 months before the start of the calendar year ATS shall confirm the plan for the coming year.	





- 7.6** ATS shall notify the LAB of its decision to suspend or terminate an accredited activity performed in the foreign site immediately after decision-making. Equally the Local AB shall notify ATS of its decision to suspend or terminate an accredited activity of a site if that site holds an independent local accreditation through the LAB. It is important that this information is timely communicated in order after the decision has been taken and that both parties consider if the suspension/termination affects any accreditations it provides.
- 7.7** ATS and the LAB shall exchange any valid and relevant information, such as outcomes of assessments, complaints, market feedback, etc, concerning CABs where they are both involved.
- 7.8** ATS shall appoint one contact point for communications concerning its cross border activities. This contact shall be fed into the EA members' intranet in a timely manner.

8 COOPERATION PROCEDURE BETWEEN MEMBERS OUTSIDE THE EA REGION THAT ARE SIGNATORIES TO IAF MLA OR ILAC MLA ON CROSS BORDER ACCREDITATION

- 8.1** In case when the country of origin of an applicant for accreditation has an accreditation body covering the scheme and/or field of accreditation that was sought and when this accreditation body is a signatory to the multilateral agreement (ILAC MRA or IAF MLA) for this particular scheme of accreditation, ATS shall, before it has accepted the application, propose to the applicant to apply to its LAB for accreditation, whereas the emphasis shall be on the equivalence of accreditations granted by accreditation bodies that are signatories to the mutual recognition agreements and on the fact that the accreditation could be more economically performed if granted by the LAB, and on the fact that the LAB would still need to be involved in the accreditation procedure even if ATS had accepted the application for accreditation as defined in this document.
- 8.2** If an applicant wishes, for business or commercial reasons, to get accredited by ATS, i.e. if it does not accept the equivalence of accreditation granted by the LAB or if a CAB is a member of the group (business association) requiring that all of its CABs have accreditation granted by the same AB or if a CAB for this or any other similar reasons chooses ATS over the LAB in its country, ATS shall perform the following activities:
- inform the LAB of the country of CAB origin that it has accepted to perform accreditation procedure and it shall put forward the reasons for application acceptance, and the data on the CAB/applicant name and address and on the standard to be used to grant accreditation;
 - propose cooperation to the LAB when assessing a CAB taking into account factors such as language, local laws and regulations, culture, etc. in addition to using adequate assessors to meet the technical competence requirements of assessment. LAB assessors can be in the ATS assessment team and, if appropriate, the assessment team can be composed of the LAB members;
 - propose to the LAB assessors to act as observers in the ATS assessment team if, for any particular reason, it will not be possible to have the LAB assessors in the ATS assessment team;
 - propose a joint assessment or subcontracting of part of the assessment to be performed together with the accreditation body from the CAB country of origin by adhering, to the



greatest extent possible, to the principles laid down in Chapters 6 and 7 of this document when it comes to multisite accreditation.

9 TRANSFER OF ACCREDITATION

After the expiry of deadline (31.12.2014) set forth in article 39 of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008, the cross-frontier accreditation certificate issued by AB of EU members were no longer valid if the accredited CAB had with head office in e.g. the Republic of Serbia for the fields of accreditation for which ATS in the meantime had signed EA MLA. It shall not apply to national CAB, which is a key activities subsidiary of a foreign CAB whose head office is in one of the countries of EA region and which is comprised by multisite accreditation scope of a foreign AB.

ATS is willing, pursuant to requirements of EA- 2/13 M:2012, to cooperate with accreditation bodies from EA region in transfer of accreditation, which the aforementioned ABs granted to CABs from the Republic of Serbia, to ATS.

9.1 The accredited CAB should not be disadvantaged by having to suffer a gap in its accreditation. It is however the responsibility of the CAB to apply for accreditation with ATS on time to enable ATS to make the assessment and take the accreditation decision on time. ATS shall follow clause 7.11.1 of ISO/IEC 17011, which means that it will take account of the history of accreditation of the CAB. In all cases, the Foreign Accreditation Body shall submit information to ATS and as a minimum the scope of the accreditation held by the CAB through the latest accreditation certificate, the last assessment report and a report on complaints if any.

Transfer of accreditation to ATS during the accreditation cycle may take place prior to the reassessment at the request of the CAB. The CAB, the LAB and ATS are encouraged to discuss and agree on the transfer plan.

9.2 If ATS has granted accreditations in another country in the EA region due to the lack of competence of the LAB or due to the fact that the LAB is not a signatory of the relevant EA MLA/BLA agreement, CAB will be informed of the fact that they shall have to change to the LAB as soon as these conditions change. In these situations the principles of this document apply. ATS shall not renew such an accreditation or extend the accreditation after the LAB enters the EA MLA/BLA.

9.3 If ATS has granted accreditation to a CAB in another country outside the EA region at the CAB request or if the LAB has become a signatory to a respective multilateral agreement (ILAC MRA or IAF MLA), ATS shall transfer accreditation.

ACTING DIRECTOR

Prof. Aco Janićijević, PhD