

Prepared By: Quality Manager	Impartiality, Conflict Of Interests And Involvement Of The Interested Parties Policy	Doc. No. : IOAS/ICI/01
Approved By: CEO		Rev. No. : 03 / 20.08.2010

Impartiality, Conflict Of Interests And Involvement Of The Interested Parties Policy

1. Purpose

This document determines the policy of Accreditation Committee regarding the respect of impartiality, avoidance of conflict of interest and involvement of the interested parties in the development and improvement of policies and principles related to accreditation.

2. References

This document is based on the standard ISO 17011 “General requirements for accreditation bodies which accredit conformity assessment bodies”, paragraph 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4.

3. Impartiality

The Accreditation Committee must provide its accreditation services in an impartial manner by maintaining the objectivity of its activity.

Accreditation is not a profit activity. Based on this principle, the structure and each activity of IOAS should not affect its own impartiality.

The Accreditation Committee must follow the accreditation procedures in a non-discriminatory manner. Procedures are the same and do not depend on size, number of requested accreditation services, whether it is a private or government owned organization, whether the organization was just created or has its reputation in the market.

The decision of accreditation is authority and responsibility of committee and cannot be delegated.

The Accreditation Committee in accordance with requirements of standards shall not offer services of consultancy to make profit or maintain the accreditation, or other services which might affect its reliability and impartiality. IOAS shall offer training services to the conformity assessment bodies after joint decision of the management.

4. Conflict of interests

All the staff of Accreditation Committee, members of technical committees, members of Advisory Board of Accreditation, assessors and every other person who would participate in the accreditation procedures, shall not have financial, commercial, friendship interests which might influence the accreditation procedures. All the interested parties which are involved in the development and improvement of policies and principles related to accreditation shall not have conflict of interests with the accreditation principles.

5. Confidentiality

The information obtained in the Accreditation Committee or from the accreditation procedures must be kept confidential. Prior approval of the body is necessary if some information is requested for a specific body. All the IOAS staff, members of Advisory Board, assessors, lead assessors, experts, members of technical committees must sign the Declaration of Confidentiality.

6. Interested parties

To perform its tasks foreseen by the law the Accreditation Committee cooperates with public and private entities, local or foreign. Its objective is the involvement of all the interested parties in the development and improvement of policies and procedures of accreditation. IOAS welcomes any kind of advice related to the improvement of accreditation procedures. The advice should be provided through: Advisory Board, technical committees, various experts, employees of local scientific institutions, private companies, businesses, etc. The presentation of these parties should be balanced and not predominant.