

ACAAs for SEE Countries? A Legal Metrology Perspective

Seminar on « Legal Metrology & EU Directives,
New legislative framework »
for South East European Countries (SEE Countries)

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European Commission
Enterprise and Industry

Outline

- Definition
- Political Background
- Pro & Cons
- New Approach → NLF
- Alignement for the Legal Metrology Sector
- Learning exercise

ACAA: what is it?

- **Agreement on Conformity Assessment and Acceptance of Industrial Products**
- Trade (bilateral) agreement to facilitate access of partner Countries in the internal market: free movement of goods and removal of technical barriers to trade
- Legal Basis: Art. 207 Lisbon Treaty
- Alignment to the EU Legislation for C.A. and industrial products

Political background

- Stabilization and Association Agreement (SAA)
- Financial support via:
 - Instrument for pre-Accession (IPA)
 - TAIEX
 - Twinning

Suitable for

- Applicable to industrial products where there is harmonised European legislation
- In particular for:
 - New Approach (NA) sectors
 - Harmonised areas

Conditions for an ACAA

- Adequate infrastructure and alignment with horizontal elements:
 - Standardisation
 - Conformity assessment bodies - Accreditation
 - Market surveillance

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- Technical regulations for defined sectors:
Directives

Advantages for an ACAA

- Political:
 - Exact measurement (safety and health)
 - Recognition of coherence with EU system
- Economic:
 - Free movement of goods in the EU/EEA area
 - Reduced costs for industries of C.A. procedures
 - Encouragement for local enterprises to innovate
- Technical:
 - Upgrading of quality infrastructure
 - No double testing
 - Possibility to use on EEA laboratories or CABs

New Approach → NLF: Regulation 765/2008/EC

- Enhanced role for:
 - Accreditation
 - Market surveillance
 - CE General principles

Into force since 1 January 2010

New Approach → NLF: Decision 768/2008/EC

- Definitions
- Obligations for Economic Operators
- Conformity Assessment Procedures
- CE marking
- Notified bodies requirements
- Safeguard mechanisms

Basis for future legislation

New Approach Directives

- Essential requirements (ERs): health and safety (correct measurement for metrology)
- European harmonised standards (hEN)
- Market surveillance

Alignment for the Legal Metrology Sector

- Countries need to finalise preparation before starting negotiations on the Agreement: independency of CABs
- ACAA=Chapter 1
- Unit of measurements
- Alignment to MID and NAWI
- Alignment of pack-size and pre-packaging, bottle serving measures

Learning exercise

- Not required:
 - Law on metrology
 - Institute for Metrology (JRC)
 - Not advised:
 - ERs outside an annex
 - Merging of several Directives
 - Use definitions different than the ones in the Directives in object (Codified version)
 - Not allowed: other restrictions to trade
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- Advised:
 - Concordance tables with EU Directives

Thank you for your attention!

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