

NEWS: April – June 2022

❖ ILAC-IAF Joint Mid-term Meetings – 31st March – 7th April 2022

The sessions addressed matters of interest for accreditation bodies from developing countries and the merger of ILAC and IAF. For decades ILAC and IAF have been discussing the need or opportunity to become a single organization, and never before have they been closer to the goal. They have now entered a phase that requires even more effort, and are starting to discuss the details, such as voting rights, the mechanisms for recognizing a scheme, and the economy in which to establish the new organization. For more information see <https://iaf.news/2022/05/03/progress-continues-in-the-iaf-ilac-single-organization-project/>

❖ OneWorld Accuracy Proficiency Testing for Medical Laboratories 2022: Test Event 2



Proficiency Testing (PT), also known as External Quality Assessment (EQA) for medical laboratories, is an efficient tool to determine the performance of the laboratory for specific tests and/or measurements and monitor overall laboratory performance. EQA allows an individual laboratory to evaluate its performance and determine if it is satisfactory for the intended clinical purpose. The Trinidad and Tobago Laboratory Accreditation Service (TTLABS) facilitates the programme annually for our country. The 2022 Test Event 1 was completed between 30th March – 20th April 2022. Test Event 2 started 29th June – 20th July, 2022. Learn more at <https://1wa.org/#/>

❖ Assessor Meeting – 12th April, 2022

TTLABS assessors are selected for competence and experience, trained, evaluated on the ability to apply the required knowledge and skills and formally authorized to carryout assessment activities on behalf of the accreditation body. The Assessor Meeting held on 12th April, 2022 updated our assessors on National, Regional and International developments affecting the operations of TTLABS, served as a technical discussion of assessment activities with a view to standardize and/or improve procedures, and allowed TTLABS to obtain feedback on the process of remote assessments.

❖ Laboratory Accreditation Committee (LAC) Meeting – 28th April 2022

The TTLABS LAC is the decision-making committee comprising qualified, trained, competent accreditation decision makers. The LAC makes decisions on the granting, maintaining, extending, reducing, suspending and withdrawing of accreditation to ensure impartiality as the decision makers are different from those who carried out the assessment. The LAC meet quarterly and volunteer stewardship and represent the interested parties of TTLABS in the guidance of policies for TTLABS.



❖ Expression of Interest for the Development of Accreditation Knowledge Management System

The submitted Expression of Interests (EOIs) for the Development of the Accreditation Knowledge Management System (AKMS) were received and reviewed. During May 2022, the evaluation forms were submitted to the Procurement Officer for finalization and inviting the successful companies to submit technical and financial bids.

❖ World Accreditation Day 2022: Accreditation: Supporting Sustainability in Economic Development and the Environment – June 2022

June 9, 2022 is World Accreditation Day (#WAD2022), a global initiative established by IAF and ILAC to promote the value of accreditation. World Accreditation Day was first celebrated in 2008. Happy 15th anniversary! This year's theme is *Accreditation: Sustainability in Economic Growth and the Environment*. An amazing and relevant video was prepared for you. Ctrl and Click to follow the links below:

<https://tinyurl.com/WorldAccreditationDay2022Video>

Also see the TTLABS podcast “Why Accreditation Matters” via twitter at:

<https://twitter.com/labaccred/status/1551959598319521795?s=20&t=dUKYjS0laiAYFYJdgoaTIA>



❖ The Net Zero Guiding Principles

What is Net Zero?

Net Zero is an approach to ensure the equivalent greenhouse gases emitted are removed from the atmosphere and secured, in an attempt to arrest global warming and its negative impacts which threaten food security and life on earth. See more via the link below:

<https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/net-zero-coalition>. TTLABS is participating in the International Standardization Organization (ISO) Technical Management Board Group (TMBG) Approved Work Item (AWI) International Workshop Agreement (IWA) 42 (ISO/TMBG AWI/IWA 42) for the development of the Net Zero Guiding Principles. Please visit the following website for more information: <https://our2050.world/>.



UPCOMING EVENTS: July – September 2022

- ✂ ISO/IEC 17025:2017 online training July/August 2022
- ✂ Laboratory Accreditation Committee Meeting – August 2022
- ✂ IAAC General Assembly from August 12th-19th, 2022
- ✂ OneWorld Accuracy Proficiency Testing for Medical Laboratories Promotion Meeting

Accreditation: Competence...Confidence...Trust