

NEWS: July - September 2022

❖ 30th IAAC General Assembly 12th – 19th August 2022

IAAC held the 30th General Assembly annual meetings in Antigua, Guatemala, from August 12-19, 2022. The hybrid virtual and in-person meetings had the largest participation in IAAC history. A total of 120 representatives of accreditation bodies and conformity assessment organizations in the region attended. At the General Assembly Andrea Melo of Cgcre, Brazil, was elected as the new IAAC Chair for the term 2022-2024, Sharonmae Shirley of JANAAC, Jamaica was elected the new Vice-Chair, IAAC. For more information see <https://www.iaac.org.mx/index.php/en/information-en/news-en>



❖ OneWorld Accuracy (1WA) Proficiency Testing for Medical Laboratories 2022: Test Event 3



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. The Trinidad and Tobago Laboratory Accreditation Service (TTLABS) facilitates the 1WA programme annually for our country. Test Event 3 started 28th September – 19th October, 2022. Learn more at <https://1wa.org/#/>. For more information on the “Selection, Use and Interpretation of PT Schemes” please see the Eurachem guide via the following link <https://www.eurachem.org/index.php/publications/guides/usingpt>.

❖ Registration for 1WA Medical PT 2023

TTLABS hosted its annual 1WA Medical PT Promotion meeting on 28th September 2022 using an online platform. Meeting participants were introduced to “Benefits for Laboratories participating in Proficiency Testing Programs” learn more at <https://ilac.org/publications-and-resources/ilac-promotional-brochures/>. Participants were also informed of the role of TTLABS in facilitating the 1WA PT programme for medical laboratories in Trinidad and Tobago. To register of PT 2023 or for more information on the programme including the catalogue and pricelist email lab.accreditation@ttbs.org.tt or call Ms Laura Villaruel at 662-8827 Ext. 2248.

❖ ISO Standard Training Programmes

“ISO standards are internationally agreed by experts. Think of them as a formula that describes the best way of doing something.” Learn more at <https://www.iso.org/standards.html>. TTLABS hosted online training in ISO/IEC 17025:2017 – *General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories* on 26, 28 July, 02, 04 August 2022, and ISO 19011:2018 *Guidelines on auditing management systems* on 20, 22, 27 and 29 September, 2022. The facilitator was Ms Karlene Lewis. These training programmes are intended to assist laboratories, which either





have established or is currently establishing their management system based on the International Standards, to understand the requirements of the Standards.

❖ Laboratory Accreditation Committee (LAC) Meeting – 25th August 2022

The LAC meet quarterly and volunteer stewardship and represent the interested parties of TTLABS in the guidance of policies for TTLABS. The Meeting Agenda includes discussions on matters related to TTLABS under the following headings, Risks and Opportunities; Safeguarding impartiality; Fulfilment of objectives; Changes that could affect the management system; Feedback from interested parties; New areas of accreditation and Participation in international activities.

UPCOMING EVENTS: October – December 2022

- 🌀 Laboratory Accreditation Committee Meeting – October 2022
- 🌀 ISO 15190:2020 online training – November 2022
- 🌀 ISO/IEC 17025:2017 online training – December 2022

Accreditation: Competence...Confidence...Trust