



KENYA ACCREDITATION SERVICE

(A STATUTORY ORGANIZATION OF GOVERNMENT)

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

TRANSITION DEADLINE FOR RECERTIFICATION TO ISO 9001 AND ISO 14001 CERTIFICATIONS COUNTDOWN...30 DAYS LEFT!

15 September 2018 marks the deadline for organisations to complete the transition to the 2015 editions of the quality management system standard (ISO 9001) and the environmental management system standard (ISO 14001).

Nairobi, 16 August, 2018: Today, the Cabinet Secretary (CS) for the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Cooperatives Hon. Peter Munya has announced that organisations certified to ISO 9001:2008 and ISO 14001:2004 have 30 days to go to transition to the 2015 version of both standards. Hon. Munya stated that come 15th September 2018, only certification to the 2015 editions of the two international standards namely, ISO 9001 (Quality Management System) and ISO 14001 (Environmental Management System) will be valid and recognized across the world.

The CS in addition congratulated KENAS and its accredited certification bodies for effectively transitioning over 60% of companies to the 2015 Versions of ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 before the September 15th, 2018 deadline.

This transition announcement follows a joint directive by the International Organisation for Standardization (ISO) and International Accreditation Forum (IAF) that were issued on 1st October 2015 providing for a three year transition period to all organisations certified to the two standards.

Kenya Accreditation Service (KENAS) as a full member of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and a signatory to its Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA) exercises oversight over certification activities in Kenya. It has overseen the implementation of transitioning arrangements since 2015 carried out by its accredited Certifications Bodies namely: Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS), SGS Kenya and Bureau Veritas Kenya.

Mr. Martin Chesire, the CEO of KENAS stated, “To date, an average of about 60% of all certified organization has successfully transitioned leaving about 40% who will lose their Certifications for failure to achieve re-certification to the 2015 edition by 14 September 2018.”

He continued, "KENAS, having fully endorsed the IAF Resolution 2017-13, will with effect from 15 September 2018, enforce the full implementation of the resolution. That means that all ISO 9001:2008 and ISO 14001:2004 certifications shall expire or stand withdrawn. Consequently, all certified organizations to these two superseded standards shall be required to undertake the following:

- Notify their clients of the loss of their certification and any claims thereof.
- Cease to use, and remove any certification marks or logos including in corporate stationery, marketing materials, websites, social media, and other brandings."

Finally, further to the IAF Resolution 2015-14 and Resolution 2016-17, there shall be no non-accredited certification for management systems accepted in Kenya. The public should therefore note that the only recognized and accredited Certification Bodies operating in Kenya are: KEBS, SGS Kenya, Bureau Veritas Kenya, and the British Standards Institution (BSI).

Further information can be accessed via the KENAS website www.kenas.go.ke.



Martin Chesire
Chief Executive Officer
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NOTES TO EDITORS:

The authority of an accreditation body is generally derived by government. In Kenya, Kenya Accreditation Service (KENAS) is mandated to offer accreditation services to conformity assessment bodies which include; certification bodies, inspection bodies, testing labs, medical labs and calibration labs. It is established under the States Corporations Act, Cap 446; vide Legal Notice No. 55 of May 2009. KENAS is a signatory member at the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) which are organizations that oversee global accreditation activities.

A. KENAS is mandated among other things to:-

1. To provide accreditation services to the following conformity assessment bodies:
 - a. Certification of Persons Accreditation to ISO/IEC 17024
 - b. Point of Care Testing Providers Accreditation to ISO 22870 & ISO 15189
 - c. Testing & Calibration Laboratories to ISO/IEC 17025
 - d. Medical laboratories to ISO 15189
 - e. Veterinary Laboratory Accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025 and OIE
 - f. Products, Processes and Services to ISO/IEC 17065
 - g. Proficiency Test Service providers to ISO/IEC 17043
 - h. Inspection & Verification bodies to ISO/IEC 17020
 - i. Management systems accreditation ISO/IEC 17021
 - j. Reference Medical Laboratories ISO/IEC 15195
2. Create order in trade in products and services;

3. *Eliminate incompetent practices;*
 4. *Provide a level playing ground to CABs; and*
 5. *Provide competitive accreditation services which are internationally recognized.*
- B. **Conformity Assessment Bodies** are those organization's that assess the compliance and or conformance of products, services and suppliers to guided specifications and requirements e.g. Personnel certification bodies, food testing and processing bodies, testing and calibration laboratories, proficiency testing laboratories, inspection and verification bodies, medical laboratories, certification bodies etc.
- C. **Accreditation is distinct from certification.** Certification focuses on an organization's overall compliance with systems and products standards rather than the technical competence which is what accreditation focuses on. Therefore accreditation becomes a formal recognition to the CABs that they are competent to carry out conformity assessment tasks.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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