

EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY SECRETARIAT

**13<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE EAST AFRICAN QUALITY  
ASSURANCE TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE**

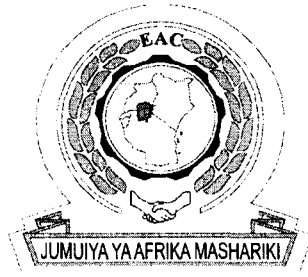
10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2010  
SNOW CREST HOTEL  
ARUSHA, TANZANIA

**REPORT OF THE MEETING**

Ref No. EAC/TF/ /2010

EAC SECRETARIAT  
Arusha, Tanzania  
MAY 2010

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## **13<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE EAC QUALITY ASSURANCE TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE (EAC Q&A TSC)**

**Snowcrest Hotel ,Arusha, Tanzania  
10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2010**

### **REPORT OF THE MEETING**

#### **1.0 OPENING OF THE MEETING**

##### **1.1 Election of the Bureau**

The Bureau was constituted in accordance with the EAC Procedures and Mr. Lazaro Henry Msasalaga from the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) was nominated as the Chairperson while Mr. Patrick Ssekitoleko from the Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) as the Rapporteur.

The meeting was attended by delegates from the five Partner States namely Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi. The list of the delegates present is hereto attached in **Annex I**.

##### **1.2 Remarks from the EAC Secretariat**

In his opening remarks, Mr. Willy Musinguzi, the Principal Standards Officer at the East African Community Secretariat noted that:

- a) There was need for the meeting to consider preparing the programme of work for the meeting as a tool to guide discussion of the various agenda items that had already been circulated to members;
- b) East African Community Secretariat had carried out consultations in all 5 Partner States on the draft regulations concerning implementation of compulsory standards and certification. A report on outcome of the consultations is expected to be presented to the East African Standards Committee for consideration. He called upon Partner States who may have any new concerns on the

regulations to take this opportunity to raise such concerns for the purpose of discussion with a view to having them taken into consideration.

- c) The Delegation from Kenya had informed him that Mr. Jacob Kibe, a long serving member of the Quality Assurance Sub-Committee, from Kenya Bureau of Standards had passed away in March 2010 and the Sub-Committee was requested to observe a minute of silence in his remembrance.

### **1.3 Adoption of the Agenda**

The Agenda and Programme of work were adopted and are hereby attached as **ANNEX I (a) & (b)**.

## **2.0 CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 12<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE EASC TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE ON QUALITY ASSURANCE**

### **2.1 Survey Tool for the assessment of the status of conformity assessment activities within the EAC**

The meeting noted that the tool in the form of a questionnaire was developed for use by Partner States to assist in assessment of the value of Conformity Assessment Services in the market place.

***The SC tasked WG 2 to revisit the survey tool and have it refined inline with the one used by the Standards Technical Sub-Committee; then circulate it to all Partner States for deployment.***

### **2.2 Accreditation and conformity assessment awareness activities**

It was reported that the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting on accreditation for the African Region took place in April 2010 in Cairo. The main objective of the meeting was to progress the establishment of an African Regional Accreditation Cooperation (AFRAC).

### **2.3 Usage of the EAC web portal**

The SC observed that there has been less progress in as far as updating the EAC Quality WebPortal is concerned.

***The SC agreed that the Chairperson of the Sub-Committee (Tanzania) in collaboration with the Secretary (Uganda) spearhead the process of updating the webportal.***



### **3.0 CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORTS OF THE WORKING GROUPS**

The meeting received and considered the reports of the two Working Groups as follows:

#### **3.1 Report of the Working Group 1**

Working Group 1 (WG 1) of the Quality Assurance Sub-Committee is tasked with responsibility of handling matters related to certification. The SC received the report of WG 1 for the period June 2009 to April 2010 and made the following decisions and recommendations:

##### **3.1.1 Flow of information between the SC, WGs and other stakeholders**

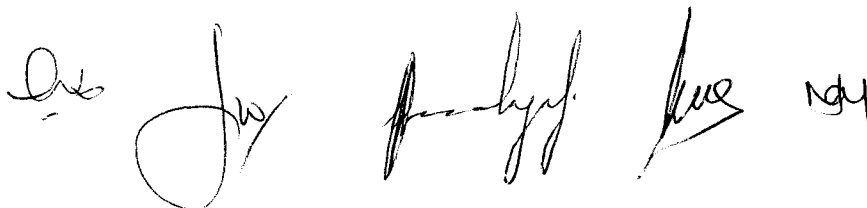
The SC noted that there was inadequate flow of information between the Working Groups and the Sub-Committee on one hand and between the Sub-Committee and other stakeholders especially PTB on the other hand. This was affecting the scheduling and execution of activities.

To address this challenge the meeting agreed to adopt the following procedure to enable faster flow of information and communication within the SC and between the SC and PTB; EAC Secretariat and Partner States:

- **The Secretary to the WG shall be responsible for sending the reports to the Secretary and the Chairman of the SC;**
- **The Secretary of the SC shall be responsible for sending the reports of the Working Groups to PTB; EAC and EAC Partner States;**
- **Reports shall be circulated to all concerned parties within two weeks from the end of the meeting.**

##### **3.1.2 Development of Procedures for the Sub-Committee**

It was noted that the Sub-Committee and the WGs needed to develop procedures to guide their operations and assist in the smooth implementation of the Programmes. As a way forward on this matter; the meeting agreed as follows:



- **Uganda to compile all procedural issues highlighted in previous discussions related to this matter and circulate these to Partner States. These will form the basis for future discussions;**
- **The WGs shall decide their own mechanisms for operations in line with the defined Terms of Reference.**

### **3.1.3 Peer Assessments**

When considering Peer Assessment schemes along with their attendant procedures, the SC took note of the progress and:

a) directed as follows:

- **WG 1 pilot the implementation of the draft procedures during the assessment of Kenya Bureau of Standards scheduled for end of May 2010;**
- **After the peer assessment of KEBS; WG 1 will finalise the procedures with a view to having them ready for issuance as EAC procedures;**

**b) Recommended that EASC request PTB to support the extension of Peer assessments/pre-assessments to Rwanda and Burundi in November/December 2010 respectively;**

### **3.1.4 Design of an EAC product certification mark**

The SC took note of the progress on the development of the mark and urged WG 1 to finalise the mark and present it formally to the SC for onward transmission to the EASC. The SC also recommended as follows:

- The EASC adopts the proposed amendment to SQMT Act to establish the mark within the Community***
- EASC requests the Council to amend the SQMT Act to provide for establishment of an EAC Product Certification Mark;***
- The EASC requests PTB to support the development of rules that will govern use of EAC product certification mark;***

### **3.2 Report of Working Group 2 (WG 2)**

Working Group 2 (WG 2) of the Quality Assurance Sub-Committee is tasked with the responsibility of handling matters related to Inspection. The SC received the report of WG 2 for the period June 2009 to April 2010. In general the WG 2 activities focused on the following:

- a) Awareness training of Inspectors within the region on the requirements of ISO/IEC 17020
- b) Building of Capacity of Partner States in the implementation of ISO/IEC 17020 through the Training of Trainers
- c) Development of procedures for import inspection and market surveillance

The meeting agreed to continue with the activities inline with the approved work plans.


### **Recommendations**

***EASC requests the Sectoral Council on Trade and Investment to adopt a PVoC Strategy as one of the avenues for ridding the region of substandard goods.***

### **4.0 CONSIDERATION OF PROCEDURES FOR IMPORT INSPECTION AND MARKET SURVEILLANCE**

4.1 The SC meeting considered the procedures for market surveillance and import inspection. The SC made the following recommendation:

- a) ***The EASC Committee adopts the as harmonised procedures for use in Partner States during Market Surveillance and Import Inspection;***
- b) ***The Committee forwards the procedures to EAC Secretariat for editing, final publication and distribution as Community Harmonised Procedures;***
- c) ***The Committee requests the Council to direct Partner States to:***
  - ***commit adequate resources to enable implementation of the procedures;***
  - ***Restructure NSBs so that the inspection function meets the requirements of international best practices.***



## **5.0 PROPOSED NEW WORK AREAS AND FUNDING MECHANISMS**

The SC considered the various activities that need to be undertaken in preparation of the EAC Common Market. These are hereby attached as **Annex IV**.

## **6.0 CONSIDERATION OF THE STATUS OF CROSS-BORDER TRADE ISSUES**

The SC noted that there has been improvement on matters related to handling of products across borders within the Community by the NSBs. However, non-recognition of quality marks, multiple testing, inspection etc by other regulatory agencies continue to persist in the region. Included among these are issues related to charges levied on good originating from within the EAC.

### ***Recommendation***

- a) EASC request the Council to direct the Secretariat to convene a meeting of Experts in problematic sectors such as food to develop harmonized requirements and approaches towards a uniform conformity assessment regimes and approvals***
- b) EASC request the Council to urge Tanzania to scrap the 0.2% of C&F levied on all imports from other Partner States;***

## **7.0 CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT REGULATIONS**

The SC considered and agreed with all the comments that EAC Secretariat had received during the national consultations in the 5 Partner States on the regulations for Market Surveillance and Product Certification.

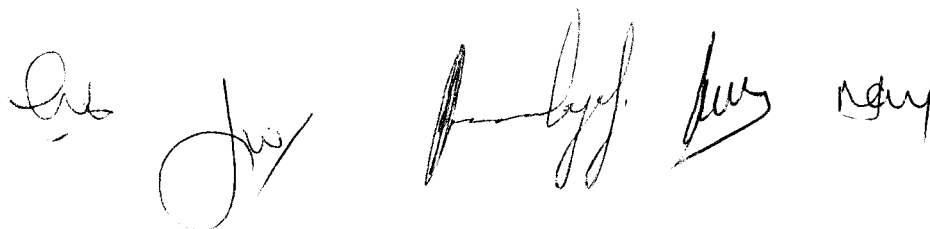
The SC made additional comments herein Annexed as **Annex V**.

### **Recommendations**

***EASC requests the EAC Secretariat that before finalization of the draft regulations, along with the attendant procedures; a meeting of experts be convened with a view of ensuring harmonization and consistency between the regulations and procedures.***

## **8.0 CONSIDERATION OF THE MECHANISMS FOR ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF STANDARDS**

On this matter, the SC noted that a number of East African Standards have been issued and these need to be implemented at the national level.



However the mode of declaration and implementation of compulsory standards is still a challenge within Partner States.

The SC therefore recommended as follows:

***The EASC requests PTB to field an expert and to facilitate a regional workshop on adoption and implementation of Compulsory Standards to be conducted by the EAC.***

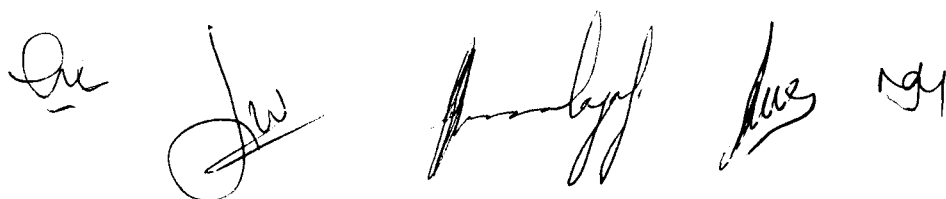
## **9.0 EAC MARK AND MARKS OF NATIONAL STANDARDS BODIES**

The meeting discussed the various marks operating in Partner States especially their equivalency in relation with Section 24 (2) of the EAC SQMT Act; more so the question of compulsory product marks as compared to voluntary marks as in the case of Kenya.

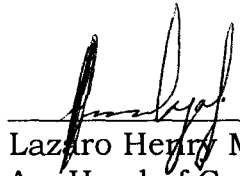
***The meeting agreed that the forthcoming peer assessment of KEBS and those already undertaken be used to address this issue.***

## **10.0 ANNUAL REPORT**

The SC prepared an annual report and hereby attached as **Annex VI**.




Signed on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of May 2010 by respective Heads of Delegations as below:




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Lazaro Henry Msasalaga  
Ag. Head of Certification  
Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS),  
**United Republic of Tanzania**



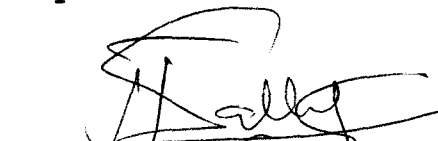
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Mr. Patrick Ssekitoleko  
Manager – Quality Assurance Department  
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**Republic of Uganda**




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Mr. Desire Rudaragi  
Deputy Head of Certification Division  
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Mr. John W. Wepukhulu  
Chief Manager – Quality Assurance and Inspection  
Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS),  
**Republic of Kenya.**



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Ms. Jane Nyamvumba  
Head of Quality Assurance Unit  
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**Republic of Rwanda**

**MEETING OF EASC TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE ON  
QUALITY ASSURANCE  
10<sup>TH</sup> – 12<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2010  
ARUSHA-TANZANIA**

***List of Participants***

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## **KENYA**

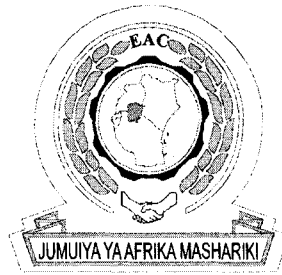
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ANNEX II (a)

## **EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY SECRETARIAT**

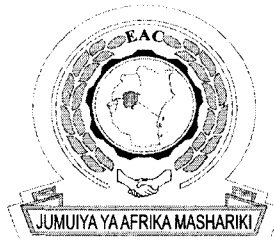
### **13<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF EAST AFRICAN SUB-COMMITTEE ON QUALITY ASSURANCE**

**10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> May 2010  
AICC, ARUSHA, TANZANIA**

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#### **AGENDA**

- 1.0 Opening of the meeting
  - 1.1 Constitution of the Bureau
  - 1.2 Adoption of the Agenda
  - 1.3 Adoption the work Programme
- 2.0 Consideration of Matters Arising from the Report of the 12<sup>th</sup> Q & A Sub Committee meeting
- 3.0 Consideration of reports from Working Groups
  - 3.1 Working Group 1 (Product certification)
  - 3.2 Working Group 2 (Inspection)
- 4.0 Consideration of draft rules and procedures for QA operations
  - 4.1 Imports Inspection
  - 4.2 Market Surveillance
- 5.0 Review of QA TSC Annual work plan
- 6.0 Any Other Business
  - Funding of the Activities of the TSC
  - Status of cross border trader in products
  - Compulsory standards
  - EAC Mark and Marks of NSBz
  - Draft Regulations
- 7.0 Consideration and adoption of report



**ANNEX II (b)**

**13<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE EAC TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE ON QUALITY ASSURANCE  
(EAC QA TSC)  
Arusha - Tanzania  
10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> May 2010**

**PROGRAMME OF WORK**

<b>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2010</b>	
08.30 - 09.00	Registration and receipt of Documents
09.30 -10.00	Opening of meeting
<b>10.00 – 10.30</b>	<b>Tea/Coffee Break</b>
10.30 – 11.30	Consideration of matter arising from the 12 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the EAC QA Technical Subcommittee
11.30 – 12.30	Consideration of reports from WG1 and WG2
<b>12.30 -14.00</b>	<b>Lunch Break</b>
14.00 - 15.30	Consideration of draft procedures
<b>15.30 - 15.45</b>	<b>Tea/Coffee Break</b>
15.45 – 17.00	Consideration of draft procedures
<b>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2010</b>	
08.30 -09.30	Consideration of draft procedures
09.30 – 10.00	Review of QA TSC Work Plan
<b>10.00 -10.30</b>	<b>Tea/Coffee Break</b>
10.30 – 11.00	Funding of activities
11.00 – 11.30	Status of cross border trade in products
11.30– 12.00	EAC Mark and Marks of National Standards Bodies (NSB's)
12.00 – 12.30	Compulsory Standards
<b>12.30 -14.00</b>	<b>Lunch Break</b>
14.00 - 15.30	Progress on draft regulations
<b>15.30 - 15.45</b>	<b>Tea/Coffee Break</b>
15.45 – 17.00	Consideration of the survey tool
<b>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2010</b>	
08.30 -10.00	Report Writing
<b>10.00 – 10.30</b>	<b>Tea/Coffee Break</b>
10.30 – 12.30	Report Writing
<b>12.30 -14.00</b>	<b>Lunch Break</b>
14.00 - 15.30	Consideration and adoption of the report

**Draft text for an amendment of the EAC SQMT Act**

**Preamble**

Taking into consideration the discussions and agreements of this WG 1 meeting, and the general structure of the EAC SQMT Act, the following draft text for an amendment to the EAC SQMT Act is presented for consideration at the next WG 1 meeting.

XX 1) The Council may, on recommendation of the Committee, declare a mark or marks to distinguish products that conform to an East African Standard from products that do not so conform, to be an EAC Mark in respect of those products, and may in like manner abolish or amend such a mark.

2) The legal ownership of the EAC Mark is vested in the EAC Secretariat, who may authorise certification bodies domiciled in the EAC to license manufacturers or producers allowing them to utilise the EAC Mark on their products to signify the fact that these products meet the requirements of the relevant East African Standard.

3) The EAC Mark shall -

a) not be identical to any trademark registered in respect of any product in accordance with trademark laws of the Partner States,

b) not be identical to any of the registered marks of the Partner States as provided for in section 24(1), and

c) not so nearly resemble the marks mentioned in paragraphs (a) and (b) to be likely to be mistaken for them.

4) After publication of an EAC Mark, no person shall apply that mark in any way except under a license issued by a certification body authorized by the EAC Secretariat and, unless the product complies with, or has been manufactured in accordance with, the relevant East African Standard.

5) The licensee shall pay the authorized certification body a license fee that takes into account application fees, auditing fees, testing fees, surveillance fees and re-certification fees as determined from time to time, but no less than once every three years, by the Committee.

6) The Council on recommendation of the Committee shall prescribe by Regulation the

a) methodology by which the EAC Secretariat will authorise certification bodies, including but not limited to peer assessments, and compliance with the requirements of ISO/IEC Guide 65 or its latest revision,

b) conditions for granting of such a license by the authorised certification bodies, including auditing requirements of the production facilities, initial and follow-up testing requirements of the products, surveillance mechanisms and frequencies, the period and conditions under which the license remains valid, and

c) other such conditions as the Council may deem necessary.

7) The authorised certification body may license the manufacturer or producer to apply the EAC Mark in conjunction with its own certification marks provided that -

a) the relevant standards and the certification methodologies are in essence the same,  
and

b) that the relevant marks are of similar size as applied to the product.

8) The EAC Mark, if the East African Standard for which it is licensed is equal to an East African Compulsory Standard as contemplated in section 19, confers on the product so marked the presumption of conformity to the East African Compulsory Standard, a presumption which shall be recognized by the regulatory authorities as contemplated in section 20 unless proven otherwise.

## ANNEX IV

**13<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE EAC TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE ON QUALITY ASSURANCE (EAC QATSC)  
Snowcrest Hotel, 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> May 2010 Arusha, Tanzania**

**EAC QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA) TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE  
PLAN OF OPERATIONS – May 2010 to April 2011**

<b>Priority Area 1:</b>	Implementation of Entebbe Recommendations on Product Certification (PC) Schemes	<b>Current Planning Period:</b>	May 2010 – April 2011		<b>Established:</b>	10-May-2006
			<b>Revised</b>	12-May-2010		
<b>Objectives:</b>	Mutual recognition and equivalence of Product Certification schemes and acceptance of certified products	<b>Indicators:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 19 Personnel trained as Trainers in ISO/IEC 17020</li> <li>• 3 Peer Assessments for Product certification</li> <li>• 3 key areas (surveillance, peer assessments, inspection) procedures defined</li> <li>• 20 personnel from EAC National Standards bodies trained on ISO /IEC Guide 65 - Product Certification</li> <li>• 40 personnel for EAC trained and aware of Inspections to ISO 17020 and the harmonized PC and Inspection procedures</li> <li>• Reduction in cross-border related complaints on Certified Products in at least two sectors</li> <li>• Effective execution of corrective actions</li> </ul>			
<b>Activities</b>		<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>PTB Contribution</b>	<b>Country/Counterpart Contribution</b>	
1. Updating of the EAC Web portal		Chair & secretary	Immediately	funding		
2. Peer evaluation of KEBS Product certification scheme		WG 1	May 2010	funding		
3. Training of Trainers for ISO/IEC 17020		WG2	May 2010	funding		
4. Finalization and Issuance of Peer Assessment Procedures for External Review by Expert		WG1	June 2010	Review by Manfred	-	
5. Evaluation of the Implementation of the corrective		WG 2	June 2010	-	Funding, Facilitation and logistics	

<b>Priority Area 1:</b>	Implementation of Entebbe Recommendations on Product Certification (PC) Schemes	<b>Current Planning Period:</b>	May 2010 – April 2011		<b>Established:</b>	10-May-2006
			<b>Revised</b>	12-May-2010		
<b>Objectives:</b>	Mutual recognition and equivalence of Product Certification schemes and acceptance of certified products	<b>Indicators:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 19 Personnel trained as Trainers in ISO/IEC 17020</li> <li>• 3 Peer Assessments for Product certification</li> <li>• 3 key areas (surveillance, peer assessments, inspection) procedures defined</li> <li>• 20 personnel from EAC National Standards bodies trained on ISO /IEC Guide 65 - Product Certification</li> <li>• 40 personnel for EAC trained and aware of Inspections to ISO 17020 and the harmonized PC and Inspection procedures</li> <li>• Reduction in cross-border related complaints on Certified Products in at least two sectors</li> <li>• Effective execution of corrective actions</li> </ul>			
<b>Activities</b>		<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>PTB Contribution</b>	<b>Country/Counterpart Contribution</b>	
action for identified gaps						
6. Development of an integrated web Based data base for inspection and certification		WG1 & WG 2	July 2010	Avail expert funding	Funding for equipment	
7. Peer assessment evaluation results for product certification schemes		WG1	July 2010	Expert Funding	Facilitation and logistics	
8. Meetings to Discuss EAC Single Mark, design, ownership framework, operational and administration procedures, workshop to discuss/finalize the rules & procedure		WG1	July 2010	Expert Funding		
9. Designing appropriate database for capture of key information on products for ease of product traceability		WG 2	July 2010	Avail Expert	Facilitation and logistics	
10. Implementation of corrective actions for gaps identified during 2 <sup>nd</sup> Expert Evaluation on Product Certification Schemes		WG1	N/A	-	Facilitation and logistics	

<b>Priority Area 1:</b>	Implementation of Entebbe Recommendations on Product Certification (PC) Schemes	<b>Current Planning Period:</b>	May 2010 – April 2011		<b>Established:</b>	10-May-2006
					<b>Revised</b>	12-May-2010
<b>Objectives:</b>	Mutual recognition and equivalence of Product Certification schemes and acceptance of certified products	<b>Indicators:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 19 Personnel trained as Trainers in ISO/IEC 17020</li> <li>• 3 Peer Assessments for Product certification</li> <li>• 3 key areas (surveillance, peer assessments, inspection) procedures defined</li> <li>• 20 personnel from EAC National Standards bodies trained on ISO /IEC Guide 65 - Product Certification</li> <li>• 40 personnel for EAC trained and aware of Inspections to ISO 17020 and the harmonized PC and Inspection procedures</li> <li>• Reduction in cross-border related complaints on Certified Products in at least two sectors</li> <li>• Effective execution of corrective actions</li> </ul>			
<b>Activities</b>		<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>PTB Contribution</b>	<b>Country/Counterpart Contribution</b>	
Deadline for Submission of Self-Evaluation on Status of Corrective Actions		WG1	August 2010	-	Facilitation and logistics	
Final Completion of Re-evaluation Corrective Actions		WG1	August 2010	-	-	
11. Training of inspectors on ISO/ IEC 17020		WG 2	Aug. 2010/ continuous	-	Facilitation and logistics	
12. Training on ISO/IEC Guide 65		WG1	Aug. 2010	Avail expert For RBS, BBN' KEBS		
13. Undertake Study Visit on Inspections Activities		WG 2	Aug. 2010	Funding	Facilitation and logistics	
14. Workshop for adoption and implementation of EAC compulsory standards		WG2	Aug. 2010	Avail expert	Facilitation and logistics	

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Activities		Responsibility	Timeframe	PTB Contribution	Country/Counterpart Contribution	
				funding		
15. Initial Evaluation of partner state's inspection schemes by an External expert.		WG 2	Sept 2010	Avail Expert	Facilitation and logistics	
16. Carry out pre-peer assessments of Inspections systems		WG 2	Sept 2010	Funding	Facilitation and logistics	
17. workshop of experts for harmonization and consistency between regulations and procedures		WG 2	Oct. 2010	Avail expert funding	Facilitation and logistics	
18. Harmonization of procedures in ISO/IEC 17020		WG 2	March 2011	Avail expert Funding	Facilitation and logistics	

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>PTB Contribution</b>	<b>Country/Counterpart Contribution</b>
19. Training of inspectors on risk based inspection and sampling	WG 2	Nov. 2010/ continuous		
20. Conduct training of inspection management staff for partner states on documentation and implementation based on ISO/ IEC 17020	WG 2	January 2011		
21. Training of Documentation and assessment to IISO/IEC 17020	WG2	March 2011	Avail expert	
22. QA TSC meeting to review progress of activities and approve WG reports	QA TSC	May 2011	Funding	Facilitation and logistics

**Comments on the Certification regulations**

1. a) Part 3 Section 6:
  - (1) delete the word technical;
  - (2) after the words national standards insert "*other relevant standard where a national standard does not exist*";
2. Section 9 (4): add words "where applicable" to read as Information on trademark ownership where applicable;
3. Section 11 (3) delete the following words at the end of the clause and that no requirement as listed in the relevant product standard is omitted.

**Comments on Compulsory Standards**

1. Define the term standard
2. Section 5 (1) delete the words *two to six months* and replace them with "shall be declared"

## QA TSC ANNUAL REPORT JUNE 2009 – APRIL 2010

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON QUALITY ASSURANCE OF THE EAST AFRICA STANDARDS COMMITTEE

	Activity	Comments	Recommendations
1	Meetings	One meeting was held on the 10 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> May to review the progress and also plan for the year 2010-2011	
2	Implementation of the ISO/IEC 17020	Two training workshops held: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness workshop on 17020 held in Kigali, in January 2010</li> <li>• Training of Trainers on ISO 17020 held in Kampala Uganda in January 2010</li> </ul>	
3	Peer Assessments	1 Peer Assessment was carried out for Uganda in February 2010	Recommended that EASC request PTB to support the extension of Peer assessments/pre-assessments to Rwanda and Burundi in November/December 2010 respectively
4	Joint Inspection Activities	2 Joint Inspection activities were undertaken in March/April by way of attaching Inspectors to the Port of Mombasa and Dar-es-Salaam	EASC requests the Sectoral Council on Trade and Investment to adopt a PVoC Strategy as one of the avenues for ridding the region of substandard goods. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. EASC request the Council to direct the Secretariat to convene a meeting of Experts in problematic sectors such as food to develop harmonized requirements and approaches towards a uniform conformity assessment regimes and approvals</li> <li>2. EASC request the Council to urge Tanzania to scrap the 0.2% of C&amp;F levied on all imports from other Partner States;</li> </ol>
5	Administration of inspection systems	Procedures were developed in the areas of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Import Inspections and</li> <li>• Market Surveillance</li> </ul>	<i>The EASC Committee adopts the as harmonised procedures for use in Partner States during Market Surveillance and Import Inspection;</i>  <i>The Committee forwards the procedures to EAC Secretariat for editing, final publication and distribution as Community Harmonised Procedures;</i>  <i>The Committee requests the Council to direct Partner States to:</i> <i>commit adequate resources to enable implementation of the procedures;</i> <i>Restructure NSBs so that the inspection function meets the requirements of international best practices</i>

6	Administration of Regional Certification programmes	<p>The following instruments have been drafted to promote EAC based certification schemes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preliminary EAC Certification Mark;</li> <li>• Draft Amendment to the EAC SQMT Act to provide for an EAC mark;</li> <li>• Principles to be used for drafting regulations for EAC Certification identified</li> </ul>	<p>The EASC adopts the proposed amendment to SQMT Act to establish the mark within the Community</p> <p>EASC requests the Council to amend the SQMT Act to provide for establishment of an EAC Product Certification Mark;</p> <p>The EASC requests PTB to support the development of rules that will govern use of EAC product certification mark;</p>
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