



## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (UNIDO), THE INTERNATIONAL LABORATORY ACCREDITATION COOPERATION (ILAC) AND THE INTERNATIONAL ACCREDITATION FORUM (IAF)

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### 1. General Considerations

- 1.1 Recognising the central role of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (hereafter referred to as UNIDO) in coordinating all activities of the United Nations System in the field of industrial development in developing countries including countries with economies in transition,
- 1.2 Considering the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as ILAC) and the International Accreditation Forum (hereafter referred to as IAF) as specialized bodies for matters of accreditation, having as their objective to assist the removal of technical barriers to trade by putting in place a network for mutual recognition of laboratory, inspection body and certification body accreditors that recognise laboratory, inspection and certification body competence in testing, calibration, inspection or certification throughout the world, and which operate transparently according to international standards,
- 1.3 The Director-General of UNIDO, the Chair of ILAC and the Chair of IAF have, in accordance with their constitutions and relevant by-laws, agreed upon the following Memorandum of Understanding to govern cooperation between UNIDO and ILAC - IAF and the coordination of their activities in all areas where their functions and activities are complementary and mutually supportive.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized 'S' or similar character.

## **2 Purpose of the Memorandum of Understanding**

- 2.1 The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to establish a strategic partnership between the Parties in the field of accreditation as part of conformity assessment in order to enhance the impact of industrial development on economic growth, and to assist the beneficial integration of the developing countries and transition economies into the global economy;
- 2.2 With a view to facilitating the effective attainment of the objectives set forth in their respective constituent instruments, UNIDO, ILAC and IAF agree to act in close cooperation with each other and to consult each other as appropriate in regard to matters of common interest.
- 2.3 Appropriate arrangement may be made by agreement from time to time between the Director-General of UNIDO and the Chairs of ILAC and IAF for the reciprocal representation of UNIDO, ILAC and IAF as observers at meetings convened under their respective auspices which consider matters in which the other has an interest.

## **3 Fields of Cooperation**

- 3.1 The Parties agree to cooperate, in the context of their respective mandates, policies and resources, for the purposes of capacity-building, training and research in specific programmes and projects identified by and agreed between the Parties from time to time.
- 3.2 The Parties will undertake joint projects and organise seminars and workshops at the national, regional and sub-regional levels, on accreditation related issues.

## **4 Exchange of Information and Publications**

- 4.1 UNIDO, ILAC and IAF shall keep each other informed about work of mutual interest carried out by each organisation in particular on their trade-related technical assistance programmes to developing countries.
- 4.2 UNIDO, ILAC and IAF shall arrange for the furnishing, free of charge, by each organisation of the necessary number of copies of its periodicals and other publications which may be of interest to the other.



**5 Administrative and Financial Modalities**


- 5.1 The implementation of the activities envisaged in this Memorandum of Understanding shall depend on the availability of the necessary financial resources, according to the regulations and procedures in force in the three organisations.
- 5.2 In the execution of the agreed activities UNIDO, ILAC and IAF shall support each other with all their logistic and administrative work.
- 5.3 The modalities of joint projects under this Memorandum of Understanding shall be contained in a project agreed upon by the Parties. The following Contact Persons are specified for the purposes of this Memorandum of Understanding:
- (a) For UNIDO: The Director of the Industrial Promotion and Technology Branch
  - (b) For ILAC: The Secretary of ILAC
  - (c) For IAF: The Secretary of IAF

**6. Final Clauses**

- 6.1 This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended by mutual written agreement of the Parties.
- 6.2 Each party may terminate this agreement by giving the other parties at least six months' written notice of such intention.
- 6.3 Existing projects which are due to be completed within one calendar year from the date of notice of termination shall not be affected by such termination unless otherwise provided for.
- 6.4 Nothing in or relating to this Memorandum of Understanding shall be deemed a waiver of any of the privileges and immunities of UNIDO.
- 6.5 This Memorandum shall enter into force upon signature by the Director-General of UNIDO and the Chairs of both ILAC and IAF.




IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed the present Memorandum of Understanding in three copies in English, all the three texts being equally authentic.

  
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For UNIDO  
Mr. Carlos Magariños  
Director-General

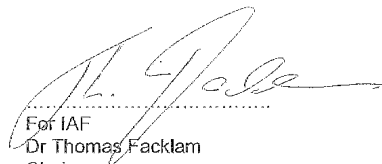
Date:

Place:

  
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For ILAC  
Mr Mike Peet  
Chair

Date: 2004 - 10 - 10

Place: Cape Town, South Africa

  
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For IAF  
Dr Thomas Facklam  
Chair

Date: 2004 - 10 - 10

Place: Cape Town, South Africa