



Process for providing information on the application of ISO/IEC 17011:2017 to Accreditation bodies, Regions and Peer Evaluators – Q&A list

Background

The IAF/ILAC JEC confirmed at its meeting in April 2019 that a mandatory document for the application of ISO/IEC 17011:2017 (a new A5) should not be established until more experience has been gained during the ongoing peer evaluations.

As questions related to the application of ISO/IEC 17011:2017 were raised in the JWGA-series meetings in April 2018 and October 2018 a workshop in conjunction with the IAF/ILAC midterm meeting April 2019 was organized by JWGA-series co-chairs to discuss these issues.

At the workshop several questions were discussed and answers were developed.

That resulted in the proposal to set up a document with questions and answers related to the application of ISO/IEC 17011:2017 with the aim of:

- providing a tool to assist in the understanding and application of ISO/IEC 17011:2017;
- achieving equivalence of the outcomes of peer evaluations based on that standard;
- providing a resource for training.

This document is intended for use by IAF and ILAC, by Regions, by accreditation bodies and by peer evaluators.

Confirmation by the IAF/ILAC JEC

The IAF/ILAC JEC confirmed the JWGA-series proposal to establish a process to provide a Question and Answer document for the application of ISO/IEC 17011:2017.

Review panel/TFG to maintain a Q&A list

The review panel/TFG under the JWGA-series for the maintaining of the training material (Q&A list) is composed of up to 8 persons having experience related to the establishment of ISO/IEC 17011:2017 and the execution of peer evaluations not limited to JWGA-series members but led by a JWGA-series member designated by the JWGA-series. It will be convened by two Co-Chairs, preferably one with experience in IAF matters and the other in ILAC matters.

Who can bring in questions?



IAF/ILAC Joint Working Group JWG
on the maintenance of the A-Series documents
and development of training materials

New questions will be handled and brought to the review panel through the regions (regions to implement their own processes), or through the IAF/ILAC peer or regional evaluation system. The Co-Chairs of the review panel will receive the questions, manage their handling and provide the proposed answer to the JWGA-series.

Decision-making and publication of results:

Decision on answers provided through the review panel/TFG is made by the full JWGA-series.

As the content of the Q&A list is informative / guidance, no voting by the IAF/ILAC membership is required and intended (to be able to act swiftly).

Publication:

Publication will be done by the IAF/ILAC secretariat under the realms of the JWGA-series on the IAF/ILAC webpage.

How to keep information actual:

The Q&A list will be reviewed as needed, at least once per year by the full JWGA-series.