

GSO

GCC Standardization Organization



The Regional Conformity Assessment Scheme **RCAS** in the Cooperation Council of Gulf Arabic States (GCC)

*Building for
Integration*

A Paper Presented to
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BY

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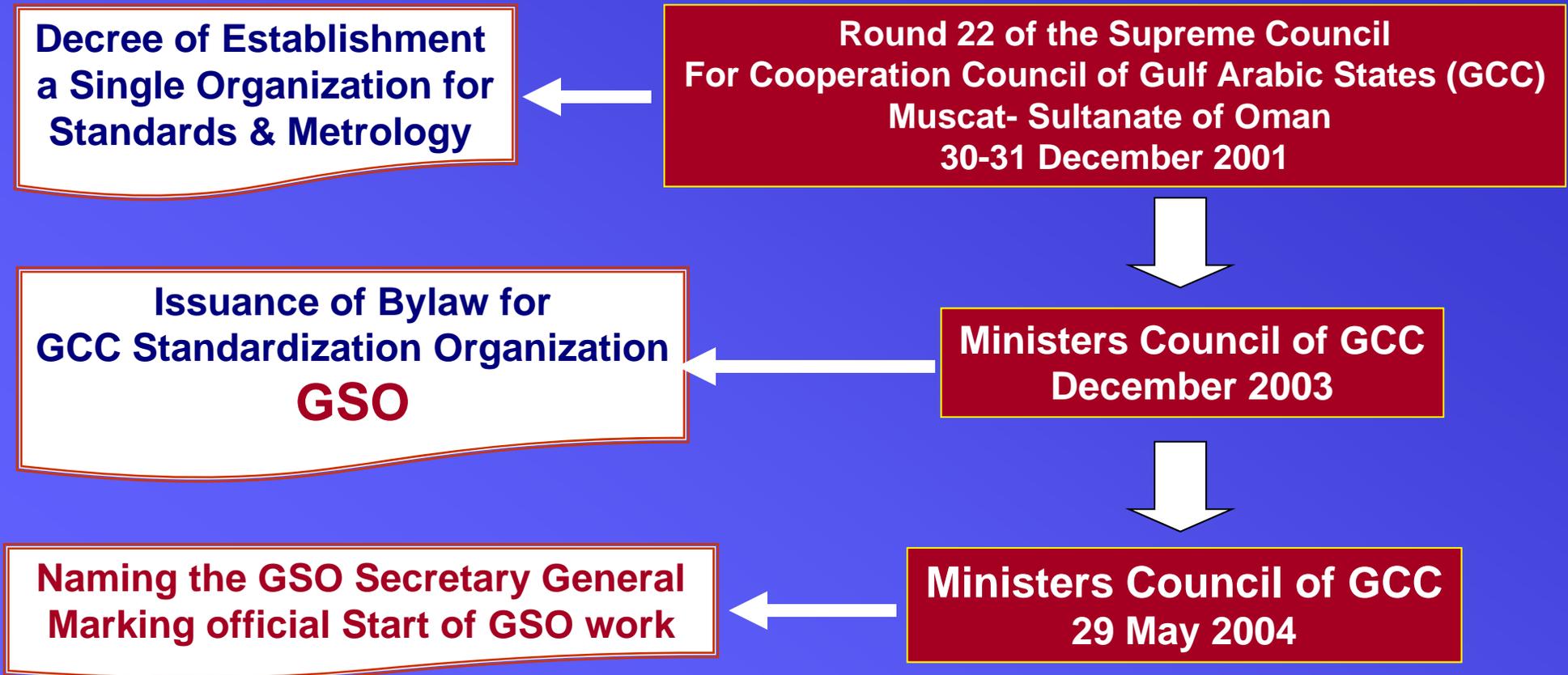
Website: www.gso.org.sa

GCC



Establishment of GSO

GCC Standardization Organization



GSO Objectives



GSO aims at helping the GCC achieve the objectives set forth in its charter and in the GCC Economic Agreement. By:

- ✓ **Unifying the various standardization activities and;**
- ✓ **Following up application and compliance of the same in;**
- ✓ **Cooperation and coordination with the standardization bodies in the Member States In an endeavor to:**
 - ❑ **Develop the production and service sectors,**
 - ❑ **Foster the Intra-GCC trade,**
 - ❑ **Protect the consumer, environment and the public health, and;**
 - ❑ **Encourage the GCC industries and agricultural production that would;**
 - **Enhance the GCC economy ,**
 - **Maintain the achievements of the Member States and;**
 - **Minimize the technical trade barriers as envisaged by the objectives of the Customs Union and Single Market.**

GSO Members



GCC Member States



United Arab Emirates



Kingdom of Bahrain



Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



Sultanate of Oman



Qatar



Kuwait

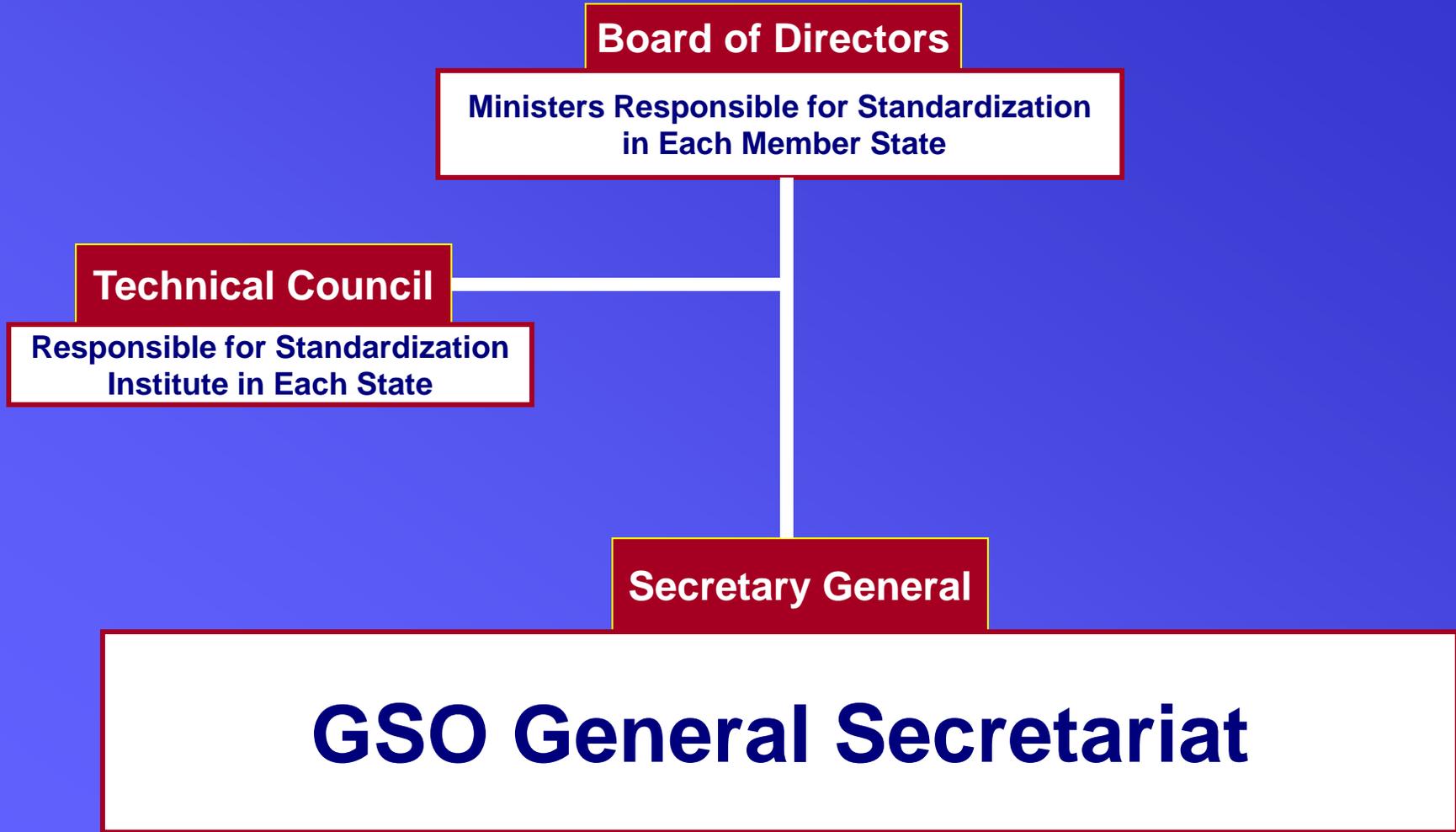
Yemen as From 1-1-2010

Head Offices

Riyadh- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



GSO Upper Level Organization



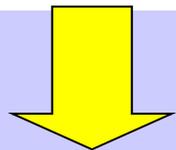


The GCC Regional Conformity Assessment Scheme RCAS

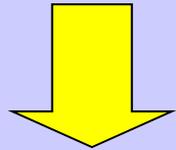


G

One Standards

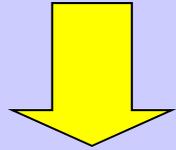


One Tests



C

One Conformity Assessment Procedures



C

Acceptance in All Markets

Local



Regional



Global



Why RCAS

- **International: WTO & TBT**
- **Regional: GCC (Custom Union-Single Market-Single Entry Point)**
- **Competition & Protection**



Project implemented to Develop the
Regional **C**onformity **A**ssessment **S**cheme
(RCAS)

PROJECT SCOPE



- **Propose a RCAS**
- **Develop a plan for implementation**
- **Identify resources, systems & legislation**
- **Devise training program for RCAS staff**
- **Benchmark the proposed RCAS against *World Best Practice***
- **Identify the impacts of implementation**

Project Phases



Project Started 14-11-2005

Phase One

Inception Component

Surveillance of GCC Member States

Propose a RCAS

Action Plan

36 W

Phase Two

Identify Resources

Devise Training Program

Benchmarking Study

Impact Study

Final Reporting

30 W

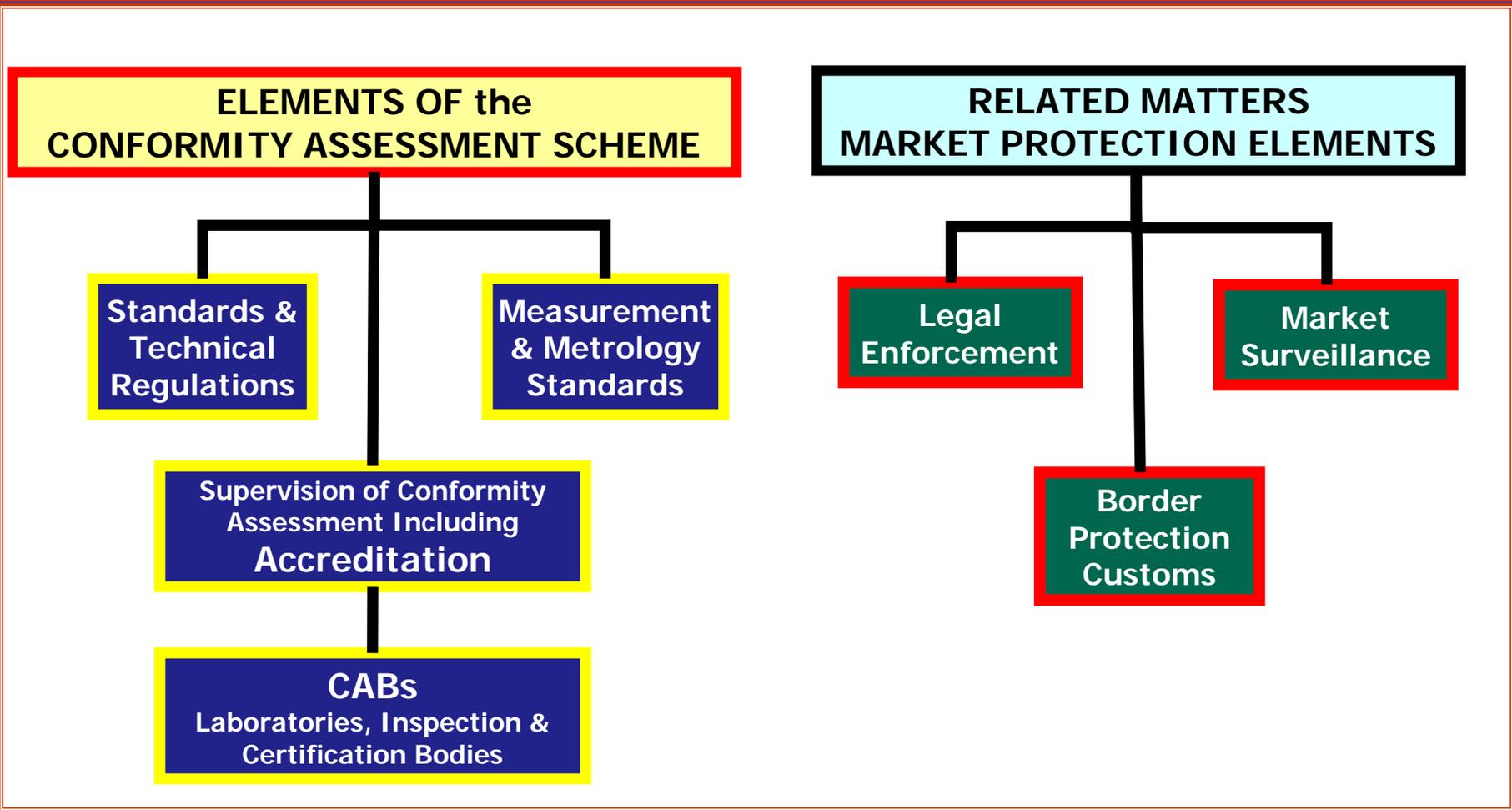
Project Ended 22-2-2007

ELEMENTS OF RCAS





CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT & MARKET PROTECTION ELEMENTS





RCAS Principle (1)

- Retain existing national standards bodies and GSO coordination arrangements. **All standards are to be voluntary.**
- Regulate by **essential requirements** not standards.
- **Controlled Transition Period to Affect a smooth change.**



RCAS Principle (2)

Establish a regional measurement system based upon coordination between member states through GSO.



RCAS Principle (3)

Establish a single regional accreditation body. GCC ACCREDITATION CENTER **GAC**



RCAS Principle(4)

- Establish a Regional Conformity Marking.
- Introduce uniform legislation, regulation and training for Market Surveillance, Product Liability, and Legal Metrology.
- Manage the **TRANSITION**

LEVELS OF FUNCTION WITHIN THE RCAS



Three distinct levels or categories:

- **Infrastructure** - documentary standards, physical standards/metrology, accreditation; and
- **Service Providers** - testing/calibration laboratories, inspection bodies, and certification bodies; and
- **Regulatory System**- GCC Conformity Marking, Technical Regulations, Market Surveillance, Product Liability,..etc.



WHAT RCAS DELIVERS

- **Equal** outcome to all Member States;
- **Satisfies** WTO obligations.
- **Facilitates** economic integration.
- **Facilitates** private sector involvement.
- **Facilitate** strong market protection.
- **Confidence** in regional conformity assessment capability.

RCAS IMPLEMENTATION



➤ **STANDARDS:**

The standards developing activity as managed from within GSO.

➤ **METROLOGY:**

The Steering Committee for Measurement and Calibration (SCMC).

➤ **ACCREDITATION:**

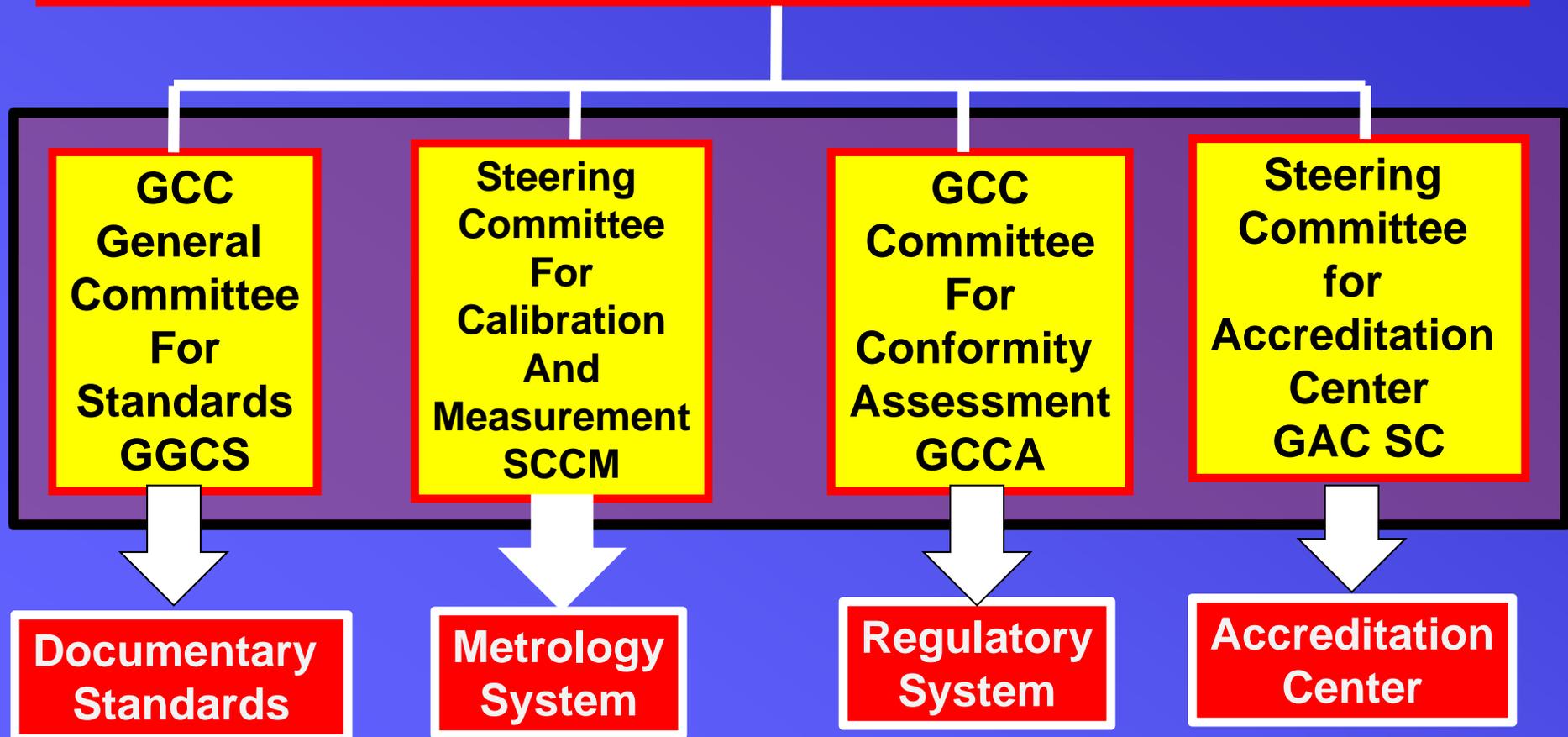
The Steering Committee for establishment of GAC (GACSC).

➤ **PRODUCT REGULATION:**

The GCC committee for Conformity Assessment (GCCA)



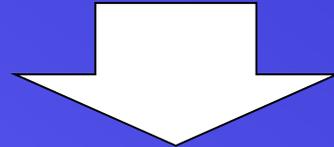
GCC STANDARDIZATION ORGANIZATION (GSO)



Recent Developments in RCAS IMPLEMENTATION



**GCC General Committee
For Standards
GGCS**



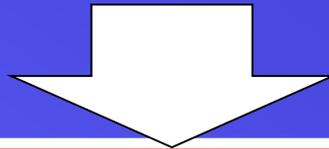
Documentary Standards

- Adopting strategy of adopting International Standards in its original language by virtue of a new procedure called quick track
- Change its strategy to make all GCC Standards to be Voluntary
- Work in close coordination with GCCA
- Adopt all CASCO Standards\Guides to be GCC Standards\Guides

Recent Developments in RCAS IMPLEMENTATION



**Steering Committee For
Calibration And Measurement
SCCM**



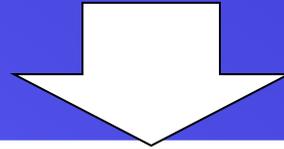
Metrology System

- **Surveying GCC States Capacities & Needs**
- **Forming of specialized sub committees**
- **Establishing the Common GCC Metrology Law, endorsed by ministers.**
- **Forming links with OIML and BIPM**
- **Forming GULF MET**

Recent Developments in RCAS IMPLEMENTATION



**GCC Committee For
Conformity Assessment
GCCA**



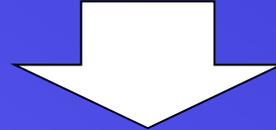
Regulatory System

- **Establishing the Principles of GCC Regulatory System for Control of Products**
- **Issuing 6 Technical Regulations**
- **GCC Conformity Marking.**
- **Manage Transition**

Recent Developments in RCAS IMPLEMENTATION



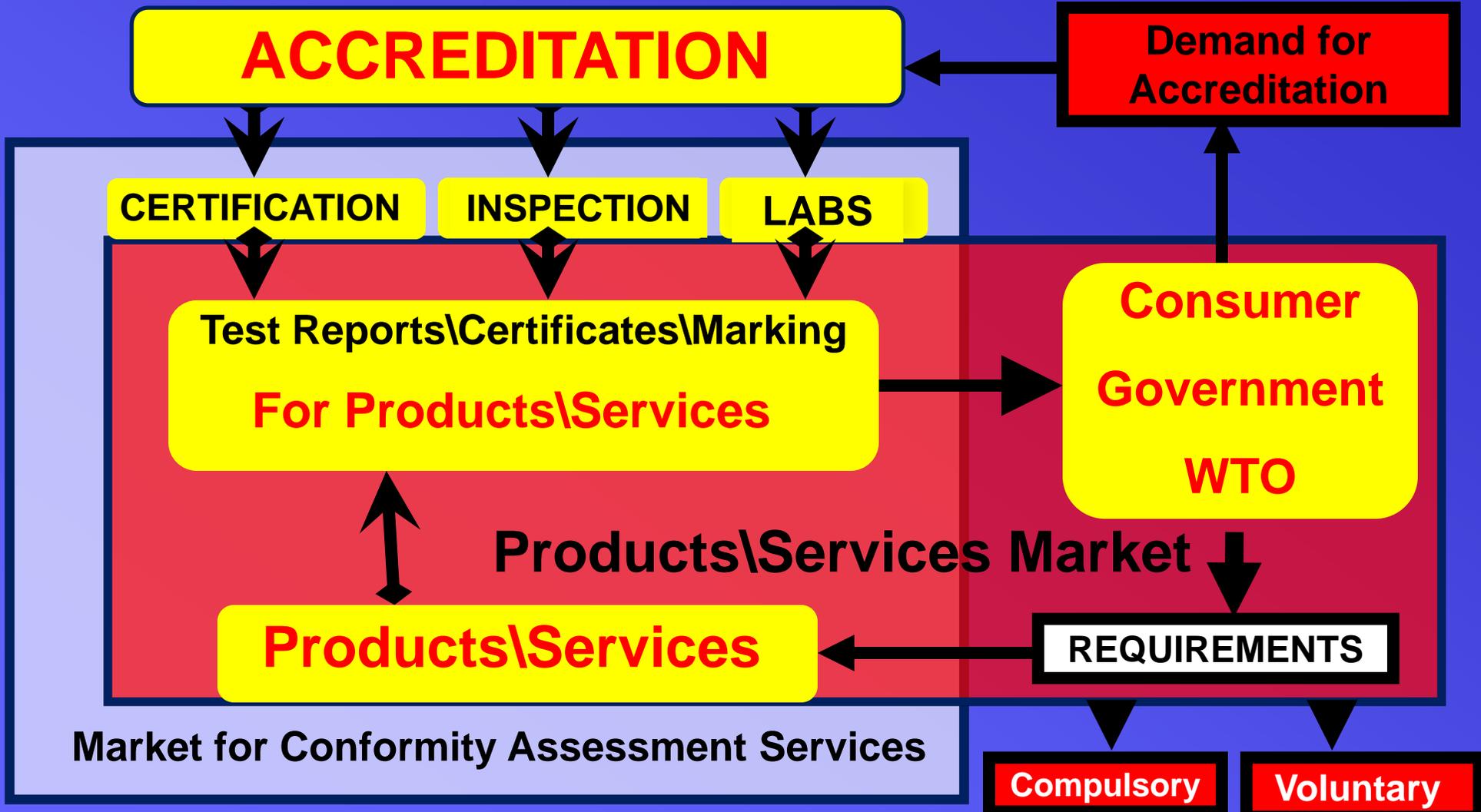
**Steering Committee
For Accreditation Center
GAC SC**



Accreditation Center

- Issuing the GAC Agreement (Bylaw), endorsed by ministers
- Establish Organization Structure, Job Description, Policies, Procedures to ISO/IEC 17011 by cooperation with NATA
- Establish Accreditation Documents for 3 Scopes
- Preparing for establishing Accreditation Documents for other 8 Scopes in cooperation with NATA

Regulatory System for Products



Regulatory System for Products



Accreditation



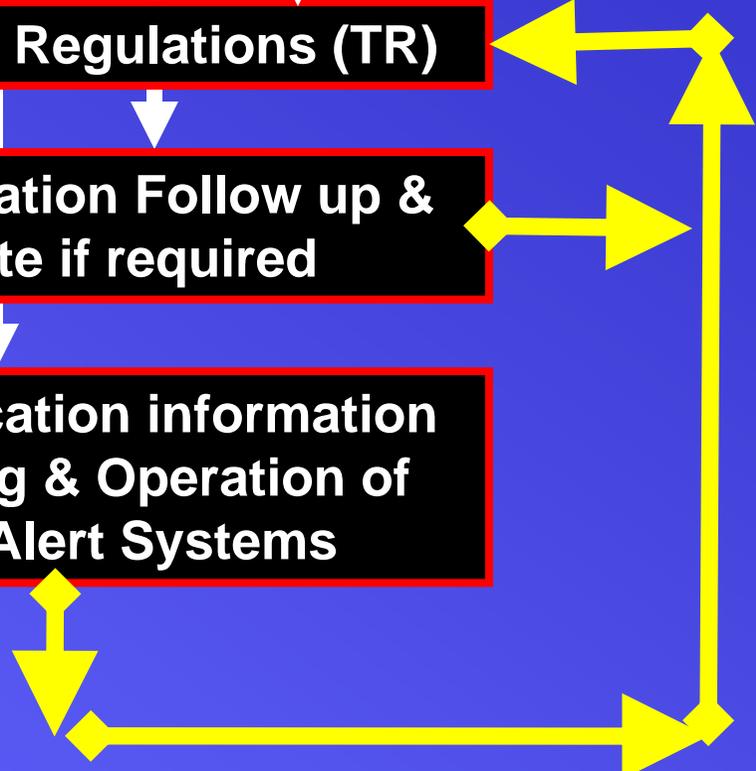
Establishment of GAC

Products Essential Requirements

Technical Regulations (TR)

TR Application Follow up & Update if required

TR Application information gathering & Operation of Risk Alert Systems





THANK YOU

For any help please Contact:

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