



The International Laboratory Accreditation
Cooperation (ILAC)
The International Accreditation Forum (IAF)

Accreditation -- Facilitating Global Trade

by
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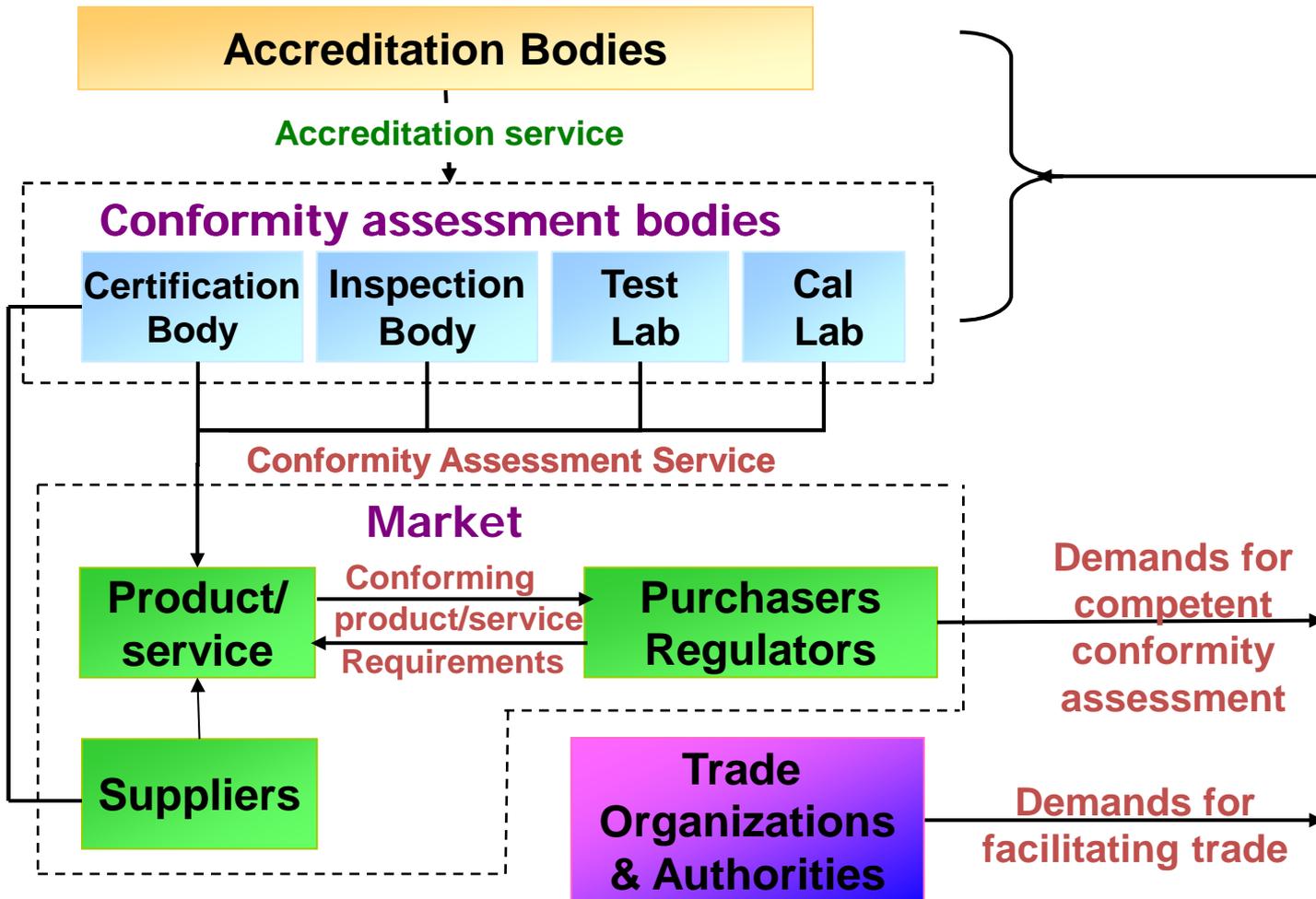
NIST Standards in Trade Conference: ASEAN
25 March 2014

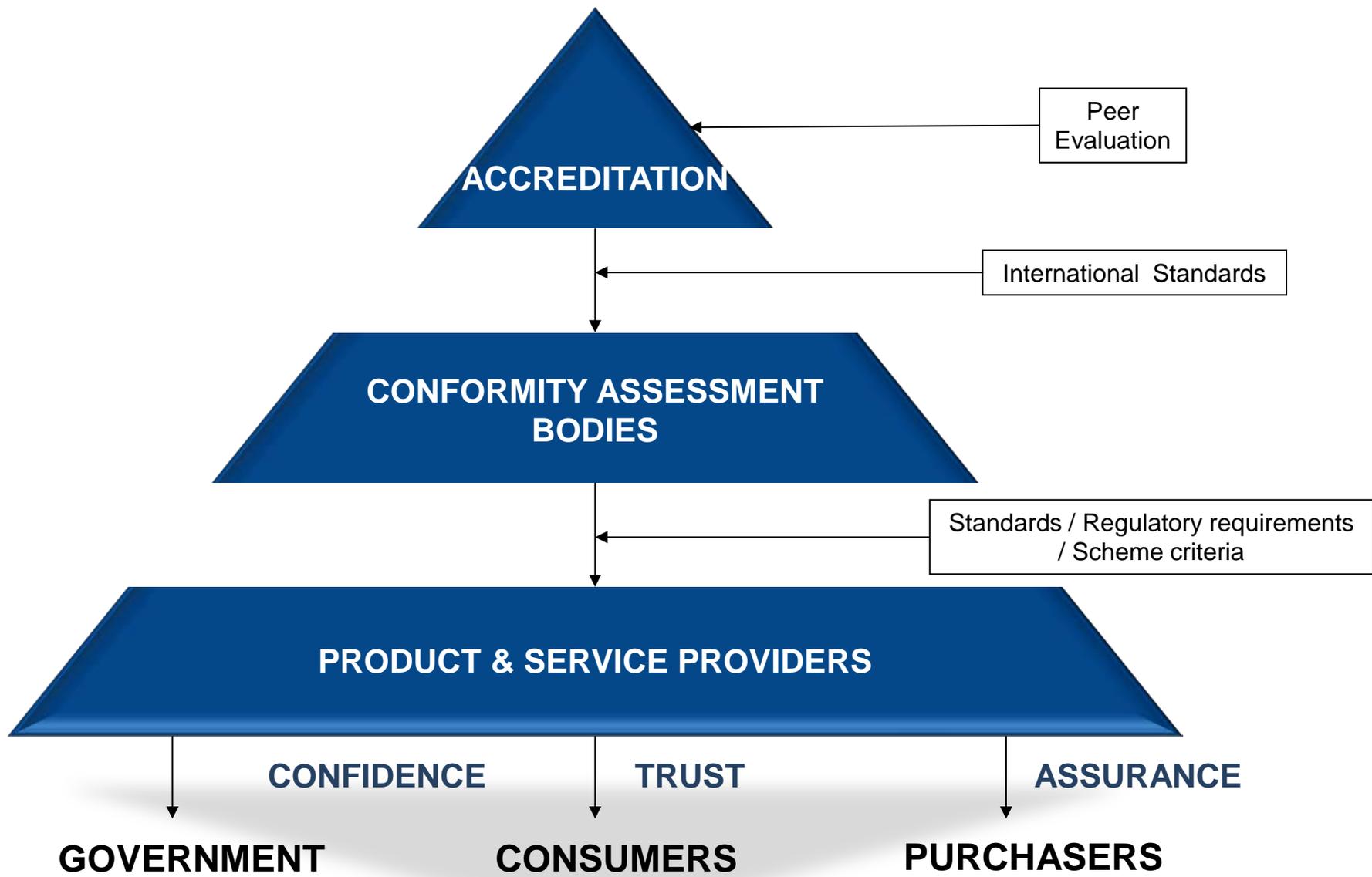


Accreditation in the TBT Agreement

“6.1.1 adequate and enduring technical competence of the relevant conformity assessment bodies in the exporting Member, so that confidence in the continued reliability of their conformity assessment results can exist; in this regard, verified compliance, for instance through *accreditation*, with relevant guides or recommendations issued by international standardizing bodies shall be taken into account as an indication of adequate technical competence;”

Accreditation to Support the Market



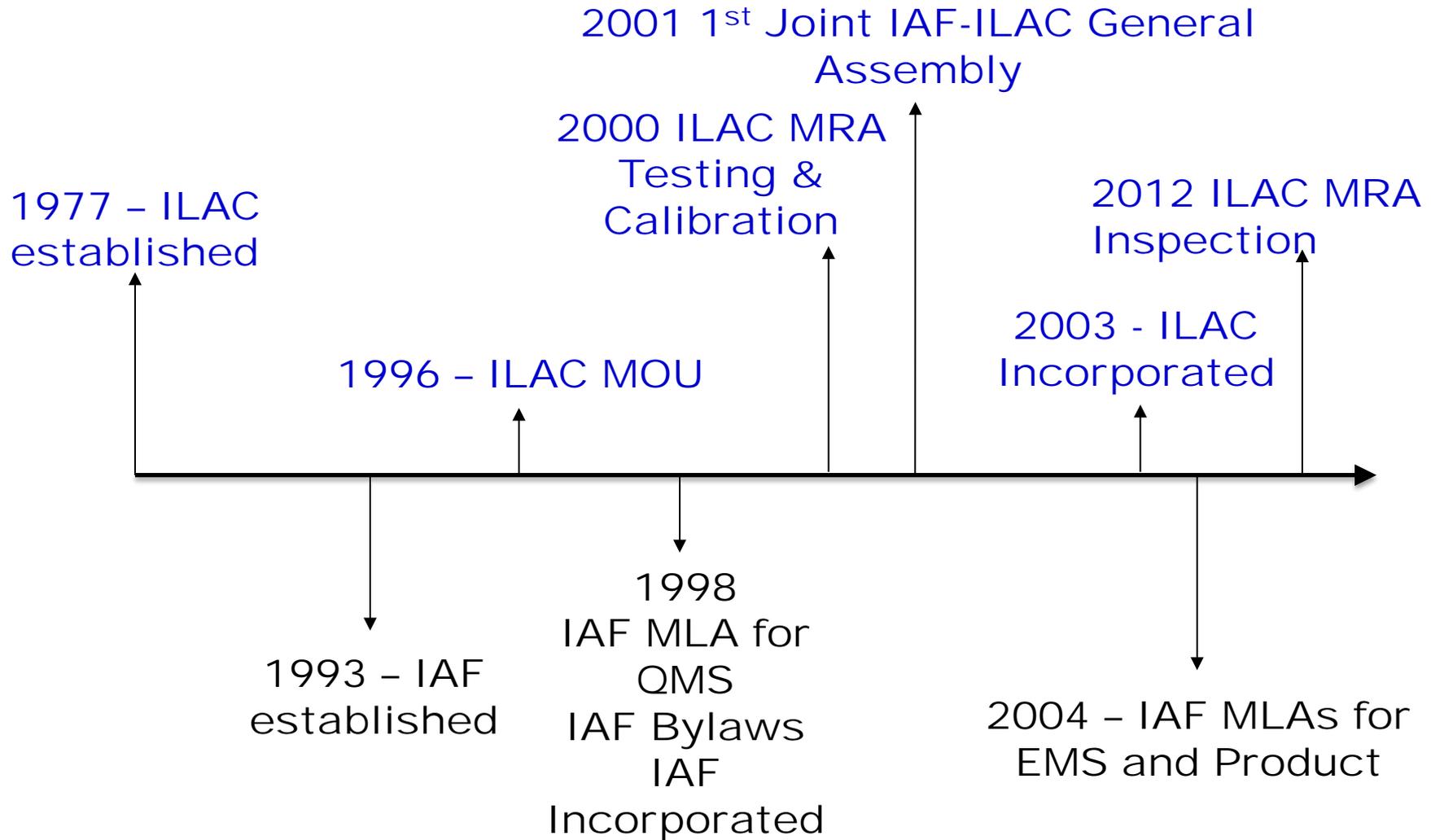


ILAC and IAF

ILAC and IAF—global networks of conformity assessment accreditation bodies

- Recognition of competent conformity assessment activities through global multi-lateral mutual recognition arrangements
- Harmonization of conformity assessment practices
- Promotion of accredited conformity assessment as an effective mechanism for providing confidence in goods and services

IAF / ILAC timeline



Global Vision

- *Tested, inspected or certified once, accepted everywhere'*
- *“Accredited once, accepted everywhere”*

Regional Cooperation Bodies

The IAF and ILAC Arrangements are structured to build on existing and developing regional MLAs/MRAs established around the world

- The IAF MLA recognizes EA, PAC, IAAC
- The ILAC MRA recognizes EA, APLAC, IAAC



European
Cooperation
for
Accreditation
(EA)

Pacific
Accreditation
Cooperation (PAC)

Inter-American
Accreditation
Cooperation
(IAAC)

Asia Pacific
Laboratory
Accreditation
Cooperation
(APLAC)

Southern African
Development
Community
Accreditation
(SADCA)

African
Accreditation
Cooperation
(AFRAC)

Arab
Accreditation
Cooperation
(ARAC)

Status of the ILAC MRA (March 2014)

- The ILAC network of members includes 148 bodies from 112 different economies (84 Full Members/MRA Signatories, 17 Associates, 18 Affiliates, 23 Stakeholders, 6 Regional Cooperation Bodies)
- ILAC MRA covers testing, calibration and inspection
- Signatories represent about 95% of Global GDP
- 45,000 accredited laboratories
- About 7,500 accredited inspection bodies
- MRAs for accreditation of PTPs and RMPs underway



Status of the IAF MLA

- **91 members (67 Accreditation Bodies, 16 Association Members, 4 Regional Groups with special recognition, 4 Observers) ;**
- **There are 56 IAF MLA Signatories, representing 52 economies**
 - **Management Systems : 52 Accreditation Bodies and EA, PAC & IAAC**
 - **ISO 9001 QMS : 52 Accreditation Bodies and EA, PAC & IAAC**
 - **ISO 14001 EMS : 45 Accreditation Bodies and EA, PAC & IAAC**
 - **ISO 13485 MDMS : under development**
 - **ISO 22000 FSMS : under development**
 - **ISO 27001 ISMS : under development**
 - **Product : 46 Accreditation Bodies EA, PAC & IAAC**
 - **Persons : under development**



The ILAC and IAF Arrangements

- Accreditation body members deemed competent through a peer evaluation process:
 - ISO/IEC 17011
 - IAF-ILAC A series documents
 - IAF MD documents & ILAC P-series documents
- Signatories must recognize certificates and reports issued by organisations accredited by other Signatories
- Provides business with assurance that overseas bodies operate to the same standard.
- Removes technical barriers to trade by eliminating redundant conformity assessment



USA Specifiers of the Arrangements

- **Consumer Product Safety Commission**
- **Federal Highway Administration**
- **U.S. Coast Guard**
- **General Services Administration**
- **Department of Defence**
- **Nuclear Regulatory Commission**
- **Food and Drug Administration**
- **Environmental Protection Agency**



Benefits for government and regulators

- Cost effective tool to support regulation
- Efficient monitoring

Benefits for industry

- Greater acceptance of products and services opening up markets
- Avoiding the costs of multiple testing, inspection or certification
- Efficient management of suppliers



Benefits for consumers

- Public confidence in goods and services despite complex global marketplace
- Reduces product failures

Summary

- **Commitment to developing a harmonized global approach for accreditation practices**
- **Maintaining the Arrangements to ensure equal reliability of accredited services.**
- **Promoting greater acceptance by regulators and businesses to remove technical barriers to trade, and avoiding the need for duplicate certifications, testing or inspections.**
- **Supporting developing economies to establish an accreditation infrastructure.**

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