UNIDO project on Arab Accreditation Cooperation ARAC
Success story for a power regional cooperation and integration

High-Level Regional Workshop on Trade and Regional Integration in the Arab States
Marrakech, December 2018

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Outline

ARAC PROJECT BACKGROUND

ESTABLISHMENT OF ARAC

ARAC IN THE REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

ACHIEVEMENTS: INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION OF ARAC MLA

PERSPECTIVES: ARAC TO BE SUSTAINED AND EFFECTIVE AS KEY DRIVING FORCE FOR REGIONAL TRADE INTEGRATION
ARAC PROJECT BACKGROUND
Accreditation/RCAG

Accreditation: Third-party attestation related to a conformity assessment body conveying formal demonstration of its competence to carry out specific conformity assessment tasks

ARAC: Regional Cooperation Accreditation Group: the purpose is to develop and maintain an Arrangement. Is a group of different accreditation bodies representing different economies.
ARAC PROJECT KEY MILESTONE

- Establishment of the ARAC MS and committees
- 2011: ARAC Bylaw
- Membership in International Cooperation Bodies
- Capacity Building of ARAC members
- ARAC ABs MLA signatories
- International Recognition of the ARAC MLA
- Establishment and implementation of the ARAC MLA system
ESTABLISHMENT OF ARAC
ARAC members

17 Accreditation Bodies members representing 17 Arab Countries

6 ARAC ABs ILAC & IAF MLA&MRA Signatories
• Developing the MS of ARAC
• ARAC Structure according to International requirements
• Establishment and implementation of the ARAC strategy 2017-2021

• Establish partnerships (IAAC, APLAC, EA ..)
• ILAC and IAF membership
• Participation of ARAC Peer evaluators at ILAC/IAF/APLAC/AFRAC Peer evaluation

Establishment of the ARAC Multi Lateral Recognition

ARAC Pool of qualified Peer Evaluators

Capacity Building of ARAC accredited CAB: PT programs

Involved at International level
ARAC IN THE REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT
ILAC - IAF

IAF  International Accreditation Forum
ILAC  International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation
IAAC  Inter American Accreditation Cooperation
APLAC  Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation
PAC  Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation
EA  European Cooperation for Accreditation
ARAC  Arab Accreditation Cooperation
AFRAC  African Accreditation Cooperation
ACHIEVEMENTS: INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION OF ARAC MLA
The ARAC Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA) is a signed agreement between the ARAC Full Members whereby the signatories recognize and accept the equivalence of the accreditation systems operated by the signing members, and also the reliability of the conformity assessment results provided by conformity assessment bodies accredited by the signing members.
Milestones of the ARAC MLA International recognition process by ILAC & IAF

1. Submission of ARAC application to join the ILAC MRA and IAF MLA and all the needed documents to ILAC & IAF MRA/MLA Management Secretariats
   - 16 Mar 2015
2. Regional Peer Evaluation of ARAC Secretariat
   - Sep. 2016: The ILAC&IAF Regional Peer evaluation Team Conducted the Evaluation of ARAC Secretariat
3. Witnessing of ARAC MLA decision making Committee
   - The ILAC&IAF Regional Peer Evaluation Team conducted the witnessing of the ARAC MLA decision-making committee meeting
4. Discussion and Finalization of the ILAC&IAF Regional Peer Evaluation Report
   - The ILAC&IAF Regional Peer Evaluation Team Leader discussed with ARAC the final findings, ARAC responses and finalized the Peer Evaluation Report
5. Review of the ILAC&IAF Peer evaluation and TFG reports by the IAF MLA Management Committee, ILAC Arrangement Management Committee and Arrangement Council
   - The IAF MLA management Committee and ILAC Arrangement management Committee reviewed the reports and gave their recommendations to the ILAC MLA Committee and ILAC Arrangement Council
6. International Recognition of the ARAC MLA by ILAC&IAF IAF MLA Committee and ILAC Arrangement Council decided on the International recognition of the ILAC MLA
   - 25 Sep – 24 Oct 2017
ARAC MLA International Recognition

ARAC MLA forms a regional network of CAB accredited by Abs that have been peer-evaluated and recognized as being competent. This network facilitates the acceptance of certificates & reports in the region, thus contributing to the facilitation of trade and the free-trade goal of “Accredited once, accepted everywhere.”

The reports or certificates accredited by an ARAC MLA signatory is also recognised by the signatories to the ILAC and IAF MRA & MLA agreements. As a result, the ARAC MLA acts as an international passport to trade.
Competent CABs Network

1. CABs Mapping

- Information for CABS
- Information for SMEs
- Other Elements

COUNTRY 1

- CAB 1
- CAB 2
- CAB 3
PERSPECTIVES: ARAC TO BE SUSTAINED AND EFFECTIVE AS KEY DRIVING FORCE FOR REGIONAL TRADE INTEGRATION
Output 1.1

ARAC, as a regional cooperation body, is legally incorporated, technically / financially sustainable and internationally recognized (ILAC MRA & IAF MLA Signatory).

Regional cooperation on accreditation is sustained, effective and internationally recognized as key driving force for regional trade integration.

Output 1.2

Up to 4 ARAC members supported to become ARAC MLA signatories
THANK YOU.

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