KENAS
Delivering Trust

KENYA
ACCREDITATION
SERVICE

PL-32-02

Cross Frontier Policy

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1 Background Information

1.1 Purpose

This policy sets out KENAS rules for accreditation of conformity assessment bodies that perform accredited activities outside Kenya. The purpose of the policy is to support one-stop conformity assessment principles. The policy also aims to ensure that a consistent approach in dealing with accreditation of Conformity assessment bodies in different countries.

1.2 Scope

This policy applies to CABs with a head office located outside Kenya and to CABs with a head office in Kenya that also performs conformity assessment activities in other countries. It also applies to foreign AB's operating or intending to operate in Kenya.

2 Legal Basis

KENAS with the support of the employees shall implement this policy in accordance with the Cross-Frontier Accreditation Principles of cooperation ILAC-G21, Accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies with activities in Multiple Countries IAF-MD 12, and the KENAS Outsourcing Policy PL-39-01

3 Glossary

3.1 Acronyms and Abbreviations

AB	Accreditation Body
KENAS	Kenya Accreditation Service
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CAB	Conformity Assessment Body
MRA	Mutual Recognition Arrangement
IAF	International Accreditation Forum

3.2 Terms and Definitions

3.2.1 External CAB

A foreign conformity assessment body seeking accreditation from KENAS.

3.2.2 External AB

A foreign accreditation body that may wish to provide accreditation services within Kenya.

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3.2.3 Local CAB

A conformity assessment body operating in Kenya.

4 Roles and Responsibilities

Role	Responsibility
All KENAS Technical Staff	Process Owner
SCBO	Reviewer
CMIV	Recommender
CEO	Approval
All KENAS Technical Staff	Compliance

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5 Policy Statement

5.1.1 On receipt of an application from a local CAB, KENAS shall process the application in line with its established process of accreditation.

5.1.2 On receipt of an application for accreditation from an external CAB outside the East African Community, KENAS shall establish the following:

a) The existence of an operational accreditation body in the country the client is based.
b) The awareness of the CAB on the existence of the AB in its country.
c) That the CAB understands that even if the application is accepted, the local accreditation body will be informed and if possible involved in the accreditation process: The CAB shall be consulted on the involvement of the AB in its country in the assessment either on an observatory role or on joint assessment with KENAS.

5.1.3 In case the Local AB does not have the ability to provide the desired scope of accreditation, KENAS shall formally communicate this aspect in writing to both the AB and the CAB for the purpose of reaching an agreement regarding provision of the accreditation services by KENAS.

5.1.4 Where there is no local AB and KENAS has the capability to cover the desired scope of accreditation KENAS shall initiate the process of accreditation with the CAB

5.1.5 Where there is no local AB and KENAS is unable to cover the desired scope, KENAS shall formally communicate this status to the CAB.

5.1.6 Where a foreign AB is providing accreditation services within Kenya, KENAS shall:

a) Require the foreign AB to adhere to the requirements of the cross-frontier accreditation- principles of cooperation to which this policy is aligned.
b) Establish the existence through ILAC/ IAF arrangements or the legal existence of the AB in the country it is based in case it is not an ILAC MRA / IAF MLA signatory.
c) Require that the AB shall formally inform the CAB of the existence of KENAS and the AB formally checks with KENAS on its ability to provide the desired scope of accreditation.

5.1.7 Where KENAS cannot cover the requested scope, KENAS shall formally write to both the CAB and the foreign AB for the purpose of reaching agreement regarding provision of the accreditation services by the external AB.

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5.1.8 The foreign AB in consultation with the client shall provide for KENAS participation either for a joint assessment or observation in order for KENAS to gain experience.

5.1.9 For CAB outside Kenya but within the East African Community, KENAS will service the application as per the East African Community Standards, Quality Assurance and Metrology Act 2006.

5.1.10 Where a potential or accredited CAB based in Kenya has key activities being performed in foreign locations KENAS shall;

a) Plan for assessment the key activities as provided for in its assessment procedures and shall notify the AB in the foreign location of its planned assessment and further engagement as may be mutually agreed.
b) Where the foreign AB has capability of assessing the key activity (ies) in favourable terms to KENAS, an outsourcing arrangement may be considered under the KENAS outsourcing policy requirements.

6 Associated Documents

Ref	Document Identifier	Document Title
1.	ISO /IEC 17011	Conformity Assessment-Requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies
2.	ILAC-G21	Cross Frontier Accreditation – Principles of cooperation
3.	IAF-MD 12	Accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies with activities in Multiple Countries
4.	PL-39-01	KENAS Outsourcing Policy
5.	ISO /IEC 17011	Conformity Assessment-Requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies

7 Revision/Amendment Records

Date	Version	Revised by	Reason for Revision
30/04/2022	01	RSQ	Newly developed/formatted document
09/12/2022	02	RSQ	Amendment of clause 3.2.1

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