

# Overview of [AFRIMETS]'s practices for QMS

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## Outline on “Review”, “Approval”, “Monitoring”

- What pathways are allowed? (accreditation, self-declaration...)

### AFRIMETS Guidelines For Accepting A Quality System

(AFR-13-014b QS Review 2021)

- A. a quality system (QS) that meets the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025 - 17034 , for an NMI, assessed by an accreditation body fulfilling the requirements of ISO/IEC 17011.
- B. a quality system that meets the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025 - 17034 , for an NMI, without assessment by an accreditation body. (Self Declaration)

- How the review is organized

A team consisting of quality system experts and technical peers appointed by the TCQS according to metrological activities submitted

- How the information received from NMIs/DIs are utilized and reported

Documents received from NMIs are utilized among team allocated for the revision

Reporting of QS Revision on TCQS internal documents (AFRIMETS peer review report initial / 5 years reeval.)

Annual Reports and annual presentations at TCQS meeting from NMIs with approved QS are reviewed by the TCQS steering committee then utilized to JCRB on AFRIMETS Report on quality system.

- Important practices adopted by the RMO

AFRIMETS established a pool of technical reviewers from within the RMO and update annually.

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# [AFRIMETS]'s "Review"

- specific regional demands and/or solutions to share
    - Procedure A and subsequently pathway (a) is the mostly route used for compliance
- AFRIMETS wide cotenant with many challenges among regions ,So as a solution
- Quality system on site peer review could be by Physical – hybrid- Remotely.

- how the RMO ensures "Review" required in G-12 Section 3.1

☐ NMIs following pathway (a) must submit the following evidence to the AFRIMETS TC-QS:

- Copies of accreditation certificate(s),
- Scopes of accreditation covering the CMCs,
- Names and affiliations of technical assessors,
- The Assessment report,
- CMCs intended for submission,
- Other documents could be requested by TCQS to satisfy itself.
- The first time the NMI applies for the approval of the QS as fit-for-purpose for the CIPM MRA, where possible the NMI will be visited by the AFRIMETS TC-QS or its appointed representatives to assess the above documentation on site.

Slide 2: "Review"

## [AFRIMETS]'s “Review”

- how the RMO ensures “Review” required in G-12 Section 3.1
- ❑ NMI's following pathway (b) ,must submit the following evidence to the AFRIMETS TC-QS (in compliance with CIPM MRA-G-02);
- Names, affiliations, qualifications and experience of the quality experts;
- Scope of the review (including the QMS)
- Schedule of the review;
- Organogram of the NMI;
- Quality system management mechanisms;
- Detailed table of contents of the quality manual;
- List of administrative and technical procedures;
- Table of cross references between ISO/IEC 17025 and the Quality documentation of the NMI;
- List of calibration capabilities covered by the quality system;
- Customer complaints –process employed and statistics;
- Non-confirming work –process employed & corrective actions;
- Report on internal audits;
- Status of management reviews.

## [AFRIMETS]'s "Review"

- When using accreditation or peer review, about aspects related to Section 3.4
- **On site visit by peers during review of QS is open for NMIs on request beside the common initial and 5 years revision.**
- **Criteria for selecting technical peers and quality system experts are in compliance with document CIPM 2007-25 , G12 Appendix A**

## [AFRIMETS]'s "Approval"

- How AFRIMETS ensures "Approval" required in G-12 Section 3.2

TCQS approval Letter with the accepted metrological activities after fulfillment of any Non conformities and/or comments from QS reviewers team.

- Information or opportunity made available to other RMOs to observe the process

Occasionally ,RMO's experts contribute to onsite revision of specific technical activities ,where AFRIMETS reviewers are not available in certain areas and sometimes for language reasons (French language).

# [AFRIMETS]'s "Monitoring"

- How AFRIMETS ensures "Monitoring" required in G-12 Section 3.3

□ NMIs must report annually on the status of the QS to the AFRIMETS TC-QS and in particular;

- Summary of the review / assessment process;
- Any changes in key personnel,
- Any new installations
- Any changes in facilities that would restrict the NMIs capability to provide measurement services covering the CMCs;
- Other relevant information, which will help build inter-regional confidence (e.g. training, and courses/workshops on QS, exchange of information between NMIs on QS, interaction with other RMOs on QS);
- An update on greyed out CMCs, e.g. progress towards the re-instatement.

## [AFRIMETS]'s “Monitoring”

- Information or opportunity made available to other RMOs to observe the process
- Representative from BIPM &/or RMOs usually attend TCQS meeting and observe NMIs QS responsible persons presents annually about their QMS .
- TCQS chair present annually about all NMIs QS within AFRIMETS to JCRB.

# [AFRIMETS]'s publication on QMS

- Reference to resource available for understanding AFRIMETS's practice on ensuring QMS confirmations

## **AFRIMETS Guidelines For Accepting A Quality System**

**(AFR-13-014b QS Review 2021)**

TCQS team is planning to perform internal workshop to produce some working documents to TCQS to cover procedure, timing, and communications.

- lessons learnt from activities

Interaction through the different activities among peers leads to -improvements

- AFRIMETS information on "Approval" made available?

Acceptance letter from TCQS Chair

- Training opportunities or web sessions held?

## **Training programs by NMIs**

NMISA – NIS – KEBS – INREP

Capacity Building Program (2025-2027) focuses on helping testing laboratories to obtain ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation for food testing services

For African countries (supported by PTB)

Slide 5: "Publication"