



**INSTITUTE FOR ACCREDITATION OF THE
REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA**

R E P O R T
on the work of the IARM for 2010

Report on the work of the Institute for Accreditation of the Republic of Macedonia for 2010

I. Introduction

On the basis of the Law on Accreditation (“Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia” No. 120/09), the Institute for Accreditation of the Republic of Macedonia (hereinafter: IARM) shall act as a public institution performing works and tasks of a national accreditation body in the Republic of Macedonia.

Accreditation is a technical procedure by the means of which IARM together with the granted certificate for accreditation formally confirm the competency of the body to perform particular tasks in the area of conformity assessment. Similarly, accreditation is a public interest activity.

In August 2005, the Government of the Republic of Macedonia adopted the “National Policy in the area of Accreditation” in which the main objectives and tasks, the funding and Action Plan for its implementation have been identified.

The legal framework of IARM has been defined in the Law on Accreditation, the Statute of the IARM, the Council Acts, the Acts of the Director of the IARM and in other papers.

Authorities/ bodies of the IARM are as follows:

1. Council
2. Director and
3. Material and Financial Supervision Board

Under the accreditation process, the IARM carry out the following activities:

- a. Accreditation of testing and calibration laboratories
- b. Accreditation of inspection bodies
- c. Accreditation of certification bodies

II. Delivered activities of the IARM for 2010

In accordance with the Work Program of the IARM for 2010, adopted by the Government of the Republic of Macedonia and published in the “Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia” No. 26/2010, the IARM has delivered the following activities:

1. Accreditation activities

Pursuant to the Law on Accreditation, (“Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia” No. 120/09), the Government of the Republic of Macedonia in March 2010 adopted the Statute of the IARM.

In 2010, the Council and Director of the IARM revised all quality management system documentation. The new issues of the documents are in accordance with the new Law on Accreditation, the new Statute of the IARM and with the all recommendations by the EA (European Accreditation Organization) assessment team presented in the Pre-assessment Report for signing of the Agreement for mutual recognition of the results with the European Accreditation Organization (EA-MLA). In that respect 14 rulebooks of the Council of the IARM

as well as 23 procedures of the Director of the IARM have been amended and published at the website of the IARM.

By amending all documents of the quality management system, actually all remarks were removed from the pre-assessment Report as a part of the procedure for signing of the mutual recognition agreement (EA-MLA). Namely, in February 2009, the IARM submitted an application for signing an agreement with the European Organization for Accreditation (EA) for mutual recognition of the accreditations within the European Union. The preliminary visit of the EA assessment team took place in the period between the 7th and 11th December 2009. Upon completion of the preliminary visit, the team composed a Report containing the assessment remarks. The application of the IARM encompasses the following areas: inspection bodies, testing laboratories and product certification bodies, however the IARM has already informed the EA on expansion of the scope including calibration laboratories.

a. Status of the accredited bodies

So far, a total of 65 conformity assessment bodies have been accredited. To the eight of them have had their accreditation withdrawn.

In 2010, to a total of 20 conformity assessment bodies have been *granted accreditation* as follows:

Type of body	Name of the Body	Date
Inspection body MKS EN ISO/IEC 17020	TCI EuroCert	29.01.2010
Inspection body MKS EN ISO/IEC 17020	EUROMAK - CONTROL	15.03.2010
Inspection body MKS EN ISO/IEC 17020	PSS –Vehicle inspection center	20.04.2010
Inspection body MKS EN ISO/IEC 17020	Center for research, development and continuous education	06.05.2010
Inspection body MKS EN ISO/IEC 17020	Automakedonija ETC DOOEL Skopje Homologation center	09.05.2010
Inspection body MKS EN ISO/IEC 17020	SEJBOLT PAN ADRIATIKA DOO- Skopje	25.05.2010
Inspection body MKS EN ISO/IEC 17020	TAHOSERVIS DOOEL Ohrid	11.06.2010
Inspection body MKS EN ISO/IEC 17020	ELMONT DOO	14.07.2010
Inspection body MKS EN ISO/IEC 17020	MINING INSTITUTE- SKOPJE	16.10.2010
Inspection body MKS EN ISO/IEC 17020	Gradezhno mehanizacionen inzhenering	10.11.2010
Inspection body MKS EN ISO/IEC 17020	EH IZVEDBA INZHENERING DOOEL- SKOPJE	10.12.2010
Inspection body MKS EN ISO/IEC 17020	TEHNOLAB doo- SKOPJE	15.12.2010
Inspection body	DIGINTRANS DOOEL Kumanovo	24.12.2010

MKS EN ISO/IEC 17020		
Inspection body MKS EN ISO/IEC 17020	Meser Vardar Tehnogas	24.12.2010
Inspection body MKS EN ISO/IEC 17020	MAKPETROL AD	31.12.2010
Testing laboratory MKS EN ISO/IEC 17025	EKOTEH DOZIMETRIJA DOO	02.07.2010
Testing laboratory MKS EN ISO/IEC 17025	Farmahem Dooel	01.12.2010
Testing laboratory MKS EN ISO/IEC 17025	EVRO KONSALTING - DOO	10.12.2010
Testing laboratory MKS EN ISO/IEC 17025	PHF Center for Public Health Skopje	24.12.2010
Calibration laboratory MKS EN ISO/IEC 17025	AUTOMAKEDONIJA- ETC	24.06.2010

In 2010, IARM **granted re-accreditation** to 9 conformity assessment bodies and **withdraw accreditation** to three conformity assessment bodies.

In 2010, the IARM has delivered 30 regular **surveillances to accredited bodies**.

b. Project activities

In 2010, IARM has been engaged in the delivery of four international projects:

The activities envisaged in the **IPA National project** (Pre- accession assistance instrument, Component 1, Project 3.01 Free movement of goods – Infrastructure for quality) were initiated. Namely, the office of the European Delegation in the Republic of Macedonia, in August published an international tender for selection of an institution for enforcement of the project “Technical Assistance for Institutional Strengthening of the Institute for Accreditation of the Republic of Macedonia“. Eight consortia put their offers out and as the most favorable one was the consortium composed of the “Federal Institute for Materials Research and Testing“ (BAM) from Germany and the Institute for Accreditation from Lithuania. The Project officially starts on the 1st February 2011.

Within the **IPA Regional Project**, the employees of the IARM participated at the following trainings:

- Pre PT Training, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Post PT Training, Bled, Slovenia
- Accreditation of ILC & PT Providers, Pau, France
- Accreditation of laboratories for calibration in accordance with the Standard ISO/IEC 17025, Pau, France

In addition to trainings, a meeting was organized for implementation of the European Regulation 765/2008 into national legislation of the member countries in the project. The meeting was held in Brussels and was attended by representatives of the European Commission, European Accreditation Organization, CEFTA and the accreditation bodies.

In cooperation with the **German Technical Cooperation (GTZ)** several documents were prepared by the 6 (six) Sector committees and were forwarded for review to the respective technical committees:

1. Sector Committee for Electrics, Electronics and Electrical Machines
2. Sector Committee for Pressure Equipment, Transportable Pressure Equipment and Steel Products
3. Sector Committee for Elevators and Lifting Equipment
4. Sector Committee for Construction Products
5. Sector Committee for Vehicles
6. Sector Committee for Conditions for using Technical Equipment

The regional project “Promotion of the Regional Cooperation of South-East Europe in the area of Quality Infrastructure” targeted for the Institutes of accreditation from Macedonia, Serbia, Albania, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo, funded by the **German Institute of Metrology** encompassed the following activities:

- Workshop on the management system of the accreditation bodies for the quality managers, Athens, Greece;
- Observation during surveillance assessment of a certification body accredited according to the Standard EN ISO/IEC 17024, Ankara, Turkey
- Observation during surveillance assessment of an inspection body accredited according to the Standard EN ISO/IEC 17020, Ankara, Turkey;
- Observation during surveillance assessment with extension to calibration laboratory accredited according to the Standard EN ISO/IEC 17025, Zagreb, R. Croatia.

Under the **BERIS Project**, a project of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia and the World Bank, the IARM furnished the Training Center with information technology. The procurement of the data management software planned to be supplied through this project, has been scheduled under the IPA national project during 2011.

c. Cooperation with state administration of the Republic of Macedonia

IARM participated in the work of the working groups under the Government of Republic of Macedonia, the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy.

In 2010, IARM took an active role in the work of the Technical Committees in the Institute for Standardization of the Republic of Macedonia.

Also, IARM participated in the preparation of the cooperation agreement with the Ministry of Economy.

d. Human resources

The Personnel Evaluation Committee fully amended the procedures for assessors, performed a revision on the files of all members of the list of assessors and experts and drafted a new list of assessors and experts of the IARM pursuant to the procedures of the European Organization for Accreditation (EA).

In 2010, in IARM one employment took place (actually a transition between a part-time into full time employment).

On the basis of the previously stated, the IARM fully enforced all activities envisioned under this heading of the Work Program of the IARM for 2010.

2. Organization of training

IARM in 2010 organized 5 training sessions targeted to the conformity assessment bodies and the assessors:

- Implementation of the Standard MKS EN ISO/IEC 17025 in testing and calibration laboratories.
- Implementation of the Standard MKS EN ISO/IEC 17020: 2006 for inspection bodies.
- Training for assessors according to the Standard MKS EN ISO/IEC 17021:2006.
- Training for assessors according to the Standard MKS EN ISO/IEC 17025:2006.
- Training for assessors according to the Standard MKS EN 45011.

Within the Project “Promotion of Regional Cooperation in South-East Europe in the Area of Quality Infrastructure“, financed by the German Metrology Institute, IARM organized an international workshop entitled “Sampling from the Environment“.

All trainings were organized in the Training Center of the IARM which was fully furnished and equipped with IT and kitchen equipment during 2010 in order to enable its operation.

In addition to the trainings organized by the IARM, the employees participated in other domestic as well as international trainings such as the following:

- o 7th Croatian Seminar for Pressure Equipment”, Zagreb, Croatia
- o Measurement instrument – Legal and scientific metrology, INT Markt, Bureau for Metrology
- o Calibration of reference thermometers used for checking and control of thermometers used in food-processing industry, where the standard HACCP is used, INT market, Bureau for Metrology.
- o „Support of national preparations for membership in the EU“in the environmental field, SEPA, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning
- o Technical training for pressure equipment, Zagreb, R. Croatia.

Using the TAIEX instrument, the IARM organized a workshop entitled “The Role of Accreditation in the Implementation of the Regulation (EC) 765/2008 and Communication with National Regulators“.

Also on behalf of the Ministry of Economy, other trainings were organized focused on harmonization of legislation of the Republic of Macedonia with the EU Legislation.

As a result of all previously mentioned trainings, the IARM has significantly raised institutional strengthening through education of the regular employees as well as the external partners.

The personnel in the IARM is composed of 15 regular employees, 51 expert, 48 candidates for assessors and 55 assessors of which 17 leading, 17 technical assessors in various areas and 21 technical assessors under training.

3. Promoting the accreditation system

In 2010, the following promotional events took place:

- 9th June 2010 celebrating the International Accreditation Day, IARM organized a promotion on the occasion of awarding Certificates for accreditation to conformity assessment bodies accredited during 2009. The promotion was held in the Club of the members of parliament.
- In 2010, the IARM issued 1 brochure in the area of accreditation in order to promote accreditation and to familiarize the wider public with the benefits of such an endeavor as well as the “Annual Report on the Operation of the IARM for 2009”.
- IARM participated in several activities organized by the Chamber of Commerce of the Republic of Macedonia.

4. Work of the Council of the IARM and the Material and Financial Supervision Board

In accordance with the Law on Accreditation, the Council of the IARM is composed of 11 members whereas the Material and Financial Supervision Board of 3 members. During 2010, the two bodies operating within IARM have held a total of 12 regular meetings each. The remuneration of the body members is conducted according to a held meeting (for not more than 12 annual meetings) and according to attendance of members.

5. International activities

In 2010, IARM had multiple *international* activities::

- IARM actively monitors and participates in the work of the European Organization for Accreditation (EA).
- Employees from IARM participated in the work of the Committees of the European Organization for Accreditation (MAC, HHC, CC, IC and LC).
- IARM participated in the work of the Subcommittee on trade, industry, customs and taxes as well as in negotiations for signing PECA/ACAA with the European Commission.
- In November 2010, IARM participated in the work of the ILAC (International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation), in which IARM has the status of an associate member.

In February 2010, the IARM signed an international agreement for ***bilateral cooperation*** with the Institute for Accreditation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. With the rest of the accreditation institutes from the region, IARM has already signed bilateral agreements.

Within the previously signed bilateral agreements, the IARM delivered the following activities:

- Participation in joint trainings
- Shared activities under the regional IPA project
- Exchange of experts with the accreditation bodies from Serbia, Croatia and Bulgaria.

In the course of its operation, the employees in the IARM actively cooperated with the Council of the IARM, the Financial and Material Supervision Board of the IARM as well as the working bodies operating within the IARM. As a result of the mutual commitment, the IARM has fully enforced all activities envisioned in the Work Program for 2010.

Director
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