

Regulation No. 03/2010/CM/UEMOA RELATING TO THE SCHEME FOR HARMONIZATION OF  
ACTIVITIES RELATING TO ACCREDITATION, CERTIFICATION, STANDARDIZATION, AND METROLOGY IN  
WAEMU

Excerpts of articles related to

accreditation Article 6: creation of technical quality structures

With a view to ensuring the consistency of the quality policies of the Member States with the international context, the following regional quality promotion structures, which are entrusted with tasks of a technical, scientific and management nature, are created:

- A Regional Accreditation Body, called the SOAC, the West African Accreditation System.

Article 19: Mutual Information on Accreditation and Metrology

Member States and the Commission, through technical structures of quality, ensure that the same transparency arrangements provided by the Articles 16 and 17, for the harmonization and development of quality within the Union, shall be applied in respect of, in particular:

- The field of accreditation: so that the concerned partners can permanently have a complete list of conformity assessment bodies, among which testing & calibration laboratories, within WAEMU, accredited by SOAC and be informed of the status of the international recognition agreements under discussion or signed.

Article 20: Principle of mutual recognition of the conformity assessment

- 20.1. Accreditation activities within the Union are the responsibility of the SOAC, which ensure they are compliant with the requirements of international organisms.
- 20.2. Each Member State recognizes as equivalent to its own assessment mechanism, the conformity assessment bodies of the other Member States, provided they present sufficient guarantees, in particular when these bodies and their procedures are accredited by the SOAC or have been assessed according to a procedure or a system verified and approved by the latest.

Article 21: Strengthening of conformity assessment

- 21.1. Member States shall establish and strengthen their assessment systems for compliance and establish their recognition through accreditation by the SOAC.
- 21.2. Regional and national bodies involved in the Accreditation and Conformity Assessment activities should refer to the guidelines and standards of international standardization bodies such as the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) or the International Electro technical Commission (IEC)

Article 36: Entry into force

This Regulation, which come into force on the date of their signature, will be published in the Official Bulletin of the Union.

Done at Dakar, June 21, 2010  
For the Council of  
Ministers  
President