



**CYPRUS ACCREDITATION BODY
CYSAB**

**Cyprus actively
participates
in the European
Accreditation**

**CYPRUS ORGANIZATION
FOR THE PROMOTION OF QUALITY (CYS)**

Introduction

The Cyprus Accreditation Body (CYS-CYSAB) became a full member of the European cooperation for Accreditation (EA) after a unanimous decision of EA's General Assembly in Zagreb (November 2004). This important development represents a basic target for 2004. The participation in the EA provides to the Accreditation Bodies a first recognition; further to this, they are expected to illustrate their competence through a peer evaluation procedure in order to become EA MLA (Multilateral Agreement) signatories.

The need for active participation

The membership of CYSAB in the EA provides access in the developments being made within Europe. CYSAB actively participates in the most important EA committees, namely:

- EA-LC: Laboratory Committee
- EA-IC: Inspection Committee
- EA-CC: Certification Committee
- EA-MAC: Multilateral Agreement Committee

Through this participation, the effort to upgrade the level of services provided to all types of Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) is highly strengthened. These bodies (laboratories, inspection bodies, certification bodies) are expected to play an important role in supporting the implementation of legislation, mainly as Notified Bodies with regard to implementation of the New Approach Directives. At the same time, the requirement for the accreditation of laboratories as a means to illustrate confidence, is becoming more necessary, especially in sectors directly related with health and safety (food, pharmaceuticals, environmental measurements, clinical laboratories, dangerous substances etc).

Who has the authority to accredit

The answer is clear! Only the Accreditation Bodies properly operated (members of EA or other in regional bodies or international bodies). Practically, there is only one accreditation body in each country. In the case of laboratories, the basic accreditation standard is CYS EN ISO/IEC 17025. There have been cases where certification bodies from abroad, operating also in Cyprus, try to provide certification services to laboratories based on the ISO 17025. This is misleading and quite unacceptable, since the Standard is exclusively a tool for accreditation.

The Accreditation Body in collaboration with...



In the website of EA, you can find useful information and publications on accreditation:

www.european-accreditation.org

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visit **CYS** website: www.cys.mcit.gov.cy

tel: +357 - 22409309/360/310

fax: +357 - 22754103

email: ktsimillis@cys.mcit.gov.cy



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