



Georgian Accreditation Centre
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Policy on Impartiality, Managing
Conflicts of Interests and Ensuring
Objectivity in Accreditation Activity
PL - 08

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Georgian Accreditation Centre

**Policy of impartiality, Managing Conflicts of Interests of Interests and Ensuring Objectivity
in Accreditation Activity
PL-08**

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Reviewed by:

Accreditation Committee

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Acting General Director:



1. Purpose

This publication outlines the policy of the GAC regards Impartiality, Managing Conflicts of Interests and Ensuring Objectivity in Accreditation Activity.

2. GAC Policy

1. GAC maintains and continually improves and obtained the signatory status of EA MRA from 2017 and demonstrate its competence, impartiality, independence, credibility and transparency as well as ISO / IEC 17011:2017, EC Regulation 765/2008 of the European Parliament and law of Georgia “Product safety and free movement code”.
2. The Unified national body of accreditation – accreditation center” is the Legal Entity of Public Law, under the supervisor of the Ministry of economy and sustainable development of Georgia.
3. GAC provides accreditation services, which conform to CAB’s needs, for competence recognition for performed conformity assessment services, as well as for issued certificates and reports, by creating an open collaboration environment with accredited applicants and stakeholders.
4. GAC is responsible for impartiality of its activities. The GAC carries out its activities impartially, objectively, in high level quality, non-discriminatory, at all level with ensuring of confidentiality of information, which is the result of implemented own accreditation schemes, procedures and policies.
5. The impartiality policy developed by GAC is publicly available on the website of the Accreditation Center. GAC has developed “MP-13 - Impartiality Risks of GAC, Identification, Assessment and Minimization”. Obligation of confidentiality and impartiality is confirmed by signature of an assessors.
6. Ensuring impartiality and credibility of issued accreditations lean also on transparency regarding access of interested parties to adequate information which should be made publicly available such as: “Insufficient control mechanisms” information, namely:
 - publicly available documents regarding accreditation process (policies, rules and procedures etc.);
 - application opportunities for accreditation which comply with activity and declared competence, without taking into account the CABs size, membership of an association or group, number of CAB’s already accredited;
 - identical contractual conditions for all clients;
 - accreditation fee shall be paid in accordance with the decree of the Government of Georgia N301 (4.08.2011);
 - process requests according to the approved procedure;
 - Register of accredited CABs with their accreditation scopes;
7. All public documents are available on GAC’s web-site www.gac.gov.ge. GAC services are accessible to all applicants whose applications for accreditation fall within the scope of its accreditation activities as defined in its policies, rules and procedures.
8. Policies, processes and procedures of the accreditation body are non-discriminatory and applied in a non-discriminatory manner.
9. GAC ensures impartiality in decision-making as well. Taking into consideration of the proposal of the assessment team members and on the committee opinion on recommendation of accreditation, the decision is made based on all information related to assessment, without being



influenced in any way. The decisions regarding accreditation are taken by persons who are not involved in the evaluation process.

10. GAC established a process of identifying, analyzing, evaluating, treating, monitoring and documenting of risks that could affect the impartiality of the entire accreditation activity, including any conflicts arising from its relationships. This process was implemented, maintained and further improved. Where there are threats to impartiality, it is documented how these risks are eliminated or minimized and any residual risk documented.

11. The GAC management reviews the risk of continuity and determine whether it is at the acceptable risk level. If there is a risk of impartiality that cannot be minimized or eliminated, accreditation may not be granted or may be withdrawn.

12. GAC presents to the Accreditation Council the outputs of risk analysis that has been conducted, including relations with related bodies. Impartiality in this case is ensured by observing the following principles: total separation and independence of GAC from any other body, including top leadership, decision-makers and technical personnel, effective mechanisms to prevent any influence on the outcome of any accreditation activity, as well as the use of distinct names, logos and symbols.

13. GAC does not provide consultancy services to its clients or conformity assessment services which are subjected to accreditation, to avoid an unacceptable risk of impartiality. GAC does not suggest to any CABs that accreditation would be simpler, easier, faster or less expensive if certain consultancy or specific advice were used by the applicant.

14. GAC implements continuously measures to insure the level of information security and eliminate information security risks for sensitive information from both external and internal environmental.

15. Not to possess a share or to have any financial or managerial interests in conformity assessment bodies.

3. References:

- ISO/IEC 17011: Conformity assessment. Requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies;
- ILAC-P4: ILAC MRA: Policy and Management;
- ILAC-P5: ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement;
- IAF PL6: IAF Memorandum of Understanding;
- Regulation (EC) No 765/2008;
- EA-1/06: EA Multilateral Agreement;
- EA-1/17: EA Rules and Procedures (including EA-1/17 S1);
- EA 2/02: EA Procedure for the evaluation of a National Accreditation body.



Annex 1

GAC Top Management Commitment

Whereby I understand that:

1. GAC will ensure impartially, independence and credibility at all levels of GAC;
2. GAC will ensure the continuous fulfillment of quality requirements at all levels;
3. GAC will ensure continuous improvement of the GAC management system;
4. GAC will ensure that policies are understood, implemented and maintained at all level;
5. GAC will ensure constitute compliance its activities with the requirements of all documents and standards;
6. GAC will ensure non-discriminatory approach to its activities;
7. GAC will ensure effective communication with interested parties;
8. GAC would not be in conflict with its activities and missions.

Malkhaz Khurebava Acting General Director

Nestan Mgeladze Head of Assessment service

Meri Dekanoidze Head of Administrative service



List of familiarizing with document

#	Date	Name /Surname	Signature
1			
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List of changes

Revision	Actual Chapter	Date	Content	Signature of the responsible person