



NABCB Transition Policy on ISO 14065:2020 and ISO/IEC 17029:2019

Introduction:

NABCB operates its accreditation schemes based on international standards and other mandatory requirements of IAF / ILAC / APAC as relevant and approved by the NABCB Board. The validation and verification bodies are required to comply with ISO 14065, and the requirements of IAF/ APAC as well as NABCB as specified in the NABCB Accreditation Criteria, and Accreditation Procedure for Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Validation & Verification Bodies (VVBs). The NABCB Accreditation Criteria for VVBs prescribes that they shall comply with ISO 14065 and relevant IAF documents (IAF MD 6, MD 14).

The revised standard ISO 14065:2020 "*General principles and requirements for bodies validating and verifying environmental information*" was published in Dec 2020. This standard is a sector-specific application of ISO/IEC 17029:2019, which contains general principles and requirements for the competence, consistent operation and impartiality of bodies performing validation/verification of environmental information statements as conformity assessment activities. The requirements of ISO 14065:2020 are to be complied by VVBs in addition to the requirements of ISO/IEC 17029:2019.

The standard ISO/IEC 17029:2019 "*Conformity assessment — General principles and requirements for validation and verification bodies*", published in Oct 2019, is applicable in conjunction with any sector-specific standard that contains requirements for validation/verification processes and procedures, to VVBs in any sector providing validation/verification as conformity assessment activities.

The International Accreditation Forum (IAF) in its General Assembly held in Oct 2019 has passed the following resolutions:

- 1) Endorsed ISO/IEC 17029:2019 as an IAF normative document.
- 2) Endorsed extension of the IAF MLA under the IAF Level 2 Validation and Verification to ISO/IEC 17029 as new IAF MLA Level 3 standard in accordance to IAF PL3 Policies and Procedures for the Expansion of the Scope of the IAF MLA.
- 3) The transition period for the revised standard ISO 14065:2020 shall be three years from the date of publication. Within this transition timeline:
 - a) Accreditation Bodies shall be ready to carry out transition assessment against the new version of ISO 14065 within 12 months from the date of publication.
 - b) All accreditation against the new version of ISO 14065 shall require accreditation to ISO/IEC 17029.
 - c) Where local legislation/regulation requires accredited validation/verification referencing ISO 14065:2013 and has not been amended to reference the new version of ISO 14065, the use of ISO 14065:2013 in accredited validation/verification may be extended.

Considering the above transitional requirements by IAF, the NABCB Transition Policy for applicant / accredited VVBs shall be as follows:

National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies

1. NABCB shall establish and launch its Validation/Verification Accreditation scheme as per ISO/IEC 17029:2019 by 01 January 2022.
2. New applicants seeking NABCB accreditation under the GHG accreditation scheme shall be required to seek accreditation as per ISO 14065:2020 standard in conjunction ISO/IEC 17029:2019 standard w.e.f. 31 January 2022.
3. NABCB accredited VVBs under GHG accreditation scheme as on 01 January 2022 shall have to seek accreditation from NABCB as per ISO/IEC 17029:2019 in addition to demonstrating compliance to ISO 14065:2020.
4. NABCB accredited VVBs under the GHG accreditation scheme as on 01 January 2022 shall submit its transition plan as per ISO 14065:2020 and ISO 17029:2019 latest by 31 March 2022.
5. NABCB accredited VVBs under the GHG accreditation scheme shall submit its revised documentation as per ISO 14065: 2020 and ISO/IEC 17029:2019 latest by 30 June 2022. The accredited VVBs shall also submit the duly filled-in NABCB CRM for both the standards.
6. NABCB shall assess the accredited VVBs as per ISO 14065:2020 in the Surveillance assessment / Reassessment as per its due schedule. NABCB shall carry out Document Review, in addition to office and witness assessments in accordance with ISO 14065:2020 and ISO/IEC 17029:2019 standards.
7. In case NABCB accredited VVB is not ready to undertake assessment as per ISO 14065:2020 and ISO/IEC 17029:2019, or unable to demonstrate compliance in the scheduled Surveillance assessment / Reassessment conducted, the findings shall be raised as Concern(s) in the NABCB assessment carried out until 30 Sept 2022.
8. NABCB accredited VVBs shall be allowed a maximum time period of 6 months until 31 March 2023 to comply with the requirements of both ISO 14065:2020 and ISO/IEC 17029:2019 standards after which they shall be considered as Non-conformity (NC) and would have to be addressed by VVBs within prescribed timelines.
9. NABCB accreditation of VVBs that are unable to transit until 30 June 2023 shall be suspended, and the accreditation granted shall be subsequently withdrawn if they are unable to demonstrate compliance to both the standards latest by 31 December 2023.
10. Applicant VVBs with NABCB who have applied as per ISO 14065:2013 and have already undergone initial office assessment by NABCB on or before 31 Dec 2021 shall have to complete the accreditation process before 28 Feb 2022. Such VVBs shall be accredited as per ISO 14065:2013, and will be required to submit its transition plan as per point 4 above.
11. Applicant VVBs with NABCB who have applied as per ISO 14065:2013 and have not undergone initial office assessment by NABCB on or before 31 Dec 2021 shall have to complete the accreditation process as per ISO 14065:2020 in conjunction with ISO/IEC 17029:2019.
12. No new accreditation shall be granted as per ISO 14065:2013 after 31 March 2022.

This policy shall remain in force until **31 December 2023**.