

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS OF LATE 2024

Volume 11 | Issue 4

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Leadership Message from the Chairperson's Desk

SHRI JAXAY SHAH

**Chairman,
Quality Council of India**

This quarter represents a transformative chapter in NABCB's illustrious journey, defined by an unyielding pursuit of excellence and dedication to strengthening India's quality infrastructure. Each initiative and engagement is more than a milestone; it is a testament to a grander vision—a vision of a 'Viksit Bharat', where India commands global recognition as a torchbearer of quality, sustainability, and innovation.

NABCB's active representation on prestigious global platforms, including the IAF/ILAC Joint Annual Meeting in Berlin and its instrumental leadership in the Annual Assessor Conclave 2024, has reaffirmed its pivotal role in advancing global accreditation dialogues and enhancing India's position as a leader in quality assurance.

The Assessor Conclave, a unique forum for exchanging knowledge and best practices, highlighted NABCB's commitment to fostering collaboration and driving innovation across diverse sectors, ultimately raising the bar for accreditation processes worldwide.

On the domestic front, NABCB's initiatives continue to align seamlessly with India's ambitious developmental objectives. By championing transformative ESG frameworks and sustainability practices, NABCB is enabling industries to embrace responsible governance and environmental stewardship as core drivers of growth. Its significant contributions to critical domains such as food safety, renewable energy, and emerging technologies reflect a forward-thinking approach—one that is poised to address the dynamic challenges of a rapidly evolving world while steadfastly rooted in the ethos of quality and innovation.

Through these endeavors, NABCB is not just establishing robust accreditation systems—it is weaving a compelling narrative where quality becomes synonymous with India's ascent as a global power.

This collective commitment, shared by the Quality Council of India (QCI) and its ecosystem of partners, fuels our drive to elevate India's quality infrastructure to unparalleled heights. As we look to the future, we stand resolute in our mission to uphold the values of trust, sustainability, and innovation. Together, we are laying the cornerstone of a future where India stands tall as a beacon of resilience, excellence, and quality on the world stage, illuminating the path toward a brighter, more prosperous tomorrow.



Secretary-General's Vision for the Future

SHRI CHAKRAVARTHY T. KANNAN
Secretary General,
Quality Council of India

As India charts its course toward becoming a global leader, it stands at the cusp of a remarkable transformation, driven by an unwavering commitment to sustainable growth and excellence. In this journey, quality stands as the foundation for progress, guiding every sector, every initiative, and every citizen toward a brighter future. Our Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, has affirmed that quality is far more than a benchmark; it is the lifeblood of our nation's progress. By enhancing the quality of life for every citizen, we are not merely advancing standards but redefining India's stature on the global stage. The Quality Council of India (QCI), with its relentless pursuit of building simplified, accessible, and affordable accreditation quality systems, is at the forefront of realizing this vision. In the last quarter, the National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB), a vital pillar of the QCI, has yet again demonstrated its commitment to excellence, innovation, and global collaboration by setting new benchmarks in quality assurance:

- **Global Engagements:** At the **47th session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission in Geneva, Switzerland**, NABCB's active participation highlighted India's commitment to global food safety and regulatory excellence. The deliberations on food hygiene, labeling standards, and nutritional guidelines showcased India's pivotal role in shaping international standards.
- **Innovative Schemes:** With the launch of the **Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS)** accreditation scheme, NABCB has charted a groundbreaking course, placing India at the forefront of ethical AI governance and accountability.
- **Strategic Collaborations:** The signing of a **Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA)** with the **Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (APAC)** exemplifies the strength of global partnerships. Such alliances make trust, quality, and seamless integration with international frameworks possible, enabling nations to prosper collectively.
- **Capacity Building:** Through its specialized training programs for **MAURITAS**, NABCB has uplifted the technical competencies of professionals, creating ripples of excellence that extend far beyond borders and reinforce the global stature of India's accreditation ecosystem.
- **Industry Collaboration:** The engagement with industry giants like **Siemens** and the **American Petroleum Institute (API)** stands as a testament to NABCB's vision of excellence. These collaborations reflect an unwavering resolve to elevate quality standards and drive innovation in global industry practices.

As we move forward, our collective resolve to embed a culture of quality in every facet of development grows stronger. Accreditation is not just a mechanism but a catalyst for change—driving innovation, fostering sustainable practices, and ensuring the well-being of every citizen. Let us continue to harness the power of quality to illuminate India's path to a brighter, more prosperous future.

Together, let us build a nation where excellence is the norm, trust is the foundation, and progress knows no bounds.



In this Issue, Highlights of late 2024

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National Events

- NABCB launched a new scheme on Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS).
- NABCB organized an interactive awareness program on FSSC Schemes.
- NABCB participated in the SDG Dialogue; International Dialogue & Conference held in New Delhi.
- NABCB hosted senior officials from Siemens, the industry giant from Germany.
- NABCB in collaboration with Get It Fair, organized a webinar on the ESG Rating and Sustainability Reporting Scheme.
- NABCB attended RTI Training sessions.
- NABCB conducted training for international accreditation professionals.
- NABCB organized a webinar on Accreditation for Product Certification Bodies.
- NABCB attended a Hindi Workshop to promote the use of the language in official capacities.
- NABCB participated in a national food summit and awards event.
- NABCB contributed to a health conclave focused on nutrition and well-being.
- NABCB held a conclave for assessors to discuss and enhance accreditation processes.
- NABCB organized a webinar focusing on accreditation in management systems for the IT sector.
- NABCB hosted a webinar on verification and validation processes.

International Events

- NABCB participated in the IAF/ILAC Joint Annual Meeting in Berlin to engage in global accreditation discussions.
- NABCB attended annual meetings on conformity and management standards.
- NABCB contributed to discussions in the GLOBAC Meeting to strengthen international collaborations.
- NABCB engaged in a meeting with international food scheme owners to explore potential advancements.
- NABCB collaborated with an international organization to discuss petroleum industry standards and accreditation.
- NABCB conducted a webinar on European certification schemes and data protection.
- NABCB secured a Mutual Recognition Arrangement with an Asia-Pacific organization.
- NABCB held a meeting with an international standards body to strengthen bilateral relations.
- NABCB participated in global meetings on food safety and standards.





National News

NABCB launched a new scheme on Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS)

NABCB launched the accreditation scheme for Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS) certifications, effective from 16th October 2024. This makes NABCB one of the first global accreditation bodies to introduce such a scheme, aimed at enhancing the governance and management of AI systems across industries.

The AIMS certification ensures that AI systems are developed, deployed, and managed responsibly, with a focus on risk management, data governance, algorithmic transparency, and accountability. The scheme aligns with international standards, specifically **ISO/IEC 17021-1**. As AI adoption grows, NABCB's initiative promotes trust, consistency, and security in AI systems. Organizations seeking AIMS certification demonstrate their commitment to ethical AI, enhancing credibility and aligning with global trends in AI governance. This step supports a sustainable, secure, and ethical AI ecosystem worldwide.



New Accreditation Scheme Launched
(as per ISO/IEC 17021-1)

for

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Management Systems Certifications
(as per ISO/IEC 42001)



NABCB organized an interactive awareness program on FSSC Schemes

The Program had opening remarks from Mr. Rajesh Maheshwari, CEO, NABCB highlighting the role of accreditation for certification schemes in today's context as per the needs of industry and supply chains in global markets.

Mr. Aldin Hilbrands, CEO of the FSSC Foundation, provided an in-depth overview of the FSSC Foundation and the FSSC 22000 Scheme, highlighting key aspects of food safety standards. This was followed by a presentation on FSSC 24000, focusing on social sustainability, delivered by Mr. Ante Batinic, Technical Manager of Social Sustainability at the FSSC Foundation. Ms. Smita Murthy, the India Representative of FSSC Foundation also attended the event.

The event drew participation from conformity assessment bodies, industry/industry bodies, standards bodies, regulators, and various other stakeholders, providing a great platform for discussions and deliberation related to the FSSC 22000 and FSSC 24000 schemes.

Ms. Varsha Misra, Deputy Director, NABCB, moderated and coordinated the session, which concluded with an engaging Q&A session.

A big thank you to all our speakers and participants for making this session a great success!



NABCB participated in the SDG Dialogue; International Dialogue & Conference held in New Delhi

NABCB attended the 11th India and Sustainability Standards: International Dialogue & Conference. Ms. Varsha Misra, Deputy Director, NABCB, attended the 11th India and Sustainability Standards: International Dialogue & Conference from 13th–15th November, 2024, held at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.

This annual event, hosted by the Centre for Responsible Business (CRB), brings together a diverse array of stakeholders, including international and Indian businesses, policymakers, and industry leaders. Together, they drive meaningful conversations and develop actionable roadmaps to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Ms. Misra's participation underscores NABCB's commitment to promoting sustainability through accreditation and conformity assessment, ensuring quality standards that align with global sustainability objectives. Let's continue to work collectively towards achieving the SDGs!



NABCB hosted senior officials from Siemens, the industry giant from Germany

NABCB hosted senior officials from Siemens, the industry giant from Germany, which operates in multiple industry sectors and has a significant presence in India.

The meeting was held to have information exchange and hold discussions on emerging areas & practices in conformity assessment such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), Digital Product Passport and other related areas. The Siemens team also briefed NABCB on the implementation of the forthcoming EC Regulation on AI, and offered to facilitate mutual areas of interest from the industry's perspective. NABCB also briefed the Siemens team about the Quality Infrastructure in India, especially the accreditation ecosystem which is ranked 5th globally as per the last two GQII global rankings.

The meeting was attended by Mr. Rajesh Maheshwari, CEO, NABCB, Mr. Anand Deep Gupta, Joint Director, NABCB, Ms. Varsha Misra, Deputy Director, NABCB, Mr. Vadim Baskal, Digital Industries Chief Technology Officer, Standards & Regulations, Siemens, Mr. Matthias Gommel, Regulation and Standardization, Regional Coordination, Asia Pacific, Siemens, Mr. Umeshkumar Shah, General Manager Head-General Motion Control, Siemens, Mr. Farhad D, Legal Counsel-Commercial Law, Siemens, Belgaonkar Manoj.



NABCB organized a webinar on the ESG Rating and Sustainability Reporting Scin collaboration with a partner organization

NABCB, in collaboration with Get It Fair, organised a webinar on the ESG Rating and Sustainability Reporting Scheme, which attracted over 200 professionals worldwide.

The webinar commenced with welcome remarks by Ms. Varsha Misra, Deputy Director of NABCB, followed by opening remarks from Mr. Rajesh Maheshwari, CEO of NABCB. Mr. Cesare Saccani, Director of Get It Fair delivered an in-depth presentation. His presentation covered critical topics such as the Get It Fair (GIF) ESG Rating Scheme, emerging trends in sustainability reporting, ESG rating and reporting frameworks, the relevance of ISO/TS 17033 and ISO/IEC 17029 for verification and validation, the Get It Fair program, the importance of accreditation in building stakeholder trust in third-party assessments, and the onboarding process for Validation and Verification Bodies (VVBs).

The webinar concluded with an interactive Q&A session, in which the discussions underscored the increasing global focus on sustainability through strong ESG frameworks.

The screenshot displays a Zoom meeting interface. At the top, the meeting controls include a chat icon, a 'People' icon showing 184 participants, and buttons for 'Raise', 'React', 'View', 'More', 'Camera', 'MIC', 'Share', and 'Leave'. The main content area shows a presentation slide with the following text:

भारतीय गुणवत्ता परिषद्
QUALITY COUNCIL OF INDIA
QCI Creating an Ecosystem for Quality

GIF ESG rating and reporting assurance scheme for "Responsible Organizations"

Cesare Saccani
22 November 2024

On the right side of the screen, there is a grid of video thumbnails for participants. One thumbnail shows a man speaking, while others are muted. A '1/17' indicator is visible below the thumbnails. In the bottom left corner, a name tag for 'Cesare Saccani (Unverified)' is visible.

NACCB attended RTI Training sessions

Mr. Ajay Kumar Sharma, Joint Director, NACCB and Ms. Varsha Mishra, Deputy Director, NACCB attended the 3 day Training Course/Workshop on “Right to Information – Public Information Officers from 20th –22nd Nov 2024.

The workshop emphasized the significance of the Right to Information Act in promoting transparency, accountability, and citizen empowerment. It provided insights into the responsibilities of Public Information Officers (PIOs) and practical guidance on implementing RTI processes effectively.

This training reaffirms QCI NACCB’s commitment to upholding good governance principles and ensuring robust compliance with transparency laws.



NABCB organised training for Mauritas

The National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB), a constituent board of the Quality Council of India, has collaborated with the Ministry of Industrial Development, SME's and Cooperatives, Government of Mauritius, to enhance the capabilities of the Mauritius Accreditation Service (MAURITAS). As part of this initiative, NABCB conducted a specialized training program aimed at building capacity in Food Safety Management Systems (FSMS).

The training sessions, held from 18th Nov to 20th Nov 2024, were attended by a total of 15+ participants, including assessors, technical experts, and staff from MAURITAS. This program focused on FSMS accreditation, covering essential standards including ISO 22000:2022 along with ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015.

These initiatives have significantly enhanced the technical competence of MAURITAS, aligning its practices with global standards and best practices. These capacity-building efforts are expected to boost the credibility of FSMS in Mauritius, support secure food safety management, and contribute to the country's broader food safety goals. The training programs were well-received by the participants and mark a significant step forward in strengthening the accreditation framework in Mauritius.



NABCB organized a webinar on “ Personnel Certification & NABCB Accreditation ”

The session had opening remarks from Mr. Rajesh Maheshwari, CEO, NABCB who emphasized the significance of NABCB accreditation and its global position and acceptance. He stressed the importance of ensuring that certified personnel possess the requisite skills and knowledge for their respective fields.

Mr. Anand Deep Gupta, Joint Director, NABCB provided insights about NABCB & its accreditation process, benefits and uses.

Ms. Varsha Misra, Deputy Director, NABCB delivered a detailed presentation on ISO/IEC 17024:2012, explaining its requirements and framework for Personnel Certification Bodies. She also shared updates on the ongoing revision of the standard.

The webinar gave an overview to the participants how personnel certification schemes establish a benchmark for professional excellence, empowering individuals with the qualifications necessary to perform their roles safely and effectively.

The session concluded with an engaging Q&A.

NABCB attended a Hindi Workshop to promote the use of the language in official capacities

क्यूसीआई हिंदी सेल द्वारा आयोजित हिंदी कार्यशाला में एनएबीसीबी की उत्साही भागीदारी!

दिनांक 3 दिसंबर 2024 को क्यूसीआई हिंदी सेल द्वारा आयोजित हिंदी कार्यशाला में एनएबीसीबी सचिवालय के सभी कर्मचारियों ने उत्साहपूर्वक भाग लिया। इस कार्यशाला का मुख्य उद्देश्य कार्यालयीन कार्यों में हिंदी के प्रयोग को बढ़ावा देना और राजभाषा के प्रति जागरूकता बढ़ाना था।

कार्यशाला के दौरान, कर्मचारियों ने हिंदी में लेखन कौशल को निखारने के साथ-साथ अपने दैनिक कार्यों में इसका अधिकाधिक उपयोग करने के तरीके सीखे। यह पहल न केवल कार्यक्षमता में सुधार लाएगी, बल्कि हमारे राजभाषा हिंदी के प्रति प्रतिबद्धता को भी प्रदर्शित करती है।



NABCB participated in a national food summit and awards event

Ms. Varsha Misra, Deputy Director at NABCB QCI, moderated Panel-1 : The Frontier of Food Safety: New Technology and Innovations in Food Testing at “India Food Summit & Awards 2024”.

The panel covered critical topics, including:

- Latest trends in food safety testing
- Deploying AI for quality, productivity, and new product development
- Technology to enhance supply chain efficiency
- The future of quality and food safety

She also delivered a presentation on “Accreditation Supporting Food Safety,” showcasing how accredited systems enhance quality assurance and drive compliance across the food industry.

We extend our gratitude to the organizers for providing this incredible platform to share NABCB’s mission of advancing quality and safety in the food sector. Together, we’re shaping a safer and more reliable food ecosystem!



NABCB participated in the ET HealthWorld NutriWell Conclave

Ms. Varsha Misra, Deputy Director at NABCB, QCI, attended the ET HealthWorld NutriWell Conclave. As part of an engaging panel discussion on “Decoding Regulatory Pathways for Health Supplements and Nutraceuticals,” Ms. Misra shared her insights on the role of accreditation in ensuring compliance, safety, and quality in the ever-evolving food industry covering nutraceuticals.

With the growing demand for health supplements and nutraceuticals, navigating the regulatory landscape is critical to maintaining consumer trust and global standards. This discussion highlighted innovative approaches, collaborative efforts, and the importance of robust accreditation mechanisms to strengthen the sector.

We extend our gratitude to ET HealthWorld for organizing this platform to exchange ideas and promote collaboration among stakeholders.



NABCB Assessor Conclave 2024

The NABCB has organized the Annual Assessor Conclave 2024 in hybrid Mode which was a two-day event dated 16th and 17th Dec 2024 that brought together NABCB assessors for insightful discussions and updates on the latest trends and best practices.

Day 1 was dedicated to CB Assessors and kicked off with the Opening address by Mr. Rajesh Maheshwari, CEO, NABCB who shared key updates on ISO, IAF, and APAC resolutions, as well as the endorsement of NABCB accreditation by various global regulatory bodies. Sessions led by experts focused on critical topics such as IAF Mandatory Documents, ISO/IEC 27006-1:2024 (ISMS), and updates on schemes like FSSC 22000, BRCGS, FAMI-QS Scheme and IFS Version 8. Key updates were also provided for Aerospace-QMS scheme, IAQG & OASIS. Also updates on MDQMS scheme in line with IAF MD9:2023, IAF CertSearch database Demo The day also featured an engaging demo of the NABCB portal, enhancing transparency and efficiency in accreditation processes.

Day 2 provided a deeper dive into the evolving landscape for Inspection Bodies (IBs) and Verification & Validation Bodies (VVBs) Assessors. Key sessions covered ISO/IEC 17020, sustainability schemes like ICAO CORSIA and new standards like ISCC & BRSR CORE Assurance and ISO/IEC 14066:2023. Discussions on practical challenges such as document reviews, non-conformities, and fire & life safety audits provided valuable insights for maintaining high-quality standards.

Throughout both days, NABCB emphasized the importance of maintaining the highest ethical standards in accreditation processes. The Conclave proved to be an invaluable opportunity for NABCB Assessors and experts to collaborate, share, and knowledge calibration. Key Updates were provided by NABCB Secretariate officials Looking forward to the continued journey of excellence in accreditation and certification.

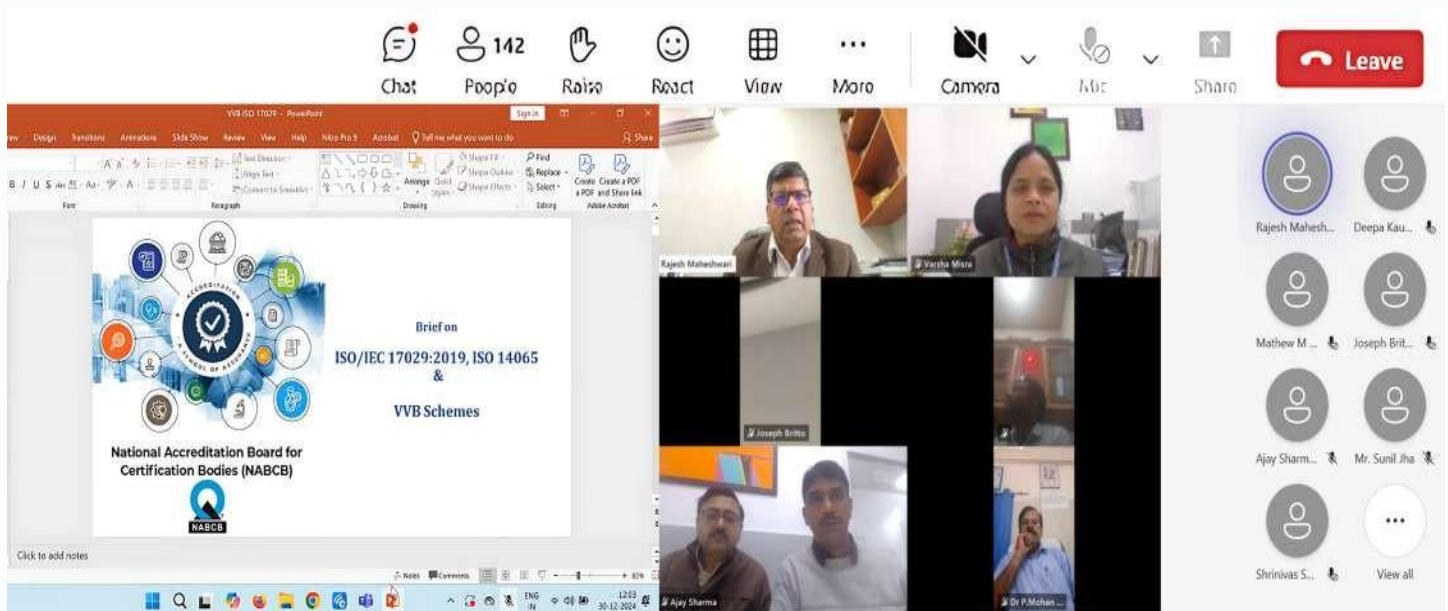


NABCB hosted a webinar on verification and validation processes

NABCB hosted a webinar on “NABCB Accreditation for Validation and Verification Bodies (ISO/IEC 17029:2019)” on 30th December 2024. The session opened with remarks from the CEO of NABCB, who highlighted the global significance of NABCB accreditation and its role in ensuring that validation and verification bodies align with international standards.

The webinar provided participants with a detailed overview of NABCB’s accreditation criteria and processes, along with the benefits it offers to both industry and government bodies. Insights into the ISO/IEC 17029:2019 standard were shared, focusing on its framework for validation and verification bodies and its role in supporting claims related to greenhouse gas emissions, sustainability reporting, construction technology, and healthcare products.

The session concluded with an interactive Q&A, where participants actively engaged and exchanged ideas, gaining a deeper understanding of how accreditation builds credibility and ensures compliance with global standards.





International News

NABCB participated in the IAF/ILAC Joint Annual Meeting in Berlin to engage in global accreditation discussions

From 1st to 10th October 2024, NABCB officials participated in the IAF/ILAC Joint Annual Meeting in Berlin, engaging in key discussions, strategy sessions, and committee meetings. The event highlighted joint activities and provided updates from ISO/CASCO, OIML, UNIDO, and IEC, along with important discussions on the One Organisation Project. New MLA/MRA signatories were welcomed, along with new members, further expanding the global network.

The meeting also included individual sessions of the IAF and ILAC General Assemblies, where reports from various committees and working groups were presented, alongside the review of the 2025 draft budgets. Mr. Rajesh Maheshwari, CEO, NABCB, attended the IAF Accreditation Body Information Exchange Group (ABIEG), co-chaired by Wolfram Hartmann (DAKKS, Germany), representing both low- and medium-income economies and high-income economies. They also led the discussions and information sharing on various topics/issues that emerged from the survey of IAF member ABs.

As Chair of the IAF Database Management Committee (DMC), Mr. Rajesh Maheshwari (NABCB, India), along with Vice Chair William O'Neill (SCC, Canada), provided updates on the IAF CertSearch database. This global platform currently includes over 2 million management system certificates from 77 IAF MLA signatories, involving more than 2,000 certification bodies and over 50,000 users from 100+ countries. It's a vital tool for verification, used by top global organizations, government bodies, procurement agencies, supply chains, and financial service providers.

In addition, the Joint Development Support Committee (JDSC) attended by Mr. Ajay Kumar Sharma, Joint Director, NABCB and Ms. Varsha Misra, Deputy Director, NABCB addressed critical issues like supporting developing economies, cybersecurity, and artificial intelligence. Other key committees, such as the IAF User Advisory Committee, Database Management Committee, and Joint Working Group on Communications (JWCG), worked on collaborative initiatives, including preparations for World Accreditation Day 2025.

These productive days have strengthened global cooperation in accreditation and conformity assessment.



IAF ABIEG 2024 Annual Meeting

The International Accreditation Forum (IAF) Accreditation Body Information Exchange Group (ABIEG) held its annual meeting on 4th Oct 2024 during the IAF-ILAC 2024 Annual Meetings held in Berlin. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Rajesh Maheshwari (National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB), India) and Wolfram Hartmann (Deutsche Akkreditierungsstelle (DAKKS), Germany), the two Chairs representing Low & Medium income economies, and High-income economies respectively.

ABIEG is responsible for discussing strategy issues for Accreditation Bodies and for information sharing on areas of common interest. The IAF Vice Chair Lori Gillespie (ANAB, USA) presented an update on the IAF Strategic Plan. The IAF Chair Emanuele Riva (Accredia, Italy) provided an update on the progress towards establishing “Global Accreditation Cooperation – GLOBAC”, the one single organization after the merger of IAF and ILAC, which is expected to be fully operational by 1st Jan 2026.

IAF Technical Committee Chair Kevin Belson (UKAS, UK) and IAF MLA Committee Chair Maria Papatzikou (ESYD, Greece) presented the updates from their respective committees.

ABIEG Chairs Mr. Rajesh Maheshwari & Wolfram Hartmann led discussion and information sharing on various topics/issues that emerged from the survey of IAF member ABs. These included presentations on Cross-frontier accreditation: Risks & Issues by Wolfram Hartmann; Corporate reporting on Sustainability by Emanuele Riva; Overview on ISO/IEC 17029 accreditation and various Validation/Verification schemes such as ICAO COR- SIA, Verra VCS, Gold Standard, Global Carbon Council by Mr. Ajay Sharma (NABCB, India); Digitalization in Accreditation Bodies by Mr. Karthik Swetaranya Easwar, P.E., P.Eng. (IAS, USA); and the role of ABs in assessing the Conformity Assessment Schemes.

The ABIEG annual meeting was very useful in discussing issues & sharing information among participants from accreditation bodies and generated lots of interest in the deliberations held.



IAF DMC 2024 Annual Meeting

The International Accreditation Forum (IAF) Database Management Committee (DMC), responsible for the Management Systems certifications global database “IAF CertSearch”, held its annual meeting on 6th October 2024 during the recently held IAF-ILAC 2024 Annual Meetings in Berlin.

The IAF DMC Chair Mr. Rajesh Maheshwari (NABCB, India) and Vice Chair William O’Neill (SCC, Canada) provided updates on the work of the DMC and the progress on the upload of data on the IAF CertSearch database. Worldwide, all IAF MLA Signatories for Management Systems (77), > 2000 MS certification bodies, > 50 K users from > 100 countries are currently active on this database which has data of around 2 million MS certificates (for all statuses). More than half of the 100 top global organizations, many govt. bodies/regulators, procurement agencies, supply chains, financial service providers, etc. around the world are using this database for verification purposes.

The IAF Chair Emanuele Riva (Accredia, Italy) addressed the participants and appreciated the work of DMC & highlighted the importance of the database for verification of MS certifications. He also highlighted that the transition to IAF MD 28 ends soon on 26th Oct 2024.

The Technical Administrator for the database Nigel Johnston (Quality Trade), also a DMC member, provided a live demonstration of the database. He also presented global analytics, benchmarks, and dashboards that the database provides to various stakeholders.

Mr. Rajesh Maheshwari (CEO NABCB) also presented the DMC report to the IAF General Assembly. William O’Neill and Nigel Johnston also presented the DMC updates to the IAF MS Certification Working Group (WG) and IAF User Advisory Group (UAC) during the annual meetings.

The IAF Board during the annual meeting also reconfirmed the DMC membership with Mr. Rajesh Maheshwari (CEO NABCB) as its Chair and William O’Neill (Director SCC Canada) as its Vice Chair.

The IAF CertSearch database has contributed data to the ISO CASCO Global Survey on Management Systems certifications in the years 2023 & 2024.



AB Meeting with International Food Scheme Owners

Annual Accreditation bodies (technical) meeting for BRCGS, IFS – International Featured Standards, and GLOBALG.A.P. c/o FoodPLUS GmbH takes place in Berlin! from 30th to 2nd October 2024 The meeting has provided comprehensive updates and detailed information about the standards and program, auditors management, and the Certification body management and integrity program related to the schemes. The meeting had representatives from more than 31 participants from 45 accreditation bodies around the globe. From NABCB Ms. Varsha M. Deputy Director has participated in this Annual Accreditation Bodies meeting.

NABCB and the American Petroleum Institute (API) held a fruitful meeting focused on exploring potential areas of collaboration

NABCB and the API - American Petroleum Institute (API) held a fruitful meeting focused on exploring potential areas of collaboration. API, is a global trade association for the natural gas and oil industry, leads in developing standards that promote safety, efficiency, and environmental protection. These standards are crucial in supporting the operational excellence of India's oil and gas sector.

The discussions were led by Mr. Rajesh Maheshwari, CEO of NABCB, with Mr. Shawn Adams, VP, Business Services, Global Industry Services, and Mr. Jordan S., Senior Manager, Global and Low Carbon Strategy, Global Industry Services, representing API. The meeting also had presence of senior officials from the NABCB secretariat.

This meeting between NABCB-QCI and API was facilitated by the DGA Group.

We look forward to collaborate with API in elevating quality, safety, and efficiency norms within India's oil and gas industry.

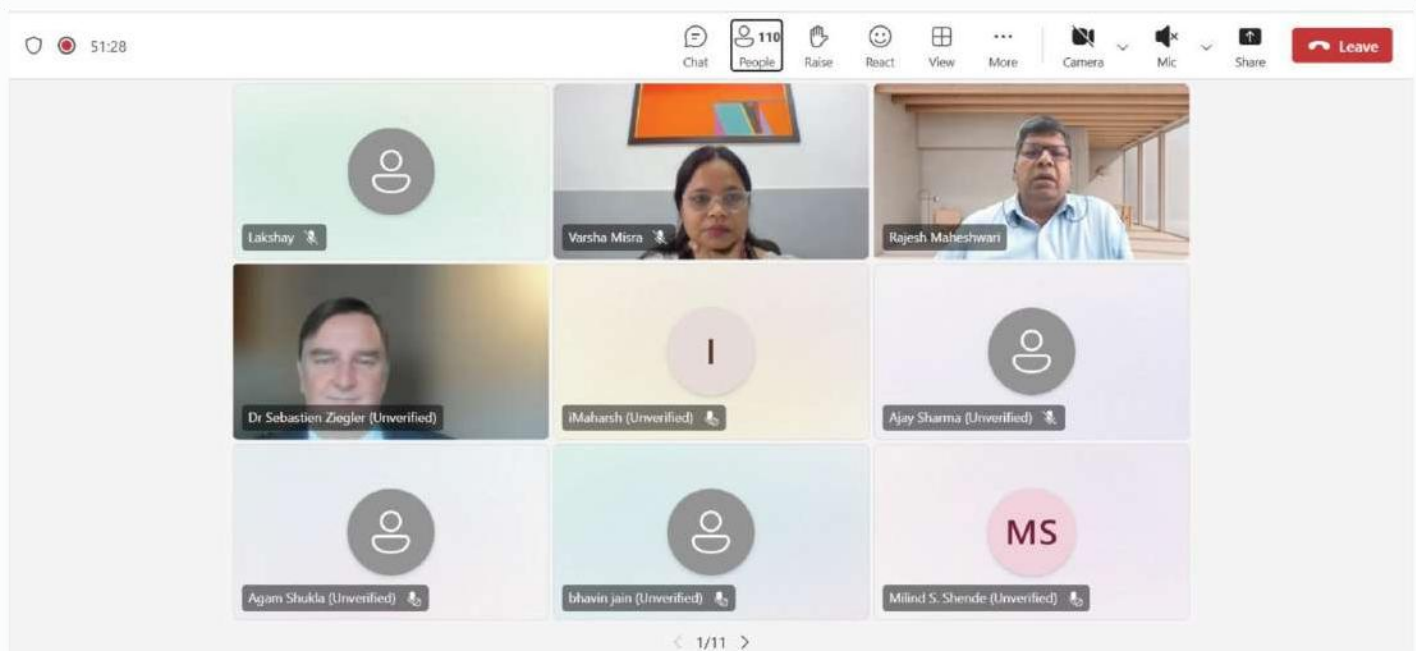


NABCB in association with Europrivacy conducted a Webinar on ECCP & Europrivacy/Interprivacy Certification Schemes

NABCB in association with Europrivacy conducted a Webinar on ECCP & Europrivacy/Interprivacy Certification Schemes, which drew an impressive participation of over 140 participants worldwide!

The session kicked off with current insights from Mr. Rajesh Maheshwari, CEO, NABCB on the regulatory landscape and the need for accredited certification on data privacy / protection. Dr. Sébastien Z., Chairman of the Europrivacy International Board of Experts at ECCP provided an overview on the ECCP, Europrivacy, and Inter-privacy frameworks —essential tools for safeguarding data privacy in today’s interconnected world. He also outlined how certification bodies can certify under these schemes to lead in privacy compliance and data protection.

Ms. Varsha Misra, Deputy Director, NABCB, moderated this webinar. This turnout reinforces the urgency and commitment to advancing privacy certification standards on a global scale.



NABCB Secures APAC MRA

We are thrilled to announce that NABCB (National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies) has achieved yet another milestone! As of 24th November 2024, NABCB has been officially recognized by Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (APAC) by signing Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) for several scopes, reaffirming its commitment to excellence in accordance with ISO/IEC 17011:2017 and the procedures of the APAC.

Scope of Recognition:

- Main Scope: Certification – Management Systems ISO/IEC 17021-1
- Sub Scope: Education Organization Management Systems EOMS
- Sub Scope: Quality and Safety System for Specialty Feed Ingredients FAMI-QS

This recognition underscores NABCB's proficiency and credibility in providing accreditation services to certification bodies according to international standards. Let's continue striving for excellence and making a positive impact in the field of accreditation.



Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) Certificate

In accordance with ISO/IEC 17011:2017 and the procedures of the Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated (APAC), APAC hereby confirms the following APAC Member is a signatory to the APAC MRA:

National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB), India
for the scopes and sub-scopes of

Scope	Date
Certification – Management Systems ISO/IEC 17021-1	07 Aug 2002
Sub-scope Business Continuity Management Systems BCMS (ISO 22301)	24 May 2023
Sub-scope Education Organization Management Systems EOMS	24 Nov 2024
Sub-scope Energy Management Systems EnMS (ISO 50003 / ISO 50001)	21 Jun 2017
Sub-scope Environmental Management Systems EMS (ISO 14001)	12 July 2007
Sub-scope Food Safety Management Systems FSMS (ISO 22003 / ISO 22000)	26 Jun 2014
Sub-scope Food Safety System Certification 22000 FSSC 22000 (ISO TS 22003 / ISO 22000)	30 Sep 2021
Sub-scope Information Security Management Systems ISMS (ISO/IEC 27006 / 27001)	17 Jun 2015
Sub-scope Information Technology Service Management Systems ITSMS (ISO/IEC 20000-6 / 20000-1)	04 Sep 2023
Sub-scope Medical Device Quality Management Systems MDQMS (ISO 13845)	01 May 2020
Sub-scope Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems OHSMS (ISO 45001)	19 Dec 2018
Sub-scope Quality and Safety System for Specialty Feed Ingredients FAMI-QS	24 Nov 2024
Sub-scope Quality Management Systems QMS (ISO 9001)	07 Aug 2002
Scope Certification – Persons ISO/IEC 17024	20 Jun 2019
Scope Certification – Product, Process and Services ISO/IEC 17065	22 May 2013
Sub-scope GLOBALG.A.P. IFA Control Points and Compliance Criteria	18 Aug 2016
Scope Inspection ISO/IEC 17020	11 Sep 2013
Scope Validation and Verification ISO/IEC 17029	06 Jun 2023
Sub-scope Environmental Information (ISO 14065:2020)	06 Jun 2023
Sub-scope ICAO CORSIA	02 Jun 2021

Signed on behalf of APAC by:



Ms. Jennifer Evans
APAC Chair
Date: 24 November 2024

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NABCB meeting with NBSM

NABCB was pleased to welcome officials from the Ministry of Industry, Commerce & Supplies, Govt. of Nepal / Nepal Bureau of Standards & Metrology (NBSM), as well as Physikalisch–Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB), the National Metrology Institute (NMI) of Germany.

This meeting, facilitated by PTB, was held to discuss the technical cooperation and capacity building in the area of accreditation for the recently established Nepal Accreditation Centre through an Act of the Government of Nepal. NABCB has over the past 2 decades extensively supported the countries in the South Asia region through various capacity building activities being Quality Partner to PTB. Currently, NBSM also holds accreditation from NABCB.

Mr. Rajesh Maheshwari, CEO , NABCB, Ms. Jyoti Joshi, Director General NBSM, Ms. Maunta Manandhar, Metrologist NBSM, and Mr. Uwe Miesner, Head of Asia section at PTB attended the meeting.



NABCB participates in CAC47 Meetings as a part of the Indian Delegation

NABCB participates in hashtag CAC47 as part of India’s delegation led by CEO FSSAI Sh. G Kamala Vardhana Rao and senior officials from other bodies/industries relevant to food safety, hygiene, quality, and labeling such as EIC, MPEDA, NDDB . Ms. Varsha Misra , Deputy Director, NABCB, represented India at the 47th session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 25th–30th November 2024. This meeting brought together global leaders from international/national bodies, regulators & industry to discuss, establish, and refurbish international food standards and address key issues/challenges that would ensure public health and promote fair trade practices.

Some key highlights of deliberations in various sessions at CAC47 included:

- **Olive and Vegetable Oils:** Revisions to standards, including the inclusion of avocado oil.
- **Food Hygiene:** Guidelines for control measures in traditional markets.

- **Food Additives:** Updates to the General Standard for Food Additives, such as adding Jagua Blue.
- **Ciguatera Poisoning:** A code of practice to prevent and reduce its occurrence.
- **Labelling Standards:** Revisions for allergen labelling, technology use, and food information for pre-packaged foods.
- **Nutrition Labelling:** Updates to the Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling (Annex I).
- **Canned Sardines:** Amendments to the standard for sardines and sardine-type products.

Ms. Varsha Misra's participation underscores NABCB/QCI commitment to contributing to the development of global food safety standards and enhancing India's role in shaping the international food regulatory landscape. Over the past few years, NABCB has been actively participating in the meetings/committees of Codex Alimentarius and corresponding national mirror committees.

It was an honor to meet Mr. Steven Wearne current chairperson of Codex Alimentarius Commission; Mr. Allan Azegele, Kenya, who has been elected as 21st Chairperson of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. and also newly elected vice Chair persons Jing Tian (China) KHALID ALZHRANI (Saudi Arabia) and Betul Vazgecer (Türkiye) during CAC47 session.



NABCB Accreditation

New Accreditation

During the quarter Oct – Dec 2024, NABCB has granted accreditation for Quality management system (01) Inspection Bodies (03), Product Certification Bodies (01), Personal Certification Bodies (01)

- 1) Verger Global Private Limited for QMS Scheme
- 2) Infotrex Services Private Limited for IB Scheme
- 3) CIS Commodity Inspection Services (India) Private Limited for IB Scheme
- 4) LGS Assurance Private Limited for IB Scheme
- 5) Norme Global Certification Private Limited for PCB Scheme
- 6) TUV SUD South Asia Private Limited for PrCB Scheme

New Applications (Oct - Dec 2024)

- **QMS (Quality Management System): 2**
 - * Astraleus Services Private Limited
 - * NOICE Academy Private Limited

- **EMS (Environmental Management System): 2**
 - * QUALITY ASIA Certification Private Limited
 - * NOICE Academy Private Limited

- **OHSMS (Occupational Health Safety Management System):2**
 - * QUALITY ASIA Certification Private Limited
 - * NOICE Academy Private Limited

- **ISMS (Information Security Management System): 1**
 - * QUALITY ASIA Certification Private Limited

- **EnMS (Energy Management System): 1**
 - * QUALITY ASIA Certification Private Limited

- **FSMS (Food Safety Management System): 3**
 - * FARE Labs Private Limited
 - * Eurocert Inspection Services Private Limited
 - * QUALITY ASIA Certifications Private Limited

- **PCB (Product Certification Body): 1**
 - * OneCert International Private Limited

- **IB (Inspection Body): 5**
 - * SGNCO Green Resources Limited
 - * Applus India Private Limited
 - * DYC GLOBAL Private Limited
 - * Times Marine Services Private Limited
 - * Markek International Certifications Private Limited

- **AIMS (Artificial Intelligence Management System): 1**
* TUV India Private Limited
- **GHG (Greenhouse Gas Validation/Verification): 4**
* BMNS Services Private Limited
* QTC–Quality Techno Certification
* ENEN Green Services Private Limited
* BSCIC Certifications Private Limited
- **AQMS (Aerospace Quality Management System): 1**
* Integrated Quality Certification Private Limited

Accreditation Status as on 30th December, 2024

Accreditation Program	Accreditation	Applications
Quality Management Systems (QMS)	48	11
Environmental Management Systems (EMS)	22	08
Inspection Bodies (IB)	121	29
Food Safety Management Systems (FSMS)	27	09
Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems (OHSMS)	19	07
Product Certification (PCB)	37	10
Information Security Management Systems (ISMS)	11	04
Energy Management Systems (EnMS)	08	03
Information Technology Service Management Systems (ITSMS)	03	01
Personnel Certification (PrCB)	06	04
Aerospace Quality Management System (AQMS)	02	01
Trustworthy Digital Repositories Management Systems (TDRMS)	01	–
Validation and Verification Bodies (VVB)	06	10
Business Continuity Management Systems (BCMS)	02	01
Medical Devices QMS (MDQMS)	18	11
Anti–Bribery Management Systems (ABMS)	–	01
Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS)	–	01

