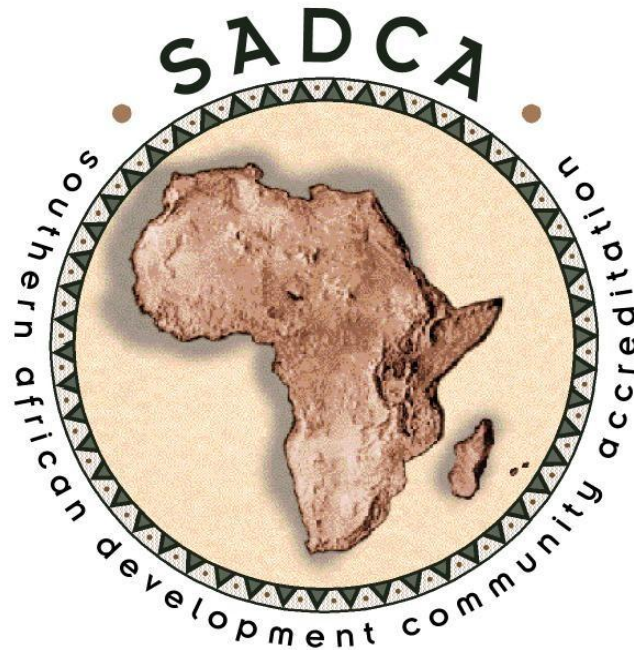


SADC COOPERATION IN ACCREDITATION

15 years of service



Annual Report
2010/11

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Table 1: Record of attendance to EXCO meetings held during the 2010/11 financial year

Table 2: Record of SADCA's participation in international meetings held during the 2010/11 financial year

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ABs	Accreditation Bodies
AFRAC	Inter African Accreditation Cooperation
AFRIMETS	Intra-Africa Metrology System
AFSEC	African Electro-technical Standardization Commission
APLAC	Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation
ARIPO	African Regional Intellectual Property Organization
ARSO	African Organisation for Standardization
AU	African Union
BOBS	Botswana Bureau of Standards
BoD	Board of Directors
CABs	Conformity Assessment Bodies
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
DRC	Democratic republic of Congo
EA	European Cooperation for Accreditation
EAC	East African Community
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EGAC	Egyptian Accreditation Council
EU	European Union
EXCO	Executive Committee
IAAC	Inter American Accreditation Cooperation
IAF	International Accreditation Forum
IEC	International Electro-technical Commission
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
ILAC	International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation
ISO	International Organisation for Standardization
IUMP	Industrial Upgrading and Modernisation Programme
KENAS	Kenyan Accreditation Service
MAURITAS	Mauritius Accreditation Service
MBC	Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation
MLA	Multi Lateral Agreement /or Arrangement
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAFP	National Accreditation Focal Point
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NLA	National Laboratory Association
NML	National metrology Laboratory
NORAD	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
OCC	Congolese Control Office
PAC	Pacific Accreditation Cooperation
PTB	Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt
RECs	Regional Economic Communities
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SADCA	Southern African Development Community Cooperation in Accreditation
SADCAS	Southern African Development Community Accreditation Service
SANAS	South African National Accreditation System
SPS	Sanitary and Phytosanitary
SQAM	Standardisation, Quality Assurance, Accreditation and Metrology
SQAMEG	Standardisation, Quality Assurance, Accreditation and Metrology Expert Group
TBT	Technical Barriers to Trade
TPA	Twinning Partnership Arrangement
the dti	The South African Department of Trade and Industry

“SADCA is mandated to facilitate the creation of a regional accreditation system, in order to provide SADC Member States with accreditation as a tool to remove Technical Barriers to Trade in both the voluntary and regulatory areas”.

CHAIRPERSON'S OVERVIEW



This year SADCA celebrates its 15th year in existence. This milestone is an opportune moment to pause, look back and appreciate what we have achieved. It is also a moment to look forward and gauge our path for the future.

It is heartening to know that a large percentage of our members, who started with us in 1996, are still with us today. We have also gained a lot from the contributions of those who are not with us anymore. Starting from an initial discussion to a project and finally the establishment of the first multi-economy accreditation body in the world, we have come a long way.

During the year under review, more emphasis was placed on making SADCA fully operational. One of the areas we have focused on was to update the SADC TBT Annex to better align SADCA's mandate to that of a Regional Cooperation Body, as well as concretising SADCAS' position as an Accreditation Body for SADC. We plan to present these changes to the General Assembly during the upcoming SADCA General Assembly meeting in

March 2011.

Highlights for the period under review

We are proud to have seen our "baby" taking its first steps with the launch of SADCAS in April 2009. To date SADCAS has accredited three (3) organisations under a partnership with the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) following the signing of the SADCAS/SANAS Twinning Partnership Arrangement (TPA) on 3 December 2009.

During the 13th Annual SADCA Meeting, the EXCO was tasked to continue in its efforts of further pursuing the establishment of a Pan-African Accreditation Cooperation. I am happy to report that this objective has now been achieved with the launch of the African Cooperation in Accreditation (AFRAC) on 29 September 2010. SADCA, represented by South Africa (SANAS) was appointed Secretariat for a period of three years.

This development now completes the basic African quality infrastructure structure consisting of the African Organisation for Standardisation (ARSO), the African Electro-technical Commission (AFSEC), the Intra-African Metrology System (AFRIMETS) AFRIMETS and AFRAC. Efforts are currently underway to get these structures recognised by the African Union (AU).

During the period under review, the SADC/EU SQAM project came to a successful conclusion. Most of the project allocation to SADCA was geared towards capacity development. Eighty experts underwent the SADC/EU SQAM project assessor training program with 55 proceeding to mentoring stage of the training. Up to date 7 assessors and one lead assessor including those qualified from the first group trained in 2005 with funding from PTB Germany have been registered as SADCAS pool of assessors. In addition we have trained more than 60 prospective assessors for SADCAS, four of which are now registered SADCAS assessors. In addition we have trained eight peer evaluators for SADCA, who now have to obtain their practical application experience before becoming registered SADCA peer evaluators.

In conclusion, as I come to the end of my term as Chair of SADCA, I would like to express my gratitude to the SADCA Committee, EXCO, Secretariat, development partners, PTB, the EU, NORAD and **the dti** for their hard work, support and encouragement. A special thanks to Mr Cyprian Mokhoro for his dedication and contribution to SADCA over the years. Mr. Mokhoro tendered his resignation from the Lesotho Ministry of Trade and Industry, Cooperatives and Marketing as well as the SADCA Committee and EXCO in 2010.

I trust that you will all enjoy reading about SADCA's activities during the period under review.

Mrs Masego Marobela
SADCA Chairperson

SECRETARIAT'S OVERVIEW



The year 2010 is marked as a year of **firsts** for SADCA. It started off with operationalisation of the SADCA project, SADCAS, the **first** multi-economy accreditation body in the world. This was followed by the **first** four registered assessors for SADCA and the **first** three accreditation certificates issued by SADCAS. In addition, the **first** Pan-African Accreditation Cooperation in Africa, AFRAC was launched.

All these achievements required the Secretariat to review the resources to effectively perform its increasing responsibilities, as Secretariat for both SADCA and AFRAC as well as the SADCA EXCO, to meet and address the issues in realising these milestones. The Secretariat appointed an additional staff member Mrs Sarah Ravhudzulo to the Secretariat in August 2010.

SADCA EXCO Meetings

The EXCO met thrice during the period under review in August 2010, November 2010 and February 2011. Highlights include the EXCO making amendments to the TBT Annex and aligning these with the SADCA Bylaws. Significant changes took place within the EXCO, with Mr Cyprian Mokhorro tendering his resignation from the Lesotho Ministry of Trade and Industry, Cooperatives and Marketing as well as the SADCA Committee and EXCO. The Lesotho Ministry of Trade and Industry nominated an interim member, Mr Molebatsi Rabolinyane to serve on the EXCO and SADCA Committee until a permanent nomination is made at the 2011 Annual SADCA Meeting.

Regional and International Cooperation

The SADCA Chairperson and Regional Coordinator participated in the three Standardisation, Quality Assurance, Accreditation and Metrology Expert Group (SQAMEG) meetings that took place during the period under review. The issues discussed included the way forward on the amendments to the TBT Annex. Other issues discussed include the implementation of the Regional Quality Award and the nominations of the Industrial Upgrading and Modernisation Programme (IUMP) task team.

The third meeting on the establishment of an Inter-African Accreditation Cooperation took place in Cairo, Egypt from 14 – 15 April 2010. The meetings were hosted by the Egyptian Accreditation Council (EGAC) and the SADCA Secretariat was the interim AFRAC Secretariat, until SANAS was appointed Secretariat at the first AFRAC General Assembly held in September 2010 in Cairo. The SADCA Secretariat was involved in the logistical arrangements of these meetings, as well as providing the necessary secretarial support.

Training

The SADC/EU Project ended in November 2010 and all activity implementation stopped in August 2010. The German government extended its support to the SADC SQAM programme through PTB from 2010 to 2012, and the project consists of two phases. The first phase has a value of €1, 5million. This support will go a long way in strengthening the quality infrastructure for trade enhancement and consumer protection in SADC.

SADCA remains committed to providing the appropriate secretarial support, training and leadership in the implementation of the regional accreditation infrastructure.

Mr Ron Josias

SADCA Regional Coordinator

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



The SADCA Executive Committee met three times during 2010, and the following project activities were identified and discussed:

- i. Amendments to the TBT Annex and SADCA Bylaws;
- ii. Activities geared towards the operationalisation of AFRAC;
- iii. Assessor and peer evaluator training.

The SADCA Bylaws were formulated based on the SADC SQAM MoU, and the TBT Annex has since superseded the SQAM MoU, therefore the SADCA Bylaws will need to be aligned to the TBT Annex. This activity is outstanding, and will need to be performed by the EXCO in conjunction with the drafting of the Business Plan. The input to the revision of the TBT Annex to the SADC Protocol on Trade will need to be ready for presentation at the March 2011 Annual SADCA meeting, whilst the Business Plan will be presented to the 2012 Annual SADCA meeting.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING ATTENDANCE

During the period under review the SADCA EXCO held three meetings, and the record of attendance to these meetings is shown in Table 1 below.

NAME	STATUS	MEETING DATES		
		20-02-2010	21-08-2010	17-11-2010
Mrs Masego Marobela (Botswana)	Chairperson	√	√	√
Mr Cyprian Mokgoro (Lesotho)	Vice-Chairperson <i>(resigned on 20/02/2010)</i>	√	-	-
Mr Molebatsi Rabolinyane (Lesotho)	Member <i>(appointed 17/11/2010)</i>	-	-	√
Mr Riundja Kaakunga (Namibia)	Member	√	√	√
Dr Oswald Chinyamakobvu (SADC Secretariat)	Member	√	√	√
Mrs Maureen Mutasa (Botswana)	Member	√	√	√
Ms Anna-Marie Lötter Dr Elsabe Steyn (South Africa)	Member – the SA dti <i>(alternates)</i>	√	-	-
		-	-	√
Mr Ron Josias (South Africa)	Regional Coordinator	√	√	√
Ms Nonhlanhla Halimana (South Africa)	Secretariat	√	√	√

OVERVIEW OF SADC ACCREDITATION ENVIRONMENT

The SADC Protocol on Trade's objectives are to liberalise intra-regional trade in goods and services and to enhance the economic development, diversification and industrialisation of the region, and one of the strategies adopted to achieve this is the attainment of internationally acceptable standards, quality, accreditation and metrology (SQAM). The success of these objectives depends on the implementation of the trade protocol by all Member States, specifically with regard to the elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers, taking into consideration the situations in the various Member States. The harmonisation of customs rules and procedures, as well as internationally acceptable SQAM structures is expected to enhance intra-regional trade.

Against this backdrop, SADCA was tasked to facilitate the creation of a regional accreditation system, SADCAS, which would provide Member States with accreditation as a tool for the removal of technical barriers to trade (TBTs) in both the voluntary and regulatory areas. SADCAS is now fully operational, having accredited a few organisations, and ready to process more. SADCAS will now provide accreditation services to the Member States on request of the NAFP in the countries without a national accreditation body (NAB).

In order for SADCA to further pursue international recognition, as well as to become a fully functional Regional Cooperation, SADCA requires the membership of at least three operational accreditation bodies. There are now three accreditation bodies in SADC, namely, SANAS, MAURITAS and now SADCAS.

Country reports are drafted by the NAFP of each of the 14 SADC Member States, namely Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, are compiled annually to provide an overview of accreditation activities in the SADC region, during the period under review. These are summarised below.

SADCA COUNTRY ENVIRONMENT

ANGOLA



Mrs Teodora Lourenço Silva

COUNTRY	Angola
SADCA COMMITTEE MEMBER	Mrs Teodora Lourenço Silva
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PERIOD COVERED	April 2010 – February 2011

The National Accreditation Focal Point (NAFP) is based at IANORQ and is housed under the Ministry of Industry. The NAFP is responsible for the actions relating to accreditation within the country and establishing the connection between all stakeholders involved in accreditation related activities, particularly the Angolan government, SADCAS and various public and private institutions.

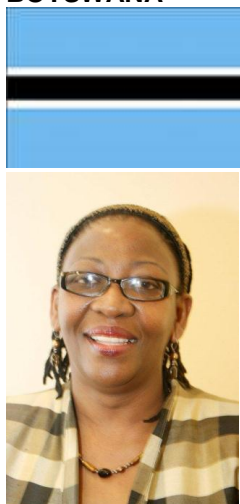
The NAFP is currently conducting the process of registering the SADCAS logo, name and trademark and prepared a Marketing Plan which will contribute to the continued efforts to promote SADCAS and accreditation. As a part of the promotional activities the NAFP distributed SADCAS pamphlets and to various public and private institutions.

The NAFP is engaged in a program to assist laboratory staff to enhance and improve the capacity of the employees in Good Laboratory Practices.

Sunder the SADC/EU project SADCAS offered training and consulting support for some national laboratories and respective technicians to improve and update their knowledge in the field of implementation and the use of ISO/IEC standards 17025 and 15189.

The NAFP was requested by SADCA to encourage the participation of national testing laboratories to participate in the Proficiency Testing Scheme of Non-alcoholic drinks such as orange and lemon juice, promoted jointly by the Argentinean Accreditation Body (OAA), National Institute of Industrial Technology (INTI) and by the Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC).

The NAFP is currently working on the creation of a new decree which will obligate that the certification of some listed products and services or analysis of products must be performed by accredited Certification Bodies. We also take note of the efforts made by SADCAS to translate the promotional material into Portuguese and highlight this as an important step in our activities.

BOTSWANA**Mrs Masego Marobela**

COUNTRY	Botswana
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PERIOD COVERED	April 2010 – February 2011

In an effort to advance accreditation of institutions in the country the National Accreditation Focal Point (NAFP) housed in the Ministry of Trade and Industry in collaboration with Botswana Bureau of Standards (BOBS) continued to support local laboratories and other institutions achieve this goal. To do this a number of activities pertaining to accreditation were carried out during the reporting period. Activities included direct interaction of the NAFP and BOBS with institutions through workshops and seminars, dialogue with the institutions on quality control and quality assurance programmes and encouraging participation in these programmes as well as training of personnel on quality management system courses.

Three local laboratories that have been previously accredited by SANAS maintained their accreditation status; two being testing laboratories while the other one is a Metrology (Mass) Laboratory. Two more local laboratories acquired accreditation during the course of the review period, namely a calibration laboratory accredited in the disciplines of thermometry and dimension and a Medical Testing Laboratory for which all the tests conducted have been accredited. In addition to the foregoing two more testing laboratories submitted applications for accreditation with SANAS; one of these laboratories falls under the mining sector while the other is servicing the water sector. The mining laboratory submitted five test methods and has been assessed and recommended for conditional accreditation on the provision that the minor gaps raised during the assessment are closed by February 2011. The water laboratory submitted 11 tests (5 for microbiology and 6 for chemistry) and the final assessment was completed and the laboratory is awaiting final results from the assessor. Further, one local certification body submitted its application for accreditation with SADCAS.

Although most of the laboratories and other conformity assessment bodies are aware of the need to have quality management system in place as well as the importance and benefits for accreditation, most of them are still facing some challenges with implementation issues. Some of the challenges noted during the course of the review period remain the same as those of the previous two years with very little or no improvement at all. A majority of the organisations are faced with the following common challenges:

- Lack of funding or limited budget;
- Lack of adequately trained personnel to develop and implement quality management systems;
- Accreditation not considered as a priority as there is no pressure to accredit;
- Lack of management commitment towards accreditation and;
- Poor response to training and accreditation services.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO



Mr Viki Mbuya
Kanama

COUNTRY	Democratic Republic of Congo
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PERIOD COVERED	April 2010 – February 2011

All activities pertaining to accreditation in the DRC are managed by the National Accreditation Focal Point (NAFP) Mr. Kanama Viki Mbuya, and seconded by Mrs Apauline Matata Feza.

The Mass Laboratory of OCC underwent an initial evaluation for accreditation by COFRAC (July 2010) and a complementary assessment is scheduled for April 2011.

A number of accreditation awareness seminars and training were held during the period under review including the quality awareness accreditation seminar held on 24 August 2011. To commemorate 2010 World Accreditation Day, a conference was held in Kinshasa.

The SADCAS Trademark, logo and name registration is ongoing.

Planned activities for the 2011/12 financial year are:

- To continue promoting accreditation in DRC;
- To submit the Quality Document to SADCAS for accreditation;
- To organize training courses for the CAB's.

LESOTHO



Mr Cyprian Mokhorro

COUNTRY	Lesotho
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PERIOD COVERED	April 2010 - February 2011

The office of the National Accreditation Focal Point is housed under the Department of Standards and Quality Assurance (DSQA) in the Ministry of Trade and Industry, Cooperatives and Marketing. This implies that accreditation issues run side by side with conformity assessment issues.

During the period under review, three laboratories benefited on the coaching programme rolled out by the SADC/EU project to assist laboratories establish their management systems. Several presentations were made to association members companies' chief executives and management. Topics discussed include importance of accreditation, role of SADCAS and the importance of supporting the association.

The following challenges were identified:

- There is need for continued awareness so as reach all potential clients;
- There is an urgent need to work enact a legislation on accreditation;
- There is a challenge to rope-in Inspection Bodies, since they are all from government.

MALAWI



Mr Davlin Chokazinga

COUNTRY	Malawi
SADCA COMMITTEE MEMBER	Mr Davlin Chokazinga
NAME OF NAFP/CONTACT PERSON	Mr Isaac Chirwa (1 st NAFP) Mr Lusungu Mwaungulu (2 nd NAFP)
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PERIOD COVERED	April 2010 – February 2011

The National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFPs) are responsible for the coordination, administration, promotion and marketing of accreditation.

Two MBS officer underwent assessments as Lead Technical Assessor and Technical Assessor in August 2010 following Assessor training they attended under SADCAS in 2010.

The NAFP employed by the Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS) initiated the formation of a National Laboratory Association, and sensitised the members on matters of accreditation. It is being hoped that the formation of the Association will be a key avenue for dissemination of information on accreditation matters.

A gap analysis of the trade metrology laboratory was conducted by consultants under the SADC/EU project against the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025 to assist the laboratory in moving towards accreditation.

The following areas have been earmarked for accreditation in Malawi:

The following MBS laboratories to ISO/IEC 17025:

- i. Mass calibration laboratory;
- ii. Microbiology laboratory; and
- iii. Pesticides laboratory.

The MBS is currently ironing out some issues in its QMS certification before fully engaging in the accreditation process with SADCAS.

The main challenge faced during the period under review was that the two NAFP went away on study leave, hence making coordination activities difficult. The NAFP position is therefore currently being reviewed to find a suitable replacement to the officer on study leave. The Secretariat will be informed on the details of the new officer once the consultation and appointment is made.

MAURITIUS**Mr Robin Gopee**

COUNTRY	Mauritius
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PERIOD COVERED	April 2010 – February 2011

The Mauritius Accreditation Service (MAURITAS) was established following the adoption of the Mauritius Accreditation Service Act 1998 and its consequent promulgation in August 1999. It has been set up as a department within the Ministry of Industry and Commerce with the objective of providing a national unified accreditation service for a range of conformity assessment bodies such as laboratories, certification bodies and inspection bodies.

With the setting up of the Accreditation Committee in January 2008, the first laboratory was granted accreditation in February 2008 and the first certification body was granted accreditation in July 2009. To date, 15 laboratories have been accredited by MAURITAS in various fields of accreditation and 1 certification body for its management system schemes. Currently 22 laboratories have undergone pre-assessment, 16 laboratories have been subjected to initial assessments and 15 laboratories have been granted accreditation following the first accreditation granted in February 2008.

MAURITAS continues with the two-pronged approach to launch its accreditation programmes, sensitize organizations and promote accreditation in Mauritius as well as building capacity of its technical assessors/experts. The twinning arrangement for laboratory accreditation with SANAS has been completed. The Ministry extended the existing twinning agreement in January 2010 with the Norwegian Accreditation (NA) for certification body accreditation with the objective of having the services of Lead Assessors and Technical Assessors for conducting assessment in the area of management system certification schemes. The objective of the twinning is also to further develop the capacity of MAURITAS assessors/experts. It should be noted that the twinning programme with the two internationally reputed accreditation bodies has been of great assistance to the laboratory and certification sections of MAURITAS. The objective is to comply with the requirements of ISO/IEC 17011: 2004 in order to enhance and expand confidence in the accreditation service provided by MAURITAS to a range of conformity assessment bodies and to provide widespread recognition of competence of the accredited conformity assessment bodies to the end users.

A group of Mauritian Technical Assessors and Lead Assessors have also been trained at the regional level by SADCA, out of which two have been trained as Trainers on accreditation standards. MAURITAS benefited from several workshops, seminars and training organized by SADCA/SADCAS. Personnel from the Mauritian laboratories benefited from the visits of the SADC/EU technical expert to upgrade the quality system of their laboratories. MAURITAS is continuously building capacity by sending selected potential assessors to SADCAS for ISO/IEC 17025, ISO/IEC 17021 and ISO 15189 training courses.

MAURITAS has been an Associate Member of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) since November 2009. MAURITAS continues to be a member of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF).

MOZAMBIQUE


Mr Alfredo Siteo

COUNTRY	Mozambique
SADCA COMMITTEE MEMBER	Mr Alfredo Siteo
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PERIOD COVERED	April 2010 – February 2011

Activities as per agreed national action plan	Actions undertaken during period under review
Continuous visits to the CABs to encourage them to apply for accreditation from SADCAS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visiting to the Medical Laboratory of Dream-Children/Saint Egidio Community. The objective of this visit was to evaluate the actual system of work and to promote accreditation and to market SADCAS. • Meetings and contacts with laboratories and other Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) to convince them to increase enforcement with view to apply for accreditation from SADCAS. • Identification and registration in the network of laboratories of the following: Lúrio University Laboratory (testing of Aflatoxines), Act Laboratory of Mozambique (testing of water, coal and soils) and Swiss Lab (testing of water, soils, medicines, food among others).
Identify accreditation front runners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Swiss lab and Act laboratory of Mozambique are both private and their Quality Management System are based on ISO/IEC 17025. They are currently preparing to apply for accreditation. • The Medical Laboratory “Immunology laboratory” from the National Institute of Health has indicated its intent to apply accreditation by February 2011.
Participating in regional meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation at the 25th annual meeting of SADC SQAM, held in Swaziland from 20 - 27 March 2010. • Participation in the Annual Meeting of NAFPs.
Build on SADCAS skills base through training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance by NAFP to the NAFP Workshop on Marketing, Communication and Presentation skills;
Distribution of Newsletters, the Pioneer and SADCAS corporate brochures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribution of: the “The Pioneer” newsletters; SADCAS’ Annual Reports and brochures to stakeholders.
Train-the-trainers and CABs for Assistance in Quality Improvement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation of the NAFP in the Assessment of the CABs selected by SADCAS. • Two people attended the last stage of Trainer the trainer training in ISO/IEC 17025, which consisted of conducting one day awareness seminary in Mozambique in coordination with the NAFP. • A seminar took place on 18 August 2010 in Maputo. It was designed to provide exposure to the trained trainers while at the same time creating awareness on accreditation issues and to update stakeholders on the SADCAS’ developments.

NAMIBIA



Mr Riundja Ali Kaakunga

COUNTRY	Namibia
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PERIOD COVERED	April 2010 – February 2011

The SADCA Committee member for Namibia is the Namibian Standards Institution (NSI) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) while the country's National Accreditation Focal Point (NAFP) office is housed in the Directorate of Commerce of the Ministry of Trade and Industry. In January 2010, the person who was responsible for the NAFP office was promoted and took up a new position in the Directorate of International Trade. Another official has been designated as the Namibian NAFP pending the appointment of a permanent staff.

There is a growing trend of acquiring accreditation by Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs). Five (5) Medical Laboratories belonging to the Path Care Group and three (3) Medical Laboratories belonging to the National Institute of Pathology are now accredited. The Namibian Standards Institution (NSI) Fishery Inspection was accredited by the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) in November 2010 and has since assessed and granted accreditation with the scope covering frozen and chilled fish as well as for an extended scope covering canned fish and canned meat inspection.

During the reporting period, the NSI Food Laboratories consisting of Marine Bio-toxins and Microbiology Laboratories were assessed by SANAS. A number of CABs are also preparing for accreditation. Preparations for accreditation of the following facilities/bodies are at advanced stage.

The water laboratories of the Namibia Water Corporation (NAMWATER) and the Central Veterinary Laboratory (CVL) are also preparing for accreditation. It is expected that application for accreditation by all these facilities would be submitted to SADCAS during the next reporting period.

Cooperation in accreditation in Namibia is faced with enormous challenges. It would be recalled that the very first NAFP were duly trained by SADCA, and soon thereafter, the NAFP resigned. Thus, the NAFP who was subsequently appointed had to be trained by Namibia using the country's own resources and in cooperation with other Development Cooperation partners. The current NAFP has been appointed in an acting capacity and as such might not require specialised training at this stage.

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Mr Ron Josias

COUNTRY	Republic of South Africa
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PERIOD COVERED	April 2010 – February 2011

The South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) is mandated through the “Accreditation for Conformity Assessment, Calibration and Good Laboratory Practice Act”, Act No. 19 of 2006, to achieve the following:

- a) Accredit, or monitor for GLP compliance purposes, organizations falling within its scope of activity;
- b) Promote accreditation as a means of facilitating international trade and enhancing the Republic’s economic performance and transformation;
- c) Promote the competence and equivalence of accredited bodies; and
- d) Promote the competence and equivalence of GLP compliant facilities.

SANAS currently accredits 1300 organisations.

The accreditation system for the new scope, energy efficiency verification is now ready to process applications for the accreditation of Measurement and Verification (M&Vs) Bodies by SANAS.

SANAS continues to host the SADCA Secretariat and Regional Coordinator function. The SADC Accreditation Service (SADCAS) and SANAS held two meetings during 2010/11 to discuss matters arising from processing applications, in line with the Twinning Partnership Agreement (TPA) between the two parties. The African Accreditation Cooperation (AFRAC) was officially launched on 29 September 2010, followed by the inaugural General Assembly meeting held on 29 to 30 September 2010 in Cairo, Egypt and SANAS was elected to be the Secretariat of AFRAC for three years. SANAS represents SADCA and SANAS on the Executive Committee of ILAC and IAF. Attendance at these meetings is very important in ensuring SADC participation internationally. SANAS representatives joined the United Kingdom and Germany in providing training to inspectors of the Indian Monitoring Authority in October 2010. Inspectors from Spain and New Zealand, OECD Observers and Thailand Observers evaluated the Monitoring Authority in Argentina for compliance with the OECD GLP requirements for Monitoring Authorities.

SEYCHELLES

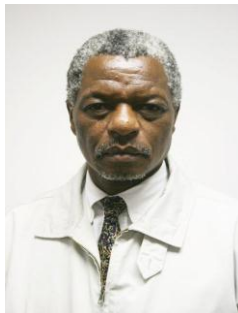
Mrs Sreekala Nair

COUNTRY	Seychelles
SADCA COMMITTEE MEMBER	Mrs Sreekala Nair
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PERIOD COVERED	April 2010 – February 2011

The Republic of Seychelles is a group of islands in the Indian Ocean. It comprises 115 islands and the economy depends on tourism and fish exports. The main Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) in Seychelles are the Seychelles Bureau of Standards (SBS) and the Ministry of Health. SBS is responsible for testing, calibration, fish inspection and certification. The Ministry of Health is responsible for public health and testing of food, water, clinical and pharmaceutical samples. The National Metrology Laboratory (NML) is under the umbrella of SBS and is responsible for calibration in the country. The NML is the only accredited laboratory in Seychelles. NML is accredited for calibration of mass. None of the other laboratories are accredited yet. The Environment Laboratory at the Seychelles Bureau of Standards is recommended for accreditation for five tests subject to clearance of non conformances identified during assessment. The laboratories at the Seychelles Bureau of Standards are the Official Testing laboratory for testing of fish and fish products. It is a requirement of the importing country (EU) that the tests for fish, water and ice are accredited. The Fish Inspection and Quality Control Unit (FIQCU) is part of SBS and is responsible for fish inspection. Certification Unit at the SBS is responsible for system certification and product certification. These two units are working towards accreditation to ISO 17020 and ISO 17021 respectively. The Public Health Laboratory, Clinical Laboratory and the Pharmaceutical Laboratory at the Ministry of Health have started to discuss the need for accreditation for these laboratories.

The commitment and the assistance of the top management of Seychelles Bureau of Standards was a great encouragement for the laboratories. The staff benefited from trainings conducted. The evaluation of training need and the implementation of the training programmes helped the laboratories to implement the system. Participation in PT programmes, use of reference standards/QC materials ensures the competence of staff and accuracy of results. Accreditation improves the quality of service and the laboratory gets recognition.

SWAZILAND



Mr Henson Dlamini

COUNTRY	Swaziland
SADCA COMMITTEE MEMBER	Mr Henson Dlamini
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PERIOD COVERED	April 2010 - February 2011

Swaziland is making a notable progress in accreditation activities. The NAFP in Swaziland are working steadily to increase awareness to the laboratory community and other conformity assessment bodies through various means. The NAFP continues to pursue the National goal of having at least six conformity assessment bodies getting accredited by 2013 contributing to the total of 395 in the SADC Region on the same year.

The SQAM meeting held in Swaziland between 21st March - 27 th March 2010, had an impact towards creating accreditation awareness in the country. In a bid to further increase awareness, the SADCAS CEO and the NAFP had an opportunity to broadcast on T.V about SADC SQAM Structure of which accreditation is part.

A quality awareness workshop funded by SADC SQAM/ EU project was conducted in Swaziland on the 5th August, 2010. The objective of the seminar was to develop an awareness and understanding of the need, the importance of accreditation of conformity assessment competence and to develop an understanding of the principles involved in the requirements of the competency standards and the process of assessing compliance to such requirements. The workshop was very successful. Close to 70 participants attended.

Through the SADC/SQAM project, seven conformity assessment bodies mostly laboratories were offered technical assistance in quality improvement. Two consultants came to Swaziland from the 28th June – 7th July 2010 and offered assistance in a bid to improve quality in conformity assessment bodies.

As per requirement towards the approval of a policy, the Standardization and Quality Assurance Section made a briefing to the Prime Minister and his cabinet about the National Regulatory and Quality Policy. During the presentation, awareness creation on accreditation was evident. It is also worth mentioning that the National Regulatory and Quality Policy was approved and will be launched soon.

TANZANIA



Mr Charles Ekelege

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PERIOD COVERED	April 2010 - February 2011

During the period under review, in line with its roles of coordinating, administering, promoting and marketing accreditation within the country, National Accreditation Focal Point Office (NAFPO) continued to create awareness on the importance of accreditation and services offered by the Southern African Development Community Accreditation Services (SADCAS). Different approaches used such as organized trainings, seminars, designed questioners and visits to various laboratories has been used as a way of promoting and marketing accreditation and SADCAS services in the country.

During the reporting under review, a total of four training courses on accreditation standards on conformity assessment bodies were conducted for laboratory staff. Two training courses were organised jointly between the NAFP and SADCAS and the other two were conducted by the NAFP. The NAFP also hosted the Quality Awareness Accreditation Seminar held on 30 August 2010

During the period under review, 5 experts were selected to attend assessors training course under the sponsorship of the SADC/EU project. The Assessor training course was divided into two parts, theoretical part and practical part (on site assessment). Theoretical training was successfully completed on May 2010 and the technical competences of the trainee technical assessors were monitored on site.

During the period under review, SADCAS/SANAS Assessors conducted an initial assessment at TBS Metrology laboratory from 2-3 August 2010. The certificate of accreditation was granted to the TBS Metrology laboratory in the scope of dimensional metrology on 4 November 2010, under the SADCAS/SANAS TPA.

Both accredited and non-accredited laboratories continued to participate in proficiency testing in order to improve the quality of the data generated from their laboratories and also to enhance their competence.

In conclusion:

- (i) The laboratories in Tanzania have shown a strong interest to be accredited.
- (ii) The laboratories in Tanzania have increased their participation in various Proficiency Testing Schemes.
- (iii) The SADCAS/SANAS TPA provided assurance and confidence to stakeholders to use SADCAS' services.

ZIMBABWE



Mrs Eve Gadzikwa

COUNTRY	Zimbabwe
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PERIOD COVERED	April 2010 – February 2011

During the period under review and in line with its mandate the SADCA Committee Member continued to support the national accreditation drive together with the National Accreditation Focal Point based within the Ministry of Industry and Commerce.

By the end of 2010 a number of laboratories and Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) submitted expressions of interest for accreditation. Although the Standard Association of Zimbabwe's (SAZ) goal to attain accreditation of its laboratories and inspection services to ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO/IEC 17020 by 31 December 2010 did not materialise, the organisation ended the year having successfully documented its two systems with firm plans to apply for accreditation to SADCAS in 2011. The Association's Quality Assurance Department maintained Accreditation to ISO/IEC 17021 of its Certification services for QMS and EMS, having first attained accreditation status over 10 years ago through SANAS.

During the period under review, a number of individuals benefited from and underwent training through SADCAS. It is anticipated that these individuals will contribute towards building a pool of SADCAS technical assessors. A number of technical staff attended staff development training workshops under support of SADC/EU Project.

A Laboratory Association of Zimbabwe (NLAZ) and PT Awareness Seminar was held in March 2010 and was attended by over 100 delegates. The seminar focused on Standard Requirements for Testing and Calibration Laboratories, Medical Laboratories, Inspection and Testing Services and PT Schemes. In line with Action Plans to support key strategies for promoting accreditation, the SADCAS Trademark Registration was registered in 10 SADC Member States including Zimbabwe through the African Regional International Property Organisation (ARIPO). This development facilitated the wide acceptance of the SADCAS accreditation mark by stakeholders. An Accreditation Seminar was held in Zimbabwe in August 2010 and was designed to provide further exposure to the accreditation trained trainers while at the same time creating awareness on accreditation issues.

Representatives from Zimbabwe actively participated in regional meetings in SADC.

As in previous years, stakeholder efforts to attain accreditation have been largely hampered by failure to successfully implement Accreditation Plans within the stated time frame, administrative challenges and lack of adequate resources.

INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION

It is important to ensure that SADCA participates in the existing global and regional networks of recognised accreditation bodies, particularly the EA, ILAC and IAF arrangements. These arrangements build upon existing and developing regional arrangements established globally. The benefits of participating include:

- Participating in the decision making of the EA, ILAC and IAF's General Assemblies and Committees;
- Exchanging information on the development and operations of similar regional accreditation cooperations.

SADCA's INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION

Date	Organisation and activity	Location	Attended by
14 – 15 April 2010	AFRAC Meetings	Cairo, Egypt	<i>SADCA Chair and Secretariat</i>
22 – 24 June 2010	IAF/ILAC Executive Meetings	Mexico	<i>Not attended.</i>
20 – 27 August 2010	IAAC General Assembly	Rio de Janeiro	<i>Not attended.</i>
29 – 30 September 2010	AFRAC Launch and General Assembly	Cairo, Egypt	<i>SADCA Chair and Secretariat</i>
20 – 29 October 2010	IAF/ILAC General Assembly	Shanghai, China	<i>Mr Ron Josias and Mrs Masego Marobela and Mrs Maureen Mutasa</i>
4 – 10 December 2010	APLAC General Assembly	Osaka, Japan	<i>Not attended.</i>
6 – 12 March 2011	IAF/ILAC Executive Meetings	Surrey, United Kingdom	<i>SADCA Chair and Secretariat</i>

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AFRICAN ACCREDITATION COOPERATION (AFRAC)

In order to lay the basis for Africa's effective participation in global trade, there is a need for a sustainable and integrated approach to the continent's quality infrastructure, encompassing metrology, standards, testing, accreditation and quality assurance. An African Accreditation Cooperation (AFRAC) will complement related and existing continental cooperation arrangements in the areas of standardisation (African Regional Standardization Organization - ARSO) and metrology (Cooperation of African Metrology Systems - AFRIMETS). With a strong united voice in the area of accreditation, Africa will be able to engage international accreditation bodies such as the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) more meaningfully on behalf of stakeholders of the African continent who would be too small on their own to make any significant impact.

AFRAC is one of the four pillars of the pan-African quality infrastructure established by the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency to support intra-African trade, improve the competitiveness of African goods and services and to facilitate health and safety of the public and the environment. AFRAC whose establishment was partially funded by PTB Germany is to facilitate capacity building in accreditation across the continent with the goal of sustaining an internationally acceptable mutual recognition arrangement.

The third meeting on the establishment of an Inter-African Accreditation Cooperation took place in Cairo, Egypt from 14 – 15 April 2010. The meetings were hosted by the Egyptian Accreditation Council (EGAC) and sponsored by PTB. In total 19 delegates from Africa and cooperating partners from PTB and the Inter American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC) attended the meeting.

The meeting was a follow up to the two meetings that took place in April and October 2009 to further develop the establishment of a regional cooperation in accreditation. The main purpose of the meeting was to develop Bylaws for the African Accreditation Cooperation (AFRAC), as well as establish guidelines for the organisations' trademark in the form of a name and logo, establish selection criteria or experts to be trained as peer evaluators, and to prepare for the launch of the organisation. Three Working Groups were formulated during the meetings to perform these various functions, and SADCA was nominated as the interim Secretariat.

The African Cooperation in Accreditation (AFRAC) was launched on 29 September 2010 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, Cairo, Egypt. The launch was followed by the inaugural General Assembly meeting held from 29 to 30

September 2010 at the same venue. Participating countries include the United Kingdom, Sweden and Germany, representatives from Physikalisch – Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB) Germany and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC), the European Accreditation (EA), Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC), Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC), the US Centre for Disease Control (CDC), African Cooperation in Metrology (AFRIMETS) and the African Organization for Standardization (ARSO).



Unveiling of the AFRAC plaque: From left to right—Mr Hassan Shaarawi (EGAC); Professor Mohammed Elarbi Aouani (NEPAD) and His Excellency Dr Ahmed Darwish.

The Egyptian Minister of Trade and Industry His Excellency Rachid Mohammed Rachid was represented by His Excellency Dr Ahmed Darwish, Minister of Administrative Development. In his speech His Excellency Dr Ahmed Darwish noted the key role accreditation plays in socio-economic development and welcomed the establishment of AFRAC as a platform upon which Africa could build and develop its accreditation infrastructure. The Minister noted that some African countries had well developed accreditation infrastructures and encouraged advanced countries to enter into twinning partnership arrangements with less developed countries as a means of enhancing skills transfer and developing accreditation infrastructures in Africa.

In his speech on behalf of NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency Chief Executive Officer, Professor Mohammed Elarbi Aouani congratulated the interim AFRAC Committee for having successfully driven AFRAC to its launch and operational stage. He noted that AFRAC will compliment the other existing pan-African quality pillars.

The launch was followed by the inaugural AFRAC General Assembly meeting during which a total of 21 resolutions were adopted. The General Assembly meeting was chaired by Mr Riundja Ali Kaakunga (Othy) up until the election of office bearers. The AFRAC Bylaws were reviewed and approved and the AFRAC trademark (name and logo) was also approved. Mr Hassan Shaarawi (Egyptian Accreditation Council, EGAC) was elected the first chairman of AFRAC whilst Mr Mensan Lawson-Hechelli (Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS) was elected to the position of Treasurer. The South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) which had been the interim Secretariat was elected to the position of Secretariat.



Delegates at the First AFRAC General Assembly meeting held from 29 to 30 September 2010 in Cairo, Egypt.

AFRAC is currently in the process of identifying suitable candidates to be trained as peer evaluators, as well as identifying an African country in which to register the Cooperation. A project document has been prioritised and the Secretariat is in the process of identifying a service provider to perform this function.

SADCA would like to thank PTB, ILAC, EA, IAAC, and APLAC for their invaluable support in the establishment and launching of AFRAC and looks forward to their continued support going forward.

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

The following organisations have contributed financially and in kind to SADCA's activities, which will ultimately assist in realising the goal of obtaining international recognition as a Regional Accreditation Cooperation (RAC).

The South African dti

The South African **dti** continues to fund the SADCA Secretariat, EXCO meetings and the attendance of the SADCA Chairperson and Regional Coordinator at AFRAC, ILAC and IAF meetings.

SADC SQAM / EU Project

The SADCA component of the EU project focuses largely on the training of assessors for the region. To date all the training courses for Technical and Lead Assessor candidates have been completed, and on-site coaching and evaluations are on-going.

The accreditation component of the SADC/EU SQAM project is mainly focused on the development of a pool of accreditation experts in the SADC region who will, upon successful completion and registration, undertake assessments/conduct training on behalf of SADCAS. In 2009 the capacity development program started off with the training of technical experts on the various key accreditation standards i.e. ISO/IEC 17025, ISO/IEC 17020, ISO/IEC 17021, ISO/IEC Guide 65 and ISO 15189. This was then followed by technical assessor courses. Those who successfully completed the technical assessor course proceeded on to the lead assessor course. During these courses 19 experts were identified as potential trainers for SADCAS and were subsequently selected to attend the train the trainer course.

One of the activities scheduled for implementation during the second Programme Estimate (PE2) of the SADC/EU Project was the Peer Evaluation training course that took place from 14 – 18 August 2010 in South Africa. An opportunity for the practical training of these peer evaluators has presented itself at the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS). SANAS is a signatory to the ILAC/IAF/EA Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRAs), and in order to maintain its signatory status, it is peer-reviewed every four years, in order to assess its compliance to ILAC/IAF/EA's criteria for competence. SANAS will be peer reviewed in August 2011. In order to build a pool of SADCA peer evaluators, five candidates who had undergone the Peer Evaluation training course in August 2010 have been identified to conduct a pre-peer evaluation of SANAS, in preparation for its peer evaluation in August 2011.

The SADC/EU project came to an end at the end of November 2010, and SADCA would like to extend its appreciation for the EU's support, as well as to the implementation team.

PTB, Germany

PTB realizing the importance of an accreditation cooperation on the African continent funded the workshop on the need for an Inter African Accreditation Cooperation, which was held in Mauritius in April 2009, as well as the AFRAC meeting held in Cairo, Egypt in April 2010. PTB also sponsored the AFRAC General Assembly and Launch in September 2010 in Cairo, Egypt.

In September 2010, PTB committed €1, 5 million to provide support at the regional level for the next three years in the area of SQAM with the overall objective of strengthening the quality infrastructure for trade enhancement and consumer protection in SADC. This funding may be accessed through the SADC TIFI department at the SADC Secretariat.

PERFORMANCE PROGRESS

Performance against objectives

PERFORMANCE PROGRESS							
Objective	Expected outcome	Target to be delivered by 31 March 2011	Performance indicator	Target 2010/11	Actual 2010/11	Comments	Budget Resources
Establishment of an operational SADC accreditation infrastructure	Operate an effective SADCA Secretariat and Regional Coordinator's (RC) function	6 meetings representing SADCA in the ILAC and IAF Executive meetings.	Number of meetings representing SADCA in the ILAC and IAF Executive meetings.	6	4		Regional project costs
		6 regional meetings and managed on behalf of SADCA.	Number of regional meetings organised and managed on behalf of SADCA.	6	5		
		3 meetings representing SADCA in regional for a.	Number of times representing SADCA in regional for a.	3	2		
	SADCA operationalised into internationally recognised Regional Accreditation Cooperations (RACs) and MRAs established	Trained peer evaluators.	Ensure that SADCA peer evaluators receive training and practical exposure.	10	8	Of the 8 trained peer evaluators, 5 have received practical exposure to a pre-peer evaluation at SANAS.	SADC/EU project
		Propose changes to the TBT Annex and submit to the SADC Secretariat.	Ensure all SADCA documents are aligned to revised TBT Annex once approved.	100%	90%	Changes to be discussed at Annual SADCA Meeting in March 2011, and changes to be submitted to SADC Secretariat.	Regional project costs
		Align SADCA Bylaws to revised TBT Annex.	Bylaws to be submitted to ILAC/IAF as part of application for RAC status.	50%	50%		
		Prepare SADCA Business Plan.	Ensure that the TBT Annex and Bylaws are approved.	50%	50%	Once TBT Annex inputs and Bylaws are approved at Annual SADCA Meetings in March 2011, the Business Plan will be prepared in line with changes.	Regional project costs

EXCO ACTIVITIES FOR THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

AIMS	OUTPUT	CURRENT STATUS
<i>i) Amendments to the TBT Annex and SADCA Bylaws</i>		
To change SADCA from a project to Cooperation that will coordinate accreditation efforts in the region.	Proposed changes to the TBT Annex and Bylaws to be agreed by the General Assembly which will be presented to the SADC Council of Ministers for their consideration.	In progress.
<i>ii) Activities geared towards the operationalisation of SADCAS (refer to TBT Annex Article 17-2)</i>		
2a) Implement a regional system of cooperation in the area of accreditation, which complies with international best practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SADCAS established and now fully operational. • MAURITAS now operational with 15 accreditations. • NAFPs are in place in all SADC Member States. • Assessors undergone training and some mentored. 	SADCAS is ready to process accreditation applications.
		SADCAS signed Twinning Partnership Arrangement (TPA) on 3 December 2009 with the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) to in order to maintain the international recognition of accredited facilities.
		Accreditation services are being provided in partnership with the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS).
2b) Promote and facilitate the use of accreditation in the removal of Technical Barriers to Trade (TBTs). 2d) Ensure the provision of regional accreditation services.	<p>SADCAS established and now fully operational.</p> <p>National Accreditation Focal Points (NAFPs) appointed in SADC Member States without a National Accreditation Body (NAB).</p> <p>NAFPs are responsible for the coordination, administration, promotion and marketing of accreditation within its national borders.</p>	Joint Communiqué issued by SADCAS and SANAS to encourage all SANAS accredited organizations in SADC member states excluding South Africa to now utilize SADCAS accreditation services.
2c) Identify aspects critical to the establishment and functioning of a regional accreditation infrastructure.	SADCA operating as a Cooperation with a fully established Secretariat, Multi-Lateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA) and associated Technical Committees, and General Assembly.	In progress.
<i>iii) Activities geared towards the operationalisation of AFRAC</i>		
Contribute to the establishment of AFRAC.	Trained and qualified AFRAC peer evaluators. AFRAC Project Plan.	AFRAC has secured funding from PTB to train peer evaluators. The Project Plan has been prioritised and is the process of being drafted.
<i>iv) Assessor and peer evaluator training</i>		
Ensure the availability of assessors and peer evaluators in SADC.	To have a pool of qualified assessors and peer evaluators in the SADC region.	19 experts were identified as potential trainers for SADCAS and were subsequently selected to attend the train the trainer course. Sixteen out of these 19 were subsequently qualified and registered as SADCAS trainers. 8 candidates underwent peer evaluator training through the SADC/EU project, and 5 of these were exposed to a pre-peer review of SANAS in February 2011.

FINANCES: FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2010 TO 31 MARCH 2011

	SANAS/dti	PTB	SADC/EU
	ZAR	ZAR	ZAR
SADCA EXPENSES			
-			
ADMINISTRATION	608 735.24	0	0
-			
Marketing Expenses (<i>Promotional banners</i>)	4 161.00		
Website (<i>Maintenance</i>)	4 574.24		
Secretariat Costs	600 000.00	0	0
REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL	381 044.73	0	0
-			
Chair's travel	113 570.79		
Secretariat travel	228 209.94		
EXCO travel	39 264.00		
PROJECTS AND DEVELOPMENT	0	59 005.00	243,557.50
-			
Donor support – EXCO project meeting		24 070.00	
Donor support – training of peer evaluators		34 935.00	243,557.50
TOTAL EXPENSES	989 779.97	59 005.00	243,557.50

TOTAL: R1 292 342.47

FUTURE PLANS

SADCA will continue to assist in the integration of the technical infrastructure being created within SADC into the regional strategies to manage TBT and SPS related activities.

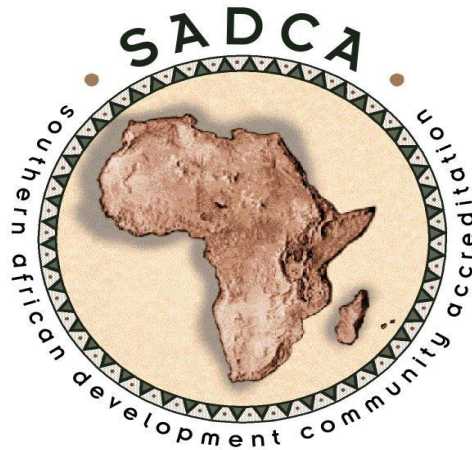
Initiation of SADCA MLRAs.

Focusing on the training of technical experts for use as technical and lead assessors, trainers and peer evaluators for the SADC region.

Continued participation in the regional and international fora such AFRAC, AFRIMETS and ARSO.

Submission of projects to international donor funding organisations for further funding of SADCA activities.

Liaison and cooperation with other regional accreditation bodies like EA, APLAC and IAAC.



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