



مركز الاعتماد الخليجي  
GCC Accreditation Center

# GAC Role in Facilitating trade between GCC countries and Russia

5 April 2021

Online business mission for Russian exporters of agricultural products to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

- 1 Accreditation in the Conformity Assessment infrastructure
- 2 GAC Legal Agreement and Structure
- 3 Regional and International Recognitions
- 4 Advantages of GAC Accreditation in Halal
- 5 GAC Accreditation process
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- 7 How to get more information

## Content

المحتوي



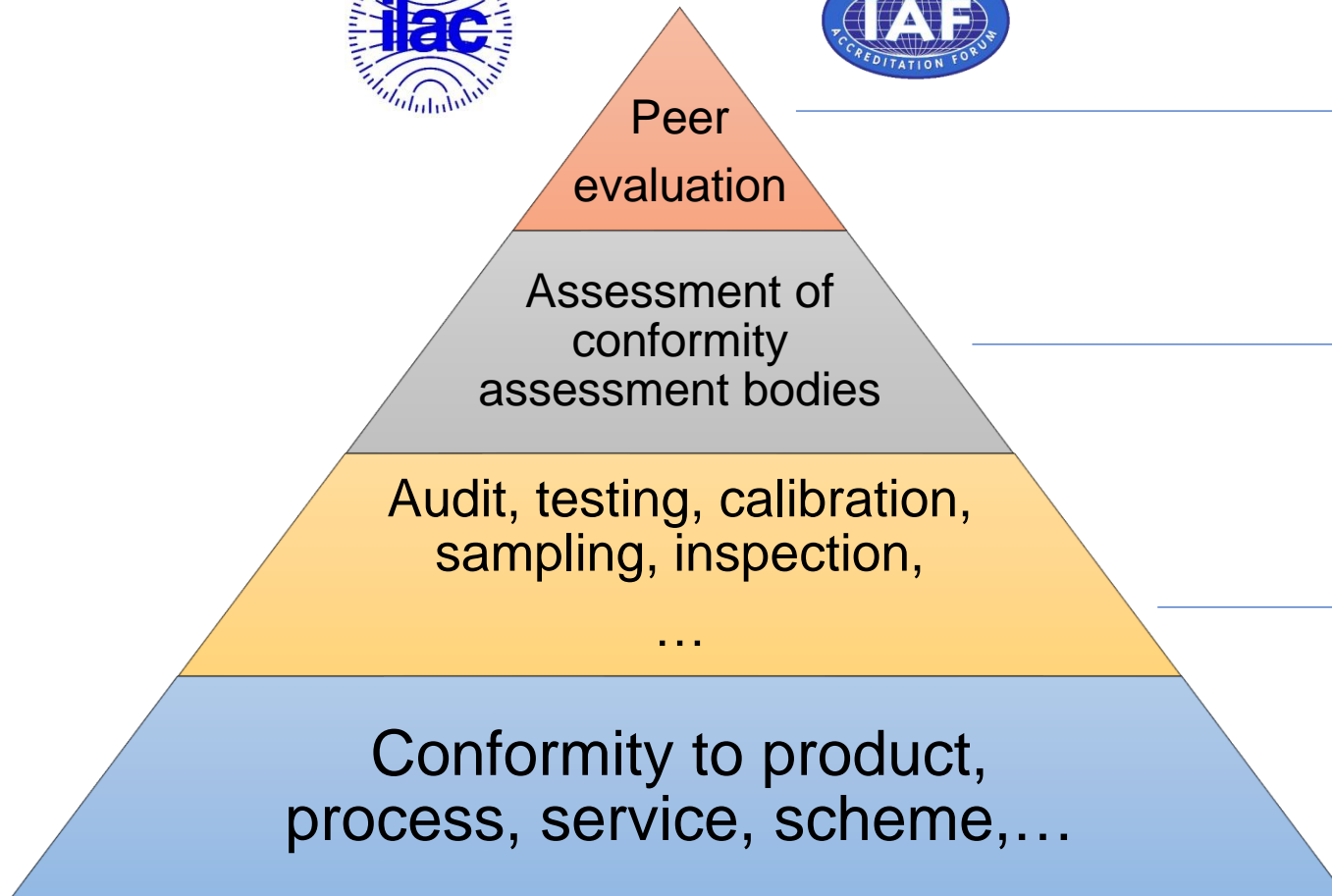
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**Close cooperation since 2018**



# GAC Accreditation and its place in the Conformity Assessment infrastructure



**International Organizations**  
Peer evaluation requirements

**Accreditation Bodies**  
ISO/IEC 17011+ regional and international requirements for ABs

**Conformity Assessment bodies**  
ISO 15189, ISO/IEC 17025 +  
ISO/IEC 17021, ISO/IEC 17065  
ISO/IEC 17043, ISO/IEC 17020

Industry, Services, persons,...  
Specific requirements for the products, services, processes, persons,...



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# The GCC Accreditation Center Legal Agreement and Structure

08 May 2013



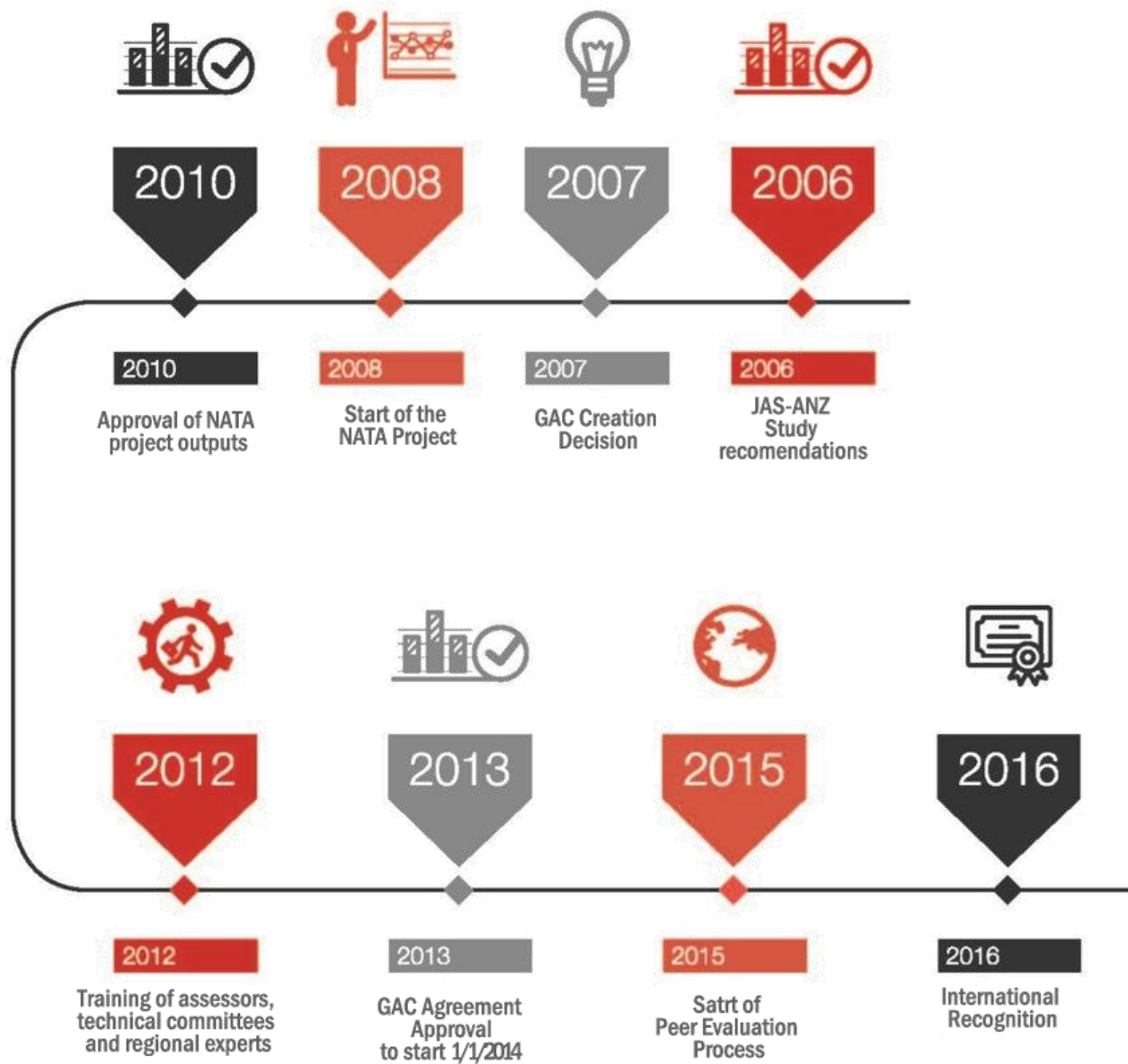
## GAC Creation Agreement



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**GSO Board of Directors**

7 Ministers representing the Member countries



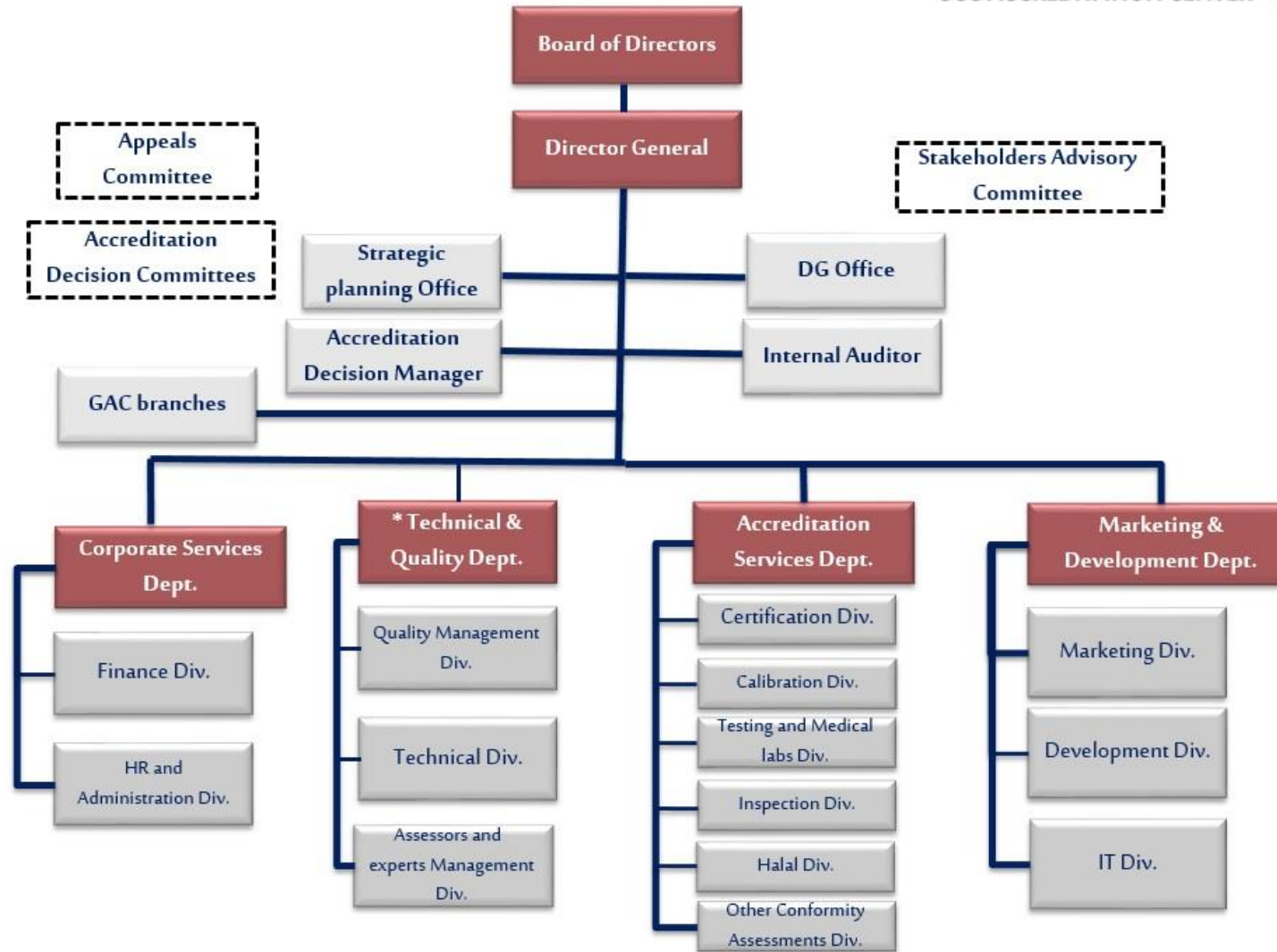
## GAC Timeline



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# GAC Organization Chart

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# Stakeholders Committee



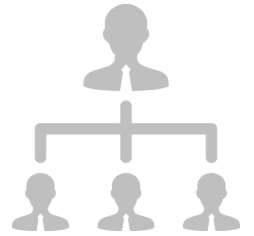
## Board of Directors

- Approving policies and strategies
- Following up activities and achievements
- Approving annual budget
- Ratification of final accounts
- Approving accreditation fees



## General Direction

- The formal responsibilities and duties defined in the GAC Agreement and Rules;
- The satisfactory operation of all aspects of the GAC organization, and reporting on organizational performance to the Board of Directors;
- Leadership of all personnel of the GAC;
- Maintenance and development of GAC in its regional and international roles in accordance with relevant laws and regulations, and international standards and agreements;
- Developing and maintaining strong relationships with key stakeholders;
- Signing mutual recognition arrangements; and
- Ensuring appropriate representation at national, regional and international levels.



GAC



## Stakeholders Committee

- Study and discuss topics on the accreditation activities and make recommendations thereon.
- Review policies and strategies of the GAC and give opinion and appropriate recommendations to the General Director.
- Review the GAC plans and programs provided by the Director-General and make recommendations thereon.
- Review of annual reports on the activities and achievements of the Centre and give opinion, and appropriate recommendations.



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Accreditation activities income

Financial funds allocated by member countries

Grants and Donations approved by the BoD



**Financial  
Resources**

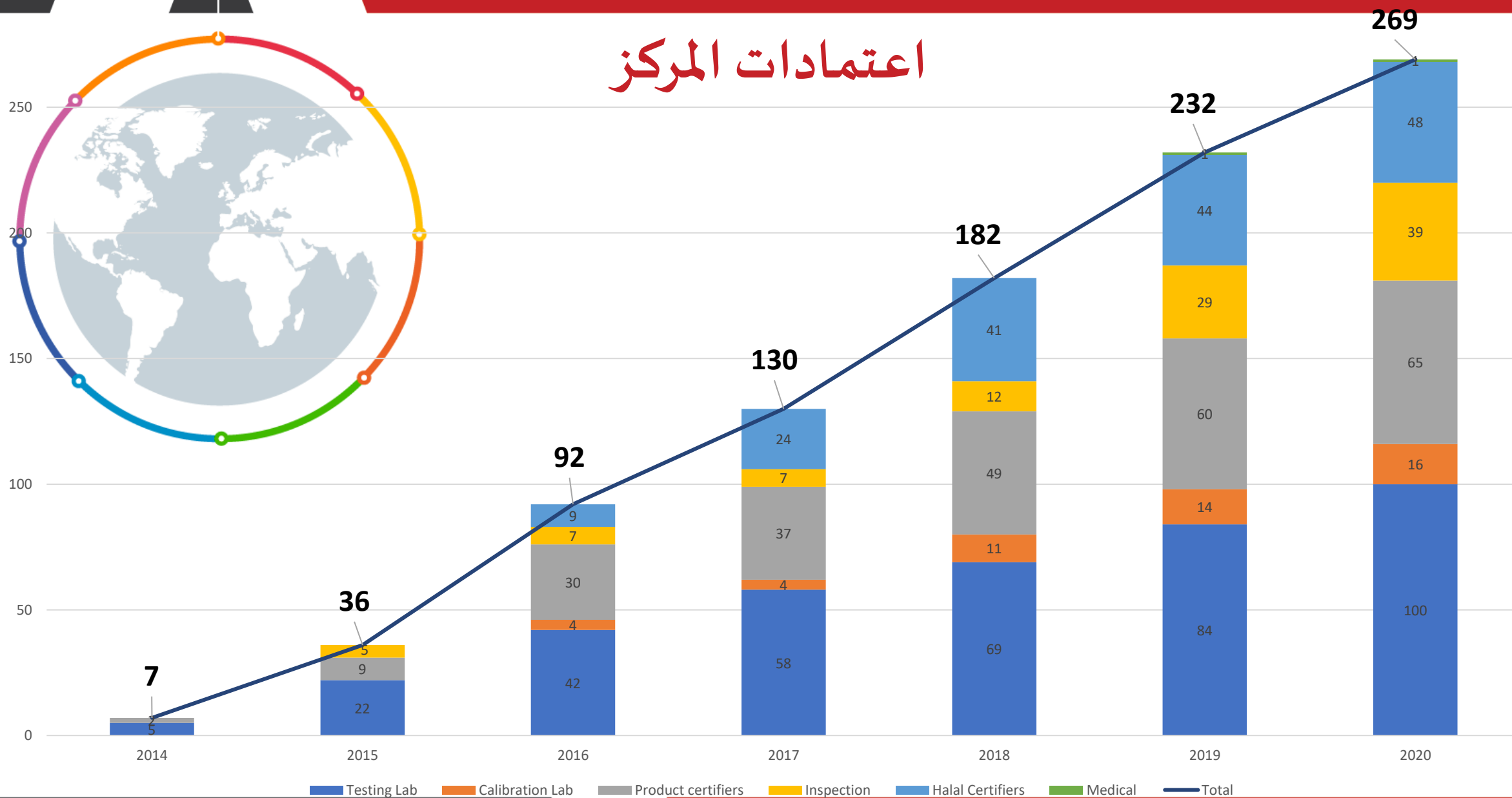


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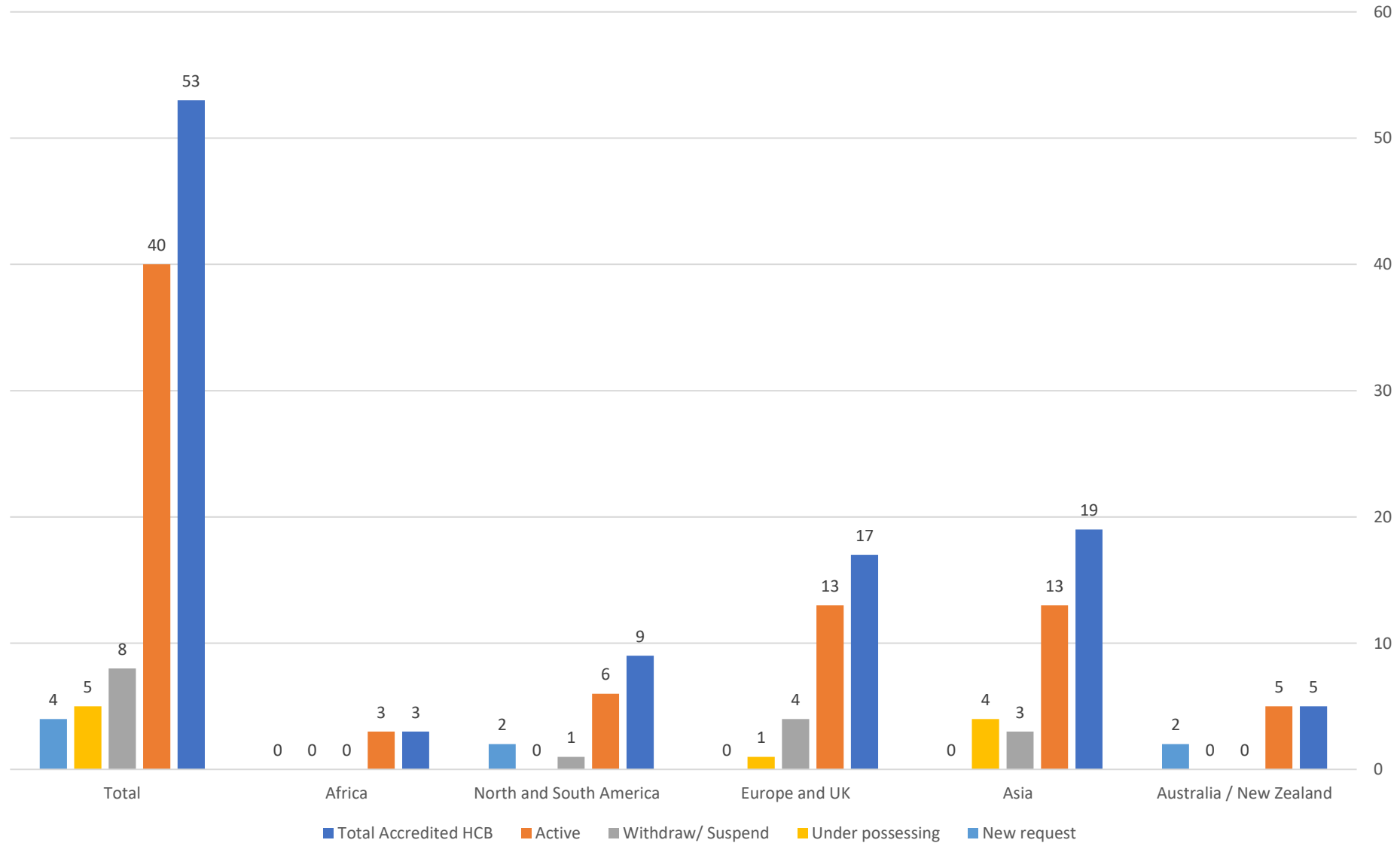


## GAC Accreditation Programs

# اعتمادات المركز



CBs by region



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#### Layer 1

- Active (Sum)
- Suspended (Count - Not Blank)
- Expired (Sum)
- Forced withdrawn (Sum)
- Voluntary withdrawn (Sum)

# Regional and International Recognitions





## 5 عضويات للمركز في المنظمات الدولية

## عضوية المركز في المنظمات الدولية



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# Mutual recognition Agreements of GAC



October 2016

June 2016



November 2016



October 2018



الجهاز العربي للاعتماد

Arab Accreditation Cooperation



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# 2017 APLAC/PAC Joint Annual Meetings

Bangkok, Thailand 16-24 June 2017





# Advantages of GAC Accreditation



# Advantages of GAC Accreditation

- One accreditation → 7 countries
- Inter-governmental organization insuring Independence and impartiality
- Balanced representation of Interested parties
- Transparent accreditation procedures publicly available and backed up by an electronic system.
- International recognition
- Access to expertise in the 7 member countries
- International participation defending member countries interests



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# GAC International Leadership Positions

## Executive level in regional and international organizations

- Member of the IAF Executive committee
- Member of the APAC Executive committee
- Member of the ARAC Executive committee
- Vice-Chair of ARAC
- Member of the IHAF Board of Directors
- Chair of the APAC Capacity Building Committee
- Chair of the IHAF MRA committee
- Chair of the IAF Communication and marketing committee
- Designated member of the IAF Global Database management committee



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# Cooperation with Homologue ABs worldwide

# International cooperation



## اتفاقيات التعاون مع الجهات الدولية

حيث أبرم المركز اتفاقيات تعاون مع كثير من أجهزة الاعتماد في الدول الأعضاء والمنظمات الإقليمية والدولية بلغ عددها ١٩ اتفاقية.

### و تشمل اتفاقيات التعاون كلا من:

- جهاز الاعتماد الايطالي ACCREDITIA
- جهاز الاعتماد الإسباني ENAC
- جهاز الاعتماد المشترك بين نيوزيلندا وأستراليا JAS-ANZ
- جهاز الاعتماد البيلاروسي BSCA

### بالإضافة إلى الاتفاقيات السابقة مع كل من أجهزة الاعتماد التالية:

- جهاز الاعتماد الأمريكي A2LA
- وجهاز الاعتماد الهندي NABCB
- جهاز الاعتماد الاندونييسي KAN
- جهاز الاعتماد البريطاني UKAS
- جهاز الاعتماد المصري EGAC
- جهاز الاعتماد التونسي TUNAC
- جهاز الاعتماد في هونغ كونغ HKAS
- أجهزة الاعتماد اليابانية JAB و VLAC و IA JAPAN
- جهاز الاعتماد التايواني TAF
- جهاز اعتماد بلدية دبي DAC
- جهاز الاعتماد الصيني CNAS

اتفاقية مع  
جهات دولية

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- Joint Accreditations
- Capacity building activities
- Exchange of experts and databases
- Exchange of information on Accredited CABs
- Coordination of positions



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# APLAC / PAC Joint Annual Meeting



APLAC/PAC  
2018 KYOTO

1<sup>st</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> June 2018, Kyoto Japan

Organized by IAJapan, ISMS-AC, JAB, V



# Cooperation with Local authorities in the member countries





- MoU with ESMA,
- Designated AB for Halal Accreditations
- MoU with ENAS
- MoU with EIAC



MoU with SASO  
Cooperation with SFDA



Close coordination with Directorate General of Standardization in Oman



MoU with Kuwait Standards Authority



MoU with GSO as designated AB for notification purposes.



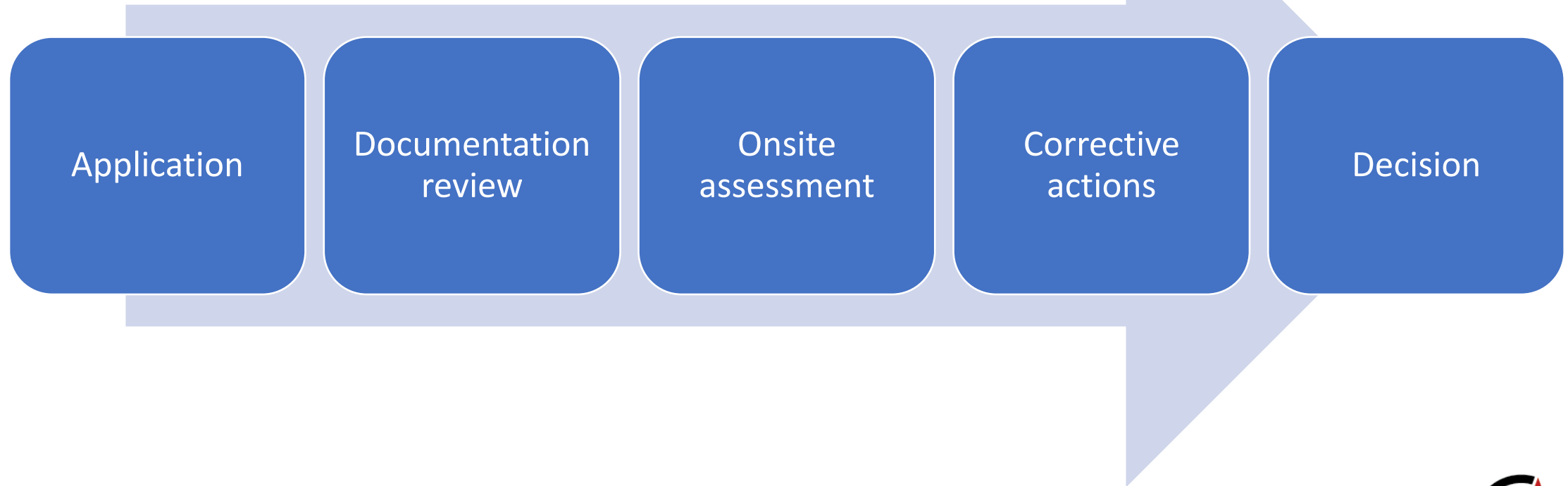
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## GAC Accreditation process for Halal

# Accreditation process



Once accredited, the CB follows the process of notification with the local authorities and declares the certifies entities to free products at the entry points.



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## Halal requirements

# Halal requirements for CBs

- GSO 2055-2 : Halal Products – Part 2 : General Requirements For Halal Certification Bodies
- Covering ISO/IEC 17065 : Conformity assessment — Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services.
- Local scheme requirements



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# Halal requirements for Products

- **Main standards**
- **GSO 993:2015 - Gulf Technical Regulation: Animal Slaughtering Requirements According To Islamic Rules**
- **GSO 2055-1:2015 Gulf Technical Regulation : HALAL FOOD - Part 1 : General Requirements**



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Home / Search Standards

Search Standards

halal

Search

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Refine Your Search

Document Type

☐ Gulf Standard (5)

☐ Gulf Technical Regula... (1)

Sector

☐ Food and Agriculture (6)

☐ Chemical and Textile (0)

☐ Construction and Buil... (0)

☐ Electrical (0)

☐ Health (0)

☐ Information (0)

☐ Management Systems (0)

☐ Mechanical (0)

☐ Metrology (0)

☐ Oil and Gas (0)


Search Results

Showing 1 - 6 from 6 Standards

GSO 2055-3:2015

Gulf Standard

Halal Products – Part 3 – Requirements For Halal Accreditation Bodies Accrediting Halal




Quick View

More Details →

GSO 2055-2:2015

Gulf Standard

Halal Products -- Part 2 : General Requirements For Halal Certification Bodies




Quick View

More Details →

GSO 2055-1:2015

Gulf Technical Regulation

HALAL FOOD - Part 1 : General Requirements




Quick View

More Details →

GSO 2470:2015

Gulf Standard

Halal Foods - Management System Requirements For Retailing




Quick View

More Details →

GSO 2469:2015

Gulf Standard

Halal Foods - Management System Requirements For Warehousing And Related Activities




Quick View

More Details →

GSO 2468:2015

Gulf Standard

Halal Foods - Management System Requirements For Transportation Of Goods And/Or Cargo Chain Services



Quick View

More Details →

https://www.gso.org.sa/store/standards

# Challenges for Halal Certification Bodies



# Challenges for Halal Certification

## Auditors competence

Having enough number of competent auditors as per the GSO Requirements.

## Documentation

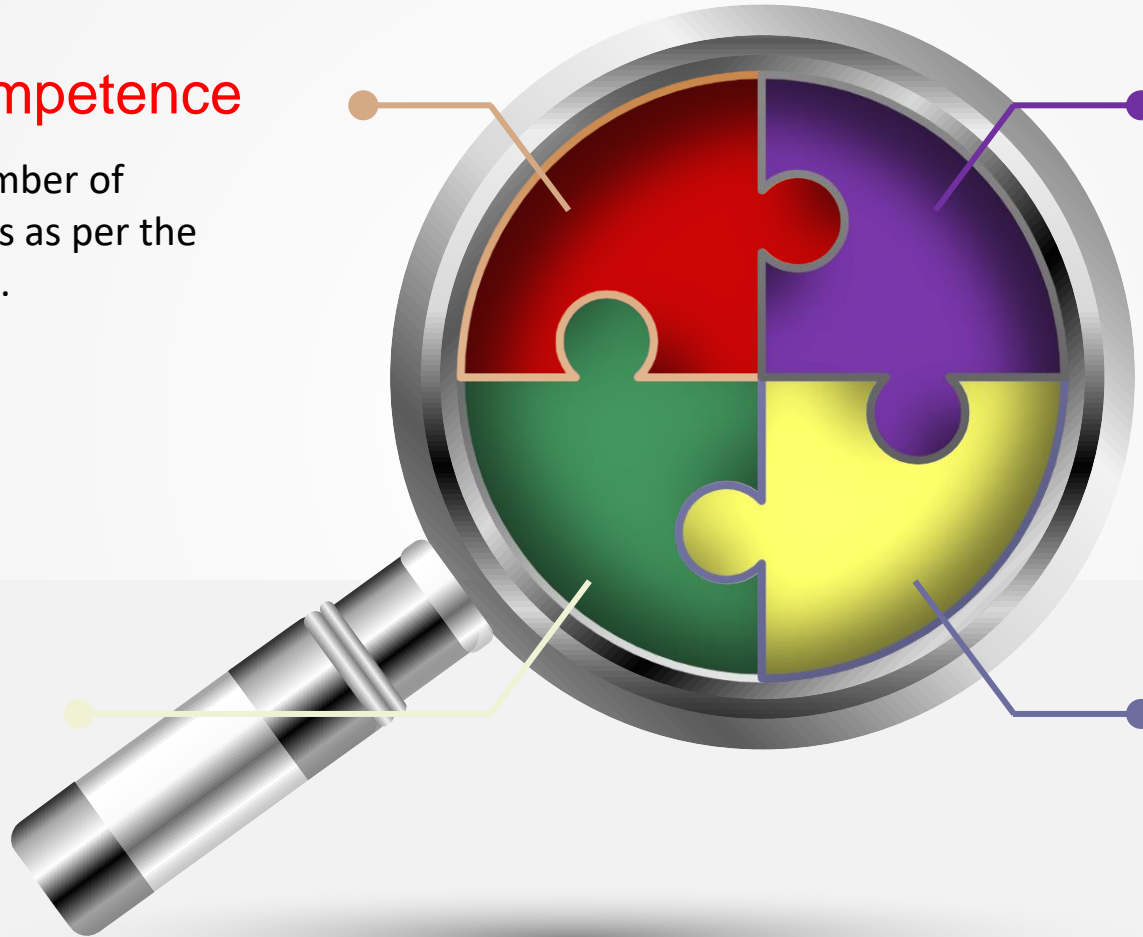
Having Documentation ready in the time of application to cover their activities

## Audit duration

HCBs are used to very short visits not covering the food safety requirements

## Reactivity to NCs

Ability to make Corrective actions. It takes long periods for the CB up to 4 months



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## More information





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**Info@gac.org.sa**

A close-up photograph of two hands shaking, with a red ribbon tied around the wrists. The hands are wearing white shirts and dark suits. The background is dark and out of focus. A large, semi-transparent circular graphic with a red ribbon is overlaid on the image.

**Together we are stronger!**  
**ВМЕСТЕ МЫ СИЛЬНЕЕ!**

**Thank you**

