

# Risk-Based assessments approach by AB's

# Position Paper

## **EUROLAB Position Paper**

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#### **Background**

The new Standard ISO/IEC 17011:2017 introduces the concept of risk, and risk-based assessments.

Thus, National Accreditation Bodies (NAB) implementing the standard will have to adapt to these new concepts and implement them within their evaluation processes.

The way these assessments and decision-making processes will be modified affects all accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies and their customers.

#### **Arguments**

To date, there is no published mandatory document or guideline published by EA or ILAC to guide accreditation bodies through this matter. This ambiguous situation may lead to different approaches by different MLA signatory NABs.

The concern of the laboratory community is the comparability of assessments from different NABs with different approaches.

The lack of a system to compare the outcome of different risk-based assessments systems, may lead to different assessment frequencies and depths for similar accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies, which in turn will lead to a loss of competitiveness between countries.

#### **Conclusions**

We ask the Accreditation Forums (EA, ILAC) to establish a mandatory system to be applied by all MLA signatory National Accreditation Bodies to check the comparability of results when applying their risk-based assessment approach.

#### **EUROLAB's position**

The laboratory community believes that a mandatory system to check comparability of results when applying different risk-based assessment approaches must be created by the Accreditation forums and implemented by all MLA signatory Accreditation Bodies to avoid loss of competitiveness among similar accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies.