**THE LAW**

**OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA**

**ON ACCREDITATION**

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| **Article 1.** | **Subject of the Law** |

1. This Law defines the rules of operation of the national accreditation system of the Republic of Armenia and regulates the relations of the state administration body authorized by the Government of the Republic of Armenia, the National Accreditation Body of the Republic of Armenia (hereinafter ARMNAB), as well as Republic of Armenia’s or other countries’ legal entities, which carry out conformity assessment activities and which are accredited or seek accreditation (conformity assessment bodies (hereinafter CAB).

2. This Law regulates the process of accreditation of conformity assessment bodies carrying out conformity assessment activities, irrespective of the mandatory or voluntary bases of accreditation and conformity assessment.

 ***(Article 1 amended - HO-178-N, 24.05.23)***

***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)***

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| **Article 2.** | **Main Terms Used in the Law** |

1. The following main terms shall be used in this Law:

**1) "accreditation"** shall mean an attestation by ARMNAB that a CAB meets the requirements set by harmonized standards and, where applicable, additional requirements set out in the relevant sectoral schemes, to carry out specific conformity assessment activities;

**2)** "**ARMNAB**" shall mean the sole ~~a~~ body established by the Government of the Republic of Armenia, vested with the authority to perform CABs’ accreditation as prescribed by this Law and other legal acts;

**3)** "**accreditation certificate**" shall mean an official document or set of documents certifying accreditation in a certain field;

**4)** "**scope of accreditation**" shall mean a specific conformity assessment activity for which accreditation is sought or has already been granted;

**5) "accreditation symbol"** symbolissued by the ARMNAB to be used by accredited CABs to indicate they are accredited;

**6)** "**appeal**" shall mean a request by a CAB for reconsideration of any adverse decision made by ARMNAB with respect to its accreditation status (reduction, suspention, withdrawal, refusal);

**7)** "**conformity assessment**" shall mean the process demonstrating whether specified requirements relating to a product, process, service, system, person or body have been fulfilled;

**8) “conformity assessment activity”** activity conducted by a CAB when assessing conformity;

**9) "CAB"** shall mean a body which carries out conformity assessment activities, and which can be an accreditation object;

**10)** "**extending accreditation**" shall mean a process of adding conformity assessment activities to the scope of accreditation;

**11)** "**peer evaluation**" shall mean an assessment of ARMNAB by foreign national accreditation bodies, which are parties of or candidates to international and (or) regional mutual recognition agreements, carried out in accordance with the stipulated requirements, and, where applicable, additional sectoral technical specifications;

**12) "interested parties**" shall mean parties with a direct or indirect interest in accreditation. Direct interest refers to the interest of those who undergo accreditation; indirect interest refers to the interests of those who use or rely on accredited conformity assessment services;

**13)** "**reducing accreditation**" shall mean cancelling part of the scope of accreditation shall mean the process of withdrawing part of the scope of accreditation;

**14)** "**suspending accreditation**" shall mean putting temporary restrictions in place for all or part of the scope of accreditation;

**15**) "**withdrawing accreditation**" shall mean cancelling accreditation for the full scope;

**16)** "**testing**" shall mean determining one or more characteristics of an object subject to conformity assessment, as prescribed by the procedure;

**17)** "**calibration”** shall mean an operation that, under specified conditions, firstly establishes a relation between the quantity values with measurement uncertainties provided by measurement standards and corresponding indications with measurement uncertainties and, and then, uses this information to establish a relation for obtaining a measurement result from an indication;

**18)** "**inspection**" shall mean examination of an object of conformity assessment and determination of its conformity to stipulated requirements or, on the basis of professional judgement, to general requirements;

**19)** "**certification**" shall mean third party attestation related to an object of conformity assessment, with the exception of accreditation;

**20)** "**accreditation expert (assessor)**" shall mean a natural person registered in the Register of Accreditation Experts (Assessors), having been assigned by the ARMNAB to perform, alone or as a member of an assessment team, an assessment of a conformity assessment body;

**21)** "**technical expert**" shall mean a ~~natural~~ person registered in the Register of Technical Experts working under the responsibility of an assessor, who provides specific knowledge or expertise with respect to the scope of accreditation to be assessed and does not assess independently;

**22) "assessment"** shall mean a process undertaken by ARMNAB in order to determine the competence of a conformity assessment body, based on standard(s) and/or other normative documents and for a defined scope of accreditation;

**23)** "**surveillance**" shall mean ARMNAB’s systematic iteration of conformity assessment activities as a basis for maintaining the validity/validity period of the statement of conformity;

**24)** "**extraordinary assessment**" shall meana process, which is implemented by ARMNAB in line with the accreditation procedure in case of complaints on the accredited CAB’s activity or changes in the CAB’s accreditation conditions and other matters that may affect the CAB’s ability to fulfil requirements for accreditation or its competence;

**25)** "**appeal**"shall mean a written expression of dissatisfaction with respect to ARMNAB’s or an accredited CAB’s activities, which is addressed to ARMNAB by an entity or an organization, and for which a response is expected;

**26) “witnessing”** shall mean an observation by the ARMNAB of a CAB carrying out conformity assessment activities within its scope of accreditation;

**27)** "**conformity certificate**" shall mean a document issued by a conformity assessment body confirming the compliance of a product, process, service, management system or natural person with the stipulated requirements;

**28)** "**competence**"shall mean a relevant ability to apply knowledge and skills to achieve intended results;

**29)** "**ARMNAB’s logo**" shall mean a logo registered as prescribed by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia and used by ARMNAB for self-identification;

**30) “updating of the accreditation scope”**  shall mean a process of implementation of changes in accreditation documents by ARMNAB at the request of CAB, which is carried out in the scope of accreditation in case of change and (or) amendments of a logo, cited legal and (or) standardization document, and/or in case of a new legal, standardization document’s entry into force (unless the inclusion of the mentioned document entails the process of extension of the scope of accreditation), change or corrections in the accreditation scope and attached documentation form (template).

***(Article 2 was edited, amended - HO-236-N, 17.12.14 and HO-178-N, 24.05.23)***

***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)***

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| **Article 3.** | **Legal Regulation of Relations in the Sphere of Accreditation** |

1. The relations in the sphere of accreditation of the Republic of Armenia is regulated by this Law, other legal acts and international agreements.

2. Where international agreements of the Republic of Armenia envisage norms other than those provided for by this Law, the norms of the international agreements shall apply.

**CHAPTER 2**

***OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES OF ACCREDITATION***

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| **Article 4.** | **Objectives of accreditation**  |

1. The objectives of accreditation are as follows:

1) to officially confirm the CAB competence to render certain typesof conformity assessment services;

2) to contribute to the improvement of capacities and services of the CABs in the Republic of Armenia and to increase the level of confidence in the results of conformity assessment activities;

3) to ensure the accreditation of CABs in line with procedures harmonized with those of international accreditation systems in order to exclude technical barriers to trade;

4) to create conditions for the international and regional recognition of the results of the activities of the ARMNAB and of CABs accredited thereby.

***(Article 4 was amended - HO-178-N, 24.05.23)***

***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)***

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| **Article 5.** | **Main Principles of Accreditation** |

1. Accreditation shall be a service representing public interests.

2. Accreditation shall be based on the following principles:

1. legality;
2. voluntariness (unless another requirement is provided for by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia);
3. equal rights for all interested parties;
4. independence;
5. impartiality;
6. transparency;
7. competence;
8. confidentiality of information obtained during the accreditation process;
9. application of accreditation requirements harmonised with international and regional standards.

***(Article 5 was amended - HO-178-N, 24.05.23)***

***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)***

**CHAPTER 3**

***NATIONAL ACCREDITATION SYSTEM***

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| **Article 6.** | **Structure of the National Accreditation System** |

1. The National Accreditation System shall comprise the following participants cooperating with each other:

1) state administration body authorised by the Government of the Republic of Armenia;

2) ARMNAB, including the Accreditation Council, Accreditation committees, Advisory technical committees and commissions;

3) CABs.

***(Article 6 was edited, amended - HO-236-N, 17.12.14 and HO-178-N, 24.05.23)***

***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)***

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| **Article 7.** | **State Administration Body Authorized by the Government of the Republic of Armenia** |

1. The state administration body authorized by the Government of the Republic of Armenia shall:

1) elaborate and coordinate the state policy in the sphere of accreditation and conformity assessment;

2) encourage accreditation in the fields of conformity assessment, considering accreditation as the main tool in the process of assessment of conformity assessment bodies;

3) carry out monitoring of the activities of the National Accreditation Body, making sure that the provisions of part 4 of Article 8 of this Law are adhered to and corrective actions are taken based on the results of expert peer-assessments;

4) conduct administrative proceedings in the sphere of accreditation as prescribed by law;

5) **(this point has been repealed HO-236-N, 17.12.14);**

5.1) approve the amount and procedure for payments to be made by the CAB for the accreditation services, assessments performed by the ARMNAB, as well as the CAB’s annual fee on the basis of the contract concluded between the ARMNAB and the CAB;

5.2) approve the forms of the accreditation certificate, certificates of voluntary certification conformity in the regulated and non-regulated fields of conformity assessment;

5.3) approve ARMNAB’s logo, accreditation symbol and the procedure of using them;

5․4) approve the Accreditation Council's composition, functions, authorities and working procedure;

5․5) approve the procedure of accreditation, assessments and accreditation criteria (hereafter Procedure).

6) perform other functions in accordance with this Law and other legal acts, as well as the rights and obligations specified in documents adopted in accordance with international agreements of the Republic of Armenia ratified as prescribed by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia.

***(Article 7 was amended, edited - HO-43-N, 30.04.13, HO-236-N, 17.12.14 and HO-178-N, 24.05.23)***

***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)***

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|  **Article 8.** | **ARMNAB *(Title was amended 24.05.23 HO-178-N)*** |

1. The ARMNAB is established by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.
2. The National Accreditation Body is named as “ARMNAB”. It is a state non-commercial organisation that does not pursue the aim of gaining profit and has the status of a legal entity.

3. The ARMNAB is the sole body accrediting conformity assessment bodies within the Republic of Armenia.

4. ARMNAB:

1) be independent and have no financial or managerial interest in the CABs it assesses, and ensure the exclusion of conflict of interests with CABs;

2) ensure objectivity and impartiality of its actions, not provide consultancy to CABs and not compete with conformity assessment bodies.

3) ensure that each decision on accreditation is taken by competent persons who did not participate in the assessment process;

4) have relevant procedures to ensure the confidentiality of the obtained information;

5) stipulate the type of conformity assessment activities it is competent to assess (referring, where appropriate, to relevant laws, other legal acts and national standards;

6) set up relevant procedures necessary to ensure efficient management and internal control;

7) have a sufficient number of competent employees for the proper performance of its responsibilities;

8) define in documents the rights and responsibilities of employees affecting the quality of assessment and the attestation of competence;

9) establish, implement and maintain procedures according to ISO/IEC 17011, including procedures on accreditation, on monitoring of the performance and competence of the personnel, and on handling complaints against accredited conformity assessment bodies;

10) verify that conformity assessments are carried out in an appropriate manner, without imposing an extra burden on the organization and taking into account the size of the organization, the sector in which it operates, its structure, the degree of complexity of the product technology and the mass or serial nature of the production process;

11) publish the annual audit report, prepared in accordance with the accounting standards employed in the Republic of Armenia,

12) establish Accreditation Committees and stipulate the procedure for their activities;

13) make recommendations to the authorized state administration body regarding the forms of the accreditation certificate and of CAB-issued conformity certificates of voluntary certification in the non-regulated and regulated fields of conformity assessment;

14) make recommendation to the authorized state administration body regarding the procedure of using the ARMNAB’s logo and accreditation symbol;

15) ensure the establishment and maintenance of registers of CABs accredited as prescribed by the Government of the Republic of Armenia, those of accreditation experts (assessors) and technical experts, those of CAB-issued conformity certificates and registered conformity declarations and testing reports, as well as the provision of information from the mentioned registers;

16) organize conferences, training and qualification courses on accreditation for specialists of the conformity assessment sphere, qualify accreditation experts (assessors) and grant corresponding certificates (in order to ensure the activities defined by this clause, ARMNAB establish commissions and defines the procedure of their activity);

17) establish Advisory technical committees and stipulate the procedure for their activities;

18) issue accreditation certificates and reformulated accreditation certificates to CABs;

19) provide interested parties information on the accreditation process;

20) organize the printing of forms for conformity certificates, state registration certificates, their provision to CABs, and the recording thereof;

21) publish public information in accordance with the requirements of ISO/IEC 17011 international standard.

5. The rules and criteria of registers of accredited CABs within the framework of technical regulations of the National and Eurasian Economic Union and provided, registered conformity assessment documents are defined by the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

***(Article 8 was amended, edited - HO-43-N, 30.04.13, HO-236-N, 17.12.14 and HO-178-N, 24.05.23)***

***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)***

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| **Article 9.** | **Accreditation Council** |

1. The Accreditation Council (hereinafter referred to as "the Council") shall be composed of 9 members and shall be formed from three interested parties:

1) ~~4~~ representatives of state administration bodies and state non-commercial organizations;

2) 2 representatives of accredited conformity assessment bodies;

3) 3 representatives of non-governmental and scientific organizations.

2. (this point has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)

3. (this point has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)

4. (this point has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)

5. (this point has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)

6. (this point has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)

7. (this point has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)

8. The Council shall:

1) draw up recommendations regarding prospective strategy for implementation of the state policy in the sphere of accreditation in the Republic of Armenia, in line with the best international practice;

2) consider and submit recommendations regarding the annual plan of the National Accreditation Body;

3) (this point has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)

4) (this point has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)

5) (this point has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)

6) provide the National Accreditation Body with consultation recommendation with respect to the implementation of policy in the scope of accreditation;

7) establish Appeals’ Committee and define the their rules of procedure of the Appeals’ Committee and the procedure for consideration of appeals;

8) (this point has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)

9) perform other functions reserved for the Council stipulated by the procedure approved by the authorized state administration body.

***(Article 9 was amended, edited - HO-43-N, 30.04.13, HO-236-N, 17.12.14 and HO-178-N, 24.05.23)***

***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)***

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| **Article 10.** | **Executive body (ARMNAB’s Director) of ARMNAB** ***(Title was amended 24.05.23 HO-178-N)*** |

1. The executive body of the ARMNAB shall perform the following functions:

1) ensure the accreditation process, surveillance and extraordinary assessment of the accredited CABs;

2) (this point has been repealed HO-236-N, 17.12.14)

3) (this point has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)

4) (this point has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)

4.1) (this point has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)

4.2) (this point has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)

4.3) (this point has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)

5) (this point has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)

6) represent the Republic of Armenia in the field of accreditation within the framework of regional and international co-operation and participate in the activities of regional and international accreditation organizations;

7) (this point has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)

8) within the scope of ARMNAB’s competence, conclude co-operation agreements and bilateral and multilateral mutual recognition agreements on accreditation of CABs;

9) perform other functions in the field of accreditation in accordance with this Law and other legal acts, as well as the rights and obligations specified in documents ratified in accordance with the international treaties of the Republic of Armenia as specified by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia.

***(Article 10 was amended, edited - HO-43-N, 30.04.13, HO-236-N, 17.12.14 and HO-178-N, 24.05.23)***

***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)***

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| **Article 11.** | **Accreditation Committees**  |

1. (this point has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)

2. The main functions of the Accreditation Committees shall be as follows:

1) to examine documents related to the accreditation of CABs;

2) to make decisions on granting, rejecting, extending, reducing, maintaining, suspending, restoring, withdrawing of accreditation and reaccreditation of CABs;

3) (this point has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)

***(Article 11 was amended, edited - HO-236-N, 17.12.14 and HO-178-N, 24.05.23)***

***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)***

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| **Article 12.**  | **CABs** ***(Title was amended 24.05.23 HO-178-N)*** |

1. The following CABs can apply for accreditation:

1) testing, calibration, medical laboratories;

2) product, process and services certification bodies;

3) management system certification bodies;

4) persons certification bodies;

5) inspection bodies, including bodies performing verification of measurement devices;

5.1) proficiency testing providers;

5.2) reference materials producers;

5.3) validation and verification bodies;

6) other CABs performing conformity assessment activities.

2. Each CAB referred to in part 1 of this Article may obtain information about the accreditation process from the National Accreditation Body.

3. CABs shall accept applications for the implementation of conformity assessment activities in paper-based and electronic forms.

***(Article 12 was amended, edited - HO-236-N, 17.12.14 and HO-178-N, 24.05.23)***

***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)***

**CHAPTER 4**

***ACCREDITATION PROCESS***

**Article 13. Accreditation Process and Term**

***(Title was amended 24.05.23 HO-178-N)***

1. The accreditation process is carried out in accordance with the requirements of the interstate standard harmonized with the ISO/IEC 17011 international standard.

2. Four years shall be stipulated as the term for the accreditation and reaccreditation of CABs.

***(Article 13 was amended, edited - HO-43-N, 30.04.13, HO-236-N, 17.12.14 and HO-178-N, 24.05.23)***

***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)***

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| **Article 14. Rights of CABs*****(Title was amended 24.05.23 HO-178-N)*** |  |

1. CABs:

1) shall use the accreditation symbol and the textual reference to accreditation in case of being accredited as prescribed by procedure of this Law;

2) may apply to ARMNAB for granting accreditation, extending, reducing, suspending, restoring or withdrawing accreditation, updating the scope of accreditation, as well as for reaccreditation;

3) may appeal the accreditation process and decisions on accreditation.

 ***(Article 14 was amended, edited - HO-178-N, 24.05.23)***

***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)***

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| **Article 15.** | **Obligations of Conformity Assessment Bodies*****(Title was amended 24.05.23 HO-178-N)*** |

1. CABs are obliged to:

1) properly observe the rules for accreditation and fulfil the obligations defined by the contract concluded with the ARMNAB, responsibilities defined by this Law and other legal acts regulating the activities of CABs, as well as by the documents adopted in accordance with international agreements of the Republic of Armenia ratified as prescribed by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia;

2) make the payments stipulated by point 5.1 of part 1 of Article 7 of this Law, based on the contract concluded between the ARMNAB and the CAB;

3) permanently comply with the requirements of standards, regulatory documents and legal acts according whereto they have been accredited;

4) refer to the accreditation and apply the accreditation symbol only in the accredited scope;

5) in case of withdrawal of accreditation, return the original copy of the accreditation certificate to the ARMNAB;

6) cooperate with the ARMNAB in order to review complaint regarding accredited conformity assessment activities;

7) provide information on conformity assessment activities to the ARMNAB;

8) apply for accreditation only to ARMNAB, taking into account the requirements of regional and international accreditation organizations.

***(Article 15 was amended, edited - HO-236-N, 17.12.14 and HO-178-N, 24.05.23)***

***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)***

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| **Article 16.** | **Provision of information regarding the accreditation process** |

***(this Article has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)***

***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)***

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| **Article 17.** | **Restriction of the Use of the Accreditation Symbol and Textual Reference to Accreditation*****(Title was amended 24.05.23 HO-178-N)*** |

1. The implementation of conformity assessment activities with the use of the accreditation symbol ~~mark~~ or the textual reference to accreditation by the CABs in the frames of the scope which is non-accredited, the accreditation for which is withdrawn or suspended is prohibited.

Article 17.1 Reduction, Full or Partial Suspension and Withdrawal of Accreditation

1. The following shall serve as a basis for the reduction of accreditation:

1) CAB’s application;

2) non-conformities found during assessments in cases defined by the Procedure.

2. The following shall serve as a basis for the full or partial suspension of accreditation:

1) CAB’s application;

2) failure to eliminate, in the timeframes prescribed by the Procedure, the non-conformities discovered during the assessments;

3) violation of the accreditation criteria stipulated by the Procedure, when carrying out conformity assessment activities;

4) failure to fulfil the obligations specified in the accreditation agreement concluded between ARMNAB and CAB;

3. In the accreditation suspension period or in case of failure to fulfil obligations stipulated by the accreditation agreement, the CAB cannot submit an application for accreditation extension, and reaccreditation;

4. In the case stipulated by point 1 of part 2 of this Article, the term proposed in the application shall be stipulated as the accreditation suspension term, but it shall not be longer than 4 months. After the accreditation suspension, if requirements are met, the accreditation shall be restored in accordance with the application submitted at least 5 days before the end of the CAB’s suspension term.

5. In the cases stipulated by points 2-4 of part 2 of this Article, the accreditation suspension term shall be no longer than 4 months, depending on the terms for the implementation of measures for the elimination of the bases for suspension provided by the CAB. After suspension, accreditation is restored through surveillance or extraordinary assessments.

6. The CAB’s accreditation shall be withdrawn:

1) based on the CAB’s application;

2) in case of not submitting an application as stipulated by part 4 of Article 17.1 of this Law or in case of a failure to eliminate the bases of the accreditation suspension in due time as stipulated by part 5 of the same article.

3) in case of refusing to be subjected to assessments;

4) in case of failure to submit information related to the conformity assessment activities or submitting false information to ARMNAB;

5) in case ARMNAB discovers during the CAB’s assessments in the validity period of the accreditation certificate that the CAB used the accreditation symbol and textual reference to accreditation in the conformity assessment document beyond the accreditation scope while performing conformity assessment activities.

6) in case of the termination of the agreement concluded between ARMNAB and the CAB.

7. In case ARMNAB makes a relevant decision on accreditation withdrawal or reduction as a result of non-conformities recorded during assessments, the CAB may submit the application for granting accreditation or for accreditation extension in case of eliminating the nonconformities at least six months after the relevant decision is made.

***(Article 17.1 has been added - HO-178-N, 24.05.23)***

***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)***

**CHAPTER 5**

***INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE SPHERE OF ACCREDITATION***

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| **Article 18.** | **Membership of the ARMNAB to Regional and International Accreditation Organizations*****(Title was amended 24.05.23 HO-178-N)*** |

1. The ARMNAB is a member of regional and international accreditation organizations and cooperates with them, participates in their activities and obtains recognition of granted accreditations due to agreements.

2. For the recognition of the granted accreditations and the results of the activities of the accredited CABs, ARMNAB may apply to regional and international accreditation organizations so as to become a signatory of multilateral agreements, which in turn stipulates a peer-assessment.

3. In case of concluding multilateral agreements, ARMNAB shall recognize the accreditations granted by signatories of the international and regional multilateral accreditation agreements.

***(Article 18 was amended, edited - HO-178-N, 24.05.23)***

***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)***

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|  **Article 19.** | **Cooperation between the ARMNAB and Foreign Accreditation Bodies*****(Title was amended 24.05.23 HO-178-N)*** |

1. ARMNAB may conclude bilateral cooperation agreements with foreign accreditation bodies.

2. The agreements referred to in part 1 of this Article may include a provision on carrying out the assessment and accreditation of conformity assessment bodies jointly with the ARMNAB and a foreign accreditation body.

3. The activities of the CABs accredited by the foreign accreditation body prohibited in the Republic of Armenia, unless otherwise provided by the Law of the Republic of Armenia or authenticated by the Republic of Armenia in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Armenia with documents adopted in accordance with international agreements.

4. ARMNAB does not compete with the accreditation bodies of other countries.

***(Article 19 was amended, edited - HO-178-N, 24.05.23)***

***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)***

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| **Article 20.** | **Provision of Accreditation Services by ARMNAB to Foreign Bodies** ***(Title was amended 24.05.23 HO-178-N)*** |
| 1. ARMNAB may provide accreditation services to foreign CABs, in accordance with the requirements of regional and international accreditation organizations, as well as cross-border requirements.

***(Article 20 was amended, edited - HO-178-N, 24.05.23)*** ***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)*****Article 21. Provision of Information on International Cooperation in the Sphere of Accreditation** |

1. ARMNAB is publishing the results of peer assessments with respect to being party to bilateral, multilateral regional and international cooperation, regional and international recognition agreements, including the framework of the recognition of the accreditation of the conformity assessment activities, information on any change pertaining to them and on the accreditation of foreign CABs accredited by ARMNAB.

2. (this point has been repealed HO-178-N, 24.05.23)

***(Article 21 was amended, edited - HO-178-N, 24.05.23)***

***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)***

**CHAPTER 6**

***FINANCING OF ARMNAB***

***(Title was amended 24.05.23 HO-178-N)***

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| **Article 22.** | **Funding of ARMNAB*****(Title was amended 24.05.23 HO-178-N)*** |

1. The source of funding of the ARMNAB shall be as follows:

1) the allocations made from the State Budget of the Republic of Armenia;

2) the funds obtained from accreditation services, assessments and annual fees;

3) the funds obtained from publications and trainings on accreditation;

4) the funds obtained from participation in international programs, projects and agreements;

5) other funds not prohibited by law.

2. The expenses for the membership in regional and international accreditation organizations shall be covered from the State Budget of the Republic of Armenia.

***(Article 22 was amended, edited - HO-178-N, 24.05.23)***

***(24.05.23 HO-178-N law has a transitional provision)***

**CHAPTER 7**

***LIABILITY FOR VIOLATING THIS LAW***

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|  **Article 23.** | **Liability for Violating this Law**  |

1. Violations of the requirements of this Law shall entail liability as prescribed by this Law.

**CHAPTER 8**

***TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS***

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|  **Article 24.** | **Transitional Provisions** |

1. At the moment of entry into force of this Law, the accreditation certificates issued in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Armenia HO-82-N of 26 May 2004 "On conformity assessment" and the Law of the Republic of Armenia HO-204-N of 24 October 2005 "On state regulation for ensuring technical safety" shall be valid until 31 December 2013. The accreditation certificates the validity period whereof has not expired before 31 December 2013 shall be valid until the expiry of the validity.

2. ***(this part was repealed - 17.12.14 HO-236-N)***

***(Article 24 was amended, edited - HO-43-N, 30.04.13, HO-236-N, 17.12.14)***

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| **Article 25.** | **Entry into Force of the Law** |

1. This Law shall enter into force on the tenth day following the day of its official promulgation.