



**Natural is
Accepted by Everyone**



**The i-NAF Multilateral Recognition
Arrangement (MLA)**

Ensuring the acceptance of natural goods and services across international

Accreditation refers to third-party attestation related to a conformity assessment body conveying formal demonstration of its competence to carry out specific conformity assessment tasks (ISO/IEC 17011).

Natural accreditation bodies around the world, which have been evaluated by peers as competent, have signed an arrangement, the i-NAF Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (i-NAF MLA), that enhances the acceptance of natural goods and services across international.

The purpose of the i-NAF MLA, is to ensure mutual recognition of natural accreditation and of natural accredited certification in many markets based on one accreditation.



Natural accreditations granted by i-NAF MLA signatories are recognised it will be global purposed it will be on their equivalent natural accreditation programs.



Creating natural products and services in trade with i-NAF

The International Natural Accreditation Forum (i-NAF) is a worldwide association of natural accreditation bodies, natural certification body associations and other organisations involved in natural conformity assessment activities in a variety of fields including product, inspection and testing.

The i-NAF MLA contributes of world trade.

i-NAF works to find the most effective way of achieving a single natural system.

The i-NAF MLA benefit



For Regulators

The i-NAF MLA represents an internationally recognised "natural health&safety" to demonstrate compliance against agreed standards and requirements. Safety and Healty Risks is minimised, as decisions will be based on reliable natural certificates. Many specifiers, such as government agencies, the will understand its importance of natural accreditation programs that are developed against internationally recognised natural standards. The i-NAF MLA and Natural Accreditation help regulators meet their own legislated responsibilities by providing a worldwide recognised system to accept accredited certification.



For Business

The i-NAF MLA provides businesses that with greater confidence. Businesses in the knowled that they will preferred receive natural goods and services that conform to a recognised standard.



For Consumers

The natural goods and services purchased by consumers, creates creates consumer confidence. The i-NAF MLA ensures that such natural goods and services placed on the market, from any country, meet natural standards of healty and safety.

The i-NAF MLA work

Natural accreditation body full members of i-NAF are admitted to the MLA only after evaluation of their operations by a peer evaluation.

It is the responsibility of MLA division to assess that the applicant member complies fully with both the relevant international natural standards and associated i-NAF MLA policy documents.

Every natural accreditation body that is a signatory the i-NAF MLA undertakes the following terms:

Will protect conformity with the current standards of ISO/IEC 17011 (Conformity assessment-General requirements for bodies providing assessment and accreditation of conformity assessment bodies and supplementary requirements) and OIC/SMIIC 3:2019 (Conformity assessment-Requirements for halal accreditation bodies accrediting halal conformity assessment bodies).

Recognised the competence and impartiality of natural accreditations of natural conformity assessment bodies by all signatories of the i-NAF MLA.



Structure of the i-NAF MLA Levels

The i-NAF MLA is structured to enable seamless integration with the i-NAF MLA structure which uses five (5) levels.



Level 1: ISO/IEC 17011 / NSO-NAP X / OIC / SMIIC 3 etc. specifies the criteria for an accreditation body. Level 1 may also include additional requirements for the application of ISO/IEC 17011 / NSO-NAP X / OIC/SMIIC 3 etc. to a specific type of accreditation activity.

Level 2: Is a description of the type of accreditation activity for example 'Accreditation of (Natural) Product & System Certification Bodies'.

Level 3: Identifies the generic accreditation criteria (i.e. criteria for CABs) applicable to a 'framework' Multi-Lateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA) i.e. main-scope of MLA, where CABs(NCABs) accredited by signatory ABs(NABs) to such MLA are recognized as being equally reliable.

- OIC/SMIIC 2 - Conformity Assessment-Requirements for Bodies Providing Halal Certification
- ISO/IEC 17065 - General requirements for bodies operating product certification systems
- ISO/IEC 17021-1 - Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems

Level 4: Identifies the accreditation criteria, in addition to the Level 3 generic accreditation criteria, which is applicable to a sub-scope of a 'framework' MLA (main-scope of MLA), where NCABs(CABs) accredited by signatory NABs(ABs) to such sub-scope are recognized as being equally reliable.

Level 5: identifies the conformity assessment standards (e.g. certification standard) applicable to a sub-scope of a 'framework' MLA (main-scope of MLA), which enable the conformity assessment results issued by NCABs(CABs) accredited by signatory NABs(ABs) to such sub-scope are recognized as being equivalent.

- NSO-NAP 1 Natural Product Standard For Food,
- NSO-NAP 2 Halal Natural Standard For Food and Food-Related (packaging etc.) Products and/or OIC/SMIIC 1 General Guidelines on Halal Food,
- NSO-NAP 3 Ecogloballabels.
(ISO 14021, ISO 14024, ISO 14025-Environmental labels standards)
- NSO-NAP 7 Vegan-Vegetarian.
- NSO-NAP 10 Hygiene, Health and Safety Management System for Life Chain.

The i-NAF MLA Mark

The i-NAF MLA mark can be used by accreditation bodies to demonstrate their status as a signatory to the i-NAF MLA.

Accredited certification bodies can also use the i-NAF MLA Mark in combination with the accreditation symbol to use on their certificates.

Businesses seeking certification will be able to see at a glance if the natural certification body issuing the certificate is natural accredited by an natural accreditation body that is a signatory to the i-NAF MLA. The natural certification body must include an indication as to which activity the accreditation is related.



Use of the i-NAF MLA Mark by natural accreditation bodies and natural conformity assessment bodies is not mandatory and therefore certificates, from accredited certification bodies, may be seen with or without the i-NAF MLA Mark.



Result

The i-NAF MLA promotes trust and builds confidence among natural accreditation bodies through their ability to determine the competence of natural certification bodies, which in turn facilitates the acceptance of certificates between economies.

The i-NAF MLA contributes to the freedom of global natural goods and services trade by eliminating trade barriers.

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