

Cross Frontier Policy for Accreditation of Executive Agency "Bulgarian Accreditation Service"

From the 1st of January 2010 is applied the new Regulation (EC) N°765/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July setting out the requirements for accreditation and market surveillance relating to the marketing of products and repealing Regulation (EEC) N° 339/93 (Regulation (EC) N°765/2008). In particular Art. 6 and Art. 7 of Regulation (EC) N°765/2008 concern the policy of the Accreditation Bodies within the European Union (EU) for accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies beyond their own boundaries. From this date a Conformity Assessment Body shall seek accreditation only from the National Accreditation Body. Only in situations when this National Accreditation Body is not capable of providing the requested accreditation, or to providing it within the scope of the Multilateral Agreement (MLA) of the European co-operation for Accreditation (EA), or where the member state has not designated a National Accreditation Body, then the Conformity Assessment Body may request accreditation from another (foreign) Accreditation Body.

For the Cross Frontier Policy of Executive Agency "Bulgarian Accreditation Service" (BAS) the Regulation (EC) N°765/2008 has impact on the accreditation of bodies in other EU countries, countries which are part of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) or other countries which have a National Accreditation Body (designated as such), and which is a signatory to the EA MLA. BAS will discontinue its accreditation services in these countries and due to this reason introduces the following policy:

1. After 31 December 2009 BAS will not provide accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies in the abovementioned countries;

2. After 31 December 2009 BAS will not provide re-accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies from the abovementioned countries, whose accreditation expires after December 2009. These Conformity Assessment Bodies will receive an official letter from BAS, not later than 6 months before the expiry of accreditation, confirming that a re-assessment will not be planned. If the Conformity Assessment Body requests, BAS will provide information concerning the implemented assessments during the past accreditation cycle with the purpose to facilitate the accreditation process which will be realized by the National Accreditation Body.

For the Conformity Assessment Bodies noted in item 2, BAS will carry out surveillances and assessments for extension of accreditation scope in compliance with the EA Cross Frontier Policy for Cooperation between EA Members (Guide EA-2/13) until these accreditations expire, but not later than 31 December 2013.

This Policy is not applied for the situations where is applicable Art. 7, Paragraph 1 of Regulation (EC) N°765/2008. Where a member state has not designated its National Accreditation Body; the designated National Accreditation Body does not perform accreditation of the relevant activities or the National Accreditation Body is not a signatory to the EA MLA for the relevant activities, BAS may provide its accreditation services in these countries.

The policy of BAS for accreditation in these countries and in countries outside the sphere of Regulation (EC) N°765/2008 and EA MLA will not be affected and will remain in conformity with the Cross Frontier Policies of the European co-operation for Accreditation (EA), the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC).

APPROVED BY:

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