

## WHAT IS APLAC?

The Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC) is a cooperation of accreditation bodies for laboratory, inspection body and reference material producers in the Asia Pacific region. Its current geographic reach is the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) region plus India, Mongolia, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

APLAC was established in 1992 to improve the standard and acceptability of accreditation service through cooperation. It is a recognised regional body of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation and one of the five Specialist Regional Bodies recognised by the APEC Sub-Committee on Standards and Conformance.

To facilitate regional trade through promoting cross-border acceptance of testing and inspection results, APLAC administers a multilateral Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) among its full members. This MRA emphasises technical competence and the needs of regulators and other parties in importing economies

## WHO ARE APLAC'S MEMBERS

### Full Members

Australia: NATA\*  
[www.nata.asn.au](http://www.nata.asn.au)

Brunei Darussalam: Ministry of Development  
[www.mod.gov.bn](http://www.mod.gov.bn)

Canada: SCC\*, CAEAL\*  
[www.scc.ca](http://www.scc.ca); [www.caeal.ca](http://www.caeal.ca)

People's Republic of China: CNAS\*  
[www.cnas.org.cn](http://www.cnas.org.cn)

Hong Kong China; HKAS\*  
[www.itc.gov.hk/hkas](http://www.itc.gov.hk/hkas)

India: NABL\*  
[www.nabl-india.org](http://www.nabl-india.org)

Indonesia: KAN\*  
[www.bsn.or.id](http://www.bsn.or.id)

Japan: JAB\*, IAJapan\*, VLAC\*, JCLA  
[www.jab.or.jp](http://www.jab.or.jp);  
[www.iajapan.nite.jp/iajapan/en/index.html](http://www.iajapan.nite.jp/iajapan/en/index.html);  
[www.vlac.co.jp](http://www.vlac.co.jp); [www.jcla.org](http://www.jcla.org)

Korea: KOLAS\*  
[www.kolas.ats.go.kr](http://www.kolas.ats.go.kr)

Malaysia: Standards Malaysia\*  
[www.standardsmalaysia.gov.my](http://www.standardsmalaysia.gov.my)

Mexico: ema\*  
[www.ema.org.mx](http://www.ema.org.mx)

Mongolia: MASM  
[www.mnstandard.com](http://www.mnstandard.com)

New Zealand: IANZ\*  
[www.ianz.govt.nz](http://www.ianz.govt.nz)

Pakistan: PNAC  
[www.pnac.com.pk](http://www.pnac.com.pk)

Papua New Guinea: PNGLAS

Philippines: PAO\*  
[www.bps.dti.gov.ph](http://www.bps.dti.gov.ph)

Russian Federation: AAC  
[www.analitica.org.ru](http://www.analitica.org.ru)

Singapore: SAC\*  
[www.sac-accreditation.org.sg](http://www.sac-accreditation.org.sg)

Sri Lanka: SLAB

Chinese Taipei: TAF\*  
[www.taftw.org.tw](http://www.taftw.org.tw)

Thailand: DMSc\*, DSS\*, TLAS\*  
[www.dmsc.moph.go.th](http://www.dmsc.moph.go.th); [www.dss.go.th](http://www.dss.go.th);  
[www.tisi.go.th](http://www.tisi.go.th)

United States of America:  
A2LA\*, ACLASS\*, AIHA; IAS\*, L-A-B,  
NVLAP\*, PJLA  
[www.A2LA.org](http://www.A2LA.org); [www.aclasscorp.com](http://www.aclasscorp.com);  
[www.aiha.org/lgap.htm](http://www.aiha.org/lgap.htm); [www.iasonline.org](http://www.iasonline.org);  
[www.l-a-b-com](http://www.l-a-b-com); [www.nist.gov/hvlap](http://www.nist.gov/hvlap);  
[www.pjllabs.com](http://www.pjllabs.com)

Vietnam: BoA\*  
[www.boa.gov.vn](http://www.boa.gov.vn)

Australasia: JAS-ANZ\*  
[www.jas-anz.com.au](http://www.jas-anz.com.au)

\* signatory to APLAC MRA

Scopes of recognition and dates of acceptance into the MRA are available from the APLAC web site, [www.aplac.org](http://www.aplac.org)

### Associate Members

Bangladesh Accreditation Board

Korea Testing and Research Institute for  
Chemical Industry

National Institute of Environmental Research  
[www.nier.go.kr](http://www.nier.go.kr)

National Institute of Environmental Analysis  
[www.niea.gov.tw](http://www.niea.gov.tw)

## **APLAC's NEWSLETTER**

APLAC's newsletter, "APLAC News Notes" is published 4 times a year to facilitate the exchange of information among members and interested parties. It is freely available, in PDF format, via the APLAC web site: [www.aplac.org](http://www.aplac.org)

## **ABOUT THE APLAC MRA**

The APLAC multilateral MRA was established for testing and calibration in November 1997 with seven inaugural signatories. It replaced a network of bilateral MRAs. The scope of the MRA was extended in 2000 to include inspection and in 2007 a separate scope for accreditation of medical laboratories against ISO 15189 was inaugurated. It is also being extended to include reference material producers.

Under the MRA each signatory acknowledges the equivalence of accreditations of all other signatories.

Full members of APLAC can become a signatory to the MRA after they have been evaluated to be in conformity with a set of stringent criteria based on international standards. MRA signatories are subject to periodical on-site re-evaluations. The focus of these evaluations is to ensure that MRA signatories are reliable in determining the competence of calibration laboratories, testing laboratories, inspection bodies and reference materials producers.

## **CONTACT DETAILS**

The APLAC Secretariat is responsible for the day-to-day running of APLAC.

The contact details for the secretariat are as follows:

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**Asia Pacific Laboratory  
Accreditation Cooperation**

***An Introduction to APLAC***

**[www.aplac.org](http://www.aplac.org)**