



National Cooperation for Laboratory Accreditation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NACLA PUBLISHES WHITE PAPER ON RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Gaithersburg, MD – April 14, 2003 – The National Cooperation for Laboratory Accreditation (NACLA) published this month an important “white paper,” entitled: *NACLA’S IMPORTANT MISSION AND CURRENT STATUS – How NACLA Evaluates and Recognizes Laboratory Accreditation Bodies*. The paper is one of several steps being taken by NACLA to improve communications with its stakeholders.

In a prefatory letter to the body of the document, Dr. Louis Dixon, NACLA President, explains its background and purpose. “At the present time, there is confusion and misrepresentation in the marketplace about the NACLA recognition process and about the roles and motivations of some of NACLA’s most generous supporters. The confusion and misrepresentation are based on a lack of adequate understanding of why and how NACLA operates its recognition system. For example, many do not realize that the system functions in a manner totally independent from the NACLA officers and Board of Directors/Operations Council.

“Our hope is that this paper will benefit all stakeholders, by deepening their understanding of NACLA’s basic mission and its primary activity, the recognition of qualified and competent U.S. accreditation bodies.”

The NACLA white paper is posted on the organization’s web site, www.nacla.net. All those with an interest in laboratory accreditation are encouraged to visit the site to review this and other NACLA postings.

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