

GLOBAL ACCREDITATION
COOPERATION INCORPORATED
LOGO

TERMS OF REFERENCE
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE 3

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FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on this document or other Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated documents, contact the Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated Secretariat.

Email: secretariat@global-accreditation.nz

Phone: +1 (571) 569-2614

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

1.1.1 Technical Committee 3 is the Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated permanent committee that focuses on matters relating to the accreditation of conformity assessment bodies performing certification of management systems, persons, products, processes and services, and validation and verification activities.

1.1.2 This document defines the terms of reference for the Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated Technical Committee 3.

1.2 Scope

1.2.1 This document applies to members of Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated that provide or have an interest in accreditation in the fields of certification of management systems, persons, products, processes and services, and validation and verification.

1.2.2 These terms of reference should be read in conjunction with Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated-GOV-008 *Permanent Committees and Subordinate Groups*.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

Technical Committee 3 is responsible for the harmonisation and improvement of accreditation practices for the certification of management systems, persons, products, processes and services, and validation and verification activities at the international level. Its main aim is to facilitate harmonised implementation of ISO/IEC 17011 and consistent application of ISO/IEC 17021-1, ISO/IEC 17204, ISO/IEC 17065 and ISO/IEC 17029 in the fields of accreditation of certification and validation and verification bodies in order to achieve mutual recognition of certificates issued by certification and validation and verification bodies accredited by signatories to the Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MRA).

2.1 Responsibilities of Technical Committee 3

2.1.1 Develop, maintain and revise as appropriate Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated documents on the application of standards, guides and similar documents to ensure the consistent application of conformity assessment standards used in the fields of certification of management systems, persons, products, processes and services, and validation and verification.

2.1.2 Establish subordinate groups of relevant interested parties to develop the required application documents.

2.1.3 Ensure consistency among the various application documents prior to recommending them to Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated's eligible voting members for approval.

2.1.4 Monitor the development of accreditation standards and similar material outside Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated and determine where Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated should take account of and/or participate in such work.

- 2.1.5 Make recommendations concerning the practical application of Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated documents, including issues arising from the implementation of the Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated MRA.
- 2.1.6 Develop and maintain a close relationship with the other Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated permanent committees to ensure smooth communication and collaboration.
- 2.1.7 Discuss and prepare decisions, opinions and resolutions on issues of common interest across conformity assessment activities within its scope.
- 2.1.8 Provide clear and timely answers to questions from members and stakeholders and maintain a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) to support transparency and knowledge sharing.
- 2.1.9 Maintain liaisons with relevant stakeholders, including scheme owners.

2.2 Meetings

Technical Committee 3 shall generally meet annually in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting of Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated. However, as needed, it may conduct its work through virtual meetings or correspondence.

3. AMENDMENT TABLE

Section	Previous Version	Summary Of Changes
All	-	New issue of the establishment of Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated