

TERMS OF REFERENCE
TC3 SUBCOMMITTEE:
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CERTIFICATION (ISO/IEC 17021-1)

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FURTHER INFORMATION

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

1.1.1 The Subcommittee Management System Certification (ISO/IEC 17021-1) is part of the Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated (Global ACI) permanent committee Technical Committee 3 (TC3). Its purpose is to support TC3 in strengthening and harmonising worldwide the consistency, credibility, and continual improvement of the accreditation of Management System Certification (MSC) under ISO/IEC 17021-1 and related standards.

1.1.2 This document defines the terms of reference for the Subcommittee Management System Certification (ISO/IEC 17021-1).

1.2 Scope

1.2.1 This document applies to members of Global ACI that provide or have an interest in accreditation in the fields of certification of management systems.

1.2.2 These terms of reference should be read in conjunction with Global ACI-GOV-008 *Permanent Committees and Subordinate Groups* and Global ACI-GOV-014 *Terms of Reference – Technical Committee 3*.

1.2.3 This Subcommittee covers issues related to accreditation and certification under the ISO/IEC 17021 series, including level 4 and 5 scopes; cross-cutting topics affecting management system certification bodies (CBs) and schemes; development and maintenance of Global ACI application documents; monitoring relevant standards development; and engaging with relevant International Organization for Standardization (ISO) groups.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

This Subcommittee is responsible for the harmonisation and improvement of accreditation practices for the certification of management systems.

2.1 Responsibilities of the Subcommittee

2.1.1 Develop, maintain and revise as appropriate TECH-003 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.

2.1.2 Establish Projects or Working Groups according to the internal TC3 guidelines of relevant interested parties to develop the required application documents or projects.

2.1.3 Monitor the development of accreditation standards and similar material outside Global ACI and determine where Global ACI should take account of and/or participate in such work.

2.1.4 Make recommendations concerning the practical application of Global ACI documents, including issues arising from the implementation of the Global ACI Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MRA).

2.1.5 Discuss and prepare decisions, opinions and resolutions on issues of common interest across conformity assessment activities within its scope.

2.1.6 Maintain liaisons with relevant stakeholders and provide feedback to the members on relevant issues.

2.1.7 Provide a forum for discussion among accreditation bodies (ABs), conformity assessment bodies (CABs), stakeholders, and regions on MSC; monitor and promote continual improvement in management system certification practices in line with the TC3 work plan.

2.1.8 Include technical input from the Working Groups and/or projects linked to the subcommittee's work in the meeting agenda and report key decisions to TC3.

2.1.9 Develop and maintain a work plan aligned with the TC3 work plan.

2.2 Meetings

This Subcommittee shall have a minimum of one annual meeting, a virtual mid-term and/or annual meeting. However, as needed, it may conduct its work through additional virtual meetings or correspondence.

3. AMENDMENT TABLE

Section	Previous Version	Summary Of Changes
All	-	Initial issue of document