

Circular No.: EIAC /CB/03/2026

DATE: 21 September 2026

Transition to ISO 9001:2026

To: Management Systems Certification Bodies Operating Certification of QMS (ISO 9001)

Greetings from Emirates International Accreditation Centre (EIAC)

This is for the information of all management systems certification bodies operating certification of Quality Management Systems (QMS) ISO 9001 that Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated (Global ACI) has defined the transition requirements in a technical document “**TRANSITION REQUIREMENTS FOR ISO 9001:2026- Global ACI-TECH-3-TR 2029-09-30 (M). Version. 1.0**”. This is a mandatory document to be followed by all Global ACI MRA signatory Accreditation Bodies (ABs) and accredited QMS Certification Bodies (CBs).

In compliance with the subject document, the Emirates International Accreditation Centre (EIAC) has defined the following timeline.

1. EIAC shall start using ISO 9001:2026 as level 5 criteria for all initial accreditations from **January 2027**. New applications shall be accepted accordingly for new version ISO 9001:2026. New certification bodies can still apply according to the old version ISO 9001:2015, however they would be required to complete the transition to new version before **30 September 2027**. EIAC shall not accept any new application according to old version after **31 December 2026**.
2. EIAC shall complete the transition of all accredited CBs no later than **30 September 2027**.
3. All accredited certification bodies operating certification of QMS are required to send the following to EIAC **before 30 June 2027**:
 - i) Transition plan to address the following:
 - a) Identify the changes between new and previous versions. Typical processes considered for changes can include sales/quoting, auditing process, competence management and active communication with existing certified clients. Analysis impact of changes on relevant activities/processes and identify required actions to ensure conformance (e.g., management system/documents. IT tools.
 - b) Updated CB documentation to support the revised QMS certification program for competence, audit duration changes and control of certificates.
 - c) Training of relevant personnel affected by the changes are competent for the revised version and transition process. Personnel may include, but not be limited to, application & contract reviewers, auditors, experts, certification decision makers, audit planners etc.

- d) Information of CB's necessary actions for their certified clients including schedule of ISO 9001 transition audits for existing certified clients.
- ii) Evidence of implementation of Transition plan (above mentioned points a, b, c, d).
- iii) Filled and signed Declaration (Declaration form is attached with this circular).
4. CB may start using ISO 9001:2026 for all audits after receiving transition accreditation decision from EIAC. CBs shall not offer any new certifications under old version; ISO 9001:2015 after completion of transition.
5. CB shall conduct a transition audit for their certified clients. This transition audit may be conducted in conjunction with the surveillance, recertification audit or through a separate special audit.
6. CB shall complete the transition of their clients to new version ISO 9001:2026 before **30 September 2029**. After this date, accredited certifications for the previous version of the standard are no longer valid.
7. Any accredited CB does not intend to transition to the new revised version, the CB shall inform the EIAC as early as possible, and the CB shall have its accreditation withdrawn at the end of the transition period (or at the expiry of its current accreditation if its current accreditation expires before **30 September 2029**. In this case the CB shall inform their affected clients before **30 June 2027**. The subject CB shall implement all applicable requirements of the attached document Global ACI-TECH-3-TR 2029-09-30 (M). Version. 1.0 including clauses 6.2, 6.3 and 6.4.
8. The EIAC shall issue the revised accreditation certificate to certification body after positive transition decision.

If you have any queries in this regard, please contact Engr. Muhammad Shahid Rasool
(Muhammad.Shahid@eiac.gov.ae).

We wish you all the best.



Abdulla Mohammed Al Marzooqi

Director of Certification Bodies Accreditation Department

Attachments: i) Declaration (to be sent to EIAC before 30 June 2027)

ii) Global ACI-TECH-3-TR 2029-09-30 (M). Version. 1.0 (for information and implementation)



Declaration

Declaration by Accredited QMS Certification Body for the ISO 9001:2006 Transition

I declare that from the date of this declaration, CB:

- Has implemented changes required under this transition,
- Conforms with the requirements necessary for transition, and
- Can demonstrate evidence of implementation.

I further acknowledge that:

- EIAC will review the implementation of transition against this declaration.
- A declaration that is false or cannot be substantiated is a breach of the Conditions of Accreditation and is grounds for required corrections and corrective actions. If not properly resolved within set timelines this will be grounds for suspension or withdrawal of accreditation.
- The following activity has been completed:
 - Transition Plan
 - Documentation revised to support transition and/or revised requirements
 - Necessary competence has been determined for the revised document and CB has sufficient number of personnel involved in certification activities deemed competent to support the revised EMS certification program.
 - CB has a process to determine certification duration that supports the revised certification program.
 - CB has a process to manage control of certifications to the revised document that includes (a) issuing accredited certificates only after the EIAC transition decision and (b) managing previously issued certificates to prevent confusion on certification validity period and (c) ensuring certificates are appropriately withdrawn when an organisation does not transition within the required timeline.

Signature:	
Name:	
Title:	
CB Name:	
Date:	