

## **The EA Laboratory committee point of view of IQC activities**

**Ioannis E.Sitaras, Hellenic Accreditation System S.A.**

Assessment on the Internal Quality Control Procedures of a laboratory either is accredited or applying for accreditation, consists of a major part of the assessment procedure in the process of building trust and confidence to the competence for the specific technical activity. Internal Quality Control as a part of quality control belongs to the 'core' requirements of the accreditation standards for laboratories.

Assessment is not a standard procedure. It is performed by people, with specific and unique characteristics. Processes and organizations to be assessed for technical competence represent a mixture of different people with academic and professional qualifications, procedures adapted to the specific needs, and experience gained as training and on the job. So every assessment is a separate case although general criteria exist for each section of the accreditation standards. In the case of internal quality control, an assessor could face very different situations on the way that laboratories apply the general principles of IQC and the use of IQC data and charts to their quality system. Accreditation Bodies may also have a specific policy for the assessment of internal quality control data and procedures. Such details can also be found in technical guidance for specific fields used in assessment process.

This presentation refers to the assessment of the IQC activities, common issues identified during assessments through the view of ABs of the European Co-operation for Accreditation.