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UNIDO Project US/VIE/03/083-Laboratory Accreditation Service Contract 16001256ML/CZ

Final report

1. Objectives

This report describes the work conducted in relation of above mentioned mission for accreditation of laboratories in Vietnam. The magnitude of the work performed in relation of paragraph 2.09 section a b and c of the contract was reported earlier to UNIDO as 1 and 2 interim reports and draft final report.

This report is final report in compliance with paragraph 2.09 section d of the contract

2. Details of the work performed

The following laboratories were on-site assessed:

1. Quality Assurance and Testing Centre (QUATEST 3)

Dates of assessment: 16, 17 and 18 April 2007

Recommendation of the assessment:

Accreditation is recommended provided all non compliances recorded during the assessment are satisfactory closed with in 1st July 2007.

Final results:

Accreditation in relation of testing was granted to the laboratory on 11 December 2007 with unique accreditation number TEST 224.

Accreditation in relation of calibration was granted to the laboratory on 11 December 2007 with unique accreditation number CAL 037.

The following documents have been submitted to UNIDO earlier as part of interim reports:

NA-S23: Summary of the assessment

Copy describing minor compliances

Copy of essential non compliances 1 – 23

Lead assessor report NA-S2F-17025 (complete report of the assessment)

Technical assessor report NA-S2C , technical area: Chemistry

Technical assessor report NA-S2C , technical area: Microbiology

Technical assessor report NA-S2C , technical area: Mass

Technical assessor report NA-S2C , technical area: Temperature

2. Consumer Products Testing Lab of QUATEST 1, Hanoi, Textile testing

Dates of assessment: 31 May and 1st June 2007

Recommendation of the assessment

Accreditation is recommended provided all non compliances recorded during the assessment are satisfactory closed with in 1st September 2007. However Norwegian Accreditation will evaluate, after examining the documentation of the corrective actions, whether it is necessary to perform an extra ordinary visit to the laboratory before closing the non compliances.

Final results:

The corrective actions submitted by the laboratory were reviewed by NA in three rounds. The last round was completed as late as 22nd January 2008. NA has been able to close only 2 of the 12 essential NCs in these rounds. It is a requirement that all NCs have to be closed before accreditation can be granted.

The process related to closing of NCs had been very time consuming and deadlines given to the laboratory for submission of satisfactory documents for corrective actions were exceeded significantly both in the first and the second round. In the last round not all documents were sent to NA as requested.

According to NA's procedure an assessment report is only valid for 6 month and therefore the results of the assessment can be regarded as valid any more.

NA is not able to grant accreditation.

The following documents have been submitted to UNIDO earlier as part of interim reports:

NA-S23: "Summary of the assessment"

Copy describing minor compliances

Copy of essential non compliances 1 – 12

Lead assessor report NA-S2F-17025 (complete report of the assessment)

Technical assessor report NA-S2C, technical area: textile testing

3. National fisheries Quality Assurance and Veterinary Directorate – Branch 1 (NAFIQAVED 1)

Dates of assessment: 6th and 7th April 2007

Recommendation of the assessment

Accreditation is recommended provided all non compliances recorded during the assessment are satisfactory closed with in 7th July 2007.

Final results:

Accreditation was granted to the laboratory on 20th August 2007 with unique accreditation number TEST 210

The following documents have been submitted to UNIDO earlier as part of interim reports:

NA-S23: Summary of the assessment
Copy describing minor compliances
Copy of essential non compliances 1 – 12
Lead assessor report NA-S2F-17025 (complete report of the assessment)
Technical assessor report NA-S2C , technical area: Microbiology

4. Vietnam Metrology Institute (VMI)

Dates of assessment: 6th and 7th April 2007

Recommendation of the assessment

Accreditation can only be granted if the evaluation of results after participation in Inter laboratory Comparison show satisfactory E_n - score. Upon receipt of documentary evidence for the corrective actions performed, Norwegian Accreditation assessment team decide whether or not it is necessary to perform a follow – up assessment before accreditation can be granted.

Final results:

NA communicated the following message to the laboratory on 20th October 2007

“As mentioned during the assessment, we consider it to be necessary to perform an extraordinary assessment visit with the lead assessor and the technical assessor to confirm that the corrective actions have been implemented in practice”.

Since funds for the conduct of an extra visit were not made available by UNIDO, it was not possible to grant accreditation to the laboratory.

The following documents have been submitted to UNIDO earlier as part of interim reports:

NA-S23: “Summary of the assessment”
Copy of essential and serious non compliances 1 – 33
Lead assessor report NA-S2F-17025 (complete report of the assessment)
Technical assessor report NA-S2C , technical area: Mass
Technical assessor report NA-S2C , technical area: Temperature

3. Conclusion

Based on the description given in this report, it is concluded that project has been conducted in compliance with the TOR revised in October 2006.

Norwegian Accreditation has not able to observe the deadlines given in paragraph 2.09 of the contract. This was due to the fact that none of the laboratory was prepared for assessment according to anticipated work plan submitted to UNIDO during submission of the bid. Likewise, none of the laboratory was able to submit the satisfactory corrective action in accordance with the proposed deadline.

As QUATEST 3 and NAFIQAVED laboratories have been accredited, they need to have surveillance visits prior to April 2008. The arrangements for the on site assessment are being finalised by NA after having received permission to do so by UNIDO.

Similarly, both QUATEST 1 and VMI need new assessment visits, should they be interested in accreditation from NA.