

2. To ensure that the designation process is consistent, the international guidelines for conformity assessment shall be used in conjunction with the technical regulations of the importing Party to determine the technical competency of an accreditation body, testing laboratory, or certification body.

The following ISO/IEC Standards shall be applied.

- (a) ISO/IEC Standard 17011 – Conformity assessment – General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies;
- (b) ISO/IEC Standard 17025 – General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories;
- (c) ISO/IEC Guide 65 – General requirements for bodies operating product certification systems.

All references in this Agreement to these Standards refer to the most up-to-date version of those Standards, even after this Agreement has come into force.

B. REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCREDITORS

1. The exporting Party may have one or more Designating Authorities and one or more accreditation bodies.

2. Accreditors may accredit testing laboratories that are capable of performing conformity assessment for the purposes of the importing Party's technical regulations.

- (a) A Designating Authority selected by the exporting Party to act as an accreditation body shall be able to use the requirements and conditions of ISO/IEC Standard 17011 to the maximum extent necessary to accredit testing laboratories.
- (b) Any appointed accreditation body shall meet the requirements and conditions of ISO/IEC Standard 17011.