

INFORMATIVE CIRCULAR Ref. DC2023OC085

DATE Milan, 02-08-2023

To all accredited and applicant PRD certification bodies

To all the assessors and experts DC

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SUBJECT **Department of Certification and Inspection**
Informative circular DC N° 36/2023 - Provisions regarding the accreditation of Certification Bodies (CBs) which certify against the COSMOS certification scheme.

With this circular we remind you that in January 2023 the new version 4 of the COSMOS-Standard was published, replacing the version 3.2.

At the same time, the following documents were also updated, which follow the implementation times of the Standard:

- Cosmos control manual v4.0;
- Guide to Cosmos labelling v4.0;
- Cosmos technical guide v4.0.

The overall modifications to the new normative package, introduced with version 4.0, are described in a document made available by the scheme owner (and available at the following [link](#)), and are due to necessary adjustments to align with the evolution of the organic legislation, chemical progress and further environmental support requirements. The certification process has not changed.

The new normative package was positively evaluated at EA level, according to the European procedure set out in the document EA 1/22.

Certification activities

In accordance with the requirements of the owner of the Standard, the new version is mandatory from 1 June 2023.

However, for raw materials and cosmetic products, whose application for certification or approval is prior to 1 June 2023, the following implementation times are adopted (Transitional Measures):

- raw materials can continue to be certified or approved according to the previous version of the COSMOS-Standard until December 1, 2024;
- cosmetic products can continue to be manufactured and certified according to the previous version of the COSMOS-Standard until December 1, 2025.

Further implementation times (Transitional Measures) referring to specific cases, initially defined in the standard in § 12.3.2., have been superseded by the provisions contained in the document "TRANSITIONAL MEASURES UPDATE §12.3 IMPLEMENTATION", published in May by the scheme owner (and available at the following [link](#)).

These implementation times (Transitional Measures) will be formally included in a subsequent version 4.1 of the COSMOS-Standard, the publication of which is scheduled for the end of the year.

New applications for accreditation and extension for the certification scheme

Starting from the entry into force of the document, ACCREDIA will accept new applications for accreditation and for the extension of already issued PRD accreditations, only against version 4 of the Standard.

We are available for any clarifications.

With kind regards,

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Vice Director Department
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