

INFORMATIVE CIRCULAR**Ref. DC2026SPM145****Milan, 20-10-2026**

To all accredited/applicant MS certification bodies
To the Associations of conformity assessment bodies
To all Assessors/Experts of the DC Department

At their offices

SUBJECT: Information Circular No 41/2026 - Provisions concerning the transition to ISO 9001:2026 and ISO 14001:2026

Dear Sirs/Madams,

As previously communicated in DC Information Circular No. 14/2026, ISO 14001:2026 was published on the International Organization for Standardization website on 15 April 2026. However, it was necessary to await the official issuance of the Global ACI document in order to define the operational arrangements for the transition of certifications and accreditations. This document was issued on 14 September 2026 (ref.: "Global ACI-TECH-3-TR 2029-04-30 (M) Transition Requirements for ISO 14001:2026").

ISO 9001:2026 was published on the International Organization for Standardization website on 16 September 2026. On the same date, Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated issued the document "Global ACI-TECH-3-TR 2029-09-30 (M) Transition Requirements for ISO 9001:2026".

Without prejudice to the full applicability of all requirements set out in the two aforementioned Global ACI documents (freely available at https://global-aci.org/en/global_aci-documents/?cat_id=13), which must therefore be analysed and implemented by the CABs, this Circular defines the procedures and timelines that accredited CABs shall follow to obtain the transition of their accreditations to the new editions of the standards.

New applications for accreditation against the new editions of the standards may be accepted from the date of issue of this Circular.

Key deadlines

No.	ACTIVITY	ISO 14001:2026 deadline	ISO 9001:2026 deadline
1	ACCREDIA's readiness to conduct assessments and operate in accordance with the new edition of the standard	31/10/2026	31/03/2027
2	CABs shall submit to ACCREDIA the transition declaration and the required supporting documentation (from the date of publication of this Circular until the deadlines specified alongside). NOTE: CABs may begin conducting audit activities against the new standard once they have completed their internal adaptation activities. However, accredited certificates against the new standard may not be issued before ACCREDIA has approved the transition of the accreditation through a specific resolution of the CSA CI.	31/01/2027	30/06/2027
3	Completion of ACCREDIA decisions concerning the transition of CAB accreditations	30/04/2027	30/09/2027
4	Deadline for issuing new certifications against ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015	31/10/2027	31/03/2028
5	End of the transition period (<i>by this date, the transition of certified organisations shall be completed, and ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015 certificates will no longer be valid</i>)	30/04/2029	30/09/2029

Declaration and documentation for CAB transition

With reference to the activity set out in Section 2 of the table above, each CAB shall declare to ACCREDIA that it is ready to manage the transition, using the self-declaration required by the Global ACI document (for each standard).

The declaration shall be supported by the completed Annex to this Circular and by submission of the relevant documentary evidence for each item listed in the table.

The form shall be completed separately for ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 and sent directly to the Technical Officer responsible for the relevant accreditation file.

Arrangements adopted by ACCREDIA for the transition of accreditation

The decision on the transition of accreditation shall be taken by the relevant Sector Accreditation Committee, which shall adopt its resolution on the basis of ACCREDIA's verification of the adequacy of the CAB's declaration and the completeness of the supporting documentation submitted.

CABs may issue certificates against the new edition of the standard only following a positive resolution by ACCREDIA's CSA CI.

ACCREDIA may nevertheless require additional activities to be carried out before submitting the transition proposal to the Committee where this is deemed necessary on the basis of the risk associated with the CAB, taking into account, for example, past performance, any complaints/reports, incomplete documentation or specific accreditation conditions.

Following the positive resolution on the transition of accreditation, during ordinary surveillance assessments at the CAB's premises ACCREDIA shall assess the effective implementation of the declared arrangements and the progress made by the CAB in transitioning its certified clients. These assessments shall be increased by 0.5 mandays per standard; in particular, all evidence submitted by the CAB to ACCREDIA's Technical Office and the effectiveness of the actions adopted shall be verified.

Furthermore, by the end of the transition period (see item 5 of the table on page 2), ACCREDIA shall conduct at least one witnessed assessment against the new edition of the standard.

A CAB that does not intend to transition to the new edition of the standard shall inform ACCREDIA in writing as soon as possible and, in any event, before the applicable transition deadline. It shall also inform all affected clients, providing them with information on certificate validity and on the consequences of failure to transition or transfer the certification.

Accreditation against the previous edition of the standard shall be withdrawn at the end of the transition period.

Should a CAB fail to comply with the obligations or timelines laid down in the Global ACI document and in the provisions communicated by ACCREDIA, the matter shall be submitted to the relevant Sector Accreditation Committee for the resulting adoption of the sanctions provided for in RG-01.

Arrangements adopted by CABs for the transition of certification

CABs shall conduct a transition audit for all certified organisations. The audit may be conducted as part of a surveillance or recertification audit, or as a dedicated special audit.

The transition audit shall include, at a minimum, verification of the requirements amended in the new edition of the standard compared with the previous edition, changes to the organisation's context and any need for further changes to the management system.

Following the transition of the CAB's accreditation, the decision on transitioning the certifications issued to organisations shall be taken by the CAB itself on the basis of the transition audit results and any other applicable information.

Where a certified organisation chooses not to transition, the CAB may continue to conduct audits against the previous edition of the standard until the end of the transition period, while informing the client that the certification will in any event cease to be valid on the dates indicated in item 5 of the table on page 2.

Yours faithfully,

Dott. Emanuele Riva

Director Department
Certification and Inspection

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