

1 Purpose

Accreditation is a *third-party attestation related to a conformity assessment body conveying formal demonstration of its competence to carry out specific conformity assessment tasks*. In order for IANZ to maintain its *third-party* status as an accreditation body it needs to undertake its accreditation activities in an impartial and objective manner - to be independent; free from conflicts of interest, bias & prejudice; neutral, fair, balanced and even handed in all its accreditation activities.

This Policy establishes the guiding principles under which IANZ will ensure its accreditation activities are carried out, to the greatest possible extent, impartially so as not to threaten the integrity of the attestations of competence given to its accredited organisations.

2 Scope and Responsibility

This Policy applies, as appropriate, to all personnel and organisations involved in the IANZ accreditation processes, including all staff employed by IANZ and all external persons such as Accreditation Council members, advisory committee members, technical experts, and any other person contracted by IANZ to undertake a specific accreditation activity.

The Chief Executive has overall responsibility for the implementation of this Policy across all of IANZ's accreditation activities. All individuals are responsible to report all incidences or activities, past, present or proposed, that may affect, or be seen to affect, the impartiality of the IANZ accreditation process.

3 Policy

3.1 IANZ shall conduct its accreditation activities in an impartial manner.

3.2 IANZ shall identify risks to the impartiality in its accreditation activities and take appropriate action to eliminate or minimise such risks.

To enable 3.1 & 3.2 above, IANZ shall take the following actions to ensure any risks to its impartiality are identified and managed:

3.3 Conform in full with the requirements of ISO/IEC 17011 *Conformity assessment – Requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies*

3.4 Implement an accreditation system structure that ensures all key policy and operational decisions in the accreditation process are made or overseen by representatives of a balance of interested parties in the accreditation scheme(s).

3.5 Require all personnel involved in IANZ accreditation activities to sign a declaration of impartiality whereby they are required to declare real, potential or perceived conflicts of interest or other risks to their impartiality.

4 References

1. ISO/IEC 17000:2004, 5.6
2. ISO/IEC 17011:2017, 3.1, 3.10, 4.4, 5.1

Revision History

Issue No.	Issue Date	Summary of Changes
1	19 Apr 18	Initial issue
2	17 Jul 20	Rebrand
3	08 Jun 22	Reviewed; no changes