



RESOLUTIONS OF THE 16TH PAQI JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD VIRTUALLY

27th AUGUST 2020

No.	Activity	Resolution
1.	<p>Summary of the Matters arising from the 15th meeting held in Addis Ababa on 12th February 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a concept paper on PAQI position with regards to AU projects and programme • Scheme owner requirements paper shared by AFRAC to ARSO 	<p>Resolution 1: PAQI JC agreed that whilst awaiting adoption of the draft Africa Quality Policy at AU level, there was a need to identify the specific projects and programmes where collaboration between the AUC and PAQI was needed. Dr Chinyamakobvu would provide a list of the areas in bullet point form.</p> <p>Resolution 2: PAQI JC appreciated the relationship and exchanges between AFRAC and ARSO with regards to their discussions on scheme owner requirement. The meeting further recommended the two institutions to continue working together for a successful continental Conformity Assessment System.</p>
2.	<p>PAQI strategic response to the COVID-19</p>	<p>Resolution 3: PAQI JC noted the presentation made by the PAQI Chairperson on strategic responses to the COVID-19 pandemic:</p> <p>Resolution 3.1: PAQI Secretariat was tasked to design a comprehensive questionnaire to gather information on the following in the spirit of establishing a suitable response plan to the COVID 19 pandemic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Existing online training platforms in all the institutions that could inform the establishment of a PAQI online training platform that can be a reference point to its institutions. ➤ Possible webinar series that will continue to bring the institutions together from time to time while educating regulators, policy makers, and trade

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		<p>Associations on different topics in Quality Infrastructure.</p> <p>Resolution 3.2: PAQI JC noted the need for continued harmonization efforts on standards and conformity assessment for PPEs to facilitate their trade within the continent;</p> <p>Resolution 3.3: PAQI JC noted with appreciation PTB's support towards establishing a PAQI online training platform.</p>
3.	Way forward on the Cassava Value Chain project (Publication of the gap analysis study report and planning for Phase 2 activities)	<p>Resolution 4: PAQI JC noted with appreciation the presentation made by Mr. Reuben Gisore on the report of the role of Quality Infrastructure in Cassava value chain study and resolved to publish the report and create awareness to the private sector.</p> <p>Resolution 4.1: PAQI Secretariat was tasked to consult all the PAQI institutions, AUC and PTB in convening webinars to inform the stakeholders and the private sector about this report and the role they requested to play.</p> <p>Resolution 4.2: PAQI Secretariat was urged to develop the implementation plan for Phase II of the cassava project and communicate to PAQI Institutions.</p> <p>Resolution 4.3: PAQI JC noted with appreciation PTB's offer to support Phase II of the cassava project.</p>
4.	Publication of the TBT stocktaking document 2020	<p>Resolution 5: PAQI JC received with appreciation the 2020 TBT Stocktaking document teaser <i>film</i> made by Mr. Martin Kaiser and tasked the PAQI Secretariat to make plans for launching the report through a webinar.</p> <p>Resolution 5.1: PAQI agreed to convene an inclusive webinar bringing together key stakeholders in Africa and outside Africa such as AUC, UNCTAD, UNECA, ITC, AfCFTA Secretariat etc. for a joint launch of the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBT stocktaking document 2020;

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPS stocktaking document 2019; • Study on priority list of standards for harmonization.
5.	Progress on the Technical Regulations study on within the AfCFTA	Resolution 6: PAQI JC appreciated the updates provided by Mrs. Kathrin Wunderlich representing PTB on the progress of the concept paper on the setting up an African Continental Technical Regulatory Framework (ACTReF) within the AfCFTA that currently is in the final stage but considering some comments before finalizing.
6.	Possibility of the PAQI legal status	<p>Resolution 7: PAQI JC held discussions around the idea of PAQI having a legal status and resolved to continue with the discussion in line with progress on the adoption of the Africa Quality Policy.</p> <p>Resolution 7.1: Members noted that the issue had to be approached cautiously to ensure that no issues of conflict arise;</p> <p>Resolution 7.2: Members agreed to consult with their membership on the way forward with the issue.</p> <p>Resolution 7.3: PAQI JC tasked the PAQI Secretariat to undertake consultations and come up with a proposal on how to establish some level of PAQI legal status that is linked to the AUC for deliberation at the next meeting.</p>
7.	Vote of thanks	<p>Resolution 8: PAQI JC received update summary reports from members on their various activities since the last meeting.</p> <p>Resolution 9: PAQI JC acknowledged with appreciation the support from the Government of Germany through PTB towards various PAQI activities and their willingness to continue this support in future.</p>