



MAURITAS

A28

**Generic Competence of MAURITAS Certification Body
Assessors and Technical Experts for FSMS and HACCP**

Mauritius Accreditation Service

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Foreword

The MAURITIUS ACCREDITATION SERVICE (MAURITAS) is a governmental body established in 1998 to provide a national, unified service for the accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) such as calibration/testing laboratories, certification bodies and inspection bodies Organizations that comply with the MAURITAS requirements are granted accreditation by MAURITAS.

About MAURITAS publications

MAURITAS publications are categorized as follows:

- R series Publications containing general policy and requirements related to MAURITAS accreditation.
- G series Publications providing guidance on MAURITAS requirements.
- A series Publications related to assessment procedures.
- P series MAURITAS quality system procedures
- F series MAURITAS Forms
- Directories Classified listing of accredited organizations.

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Generic Competence of MAURITAS Certification Body Assessors and Technical Experts for FSMS and HACCP

1. Purpose

1.1 This document ensures the consistent and harmonized application of ISO/IEC 17011 for defining the generic competence of MAURITAS Assessors and Technical Experts involved in the accreditation of Certification Bodies for FSMS and HACCP. This document is to be used together with MAURITAS A2 and A3 procedure.

2 Scope and Responsibilities

2.1 It is the responsibility of MAURITAS to make use of this document when demonstrating the competence of MAURITAS Certification Body Assessors and Technical Experts through interviews, personal interaction and/or during on site assessments.

3. References

The following documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of the MAURITAS accreditation system. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. For undated MAURITAS references, the latest edition of the document referred to applies. MAURITAS maintains a register, of the current valid MAURITAS accreditation documents.

3.1 MAURITAS A series documents

3.2 MAURITAS G series documents

3.3 ISO/IEC 17011 : Conformity assessment – General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies

3.4 IAF MD 20 : Generic Competence for AB Assessors: Application to ISO/IEC 17011

3.5 ILAC/IAF JWG A-Series FAQ1

4 Definitions

4.1 Assessor

An assessor is a person assigned by MAURITAS to perform, alone or as part of an assessment team, an assessment of a CAB. He/she may perform individual assessments of limited and technical scope based on acceptance from the Director.

4.2 Technical Expert

A Technical Expert is a person assigned by MAURITAS, working under the responsibility of an assessor, who provides specific knowledge or expertise with respect to the scope of accreditation to be assessed and does not assess independently.

4.2 Cluster

Clusters are intended to be used for accreditation scope of accredited certification bodies, and for accreditation bodies witnessing certification bodies.

4.3 Farm packing

Farm packing means packaging without product modification and processing.

4.4 Associated packaging

Associated packaging means packaging without product modification and processing and without altering the primary packaging.

5 Process for determining the competence of Certification Body Assessors and Technical Experts

5.1 MAURITAS shall have Assessors or other personnel (e.g, Technical Experts and MAURITAS Staff) with competence to perform the assessment of Certification Bodies for FSMS and HACCP audits to demonstrate compliance with IAF MD 20 in accordance with the Generic Assessment Competencies related to:

- Accreditation
- Planning and Scheduling
- Document Review
- On-Site Assessment
- Reporting Activities

5.2 MAURITAS shall qualify Technical Experts based on qualifications, work experience and demonstrated competence in the relevant Technical Clusters/Food Category/Sub-category as per Table in section 6 together with **MAURITAS A2** and **MAURITAS A3** in order to carry out assessment of Certification Bodies performing FSMS and HACCP audits in the food chain categories which correspond to Table A.1 of Annex A of ISO/TS 22003:2013.

MAURITAS shall consider each cluster/food category/sub-category and agree on the witnessing team competence on a case to case basis with the approval of the Director. Records will be kept in the resource review form. The minimum qualification shall be a Degree in the relevant cluster and the work experience shall be the technical experience and knowledge of the Technical Expert in one or more of the food sectors related to the food subcategory as described in the table below.

5.3 In addition to the requirement of **MAURITAS A2**, a competent Technical Expert shall be qualified as Assessor by MAURITAS on the basis of demonstrated knowledge of:

- Auditing principles, practices and techniques;
- Business management practices; and
- Specific management system standards/normative documents.

5.4 Where an assessment is carried out by an assessment team, the level of competence required shall be held within the team as a whole and not by each individual member of the team. MAURITAS shall maintain records for selecting, training and monitoring of Assessors and Technical Experts competencies in the individual Assessor/Technical Expert file.

6 Competence Criteria for Technical Experts for witnessing of FSMS and HACCP audits

S/N	Cluster	Category	Subcategory	Examples of included activities	Competence of Technical Expert
1	Farming	A Farming of Animals	AI Farming of Animals for Meat/ Milk/ Eggs/ Honey	<p>Raising animals (other than fish and seafood) used for meat production, egg production, milk production or honey production.</p> <p>Growing, keeping, trapping and hunting (slaughtering at point of hunting).</p> <p>Associated farm packing and storage.</p>	<p>Qualifications: Degree in a food -related or bioscience discipline or veterinary science or agronomy or equivalent</p> <p>Work experience: Technical experience of farming in one or more sectors related to cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, poultry bees and games activities (deer and wild boars).</p> <p>Experience in some aspects of quality assurance/management systems (preferable)</p> <p>Demonstrated competence: In the relevant Technical Clusters/Food Category/Sub-category as per MAURITAS A2 and MAURITAS A3.</p>
			AII Farming of Fish and Seafood	<p>Raising fish and seafood used for meat production. Growing, trapping and fishing (slaughtering at point of capture).</p> <p>Associated farm packing and storage.</p>	<p>Qualifications: Degree in a food -related or bioscience discipline or veterinary science or agronomy related or equivalent</p> <p>Work experience: Technical experience of farming in one or more sectors related to fish aquaculture and seafood aquaculture activities.</p> <p>Experience in some aspects of quality assurance/management systems (preferable)</p> <p>Demonstrated competence: In the relevant Technical Clusters/Food Category/Sub-category as per MAURITAS A2 and</p>

S/ N	Cluster	Category	Subcategory	Examples of included activities	Competence of Technical Expert
					MAURITAS A3.
		B Farming of Plants	BI	<p>Farming of Plants (other than grains and pulses)</p> <p>Growing or harvesting of plants (other than grains and pulses): horticultural products (fruits, vegetables, spices, mushrooms, etc.) and hydrophytes for food.</p> <p>Associated farm packing and storage.</p>	<p>Qualifications: Degree in crop science/ bioscience or an agricultural/ crop-based discipline, or equivalent</p> <p>Work experience: Technical experience in one or more sectors related to fresh produce farming sectors related to fruits, vegetables, herbs, spices and grasses (sugar).</p> <p>Experience in some aspects of quality assurance/management systems (preferable)</p> <p>Demonstrated competence: In the relevant Technical Clusters/Food Category/Sub-category as per MAURITAS A2 and MAURITAS A3.</p>
			BII	<p>Farming of Grains and Pulses</p> <p>Growing or harvesting of grains and pulses for food.</p> <p>Associated farm packing and storage.</p>	<p>Qualifications: Degree in crop science/ bioscience or an agricultural/ crop-based discipline, or equivalent</p> <p>Work experience: Technical experience in one or more sectors related to fresh plant farming sectors related to grains, cereals, nuts, pulses and legumes.</p> <p>Experience in some aspects of quality assurance/management systems (preferable)</p> <p>Demonstrated competence: In the relevant Technical Clusters/Food Category/Sub-category as per MAURITAS A2 and</p>

S/N	Cluster	Category	Subcategory	Examples of included activities	Competence of Technical Expert
					MAURITAS A3.
2	Food and feed processing	C Food Manufacturing	CI Processing of perishable animal products	Production of animal products including fish and seafood, meat, eggs, dairy and fish products.	<p>Qualifications: Degree in a food -related or bioscience discipline or veterinary science or food science or equivalent</p> <p>Work experience: Technical experience in one or more food sectors related to red meat, poultry, fish, seafood, meat product, fish product processing, dairy technology and egg processing.</p> <p>Experience in some aspects of quality assurance/management systems (preferable)</p> <p>Demonstrated competence: In the relevant Technical Clusters/Food Category/Sub-category as per MAURITAS A2 and MAURITAS A3.</p>
			CII Processing of perishable plant products	Production of plant products including fruits and fresh juices, vegetables, grains, nuts, and pulses.	<p>Qualifications: Degree in a food -related or bioscience discipline or food science or equivalent</p> <p>Work experience: Technical experience in one or more food sectors related to fruit and vegetable processing.</p> <p>Experience in some aspects of quality assurance/management systems (preferable)</p> <p>Demonstrated competence: In the relevant Technical Clusters/Food Category/Sub-category as per MAURITAS A2 and MAURITAS A3.</p>

S/ N	Cluster	Category	Subcategory	Examples of included activities	Competence of Technical Expert
			CIII Processing of perishable animal and plant products (mixed products)	Production of mixed animal and plant products including pizza, lasagne, sandwich, dumpling, ready-to-eat meals.	<p>Qualifications: Degree in a food -related or bioscience discipline or veterinary science or food science or equivalent</p> <p>Work experience: Technical experience in one or more food sectors related to meat product, fish product processing, dairy technology and ready to eat processing. Experience in some aspects of quality assurance/management systems (preferable)</p> <p>Demonstrated competence: In the relevant Technical Clusters/Food Category/Sub-category as per MAURITAS A2 and MAURITAS A3.</p>
			CIV Processing of ambient stable products	Production of food products from any source that are stored and sold at ambient temperature, including canned foods, biscuits, snacks, oil, drinking water, beverages, pasta, flour, sugar, food-grade salt.	<p>Qualifications: Degree in a food -related or bioscience discipline or food science or equivalent</p> <p>Work experience: Technical experience in one or more food sectors related to meat product, fish product processing and ready to eat processing, dairy, baking and brewing technology. Experience in vegetable and animal fats and oils processing and thermal processing, sugar refinery and beverage production. Experience in some aspects of quality assurance/management systems (preferable)</p> <p>Demonstrated competence: In the relevant Technical Clusters/Food Category/Sub-category as per MAURITAS A2 and MAURITAS A3.</p>

S/ N	Cluster	Category	Subcategory	Examples of included activities	Competence of Technical Expert
		D Animal Feed Production	DI Production of Feed	Production of feed from a single or mixed food source, intended for food-producing animals.	<p>Qualifications: Degree in a food -related or bioscience discipline or veterinary science or food science or equivalent</p> <p>Work experience: Technical experience in one or more feed sector related to compound feed production, plant protein, vegetable and animal fats and oils processing and rendering, dairy, extrusion, fermentation, dry and wet milling technology.</p> <p>Experience in some aspects of quality assurance/management systems (preferable)</p> <p>Demonstrated competence: In the relevant Technical Clusters/Food Category/Sub-category as per MAURITAS A2 and MAURITAS A3.</p>
			DII Production of Pet Feed	Production of feed from a single or mixed food source, intended for non-food producing animals.	<p>Qualifications: Degree in a food -related or bioscience discipline or veterinary science or food science or equivalent</p> <p>Work experience: Technical experience in one or more feed sectors related to compound feed production, plant protein processing, vegetable and animal fats and oils processing and rendering, dairy, extrusion, fermentation, dry/wet milling technology.</p> <p>Experience in some aspects of quality assurance/management systems (preferable)</p> <p>Demonstrated competence: In the relevant Technical Clusters/Food Category/Sub-category as</p>

S/N	Cluster	Category	Subcategory	Examples of included activities	Competence of Technical Expert
					per MAURITAS A2 and MAURITAS A3.
3	Catering	E Catering		Preparation, storage and, where appropriate, delivery of food for consumption, at the place of preparation or at a satellite unit.	<p>Qualifications: Degree in a food -related or bioscience discipline or tourism/ catering or food science or equivalent</p> <p>Work experience: Technical experience in one or more food industry sectors related to catering or food service</p> <p>Experience in some aspects of quality assurance/management systems (preferable)</p> <p>Demonstrated competence: In the relevant Technical Clusters/Food Category/Sub-category as per MAURITAS A2 and MAURITAS A3.</p>
4	Retail, transport and storage	F Distribution	FI	Retail/Wholesale	<p>Provision of finished food products to a customer (retail outlets, shops, wholesalers).</p> <p>Qualifications: Degree in a food -related or bioscience discipline or food science or equivalent</p> <p>Work experience: Technical experience in one or more food industry sectors related to retail or wholesaling.</p> <p>Experience in some aspects of quality assurance/management systems (preferable)</p> <p>Demonstrated competence: In the relevant Technical Clusters/Food Category/Sub-category as per MAURITAS A2 and MAURITAS A3.</p>

S/ N	Cluster	Category	Subcategory	Examples of included activities	Competence of Technical Expert
			FII	Food Broking/ Trading Buying and selling food products on its own account or as an agent for others. Associated packaging.	<p>Qualifications: Degree in a food -related or bioscience discipline or food science or equivalent</p> <p>Work experience: Technical experience in one or more industry sectors related to perishable food and feed, non-perishable food and feed, packaging materials.</p> <p>Experience in some aspects of quality assurance/management systems (preferable)</p> <p>Demonstrated competence: In the relevant Technical Clusters/Food Category/Sub-category as per MAURITAS A2 and MAURITAS A3.</p>
		G Provision of Transport and Storage Services	GI	Provision of Transport and Storage Services for Perishable Food and Feed Storage facilities and distribution vehicles for the storage and transport of perishable food and feed Associated packaging.	<p>Qualifications: Degree in a food -related or bioscience discipline or food science or equivalent</p> <p>Work experience: Technical experience in one or more industry sectors related to perishable food, feed and/or storage and distribution.</p> <p>Experience in some aspects of quality assurance/management systems (preferable)</p> <p>Demonstrated competence: In the relevant Technical Clusters/Food Category/Sub-category as per MAURITAS A2 and MAURITAS A3.</p>
			GII	Provision of Transport and Storage Services for Ambient Storage Food and Feed Storage facilities and distribution vehicles for the storage and transport of ambient stable food and feed. Associated packaging.	<p>Qualifications: Degree in a food -related or bioscience discipline or food science or equivalent</p> <p>Work experience: Technical experience in one or more industry</p>

S/N	Cluster	Category	Subcategory	Examples of included activities	Competence of Technical Expert
					<p>sectors related to non-perishable food and feed and/or packaging, storage and distribution.</p> <p>Experience in some aspects of quality assurance/management systems (preferable)</p> <p>Demonstrated competence: In the relevant Technical Clusters/Food Category/Sub-category as per MAURITAS A2 and MAURITAS A3.</p>
5	Auxiliary Services	H Services		Provision of services related to the safe production of food, including water supply, pest control, cleaning services, waste disposal.	<p>Qualifications: Degree related to Chemical/ environmental engineering, food safety or food science or equivalent</p> <p>Work experience: Technical experience in one or more relevant sectors such as water supply, pest control, cleaning services, waste disposal. Experience in some aspects of quality assurance/management systems (preferable)</p> <p>Demonstrated competence: In the relevant Technical Clusters/Food Category/Sub-category as per MAURITAS A2 and MAURITAS A3.</p>
		I Production of Food Packaging and Packaging Material		Production of food packaging material.	<p>Qualifications: Degree related to packaging technology or material science/ engineering or equivalent</p> <p>Work experience: Technical experience in one or more specific sectors of packaging manufacture related to plastics, paper and board, metal, glass or food contact materials.</p> <p>Experience in some</p>

S/N	Cluster	Category	Subcategory	Examples of included activities	Competence of Technical Expert
					<p>aspects of quality assurance/management systems (preferable)</p> <p>Demonstrated competence: In the relevant food subcategory by interview, personal interaction and/or on-site monitoring or equivalent</p>
		J	Equipment manufacturing	Production and development of food processing equipment and vending machines.	<p>Qualifications: Degree in food - related or bioscience discipline or mechanical or chemical engineering or equivalent</p> <p>Work experience: Technical experience in the design and construction of food processing equipment.</p> <p>Experience in some aspects of quality assurance/management systems (preferable)</p> <p>Demonstrated competence: In the relevant Technical Clusters/Food Category/Sub-category as per MAURITAS A2 and MAURITAS A3.</p>
6	Biochemical	K	Production of (Bio) Chemicals	Production of food and feed additives, vitamins, minerals, bio-cultures, flavourings, enzymes and processing aids. Pesticides, drugs, fertilizers, cleaning agents.	<p>Qualifications: Degree in food - related or bioscience discipline or chemical or biochemical engineering or pharmaceutical science or food nutrition or equivalent</p> <p>Work experience: Technical experience in one or more industry sectors related to fermentation technology, chemical and biochemical engineering.</p> <p>Experience in some aspects of quality assurance/management systems (preferable)</p>

S/ N	Cluster	Category	Subcategory	Examples of included activities	Competence of Technical Expert
					Demonstrated competence: In the relevant Technical Clusters/Food Category/Sub-category as per MAURITAS A2 and MAURITAS A3.

7 Related Forms

Appendix A: Amendment Table

SN	Section	Amendment