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Policy on impartiality

General Directorate of Accreditation (DPA) is the sole national accreditation body in Albania, appointed by Albanian Parliament through the law No.116/2014 “Accreditation of conformity assessment bodies in Republic of Albania” and under the Regulation (EC) No 765/2008.

DPA operates in compliance with ISO/IEC 17011 and Regulation 765/2008 and provides accreditation to international harmonized standards.

DPA is committed to and responsible for the performance of all accreditation activities in an impartial and objective manner. DPA is structured in a way to safeguard impartiality. Accreditation is a public authority activity and DPA does not engage in any activity which might compromise its impartiality in the performance of the accreditation functions.

DPA has no share ownership, commercial or other interest in any conformity assessment body and provides accreditation on a not-for-profit basis. DPA does not provide itself any conformity assessment activity which might be the subject of accreditation. All DPA accreditation programs are administered in a non-discriminatory manner and are open to all applicants that meet the applicable criteria.

DPA does not provide consultancy services. DPA does provide training only of the generic information that is freely available in the public domain. The aim of DPA training courses for its assessors/experts is to harmonize assessment processes and make them effective.

All personnel involved in or could influence the accreditation process (staff, assessors/experts, decision-makers, Accreditation Board’s members, technical committees’ members) are required to be free from any undue pressures including commercial or financial pressures which may impact on their ability to act impartially and objectively. All personnel are required to declare any potential conflicts of interest whenever it may arise.

The DPA Accreditation Board and technical committees involving interested parties provide opportunities for input into safeguarding impartiality.

In addition, for safeguarding impartiality DPA:

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- has implemented a specific decision-making process for conformity assessment bodies of the related bodies.
- evaluates potential threats to impartiality in case of doubts, but at least annually through its internal audit and risk management processes. The outcome of the evaluation is discussed in the Accreditation Board.

Tirana on 20.05.2019

Armond HALEBI

General Director