

# Notice on Adding Climate Change Considerations to Management System Standards

## Relevant certified organizations:

On February 22, 2024, IAF and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) issued a joint communiqué emphasizing that in support of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) London Declaration on Climate Change, ISO adopted a resolution to add two new text statements to some existing and under-development management system standards to address the need to consider the impact of climate change on the ability to achieve the expected results of the management system.

Two new text statements have been added as follows:

### 4.1 Understanding the organization and its context

The organization shall identify external and internal issues that are relevant to its purpose and affect its ability to achieve the intended results of its XXX management system.

**Added: The organization should determine whether climate change is a relevant issue.**

### 4.2 Understanding the needs and expectations of stakeholders

The organization shall determine: the stakeholders relevant to the XXX management system. The relevant requirements of these stakeholders. Which of these requirements will be addressed by the XXX management system.

**Add: NOTE: Relevant stakeholders may have requirements related to climate change.**

The Joint Announcement clarifies that the overall intent of the original requirements of Clauses 4.1 and 4.2 remains unchanged, as these clauses already included the need for organizations to consider all internal and external factors that may affect the effectiveness of their management systems; these new additions are intended to ensure that organizations consider climate change in their management systems and recognize that it is an external factor that is important enough for us to require organizations to now take it into consideration.

According to the official decision issued by the IAF Technical Committee (TC) on these changes and the requirements of relevant accreditation bodies, our company has decided to add the review of the introduction and implementation of the two new requirements in the above statement when auditing the certification customers of the quality management system (QMS), environmental management system (EMS), and occupational health and

safety management system (OHSMS). The following requirements and tips are now proposed for organizations applying for certification and maintaining certification:

1. The certification organization shall ensure that climate change factors and risks are considered when planning and operating the management system;

2. If it is determined that external factors or requirements of stakeholders are related to climate change, they should be considered in the risk assessment within the scope of the management system standard. If the organization operates multiple management systems (such as QMS, EMS, OHSMS), it should ensure that climate change (if determined to be relevant) is considered within the scope of each management system standard. It should be noted that climate change may have different impacts on each management system component. For example, the impact on the quality management system may be different from the impact on the occupational health and safety management system.

3. Retain relevant documented information to demonstrate that the impact of climate change has been considered when planning and operating the management system.

According to the decision issued by the IAF Technical Committee (TC), after the release of the joint statement, certification bodies should incorporate climate change considerations into the review of the environment in which the organization is located. According to the relevant work arrangements of our company, the subsequent audit team will pay attention to the company's consideration of climate change during the on-site audit. Please prepare in advance.

Shandong Chuangan Testing and Certification Group Co., Ltd.

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