



ACAA

Agreements on Conformity Assessment and Acceptance of Industrial Products

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What is an ACAA?

- ***Trade Agreement to facilitate access of partner countries in the internal market – free movement of goods and removal of technical barriers to trade***
- ***Once in place, it will ease access to the EU market of imports from partner countries and also ease access to their market for EU exports***
- ***An ACAA is based on the alignment on EU legislation and its implementing infrastructure***
- ***Conditions to fulfill are enshrined in the Palermo Action Plan***

What is an ACAA?

- ***An ACAA is applicable to industrial products where there is harmonised European legislation***
- ***An ACAA is suitable for all New Approach sectors***
- ***It is also open for all other sectors in the harmonised area, as pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, etc...***
- ***It is not suitable for sectors which do not have harmonised European legislation as Textiles, Agro products, Wood / furniture***

What is ACAA preparation ?

Prior to negotiations of the text of the agreement, partner countries should:

- ***adopt EU acquis (horizontal and sectoral) and EN standards in some priority sectors***
- ***upgrade their implementing infrastructure in the areas of standardisation, accreditation, conformity assessment, metrology and market surveillance,***

with the help of EU funded technical assistance

What is Palermo Action Plan for ACAA ?

Identify priority sectors

Gap analysis of existing legislation

Transpose framework and sector legislation

Create/strengthen quality infrastructure

Set up certification and Conformity Assessment bodies

Identify technical assistance needs and make most of existing programmes

Who is preparing for an ACAA ?

- ***ACAAs are designed for Neighbouring countries (Mediterranean and Eastern)***
- ***Countries currently preparing for an ACAA:***
 - ✓ ***Mediterranean neighbours: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Tunisia***
 - ✓ ***Eastern neighbours: Ukraine***



The ACAA process: achievements so far

Israel has signed an ACAA on pharmaceutical products which is currently endorsing a consent procedure at the European Parliament

ACAA progress

- ***Tunisia is close from finalising the preparation – negotiations will probably be launched soon on two sectors: electrical products and construction materials***
- ***Egypt is at an advanced stage of preparation and could start negotiations in the forthcoming year for two sectors: toys and gas appliances***
- ***Morocco and Jordan are progressing well in the preparation and could start negotiations in 2013 for one or two sectors***

ACAA progress

- ***Algeria, Lebanon and the Palestinian Authority are at an infant stage of the preparation, benefitting from EU funded technical assistance as a support for the reorganisation of their national quality system***
- ***Ukraine is very ambitious: it has chosen to implement EU legislation and standards in almost all New Approach sectors during the forthcoming three years in order to sign an ACAA***



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION