



## **Actions Plan for the transition of the accreditation of certification bodies for food safety management systems to ELOT EN ISO 22000: 2018 Standard**

ISO 22000: 2018 Standard “Food Safety Management Systems - Requirements for any organization in the food chain” was published by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) on 19.06.2018 following the revision of its first edition, ISO 22000:2005. According to the relevant resolution of the General Assembly of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) in October 2017, a **three-year** transition period is foreseen for the adaptation to the requirements of ISO 22000:2018 Standard from the date of its publication. By a latter resolution of the General Assembly of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) in October 2018, the deadline for the completion of the transition was set for **29 June 2021**.

ESYD, as a full member of EA and IAF, adopts the transition period of three (3) years for the full implementation of ISO 22000:2018 Standard. This arrangement in practice determines that the validity of the existing certificates of conformity against ELOT EN ISO 22000:2005 Standard expires at the end of the transition period. Therefore, when issuing certificates of conformity against ELOT EN ISO 22000:2005 Standard within the transition period, the expiry date of the transition period shall be considered. Given this, it is clear that issuance of accredited certificates of conformity against ELOT EN ISO 22000:2018 Standard by the currently accredited Food Safety Management Systems Certification Bodies may only be possible after the successful completion of the assessment process by which it is confirmed that they have fully adapted to the requirements of the revised version of ELOT EN ISO 22000:2018 Standard and, consequently, leads to the issuance of the updated scope of accreditation with reference to ELOT EN ISO 22000:2018 Standard, before the end of the transition period. Otherwise, the existing accreditation as food safety management systems certification bodies will be suspended until the assessment for the transition has been successfully completed.

In order to ensure a smooth transition from the old to the new version of ELOT EN ISO 22000:2018 Standard, ESYD has taken the following decision:

A. Certification Bodies already accredited by ESYD shall proceed with the relevant changes / modifications to their Management System in order to comply with the requirements of the revised version of the Standard. Application and sufficient implementation of these changes will be confirmed at the course of planned ESYD surveillance assessments / reassessments. The conduct of extra-ordinary assessments, specific for the transition to the requirements of ELOT EN ISO 22000:2018 Standard, is not foreseen, unless this is requested in writing by an interested Certification Body. It is also noted that for the commencement of the assessment process for the transition of accredited Certification Bodies to the requirements of ELOT EN ISO 22000:2018 Standard, **a relevant application for accreditation shall be submitted to ESYD.**

B. Time-schedule of implementation:

1. ESYD is currently receiving applications – for initial accreditation and scope extension - exclusively against the revised version of ELOT EN ISO 22000:2018 Standard.
2. The already accredited Certification Bodies are required to submit to ESYD an **application for the transition to ELOT EN ISO 22000:2018 Standard** accompanied by a **detailed actions plan** for their adaptation to the requirements of ELOT EN ISO 22000:2018 Standard as well as **the dully modified Management System documentation.**
3. Future assessments of accredited and under the process of accreditation, food safety management systems certification bodies, planned to be conducted after 01.03.2019, are going to be carried out against the new version of ELOT EN ISO 22000:2018 Standard, considering the level of preparedness of the bodies under assessment.

4. The assessment of the adaptation of certification bodies to the requirements of ELOT EN ISO 22000:2018 Standard will include:
  - a. the assessment of the management system documentation and associated implementation records at the headquarters of the certification body under assessment; and
  - b. the conduct of at least one witnessing assessment against ELOT EN ISO 22000:2018 Standard in accordance with the defined witnessing assessments plan of the current initial assessment, surveillance assessment, reassessment or extraordinary assessment for the transition, as applicable, of the certification body under assessment. It should be noted that the witnessing assessments shall be carried out following the office assessment of the certification body.

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