2017-05-08

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Technical Seminar on Accreditation: Delivering Confidence in Construction and the Built Environment**

The Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment (SLAB) in association with the Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA), Ceylon Institute of Builders ( CIOB) intends to organize a Technical Seminar on the World Accreditation Day 2017 theme; “Accreditation: Delivering Confidence in Construction and the Built Environment ”. This seminar will be held on **14th of June 2017** from 0900h to 1545h at the Grand Ballroom, Hotel Galadari.

The purpose of organizing this technical seminar is to raise awareness on the how accreditation can support to professionals in the construction industry, ranging from contractors, manufactures, designers, architects, engineers, regulators and other stake holders.

Standards and accredited conformity assessment are market-based tools that can be used in the construction sector to cover construction products and materials, building techniques and practices onsite health and safety, environmental impact, to even the use of digital technology in smart buildings.

The Cabinet of Ministers of Sri Lanka approved SLAB’s proposals for making Accreditation Mandatory in taking Technical Decisions. This year’s theme paves the way for implementation of proposals of Cabinet of Ministers in the Construction Industry. Sri Lanka Accreditation Board as the implementing institution, has taken necessary initiatives to implement proposals of Cabinet of Ministers in 08 major sectors namely as Food & Agriculture, Occupational Health & Safety, Constructions, Social care & security, Energy, Environment, Health and Trade & Consumer Protection.

The Construction sector is complex and highly competitive, and provides challenges for companies seeking to improve margins, and reduce cost whilst improving quality and ensuring a safe environment on construction sites. Accreditation supports the construction sector to control risk, help drive efficiency, demonstrate regulatory compliance, and provide supply chain confidence.

The building sector is important for economic development, employment creation and the environment. The volume of construction output is forecast to grow by 85% to $ 15.5 trillion worldwide by 2030. Drastic change in Sri Lanka is also expected within few years as a result of the initiatives taken by the Ministry of Housing & Construction and Megapolis and Western Development.

Accreditation can support the Construction Sector to meet its need for smarter, cleaner and safer construction by providing assurance into the safety of the workforce on-site, the quality and origin of the construction product and raw materials, the energy efficiency of buildings, the quality of design and architecture, the safe installation of electrical and gas networks, protect environment and the long-term sustainability of buildings.

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This is accomplished in part by requiring services of accredited laboratories, inspection bodies and certification bodies. Specifically, laboratories are used to determine the quality of raw materials and testing of certain parameters at different stages of constructions. Safety inspections are carried out on a range of activities associated with raw materials, construction process, and preparation of construction sites, installation & operation of machineries at construction sites, installation of equipment / facilities of buildings after completion of construction and regular maintenance and operation of facilities of completed projects. Certification of Quality Management Systems of Constructors provides assurance to regulators and stakeholders that the constructions are done in accordance with defined process and complying with regulatory requirements as well.

The target group for the technical seminar may be construction companies, manufacturers of materials, service providers such as testing /calibration laboratories, inspection bodies & certification bodies, energy managers, engineers, quantity surveyors, architects, ministries & governmental departments, members associated with chambers, exporters & importers etc. About 200 participants are expected for the seminar.

The following topics will be discussed at this seminar by a panel composed of prominent speakers related to the subject of construction, economy, environment and conformity assessments.

* Implementation of National Construction Policy and Issues & challenges
* New Concepts in Building Designing
* Environmental Impact & long –term sustainability of construction projects
* Introduction of Green Building Certification Scheme
* How Construction Sector is important for Economic Development in Sri Lanka
* Use of Conformity Assessment Procedures and Accreditation Principles for the improvement of Construction
* Industry in Sri Lanka

As this seminar will be conducted on cost recovery basis, each participant will be charged LKR 5000 all inclusive of government approved taxes. Lecture materials, lunch & refreshments will be provided.

We kindly request you to nominate few officials of your organization for this very important National seminar. It is very much appreciated, if you could send your nominations to reach the undersigned before **07th June 2017**. A reservation slip is enclosed for easy registration.

For any clarifications, you may contact the undersigned (0718048793, bandu@slab.lk) or Ms. Hiruni Kumaratunga, Assistant Director (Accreditation) (hiruni@slab.lk, hirunis@gmail.com , 0718583877 ) & Ms. W P Lasanthika , Management Accounts Assistant (0112689157, 0112689158 Ext 118, lasanthika@slab.lk , slabwad2017@gmail.com ) over the contact details given in this letter.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

L H D Bandusoma

Deputy Director (Accreditation )

Director/CEO (Cover up duties)

Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment

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