

# **Certification Decision Policy**

#### Introduction

• MAS Quality Certification (MAS) is committed to ensuring a robust, transparent, and impartial certification decision process. This policy is crafted in line with ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 requirements and aims to provide a structured framework for making certification decisions for ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015, ISO 22000:2018, and ISO 45001:2018.

## Objective

• The primary objective of this policy is to ensure that certification decisions are made impartially, consistently, and based on objective evidence, upholding the credibility of MAS's certification services.

### **Policy Statements**

#### **Top Management Commitment**

• Top Management is fully committed to this policy and ensures its effective implementation across all levels of the certification process.

## Scope

- This policy covers:
  - o Criteria for making certification decisions
  - o Roles and responsibilities related to decision-making
  - o Appeals and complaints regarding certification decisions
  - o Monitoring and review of decision-making processes

#### Certification Decision Criteria

- Decisions will be based on the audit reports, non-conformity information, and any other relevant information.
- The decision to grant, maintain, extend, renew, suspend, or withdraw certification will be made in compliance with ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 and the specific requirements of the respective standards (ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015, ISO 22000:2018, ISO 45001:2018).

#### Roles and Responsibilities

- The Certification Decision Committee (CDC) will be responsible for making certification decisions. This committee will be independent from the audit team to ensure impartiality.
- The CDC will review all necessary documentation and evidence before making a certification decision.

#### Impartiality and Confidentiality

- Impartiality will be maintained throughout the decision-making process, in accordance with MAS's Impartiality Policy.
- All information pertaining to certification decisions will be kept confidential, as stipulated in MAS's Confidentiality Policy.

#### **Appeals and Complaints**

• Clients have the right to appeal against or file a complaint about certification decisions, as laid out in MAS's Complaints and Appeals Process Policy.

### Monitoring and Review

• MAS will regularly monitor and review the effectiveness of the certification decision process to ensure compliance with ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 and continuous improvement.



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## **Record-Keeping**

• All certification decisions and associated documentation will be kept on record as per MAS's Retention of Client Records Policy.

## Responsibility and Authority

• The Certification Decision Committee is responsible for the implementation and enforcement of this policy under the supervision of Top Management.

# **Policy Review**

• This policy will be reviewed at least annually or as deemed necessary to ensure it remains compliant with ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 and effectively serves its purpose.

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Authorized By: Ms. Mervat Ali, CEO

By adhering to this Certification Decision Policy, MAS Quality Certification ensures transparent, impartial, and competent certification decision-making, thereby maintaining the integrity and reputation of our certification services for ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015, ISO 22000:2018, and ISO 45001:2018.

