



MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM INAB

INAB would like to wish all our clients, assessors and board members a very happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

INAB's NEW Management Team



A fond farewell to Dr. Adrienne Duff and a very warm welcome to Rosemary Hayden (left) who has now taken up the role of INAB Programme Manager, Rosemary has a background in accreditation from both working in an accredited laboratory and as an assessor. We are also delighted to have Dr. Yvonne Bogan (right) as part of our management team, who also joined INAB recently as Deputy Manager. She will be responsible for the delivery of accreditation strategic priorities and goals. We wish them the very best in their new roles.



I would like to take this opportunity to bid farewell after 20 years in INAB. I joined INAB in 2002 and worked as an assessment manager for laboratories, certification and inspection bodies. In 2008, I was appointed Manager of INAB following Tom Dempsey's retirement.

It has been a hugely diverse, interesting and fast 20 years. I joined INAB when it was part of Forfás and from 2014, as an integral part of the Health and Safety Authority. The demand and recognition of accreditation has changed enormously since 2002 and accreditation plays a vital, if often unseen role, in our everyday lives, ensuring goods and services are safe and fit for purpose. When I joined INAB, the bulk of our clients were laboratories, providing testing and calibration services. Now, with 239 accreditations, the majority are still laboratories but we have grown a sizeable base of accredited certification and inspection bodies. What has changed noticeably in that time has been the sheer breath and application of accreditation; from DNA/fingerprint analysis to cybersecurity certification to organic farming to vehicle inspections. No two client scopes are the same and it is a testament to accreditation generally and to INAB particularly that we can respond to market, regulatory and client demands.

Our recently launched [Strategy for Accreditation](#) will further embed accreditation into Irish enterprises, policy and legislation.

As manager, I have been fortunate to work with very committed and capable INAB staff over the years. I want to express my sincere gratitude for their support as INAB has grown and evolved. INAB itself has been greatly supported by all our colleagues in Forfás and the Authority who provide finance, ICT, corporate governance and HR expertise.

The Accreditation Board has been constant in its support for accreditation and all members over the years have given freely of their time and expertise to guide and oversee INAB accreditation. As an Accreditation Board member, I have seen first-hand how committed and engaged the members are, demonstrating an interest and belief in the value and importance of accreditation.

Within Europe, accreditation is now a strong, recognised and respected support to the single market and EU regulation. My colleagues in EA (<https://european-accreditation.org>) have brought this recognition for accreditation and again I want to acknowledge all the work, support and friendship from the EA community over the years.

INAB accreditation cannot be delivered without our technical assessors. They bring their expertise and peer review to all our clients and this underpins the robustness and value of accreditation. I have worked with many over the years and am keenly aware of their professionalism and competence evident in their assessment outputs. A personal thanks to all our assessors.

Finally, to all INAB clients, I wish you all every success in your business and your future accreditation journeys and I am sure that INAB will continue to support enterprise, policy and regulation into the future.

With very best wishes,

Tom, Brid, Catherine, Marie, Orla, Pat, Anna, Mary, Gillian, Andrew, James, Frank, Sinead, Brid, Andrew, Padraig, Ciaran, William, Emma, Jonathan, Jane, John, Remco, Paul, Louise, Kat, Vanessa, Michelle, Daniel, Sean, Darragh, Norah, Clare, Yvonne, Rosemary, Lisa, Aoife, Jen, William, Des



NEWS ON CERTIFICATION ACCREDITATION

EA Meetings

EA MAC Meeting – October 2022

The EA Multilateral Agreement (MLA) Council held its 47th meeting on 4-5 October 2022. 62 participants attended the EA MAC meeting, including one EA Advisory Board representative and members from 34 National Accreditation Bodies (NABs) including Ireland.

[The key highlights of the meeting can be accessed here.](#)

The following meetings also took place in September.

EA Laboratory Committee Meeting Budapest, HUNGARY

EA Certification Committee Meeting and the EA Inspection Committee Meeting Zagreb, CROATIA

For a full listing of all events, please access the [EA website](#)



EA General Assembly Meeting – November 2022

The 52nd European co-operation for Accreditation (EA) General Assembly took place in Brussels, Belgium, on 23 November 2022. Dr. Adrienne Duff and Rosemary Hayden attended on behalf of INAB.

The General Assembly gathered around 100 participants from 45 National Accreditation Bodies (NABs), the EU Commission, the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), 10 Recognized Stakeholders, and the EA Advisory Board.

[For further information on the highlights of the General Assembly, please click here.](#)



NEWS ON INSPECTION ACCREDITATION

INAB Accreditations Awarded in 2022

Currently INAB has 11 new accreditations awarded in 2022.

[Click here for further information.](#)

To see the full directory of accredited bodies [click here](#).



NEWS ON LABORATORY ACCREDITATION

Accreditation of Biobanking according to ISO 20387

INAB offers accreditation of biobanks to the standard, ISO 20387:2018 and is ready to take applicants.

ISO 20387 “Biotechnology – Biobanking – general requirements for biobanks”, is related to the operation of biobanks to ensure that biological material and data collections are produced and maintained appropriately.

This standard is applicable to all organisations performing biobanking, including biobanking of biological material from multicellular organisms (e.g. human, animal, fungus and plant) and microorganisms for research and development. It does not apply

to biological material intended for food/feed production, laboratories undertaking analysis for food/feed production, and/or therapeutic use.

The requirements to apply are a

- **Quality system in place and operating according to ISO 20387**
- **Sufficient resources**
- **Competent staff**
- **Minimum activity (acquisition, storage and distribution)**

Farewell

INAB would like to wish our colleagues and friends, John Spaight, Remco Klop, and Ciaran Barker all the best as they move on to pastures new. We would like to thank them for all of their work and commitment to INAB and Accreditation.

We would also like thank Orla Ivers, Project Executive for her work with INAB over the past 18 years and wish her well in the future in her new role in the HSA. Michelle Kelly, INAB has commenced the role of Higher Executive Officer supported by our excellent admin team including Daniel O’Connor who joined us recently.



Date for your Diary

World Accreditation Day (WAD) 9 June 2023



Accreditation: Supporting the Future of Global Trade

This theme will showcase how accreditation and accredited conformity assessment activities support the ongoing global supply chain restructuring that continues to be a source of trade normalization as firms seek new markets and investment opportunities to build resilient and flexible supply chains. Further details to follow on the [INAB Website](#)

Expressions of Interest: INAB Technical Experts/Technical Assessors

The Irish National Accreditation Board welcomes expressions of interest from experts seeking to provide contracted professional technical services to INAB in support of its accreditation programmes. Expertise demand will vary from time to time.

INAB has an immediate need for and welcomes contact from potential assessors or technical experts in the following sectors:

Test laboratories Experts in:

- Microbiology (food and water)
- Chemical testing:
 - Drugs/drug residue analysis including veterinary drugs
 - Food (including GMOs)
 - Water/environmental testing
- Mechanical testing of materials
- Air tightness testing

Medical test laboratories

Medically qualified experts in:

- Microbiology/virology/serology
- Blood transfusion science
- Haematology

Certification/inspection bodies

Experts in:

- Sustainable farming
- Aquaculture (especially bivalves)
- GDPR
- Certification to ISO 13485 – medical device manufacturer certification and the MDR

IT

- Experts in information security, ideally with experience of laboratory accreditation/LIMS

Notified bodies

Experts dealing with:

- A range of construction materials under the Construction Products Regulation
- Marine Equipment Directive

The full range and scope of INAB activities is documented on the website www.inab.ie

Candidates should have a third level qualification and more than 5 years' experience working in the applicable sector. Formal assessor training and previous experience working with an accreditation body would be a distinct advantage, but there may be vacancies for technical experts who may not have training in the relevant accreditation standard. If interested in becoming an assessor please consult the assessor section on our website [here](#). Note also that time commitment is flexible.

A formal qualification procedure is in place and all applicants will be evaluated against documented criteria and current demand.

Enquires are welcome to discuss any aspects of the role.



INAB Points of Contact



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Irish National Accreditation Board

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EMAS

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See here for further information on [Staff Roles](#).

INAB WEBINARS AND PODCASTS

INAB has hosted a series of webinars and podcasts – which are all available on our [website](#).

INAB SOCIAL MEDIA

INAB, as part of Health and Safety Authority (HSA), communicate and promote INAB using the [HSA](#) social media platforms. We use these platforms to announce new accreditations, publications, accreditation news, career opportunities etc. Feel free to share, like and retweet our posts.



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The INAB newsletter is only available electronically, click [here](#) to subscribe. If you would like to unsubscribe, at any time, please email inab@inab.ie.



An tÚdarás Sláinte agus Sábháilteachta
Health and Safety Authority

INAB is part of the HSA