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Notice on IAF and IAS Joint Communiqué on Adding Climate Change

Considerations to the management system and Related Situations

To the application/certified organization:

In response to global climate change governance requirements, the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and the International Accreditation Alliance (IAS) issued a joint communiqué in February 2024, requiring all ISO management system standards (such as ISO 9001, ISO 14001, etc.) to be included in the revision. Change-related provisions. The core requirements and implementation arrangements are hereby notified as follows. Your organization is requested to prepare in advance to ensure certification compliance.

Implementation schedule: All ISO management system standards need to complete the terms update through amendment orders or revisions in the first quarter of 2024, with a transition period until January 2026.

1. Intention and scope of application of standard change

Objective: To ensure that climate change is not ignored, but excessive audit needs to be avoided (e.g. occupational health and safety management system does not require special climate audit).

Applicable standards: Covering all management system such as ISO 9001, ISO 14001, etc.

II. Revised contents of the joint communiqué

Clause 4.1: When analyzing the internal and external environment, the organization is required to clearly assess whether climate change affects the expected results of management system (such as supply chain disruption, regulatory changes);

Clause 4.2: A new note is added to prompt the need to identify climate-related requirements (such as carbon disclosure, emission reduction targets) that may be put forward by stakeholders (such as client and government).

3. Enterprise response strategies and implementation steps

1. Risk assessment and integration

Establish a climate vulnerability analysis model covering supply chain, production, logistics and other links;

Revise the Organizational Environmental Analysis Report to supplement climate change risk assessment (e.g. impact of extreme weather on production).

2. Stakeholder management

Update the "List of Relevant Party Requirements" to include client's carbon disclosure, government emission reduction policies and other requirements;

Regularly collect client and investors' low-carbon needs and translate them into contract terms or design specifications.

3. Carbon footprint and emission reduction:

Apply ISO 14060 standard, calculate carbon emissions throughout product life cycle, and set energy efficiency targets;

Tools: Introduce digital systems to track supply chain data and optimize logistics paths.

4. System documents and audit preparation:

Update internal audit and management review processes to ensure climate factors are included in goal setting;

Add climate risk response effect assessment to management review.

5. Training and support:

Participate in pro bono training organized by CNAS or industry bodies (e.g. SAC Climate Change Provisions Interpretation Course);

Communicate the key points of audit with the certification body in advance to avoid missing key items during certification.

Common myth: Avoid thinking that "climate change is not related business", and it is necessary to assessing indirect impacts (such as client complaints caused by logistics delays).

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