

ISTA Ordinary Meeting 2005

**Welcome to the
Accreditation Session**

- April 2005 -



Projects and tasks in 2004

Audit Programme

- **Organising repeat and new accreditation audits**
-> (40 audits in 2004, 23 scheduled in 2005)
- **Updating and releasing of new accreditation related documents**
- **Participating in discussions with regard to accreditation of laboratories testing seed lots containing GMO**
- **Replying to questions in accreditation and Rules related matters**



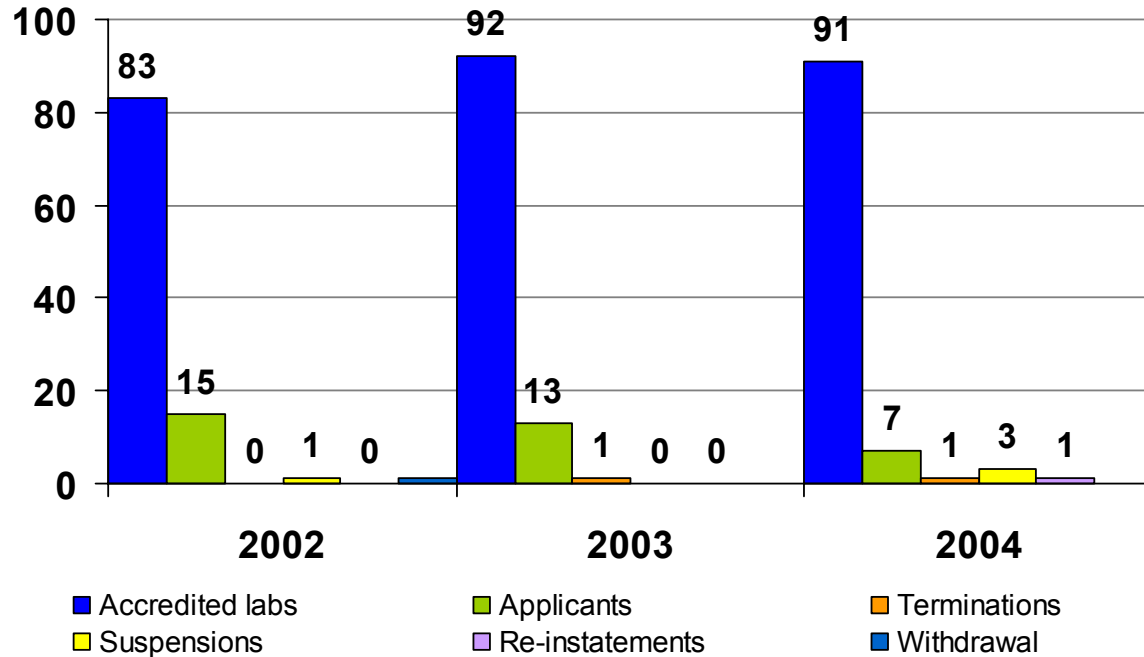
Projects and tasks in 2004 (cont.)

Proficiency Test Programme

- **Programming data base for the accreditation department incl. PT data**
- **Identifying participants of proficiency test rounds**
- **Dispatching and evaluating of test rounds**
- **Reporting of test results according revised rating system**
- **Preparing associated documents**
- **Updating the website with latest PT information**



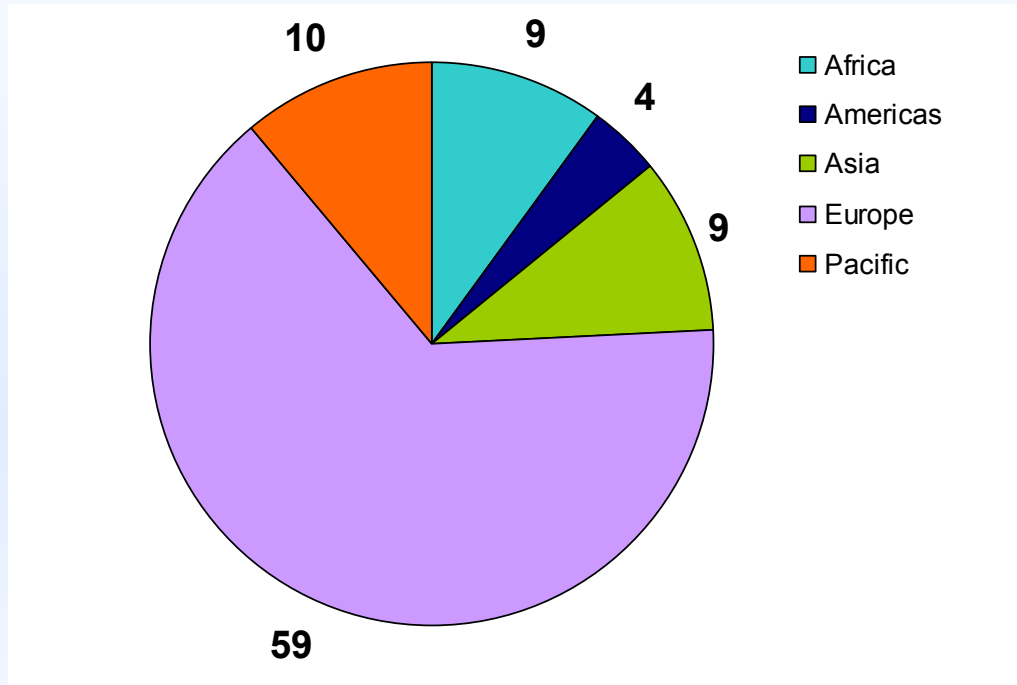
Accreditation figures



Up to December 2004



Regional distribution of the accredited laboratories



Up to December 2004



Document Update

- **Acc-D-01-Procedures for Termination, Suspension and Withdrawal of ISTA Accreditation, *Version 2.0***
- **Acc-D-03-Complaints and Appeals Procedure, *Version 1.0***
- **Acc-G-05-Instructions for responding to audit findings, *Version 1.0***



Procedures for Termination, Suspension and Withdrawal of ISTA Accreditation Version 2.0

Definitions

Termination: voluntarily by the accredited laboratory any time or when accreditation period has ended without application for re-accreditation.

Suspension: temporary ban for a defined period of time preventing the laboratory from making use of the accreditation. Laboratory may act in order to avoid withdrawal of accreditation.

Withdrawal: accreditation of a laboratory ends before the end of the accreditation period or following a re-accreditation assessment that does not result in continued accreditation.



Procedures for Termination, Suspension and Withdrawal of ISTA Accreditation Version 2.0

Suspension

Voluntary Suspension:

- **Exceptional circumstances temporarily prevent the laboratory from complying with accreditation criteria.**
- **Participation in the Proficiency Test Programme during suspension period is voluntary.**



Procedures for Termination, Suspension and Withdrawal of ISTA Accreditation Version 2.0

Suspension due to...

... unpaid fees

- **Annual membership and/or accreditation subscription fee**
- **Fee for the audit visit**



Procedures for Termination, Suspension and Withdrawal of ISTA Accreditation Version 2.0

Suspension due to...

... proficiency test performance below minimum standard

- **Overall BMP within six test rounds of mandatory participation**
- **Failure to participate in two of the last six mandatory test rounds**



Procedures for Termination, Suspension and Withdrawal of ISTA Accreditation Version 2.0

Suspension due to...

... critical non-conformity with the ISTA Accreditation Standard

- **Immediate suspension as a result of observations during a re-accreditation audit**
- **Failure to report on corrective action (timely and appropriately)**



Procedures for Termination, Suspension and Withdrawal of ISTA Accreditation Version 2.0

Suspension due to...

... changes in the laboratory

- **If an accredited laboratory cannot demonstrate that significant changes in the laboratory's ownership, management, equipment or key personnel have no adverse influence on the technical competence.**



Procedures for Termination, Suspension and Withdrawal of ISTA Accreditation Version 2.0

Notification

- ✦ **Decisions on suspensions are made by the ISTA Executive Committee.**
- ✦ **A notification is sent to the laboratory indicating the date of beginning and end of the suspension period**



Procedures for Termination, Suspension and Withdrawal of ISTA Accreditation Version 2.0

Re-instating of accreditation

- **Notification that laboratory again complies with accreditation criteria.**
- **Payment of fees**
- **Satisfactory proficiency test performance**
- **Reporting on appropriate corrective action pertaining to non-conformities**
- **Giving evidence that the significant changes in ownership, management, equipment or key personnel have no adverse effect on the technical competence.**



Procedures for Termination, Suspension and Withdrawal of ISTA Accreditation Version 2.0

Withdrawal due to...

... unprofessional practice

- **If there is evidence that the laboratory has wilfully taken action which call into question the credibility of the results produced.**



Procedures for Termination, Suspension and Withdrawal of ISTA Accreditation Version 2.0

Withdrawal due to...

... expiration of the suspension period

- If accreditation could not be re-instated by the end of the suspension period, accreditation will be withdrawn.**



Procedures for Termination, Suspension and Withdrawal of ISTA Accreditation Version 2.0

- ➔ *Appeal against suspension or withdrawal*
- ➔ *Publication of withdrawal of accreditation*
- ➔ *Re-application for accreditation*



Appeals and Complaints Procedure Version 1.0

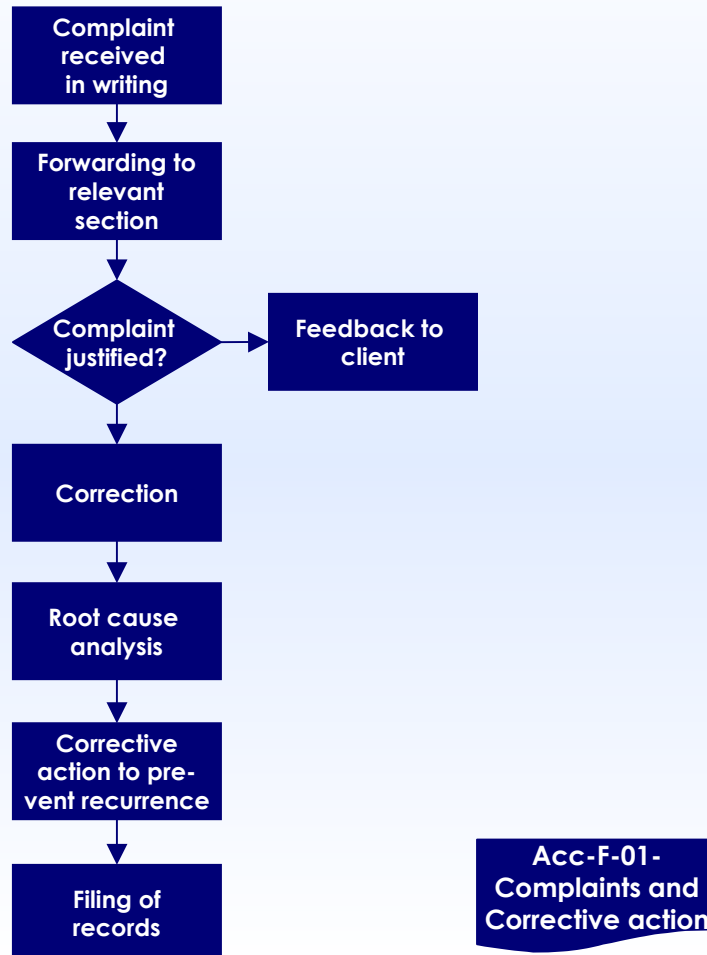
Suggestions

Suggestions to improve any aspect of the accreditation programme of ISTA may be proposed by any interested party.



Appeals and Complaints Procedure Version 1.0

Complaints





Appeals and Complaints Procedure Version 1.0

Appeals against suspension and/or withdrawal of accreditation

- **Formal appeal be filed within 30 days of receiving the notice on suspension/withdrawal of accreditation.**
- **Appeals are dealt with by the Executive Committee or an appointed panel**
- **Decision of the Executive Committee shall be communicated in writing.**
- **ISTA shall not be liable to an accredited organisations arising from or incidental to the suspension or withdrawal.**
- **If appeal is not upheld, the organisation which made the appeal is liable for any costs incurred.**



How to report to audit findings Version 1.0

Principles

- **Timing**
- **Reference to the audit finding (i.e. audit detail report number) shall be made**
- **Explanation on the corrective action procedure as appropriate**
- **Objective evidence**
- **Highlighting of changes made**
- **Language**
- **Reporting**



Projects for the next year

Audit Programme

- **Preparing for accrediting laboratories testing GM seed**
- **Continuously improving internal working procedures**

Proficiency Test Programme

- **Applying revised in-round rating system on other seed determination.**
- **Finalising PT data base**
- **Cooperation with Statistics Committee to evaluate Purity test results**

Thank you for your attention!

