

BSA International Certification Co. Private Limited

Notification on amendment in Management System Standards related to climate change (Based on IAF/ISO Joint Communiqué on the addition of Climate Change considerations to MSS.)

The purpose of this Notification is to highlight the publication of Climate Action Amendments to existing and new ISO Management Systems Standards (MSS) to reflect ISO's Climate Action commitments.

In support of the ISO London Declaration on Climate Change, ISO passed a resolution that will result in two new statements of text being added to a number of existing management systems standards, and will be included in all new standards under development/revision, to address the need to consider the effect of Climate Change on the ability to achieve the intended results of the management system.

The changes will be introduced initially as Amendments to these published standards.

The amendments to the standards will be published on February 23rd 2024.

AMENDMENT:

Two new notes added under clause 4.1 & Clause 4.2

4.1 Understanding the organization and its context.

The organization shall determine external and internal issues that are relevant to its purpose and that affect its ability to achieve the intended result(s) of its XXX management system.

Added: The organization shall determine whether climate change is a relevant issue.

4.2 Understanding the needs and expectations of interested parties.

The organization shall determine:

- the interested parties that are relevant to the XXX management system.
- the relevant requirements of these interested parties.
- which of these requirements will be addressed through the XXX management system.

Added: NOTE: Relevant interested parties can have requirements related to climate change.

Intent of the changes:

The intent is to ensure that Climate Change issues are considered by the organization in the context of the effectiveness of the management system, in addition to all other issues. These additional statements in each management system standard are ensuring that this important topic is not overlooked but considered by all organizations in the design and implementation of the management system.

The overall intent of the requirements for clauses 4.1 and 4.2 remain unchanged; these clauses already include the need for the organization to consider all internal and external issues that can impact the effectiveness of their management system;

These new inclusions are assuring that Climate Change is considered within the management system and that it is an external factor that is important enough for our community to require organizations to consider it now. It should be noted that Climate Change can have a different effect on each management system component; for example, the effect on a Quality Management System could be very different to that on a Health and Safety Management System. It is not the intention of the changes to (for example) turn a health and safety management system audit or a road traffic safety management system audit into one that disproportionality considers Climate Change, though this does not of course understate the importance of Climate Change.

IAF and ISO would like to emphasise that Climate Change is a vital topic and, while the addition of climate considerations is highly important, the standards have always included the need for all issues affecting the management systems to be considered by the organization. Therefore, many organizations implementing MSS will already be taking Climate Change into account.

For the list of standards and other related details please refer the document IAF/ISO Joint Communiqué on the addition of Climate Change considerations to Management Systems Standards, which is enclosed in Email.

BSA Certified Clients:

Considering the severity of this topic and global concern of climate change, client organizations are Requested to focus on considering climate change as a relevant issue while designing and implementing of the management system considering the boundaries of their scope of work and organizations should also take care of communicating the same to their relevant interested parties like vendors, suppliers, service providers etc. about their required amendments in product/ service provision related to climate change.

BSA Auditors:

Based on above notification, from now onward you are requested to audit climate change also under clause 4.1 & 4.2 and the comments of the same are to be recorded in BSA Initial / Surveillance / Re-Certification Assessment Reports under clause 4.1 & 4.2.

BSA Report reviewer and certification decision maker:

Based on above notification, from now onward while reviewing the report one must Ensure that the commentary on climate change under clause 4.1 & 4.2 are available in case if no Commentary found the Report Reviewer can raise concern to the specific auditor.

**Issued to: All BSA Clients, Interested Parties, Impartiality Committee, Auditors, Report Reviewers
Certification Decision Makers and other Technical Staffs.**