

Forensic Science Accreditation Advisory Committee

Summary of the 23rd meeting - 11 May 2016

Opening & welcome	Welcome and introductory remarks from the Chairman
Committee Membership	<p>The Committee discussed the terms of appointment of current committee members which are due to expire before the next meeting. This covered the following disciplines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemistry/Criminalistics • Electronic Evidence & Signal Processing • Field Services <p>Expressions of interest will be requested from NATA's members prior to the expiry of the existing terms.</p> <p>The term of the NIFS committee member is also due to expire. NIFS has been asked to nominate a new representative to sit on the Committee.</p>
Accreditation Criteria	<p><u>Forensic Science Application Document</u> Discussions were held around reference materials, clarifications on the requirements for robotic DNA platforms, proficiency testing and case record review. Changes will be drafted and the Application Document released for public comment in due course.</p> <p><u>Forensic Science Annex B - Accreditation for forensic science facilities offering multi-crime scene services</u> Discussions were held seeking clarification on the surveillance period of the collection centres. Changes will be drafted and the revised document released in due course.</p> <p><u>Policy Circular 40</u> This document needs to be aligned with the Forensic Science Application Document. Feedback was received and the revised document will be released in due course.</p> <p><u>Policy Circular 43</u> This document is a duplicate of Annex B and will be withdrawn.</p>
Classes of Test	<p>Discussion was held around the new tabular scope format being introduced by NATA. The new format will capture the product being tested and the technique used in conducting the testing.</p> <p>Some minor amendments to the current Classes of test were also proposed.</p> <p>Familial searching will be captured under the existing subclass 18.20.02, kinship (relationship) testing.</p>
Next meeting	The next meeting will be held on 5 May 2017.