

ISO Standards update – Climate Change

In February 2024, the following management systems standards were published in the form of addition of climate change to the:

ISO 9001:2015 – Quality management system

ISO 14001:2015 – Environment management system

ISO 45001:2018 – Occupational health and safety management system

As the joint communique explains, IAF (International Accreditation Forum) and ISO (International Organization for Standardization), the changes were initiated in response to the London Declaration on Climate Action: "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 amendments are assuring that Climate Change is considered within the management system as an external factor."

The following changes refer to clauses 4.1 and 4.2, where the text was added.

4.1 Understanding the organization and its context

new text - The organization shall determine whether climate change is a relevant issue.

4.2 Understanding the needs and expectations of interested parties

new text - NOTE: Relevant interested parties can have requirements related to climate change.

Certified organisations should ensure that they have considered Climate Change aspects and risks within the development, maintenance, and effectiveness of their own management systems. Climate Change, along with other issues, should be determined as relevant or not and if so, considered within an evaluation of risk, Within the scope of the management systems standards. Where an organisation operates more than one management system (for example Quality Management and Health and Safety Management), it should ensure that Climate Change,

if determined to be relevant, is considered within the scope of each management system standard.

It is noted that some climate change aspects and risks may be different for individual management system scope (e.g. ISO 50001, ISO 37001), to specific industries (e.g. energy production, agriculture and transport) and to characteristics of the organization (e.g. geographical location, nature of its supply-chain).

Considering that these changes are not large-scale, QCert Singapore will review it in the following audits, how certified organizations have implemented the updated requirements in their management system.

Please refer to IAF/ISO joint communication for more information.

https://iaf.nu/iaf_system/uploads/documents/Joint_ISO-IAF_Communique_re_Climate_Change_Amds_to_ISO_MSS_Feb_2024_Final.pdf

For more information regarding the climate action amendments to the management systems standards, please contact us at contact@qcert.sg.

In Singapore on 03.05.2024.



Mr. Masilamani Nandhagopal

Certification Director – QCERT Singapore