Dear UKAS Contact,

Accreditation of Activities in Iran

You may recall that in July 2012 UKAS wrote to all accredited organisations regarding the withdrawal of UKAS accreditation for activities taking place in Iran for Iranian based companies; that action was taken following a request from UK Government as a consequence of the UK and EU sanctions in place at that time.

As you may be aware, most economic and financial sanctions against Iran have now been lifted following the International Atomic Energy Agency’s verification that Iran had completed all necessary steps to reach ‘Implementation Day’ (16 January 2016). The Government now fully supports expanding UK’s trade relationship with Iran. This means that the restrictions relating to UKAS accreditation imposed in the July 2012 letter no longer apply and UKAS may once again provide accreditation for conformity assessment activities that take place in Iran for Iranian based companies.

If you have operations in Iran and have previously had, or wish to have, an Iranian location listed on your schedule of accreditation you can now request an extension to scope to have the location added to your schedule. We do have to take account of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) advice on travel that may affect our ability to assess any extension to scope; the impact of this advice will need to be considered at the time the request is made and on a case by case basis.

If you have a scope of accreditation that recognises that you operate remotely and/or have mobile facilities you may now be able to provide UKAS accredited services in Iran subject to you meeting the requirements for accreditation for this type of activity. If you are a certification body that now wishes to conduct UKAS accredited conformity assessment activities in Iran for Iranian based companies you can request that Iran is added to the list of countries in which you issue certificates, on your schedule of accreditation. If you require any assistance please contact your Assessment Manager.

There remain some restrictions in place and UK Government (Treasury and FCO) have provided the following advice to UK companies:
When a UK company is contemplating any interaction with an Iranian entity that could be construed as making an economic resource available to that Iranian entity that the UK company should check the Treasury consolidated list. This can be found at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/financial-sanctions-consolidated-list-of-targets/consolidated-list-of-targets

The UK company needs to ensure that they are not looking to deal, either directly or indirectly, with a designated entity either in the supply of services/material etc. to Iran or in the payment route utilised. Even after Implementation Day a number of Iranian entities are still designated e.g. for proliferation, human rights and terrorism concerns. Making funds and economic resources to these entities, directly or indirectly, is still prohibited in the absence of a license.

If the UK company is looking to deal with an entity designated under financial sanctions they will need to approach HM Treasury with information about the proposed activity and the relevant grounds for licensing. HM Treasury will then consider whether a licence can be issued. Further information can be found on the Treasury Financial Sanctions pages:


UK businesses shall ensure they are compliant with all remaining sanctions regimes. A list of the current sanctions is available (see link below). It is important to conduct due diligence and ensure compliance with sanctions regimes before engaging in any activity and signing business contracts, as with any market. UK companies must also consider whether their proposed activity is subject to US sanctions and act accordingly.

For further information concerning trade with Iran please refer to UK GOV website:


Yours sincerely

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