



ISO Introduces Climate Action Amendments to Management Systems Standards

In a revolutionary step towards incorporating climate considerations into worldwide business operations, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) have declared the release of Climate Action Amendments. These amendments, in effect since February 23, 2024, have been incorporated into existing and future ISO Management Systems Standards (MSS), highlighting ISO's dedication to climate action.

What is the intent of the Amendments?

The amendments stem from ISO's endorsement of the ISO London Declaration on Climate Change, with a focus on integrating climate considerations into organizational management systems to bolster their effectiveness in achieving desired outcomes. This involves introducing new provisions into various standards, both existing and in progress, to embed climate change awareness and action into the fundamental operational strategies of organizations.

The objective is to make climate change considerations an inherent component of management systems, not as an afterthought but as a vital element guiding organizational practices and policies. This initiative is encapsulated in the Harmonized Structure of the ISO/IEC Directives, marking a substantial shift in ISO's approach to environmental responsibility.

By underscoring the importance of addressing climate change impacts within the management system's scope, the amendments aim to fortify organizational resilience and adaptability to climate-related risks. Organizations are urged to evaluate these risks and, where applicable, incorporate them into their strategic objectives and efforts to mitigate risks.

What are the Amendments?

These amendments have been applied to Clauses 4.1 and 4.2 of the current Annex SL Standards:

- Clause 4.1 – 'Understanding the organization and its context requirements', a new requirement has been added: "The organization shall determine whether climate change is a relevant issue."
- Clause 4.2 – 'Understanding the needs and expectations of interested parties', a new note has been added: "NOTE: Relevant interested parties can have requirements related to climate change."

Please refer to IAF/ISO Joint Communication for more information.



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https://www.iso.org/files/live/sites/isoorg/files/standards/popular_standards/management_systems/ISO-IAF%20Joint%20Communique%20Feb%202024.pdf

List of certifications GICG offers affected with regards to Climate Change considerations:

- ISO 22301:2019
- ISO/IEC 27001:2022
- ISO 41001:2018
- ISO 46001:2019
- ISO 50001:2018
- ISO 14001:2015
- ISO 22000:2018
- ISO 28000:2022
- ISO 45001:2018
- ISO 9001:2015

Expectations on Certified Organizations:

- The organizations should ensure that they have considered Climate Change aspects and risks within the development, maintenance, and effectiveness of their own management system(s). 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 system standard.
- Where an organization operates more than one management system (for example Quality Management and Health & Safety Management), it should ensure that Climate Change, if determined to be relevant, is considered within the scope of each management system standard.
- If Climate Change is considered a relevant issue by the organization for its management system, it should include in any objectives and mitigation activities, as required.
- If Climate Change is considered not to be a relevant issue for its management system, the organization should ensure the effectiveness of its process to make this determination and implementing related actions, when applicable.



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For more information regarding the Climate Action Amendments to the Management Systems Standards, please contact us at enquiries.sg@gicgrp.com for a no-obligation discussion.