

Harmonisation act 6

Subject:

Validity period of the certificate when advancing to a higher level within 3 months

Context:

In case a certificate holder advances to a higher level, within 3 months of either an initial, annual or re- assessment, a new certificate must be issued. It is unclear however if this should be a completely new certificate or a modified version of the original certificate with an added sequence/version number. It is also unclear how long the new certificate should be valid for: another 3 years or up to the original expiration date of the initial certificate. Page 95 of Handbook 3.1 indicates a new certificate with a new validity period should be issued. Page 96 however indicates that the original validity period of the certificate should be maintained.

Harmonisation act:

Organisations that advance to a higher level, within 3 months of either an initial, annual or re- assessment, shall only be assessed on the additional requirements of the different levels. The certificate then has an end date that remains the same as the original certificate. If progression to a higher level does not occur within 3 months of an assessment, then a complete assessment must be carried out for all levels concerned, after which the certifying body issues a new certificate with a new validity period.

Date of publication harmonisation act: 19-07-2022

Transition period: Not applicable