



members

Member Advisory Forum

7th MEETING MINUTES

26 June 2024
ICC Sydney

Member Advisory Forum (MAF) Meeting Update

The seventh Members Advisory Forum (MAF) was held at ICC Sydney on **26 June 2024**.

Outcomes in relation to the major topics discussed were as follows:

The seventh Members Advisory Forum (MAF) was held at ICC Sydney during NATA's Accreditation Matters 2024 Conference, with member representatives invited to attend in person. The meeting was also attended by NATA Board members David Turner and Sanmarie Schlebusch.

The forum focused on NATA's Charter of Service (CoS), feedback on updated MAF Terms of Reference (ToR), the Accreditation Matters 2024 Conference, NATA Excellence Award and member communications on the new Annual Fee model.

Changes to the MAF ToR were accepted with one minor change proposed.

NATA CEO Jennifer Evans provided the background of implementation of CoS which specifies NATA's commitment to the delivery of accreditation services and areas where members contribute to this delivery, highlighting this is a joint effort from both NATA and its members. MAF members provided recommendations around emphasizing Service Standards, clarifying joint responsibilities and improved wording, which will help minimise ambiguity around the time frames mentioned in the CoS and areas for revision to include amendments from past versions.

The Forum expressed overall positive feedback about Accreditation Matters 2024, with members praising its classy and professional atmosphere. Most appreciated the conference structure and convenience of the events app. Feedback for the event included improving room allocations. The inaugural NATA Excellence Award was well-received, prompting recommendations to introduce second-tier recognitions and to publicly acknowledge nominees as a form of appreciation.



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The new annual fee model was communicated to members through emails. NATA established a dedicated mailbox for queries relating to the new fee model. The mailbox saw significant activity primarily when communications were sent out to members.

Overall, the Forum was very productive, with further discussions around enhancing the capabilities of assessment teams and how to equip NATA staff members and Technical Assessors with appropriate skills to adopt new technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) in laboratories. Members also deliberated on managing AI as a tool and ways to identify when laboratories are utilising AI. This initiative is ongoing, and the Forum anticipates further insights into future discussions.

Next meeting is proposed to take place in February 2025.

NATA Thanks all Forum members for their continuing strategic contribution and looks forward to working together to benefit NATA, its members, and the community.

