



# **Protocol on the Mutual Acceptance of the Results of Conformity Assessment**

# Presentation Overview

- Overview of the Conformity Assessment (CA) Protocol
- Implementation and Next Steps
- Cooperation Agreement between SCC and EA

# Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)

- CETA is a progressive trade agreement that aims to increase the flow of goods, services and investment to the benefit of both Canada and the EU
- Its provisions include the [Technical Barriers to Trade](#) and [Regulatory Cooperation](#) chapters, and the [Protocol on the Mutual Acceptance of the Results of Conformity Assessment](#)

# Conformity Assessment (CA) Protocol - CETA

- The Protocol establishes a framework for two levels of recognition for the sectors covered by the Protocol:
  - Recognition of accreditation bodies
  - Recognition of conformity assessment bodies
- The Protocol preserves the right to regulate
- The agreement does not require recognition or acceptance of the other Party's technical regulations, or limit a Party's right to set technical regulations or conformity assessment procedures

# Conformity Assessment (CA) Protocol - CETA

- In the sectors covered, the CA Protocol allows for the acceptance by Canada and the EU of product certifications by recognized bodies in the other party to increase market access for Canadian & EU industry
- This will allow EU companies in selected product categories to have their products tested and certified for the Canadian market in the EU, as well as Canadian companies to have their products tested and certified for the EU market in Canada

# Conformity Assessment (CA) Protocol - CETA

- The Protocol is unique among Canadian and European trade agreements and was developed specifically to complement the provisions in the TBT chapter
- The Protocol builds off established international recognition agreements for accreditation, IAF and ILAC



# Conformity Assessment (CA) Protocol - CETA

- Scope: the Protocol applies to the product categories listed in Annex 1 for which a Party recognises non-governmental bodies for the purpose of assessing conformity of goods with that Party's technical regulations
- Some of the product categories listed in Annex 1 include:
  - Construction products
  - Electrical and electronic equipment
  - ATEX/HAZLOC
- Some of the product categories listed in Annex 2 (for inclusion after 3 years) include:
  - Pressure equipment, including vessels
  - Appliances burning gaseous fuels

# Conformity Assessment (CA) Protocol - CETA

- CETA requires third-party conformity assessment bodies to be accredited by a recognised accreditation body
- Two phases are foreseen: Accreditation in the importing party and then accreditation in the exporting party.
- To facilitate this, Global Affairs Canada and the European Commission agreed the Protocol would be implemented through a Cooperation Agreement between SCC & the European co-operation for Accreditation (EA)
- Through this agreement, mutual recognition of accreditation will only occur once SCC and EA deem both parties to be ready and products will be selected and implemented on a schedule mutually agreed to by both SCC and EA

# Conformity Assessment (CA) Protocol - CETA

## Expected benefits

- Streamlined designation for CABs
- Confidence building through accreditation
- Reduction of administrative "maintenance" burdens

End