

Date: 20 April 2026

## ISO 14001:2026 is officially published

**To the attention of:** All clients certified to ISO 14001 standard

**In relation to:** Transition to ISO 14001:2026 – Impact on Your ISO 14001:2015 Certification

Dear Valued Clients,

The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) officially published the new ISO 14001:2026 standard on April 15, 2026, introducing an updated framework for environmental management systems.

The transition process is currently being defined at international level by the Global Accreditation Cooperation (GAC) and will soon establish mandatory rules for accreditation bodies, certification bodies and certified organizations worldwide.

### 1. Transition Framework and Timeline

- all certified organizations must plan and accept a transition audit from the Certification body within the defined transition period;
- ISO 14001:2015 certificates will remain valid until April 30, 2029;
- after October 30, 2027, no new ISO 14001:2015 certificates may be issued.

Organizations that do not complete the transition process within the established timeframe will lose the validity of their certification.

### 2. Key Changes Introduced by ISO 14001:2026

While a detailed technical analysis is still ongoing, initial indications suggest several areas of evolution compared to ISO 14001:2015, including:

- further strengthening of the analysis of the organizational context and interested parties;
- greater integration between the environmental management system and core business processes;
- increased emphasis on risk-based thinking, including environmental risks and opportunities;
- stronger focus on measurable environmental performance and effectiveness, beyond formal compliance;
- enhanced expectations regarding leadership involvement and accountability;
- more structured alignment between environmental objectives and strategic direction.

These elements indicate a continued shift from a formal, document-driven approach to a performance-oriented and integrated management model.

*The above points are intended only as a preliminary and non-exhaustive overview.*

### **3. ITA Commitment and Next Steps**

International Technical Alliance (ITA), as an accredited Certification Body, is already fully aware of the new requirements introduced by ISO 14001:2026 and is closely monitoring the development of the international transition framework.

ITA will implement all the necessary documented steps to ensure that each certified client is formally informed of the activities required to complete the transition and maintain the validity of their certification within the deadlines established by the applicable regulatory framework.

In addition, ITA will organize technical events and information sessions by the end of 2026 to present the main regulatory changes and support organizations in understanding the transition process.

Further updates will be issued as soon as the final international transition rules are formally published.

Our HO team will work closely with you to ensure a smooth, efficient transition with minimal operational impact. Expect soon for our local teams concrete mails with instruction of the next steps and planning transition audits.

Should you have any questions regarding the transition program, please do not hesitate to contact our certification office.

Thank you for your continued trust in our certification services.

Kind regards,

**INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL ALLIANCE (ITA) S.R.L.**