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|  | Declaration of Impartiality, Independence and Confidentiality | Annex 04 Rev 00 30/11/2023 |
| | Inspection and Certification Body | |

SQS TECHNICAL SERVICE commits itself to assure impartiality during the provision of services of Inspection and Certification, accordingly to requirements of standards for Bodies which performs certification of quality systems, inspections and conformity evaluation.

SQS grants equal access to all entities, public or private, to the Inspection and Certification services, without giving any distinction on the basis of the size of the Company, membership of any organization or association, or the number of Certificates or Inspections obtained for the systems managed and the manufactured products. The only exception is made for companies subject to legal restriction measures, which prevent them from marketing products subject to EU conformity.

In order to ensure maximum correctness and transparency in the performance of Inspection and Certification activities, SQS commits itself to monitor that its management and technical staff is not subject to undue internal or external pressures, of a commercial, financial or other nature, which may negatively affect the work done.

Personnel involved in the conformity assessment activities of systems and products shall not be involved in activities that may undermine confidence in their independence, impartiality and professional integrity. Furthermore, the Body does not carry out design activities either directly or in a consulting form, does not market products and / or systems subject to inspections, nor does it provide technical assistance services to the subjects, subject to Inspections or Certifications, for the sectors covered by the Accreditation, nor does it carry out other activities that may compromise confidence in its work.

In addition, the Body finances itself autonomously with the proceeds deriving from the conformity assessment activities carried out and has no financial exposures to subjects who may have an interest in them.

SQS has prepared an analysis of the factors that may constitute risks to its impartiality, or conflicts of interest related to:

- internal and external staff,
- inspectors and auditors
- components of Deliberation Committee
- property
- commercial initiatives,

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- external evaluation bodies and partners.

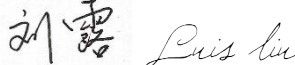
SQS undertakes to keep this analysis up to date as the context in which it operates changes.

In order to contain threats and their factors, the following controls have been adopted:

- signature of confidentiality commitment and absence of conflict of interest on the part of all subjects at risk;
- definition of specific Bodies, as Committee for Safeguarding and Impartiality, involving representatives of Interested Parts, which monitor the requirements fulfilments of SQS
- information and training initiatives for internal staff, freelancers, employees and administrators of other evaluation bodies and partners;
- definition of a Sales Policy through criteria for obtaining/applying discounts;
- formalization of any commercial relationship through written contracts to guarantee transparency in operating;
- prompt management of complaints and appeals;
- respect for the principles of confidentiality, security and privacy.

SQS CEO

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Signed: 

Milano, 01/01/2025