Management system standards

ISO/IEC 17020:2026 — Inspection

Two days to prepare an inspection body or department for ISO/IEC 17020:2026, published on 27 March 2026. Type A or non-A classification, impartiality and independence, inspector competence, methods, records, reports and certificates: each requirement is worked on your scope and your inspection files, through to the gap analysis and the transition plan ahead of your next SEMAC assessment.

Duration : 2 days

Objectives

1. Explain the structure of ISO/IEC 17020:2026 and what changes compared with the 2012 edition
2. Classify each area of the scope as type A or non-A and justify the classification
3. Identify, document and monitor the risks to impartiality
4. Check inspector competence and control of methods, equipment and inspection data
5. Build the gap analysis and the transition plan of your body

Programme

Day 1 — morning

• Inspection, testing, certification: what ISO/IEC 17020 accreditation recognises

• 2026 edition: type A and type non-A instead of types A, B and C, extended risk-based approach

• Accreditation in Morocco: role of SEMAC, transition until 31 March 2029

• General requirements: impartiality, independence, confidentiality

Day 1 — afternoon

• Risks to impartiality: identification, documentation, continuous monitoring

• Structural requirements: legal status, responsibilities, technical management

• Exercise: type A or non-A classification of your scope and register of risks to impartiality

• Mid-course quiz

Day 2 — morning

• Resources: competence and qualification of inspectors, supervision, subcontracting

• Facilities and equipment: calibration and metrological traceability where it applies

• Inspection methods and procedures, control of samples and inspected items

• Records, inspection reports and certificates; control of data and software

Day 2 — afternoon (workshop)

• Complaints, appeals and the management system of the body

• Workshop: gap analysis of your body against ISO/IEC 17020:2026

• Transition plan timed to your next SEMAC assessment

• Knowledge test and presentation of the work

Teaching methods

• Guided reading of the standard, requirement by requirement
• Exercises on your scope, your inspection reports and your inspector files
• Case studies: inspection of lifting equipment, electrical installations, batches of goods
• Gap analysis grid between the 2012 and 2026 editions handed to participants
• Mid-course quiz and knowledge test

Assessment and documents

Mid-course quiz and knowledge test at the end of the session, post-course evaluation at D+1. Numbered training certificate, verifiable online, for each participant; training report, gap analysis and transition plan from the workshop handed to the body.

Bilingual materials for every participant; each classroom course comes with its digital twin on OmniLearn.

Good to know

Testing and calibration laboratories fall under another standard: see “ISO/IEC 17025:2017 — Laboratories”. The body’s internal auditors can complete their training with “Internal Auditor — ISO 19011:2018”.

Practical information

Duration	2 days
Audience	Technical directors, quality managers, inspectors and managers of inspection bodies or departments
Prerequisites	No prerequisites; inspection experience is useful
Group size	Groups of 6 to 12 participants, in-company
Format	In-company, face to face on your site
Language	French, Darija or English; bilingual materials
Funding	OFPPT special training contracts (TFP), GIAC, Maroc PME: we prepare the applications with you, at no extra cost.
Programme customisation	Programme adapted to your procedures, your equipment and your audience

Frequently asked questions

Does our accreditation under the 2012 edition remain valid?
During the transition period, which runs until 31 March 2029. The SEMAC’s own timetable should be confirmed with your accreditation manager; it is prudent to handle the transition at your next assessment, not the last one.

What is a type A or non-A body?
Type A designates a body that is independent of the parties involved in the items it inspects. Bodies that do not meet these independence criteria, for example an inspection department integrated into a manufacturer, fall under type non-A. The classification is justified area by area.

Is an in-house inspection department concerned?
Yes, if it wants the competence and impartiality of its inspections to be recognised, or if a customer or an administration requires it. Being classified as type non-A does not prevent accreditation, provided the risks to its impartiality are controlled.

Who should attend?
The technical director, the quality manager and experienced inspectors. Their presence allows the workshop to use real files and the transition actions to be allocated during the training itself.