

A-Professional Certification Services Limited Handling of Complaints and Stakeholder Concerns

APC-WG-01 (Rev. 3) 17 March 2023

The complaints / stakeholder concern process is as follows:

- 1. APC accept the complaints / stakeholder concerns through written or verbal ways.
- 2. Upon receipt, complaints / stakeholder concerns are logged by Customer Service staff.
- 3. Each complaint is subject to an initial review and decision as to whether the complaint represents an extraordinary situation and therefore requires escalation to the APC management team.
- 4. Documented acknowledgement of the complaint / stakeholder concern is sent to the complainant within 5 working days after the receipt of the complaint / stakeholder concern. Complainant/ stakeholder will be noticed about whether the complaint is substantiated or not.
- 5. In the second week after the complaint received date, formal reply about complaint result and the actions (if necessary) to be taken will be given to the complainant/ stakeholder. However, if further investigation is needed, the reply shall include the explanation of the need the investigation and claim that the progress of investigation will be reported periodically.
- 6. If a complaint is made against a APC certified client, the client is informed of the complaint and is required to respond APC with actions taken.
- 7. APC should investigate the complaint / stakeholder concern, take action, and formally close the complaint/ stakeholder concern within 2 months of receipt.
- 8. The complainant should be updated the handling progress during the investigation period.
- 9. APC will send documented formal notice of the end of the complaint / stakeholder concern handling process to the complainant. The communication should include a summary of the investigation, actions taken and notification of formal closure of the complaint / stakeholder concern.

The End