

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE STANDARDIZATION ORGANIZATION FOR THE COOPERATION COUNCIL FOR
THE ARAB STATES OF THE GULF
AND
THE AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE

The Standardization Organization for the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GSO) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI):

Recognizing the desirability of the global use of international standards;

Committed to ensuring that their national standards and their application facilitate international trade;

Pledging to facilitate cooperation between GSO and ANSI to that end;

Hereby endorse the following articles of this MOU concerning matters covering standardization, conformity assessment and the mutual exchange of information and publications between the respective organizations.

Article 1

GSO and ANSI agree to:

- (1) exchange views on the activity, operations and program of work of various international and regional standardization and conformity assessment organizations, including but not limited to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC).
- (2) share each other's views and, where feasible, work to develop mutually supportive positions relating to those organizations.

Article 2

GSO and ANSI agree to:

- (1) facilitate dialogue among experts from the Gulf States and the U.S. in various areas of standardization and conformity assessment as determined by special arrangements between the parties;
- (2) encourage standards organizations in their countries to identify their counterpart groups for the purpose of establishing bilateral relationships, including mutual exchange of information and materials, trade shows/exhibits, and possible joint business ventures, to stimulate industry-to-industry cooperation as a building block to international standardization and free trade;
- (3) arrange exchange of visits of the senior management of GSO and ANSI; and
- (4) explore organizing and sponsoring conferences, workshops, technical symposia on standardization and conformity assessment subjects of mutual interest.

Article 3

GSO and ANSI agree to exchange, using all appropriate media:

- (1) current catalogues of their national standards and procedures published by the respective organizations;
- (2) general information and publications on conformity assessment (including certification, suppliers declaration and accreditation) and quality assurance published by the respective organizations;
- (3) general materials for training courses on standardization, conformity assessment and quality assurance developed and published by the respective organizations; and
- (4) periodical publications and other relevant information published by the respective organizations. Further to this item, GSO is given ANSI's permission to translate and reprint free of charge any articles published in ANSI Online news (www.ansi.org/news).

Article 4

Any issues arising from the interpretation or implementation of this MOU will be settled through consultations between GSO and ANSI or such other means as they may mutually decide.

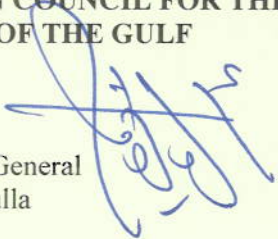
Article 5

- (1) This MOU can be amended by the written agreement of both parties.
- (2) This MOU is valid until terminated. Either Party may terminate this MOU by providing the other party with a written notice at least six months in advance.
- (3) Notice to terminate or amend the MOU shall not retroactively change the terms of any existing project or program being undertaken by the parties for the specific term of the project or program without consent of both parties.

Signed in Cape Town, South Africa on September 16, 2009 in duplicate in the English language.

**FOR THE STANDARDIZATION
ORGANIZATION FOR THE
COOPERATION COUNCIL FOR THE
ARAB STATES OF THE GULF**

GSO Secretary – General
Dr. Anwar Alabdulla



**FOR THE AMERICAN NATIONAL
STANDARDS INSTITUTE**

President and Chief Executive Officer
Mr. S. Joe Bhatia

