



*OPENING OF THE ASSEMBLY*

**AGENDA ITEM 1.1      ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT**

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The 2009 General Assembly will be opened by the ISO President, Dr. Alan Morrison, on Wednesday 16 September at 10:30 in the Ballroom at the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC).

A formal opening ceremony (for delegates only) will be held at 09:30 the same day, also in the Ballroom (CTICC). **Delegates are therefore kindly requested to be seated**, behind their country's name plate, **at 09:20 at the latest**.



*OPENING OF THE ASSEMBLY*

**AGENDA ITEM 1.2      ROLL CALL OF DELEGATES**

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A provisional attendance list, drawn up on the basis of information provided by the members, will be available just prior to the opening of the General Assembly.

A final attendance list will be prepared following the roll call of delegates which will be made by the Secretary-General under this agenda item.



## THIRTY-SECOND ISO GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 16-18 September 2009

### Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC), South Africa

Beginning of the first session: 10:30<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> An official opening ceremony will take place from 09:30 to 10:30.

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### AGENDA ITEM 3

### TABLING OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2008 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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The unconfirmed minutes of the 31st General Assembly, which was held in Dubai in October 2008, were circulated to the members on 12 November 2008. Comments were received from BSTI (Bangladesh), BIS (India) and ISIRI (Iran, Islamic Republic of).

The confirmed minutes of the 2008 General Assembly, including the above comments, were circulated on 17 December 2008. No member body submitted comments on the confirmed minutes.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

The following draft resolution is submitted for adoption:

*The General Assembly approves the minutes of the 31st General Assembly held in Dubai in 2008, as circulated to the members of the Organization on 17 December 2008.*



## AGENDA ITEM 4      REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

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Under this agenda item, the **Secretary-General will present a report** to the General Assembly commenting on the achievements and current status, as well as the perspectives for the Organization. His report will also be circulated to the membership in writing before the General Assembly.

Members' attention is drawn to the information given in the annexes as follows:

- Developments in ISO's membership since the 2008 General Assembly (Annex 1).
- Summary of developments in the past year regarding ISO's cooperative relationship with regional standards organizations (Annex 2).
- Main highlights of ISO's cooperation with international organizations in the past year (incl. the UN and its specialized agencies) (Annex 3).

In accordance with the *Statutes and Rules of Procedure*, an **Annual Report** is produced each year for endorsement by the General Assembly.

The Annual Report covering the year 2008 will be circulated on 10 July 2009 and will be posted on *ISO Online* (see contents of the Report at Annex 4). The Report, entitled "ISO standards. Integrated confidence", underlines that refined to its essence, the objective of ISO standards is to provide confidence. And during 2008, this ability of ISO standards to ensure and instil confidence became even more important as the repercussions of the global financial crisis made themselves felt across business sectors and economies worldwide. This ISO Annual Report shows how in both times of stability and times of risk, ISO and its work provide practical tools for providing confidence, reducing uncertainty and managing risk in a globalized world.

The ISO Annual Report is intended to be a communication tool, easy to read and attractive in appearance, for use by ISO and its members to enhance knowledge of and support for ISO's work among its stakeholders. The Secretary-General would appreciate receiving comments from the members on both the content and presentation of the Annual Report, to ensure that the next issue (covering the year 2009) meets the needs of the ISO members and other readers (such as high-level industrialists, business leaders, government officials and academics) to the fullest possible extent.

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

The General Assembly is invited:

- a) to comment on the report of the Secretary-General;
- b) to comment on the Annual Report covering the 2008 calendar year, with regard to both its substance and its presentation.



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**AGENDA ITEM 4**  
***REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL***  
**TO THE ISO GENERAL ASSEMBLY, Cape Town,**  
**SEPTEMBER 2009**

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Excellency,  
Distinguished guests,  
ISO Officers,  
ISO members,  
Friends and colleagues,

Today is my seventh ISO General Assembly, but my first at this end of the auditorium. I always wondered what it was like sitting amongst those lucky enough to have an organization starting with the letter "A" .....

I am very proud to be your ISO Secretary-General and I am determined to be worthy of the trust and confidence the 2008 ISO Council had when they appointed me as successor to Mr. Alan Bryden.

The almost nine months that have passed since I became Secretary-General have been incredibly rich, rewarding and challenging for me as I have begun to see first-hand just how diverse ISO is in its activities, areas where it can add value, both actually and potentially, and in the incredible passion for standardization exhibited by you, the members of ISO. I thought I had a pretty good idea of what ISO did, having had the privilege to be the Chief Executive of an ISO member and served on the ISO Council and Technical Management Board. But I realize there is a bit more to it!

I have also seen first hand how ISO members have been responding to the economic crisis that has so significantly affected the world both in their management of their own operations but importantly in looking and acting to reinforce the role that standards can and are playing in helping to restore badly needed confidence amongst business, consumers and governments.

ISO members are looking outwards to find the opportunities that can be taken to provide ideas and information to people and businesses to get them through this economic turmoil and it is interesting to note that sales of ISO standards have increased in the 2009 year to date as a result. Now is the very time when people do need the right standards to help them; now it is even more relevant to use ISO standards.

And it is this theme of “Confidence” that the President referred to in his speech earlier that pervades what it is that we do as standardizers.

We should not be and we are not a group that sit around wringing our hands and pontificating on what should have happened or could be done; nor are we a group that should sit around waiting to be told what to do. We help provide solutions. We give those who read standards the answers they need to problems and issues they are facing. They give people ideas on what they should do, how to do things, how to get the best out of what they are trying to make, operate or do. Standards are pragmatic and so are standardizers.

In two words we are “confidence builders”.

It is traditional for the Secretary-General to use the opportunity of addressing the General Assembly to report of activities over the last year and to reflect on issues and events. I intend following that tradition to a point but I especially want to spend most of the time you have given me looking to the future and posing some questions and challenges for all of us.

Reflecting on where ISO is now I would like to pay tribute to Alan Bryden, Secretary-General from 2003 to 2008 for the tremendous progress ISO has made under his energetic and enthusiastic leadership. I would especially like to thank Alan for the most comprehensive and unselfish induction and mentoring that I have ever heard of, let alone experienced. Three things I re-learned in this experience:

- 1 Alan has an encyclopaedic knowledge of standardization and conformity assessment;
- 2 Alan has a deep knowledge, dedication and passion for the work ISO does and the actual and potential value ISO can contribute to the world;
- 3 You will never die wondering what Alan’s opinion is on anything ... and he has an opinion on everything.

So where is and what is ISO right now?

- 1 We have 162 members - a record with five new members joining the ISO family as correspondent members since the 2008 General Assembly: the standards bodies for the Republic of Congo, Gambia, Liberia, Mauritania and Sierra Leone, i.e. all in Africa.
- 2 We have over 18 000 standards - a record.
- 3 During the course of the current strategic plan (2005-2010), ISO has established over 40 new technical or project committees in subject areas such as information and societal security, the response to climate change, energy efficiency and renewable resources, sustainable building design and operation, water services, nanotechnologies, intelligent transport systems, food safety management, health informatics and social responsibility. I don’t know whether that is a record, but it must be as this is the first five-year strategic plan ISO has had!
- 4 The ISO policy on global relevance has been promoted and application increased.



- 5 Liaisons have been developed with a number of significant partners, and there are now over 700 organizations in liaison with ISO and the technical committees.
- 6 ISO training has been significantly enhanced.
- 7 Communication services have been significantly enhanced and a number of key publications made to explain the benefit of standards, the benefits of getting involved in standardization, and what to do as a standardizer.
- 8 The work to encourage and to get customer perspectives and ideas for international standardization activity has continued through COPOLCO under the leadership of Jai Ok Kim, and I thank her for her tremendous service as Chair of COPOLCO over the last two years.
- 9 Funding and activities have significantly increased in assistance to developing countries and emerging economies.
- 10 Conformity assessment tools have been increased or expanded under the able leadership of Olivier Peyrat, your CASCO Chair. CASCO is working hard with other organizations, such as IAF and ILAC, to ensure the value of the ISO brand is not diluted or harmed by inaccurate or inappropriate claims of conformity against ISO standards.
- 11 Processes and procedures for standards development have improved as a result of significant investment in resources at both the Central Secretariat and amongst members and their representatives responsible for running secretariats and chairing the standardization work.

The 2008 Annual Report details the achievements of the year, and they are many and they are significant.

And we can and must do more. We have a solid base from which to work. We should use this to give ourselves a springboard to doing even better in the future.

We have an incredible opportunity with the 2011-2015 strategic planning process to ask ourselves and our stakeholders in sectors such as the “business sector”, the “consumer sector”, the “academia sector” and the “government sector” how will standards be helping you in your work and your life in the period 2011 – 2015, and beyond.

And we should ask ourselves, what do we as responsible standardizers think these sectors will want in the period 2011- 2015 and beyond.

I firmly believe that it is the answers to these questions that must go into the framework for the ISO Strategic Plan 2011-2015 and we should be bold. Most of you in this room are senior managers or board members of your national standards body or an associated organization; many of you have significant roles in a business or group that sees the benefit of your involvement in standardization and you hold key roles in those organizations; many of you are recognized leaders and experts in subjects that literally help mankind or the planet; and some of you are helping ensure we all keep our feet on the ground and remind us what we can and cannot do.

My point is that the assembled expertise, skill and wisdom in the room is amazing and all of this is needed to provide ideas for the next ISO Strategic Plan.

In my opinion ISO is doing a very good job as a result of passionate work in the technical committees and excellent leadership in member bodies and the Central Secretariat over the 62 years ISO has been in existence.

But the world has changed and ISO must recognize this and anticipate where it can add value in the future and how that value will be delivered. ISO is good but as Jim Collins notes in his book "Good to Great", "good is the enemy of great."

In my nearly nine months in this role I have had the privilege to see some great things going on in standards-land.

- I have seen standards on subjects that I still wonder, "How was that possible", like a standard for innovation.
- I have seen several ISO members in emerging economies that are a vital and integral part of a group of organizations that nurture innovation by working with business in technical research and providing support for incubators for new business to get ideas developed and to ensure those ideas use standards that will be accepted in international markets.
- I have seen hundreds of stakeholders attend sessions to discuss ideas and input for the ISO Strategic Plan, showing how important stakeholders see this process and especially the outcome of this process.
- I have seen the passion in the work being done in national and regional standards bodies by the teams of people who work there who are just thrilled to be doing what they are doing.
- I have seen (when I haven't been travelling!) the deep knowledge of and dedication to ISO of the team at ISO Central Secretariat in Geneva. Their commitment to enhancing what ISO is to members and through members to users of standards is outstanding.

If we look at the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats of, or to, ISO we need to build on the strengths of integrity and independence; we need to recognize that our systems and processes must respond to the need for standards to be better in terms of meeting users needs and to be produced much faster; we need to embrace the opportunities we have as a recognized and respected world authority in providing standards and the amazing opportunities to make the content of our standards available to people in ways that were just not possible a short time ago; and we need to address the threats to the current business model from a society that is becoming increasingly used to getting information at essentially no cost to the individual seeking the information.

In this respect Council established a task force following the March 2009 Council meeting and approved a project to review the current business model and the way in which ISO earns the revenue needed for our work.

I think we need to use new ways to identify and respond to users' needs for standards. I think the use of strategic advisory groups is great and that we should continue to actively seek opportunities for the development of standards. This is not to say more traditional ways of identifying opportunities, such as through the technical committees, should be ignored. Far from it, I would like to see technical committee members asking their peers and colleagues what else would benefit from standardization and feed these ideas back to the committee and ISO central secretariat.

We should not develop standards where they are not needed. But equally we should not be reticent about asking people what is needed and in making suggestions and providing advice based on our view and convictions.

I think we need to develop a really clear scope for the standards we consider should be developed, before we start the work, and that we should place much more rigor around understanding and articulating what we believe the outcome of the standard will bring. Some of the ISO members are working on this and I believe we should be doing this at the international level.

I think we need to think more about "what's possible". By and large we are a conservative group. That is an advantage in that I do not think anyone is suggesting we should take shortcuts on a standard where literally it is a matter of life or death!

But it is a bit of a disadvantage if we wait to try an idea until we are so sure of it that someone else thinks of it and uses it in an area where we have the skills, knowledge and expertise and it would improve our core competency to develop standards or consensus-based intellectual property.

So why don't we set up a space where we can try ideas out? Why not make that place "safe" so we can try ideas and see if they work. If the idea works, great, put it into the real world, if it doesn't we have failed fast, learned a lot with no significant loss, and can move on with a greater knowledge.

Above all this ISO exists because of its members and for its members. We are all proud that this is an organization with 162 members, each from a different country and which therefore covers 98% of the world's population and 99% of its economic activity.

But sometimes I think this pride is not as evident as it could be. As a family I think ISO needs to think more of itself as ISO. It is evident that there is either a lack of interest amongst some members or perhaps a lack of commitment and this is evidenced by the lack of response to questionnaires and requests for basic data that would help all ISO members. Two examples

- ISO secretariats' and chairs' roles in technical committees, sub-committees and working groups are held by 41 member bodies, i.e. 39% of the total full membership.

- A request for information on sales of ISO standards resulted in 54 countries responding or 83% of those who we know sell such documents. Reaching a similar level of information for the sales of national adoptions of ISO standards would be very helpful in making the case even stronger about the importance of ISO standards and their national adoptions which would benefit everyone.

Now, you may argue I am being unfair and harsh bringing this up. Some may say there is a world recession, times are tough, and they can't afford to increase things this year or to dig out information for "that crowd" in Geneva. But the level of participation and response to requests for information has remained at these levels over the last five years. So perhaps we could all think about "what's possible" here.

I think we need to be less insular. If we consider what ISO does we can see there are organizations with similar objectives and ways of doing things. How can we learn from them, or provide our experience and expertise to them? For example many ISO members publish national, regional and/or international standards but what are we learning from the publishing industry about the issues of Internet sales and downloading intellectual property in existing and new media?

Finally I think we need to ask ourselves and our stakeholders the following question.

"It's 24 September 2016. The ISO General Assembly for 2016 is meeting and everyone is absolutely thrilled because ISO is meeting members and stakeholders needs.

What is ISO doing to meet these needs?"

Please let me know as part of your thoughts on the *ISO Strategic Plan 2011-2015*.

In conclusion let me repeat something Alan Bryden said when he visited many ISO members and which is very true. In your country you ARE ISO. I have the best job in the world because I am part of an organization that does make a difference. ISO literally can and does provide ideas and solutions that stimulate economic activity at the global level; it can and does provide ideas and solutions that improve human wellbeing; and it can and is providing ideas and solutions that will help the world tackle emerging issues that affect us all on this planet.

Thank you for your support and attention.

Rob Steele

## DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ISO MEMBERSHIP SINCE THE 2008 GENERAL ASSEMBLY (situation at 1 July)

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At 1 July 2009, the **total ISO membership** stands at 161 (comprising 105 member bodies, 46 correspondent members, and 10 subscriber members).

Since the last General Assembly in October 2008, the following changes have taken place in the membership:

### a) Member bodies

- **Transfer of membership**

- The ISO membership for the Czech Republic has been transferred from the *Czech Standards Institute (CNI)* to the *Czech Office for Standards, Metrology and Testing (UNMZ)*.

- **Reinstatement after suspension**

- AZSTAND (Azerbaijan), suspended for non-payment of its dues in arrears, was reinstated in February 2009 after payment.

### b) Correspondent members

- **New correspondent members**

- ACONOR (Congo, Rep. of), DNPQ (Mauritania), GAMSFP (Gambia), LDS (Liberia) and SLSB (Sierra Leone) have been admitted as correspondent members.

- **Change in membership status**

- SSB (Suriname) has been upgraded from subscriber to correspondent member as of 1 July 2009.
- SAZ (Zimbabwe), suspended from its member body status for non payment of its dues in arrears, has been reinstated in April 2009 after payment and reclassified as a correspondent member with retroactive effect as of 1 January 2009.

- **Transfer of membership**

- The ISO membership for Moldova has been transferred from the Department of Standardization and Metrology (MOLDST) to the National Institute of Standardization and Metrology of the Republic of Moldova (INSM).

- **Reinstatements after withdrawal**

- FASONORM (Burkina Faso) and DIGENOR (Dominican Republic), withdrawn for non payment of their dues in arrears, were reinstated in March and April 2009 respectively after payment.

- **Withdrawal from membership**

- CSN (Togo) has been withdrawn from membership for non-payment of its dues in arrears.

**c) Subscriber member**

• **New subscriber member as of 1 January 2010**

- SNQCA (Central African Republic ) will be admitted as a subscriber member as of 1 January 2010 (has already paid its 2010 subscription fee).

**d) Negotiations on new memberships**

Membership negotiations have been resumed or initiated with Cape Verde and Niger.



## HIGHLIGHTS OF ISO RELATIONS WITH REGIONAL STANDARDS ORGANIZATIONS/ ASSOCIATIONS

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Recognizing that the regional level is particularly well suited for exchanging information and experience, encouraging the dissemination and implementation of International Standards, organizing training and awareness-raising workshops and seminars, and ensuring an optimal use of technical resources and expertise, ISO has established organized links with seven regional standards organizations. The existing relationship with these regional organizations has been confirmed and consolidated by Council at its meeting in March 2008.

The current membership of each of these bodies is set out in Appendix 1. This report gives the highlights of ISO's relations with these bodies since the 2008 General Assembly.

### **1 ACCSQ (ASEAN Consultative Committee for Standards and Quality)**

The ACCSQ meeting where ISO has regularly been represented in the past years, and which usually takes place in August each year, has been postponed and will take place on 6-7 October 2009 in Jakarta (Indonesia). It is planned that ISO will be represented by the Secretary-General on this occasion.

A joint ISO/ACCSQ Regional Seminar on Greenhouse Gas Quantification, Reporting and Verification based on ISO 14064 and ISO 14065 is being planned for the third quarter of 2009.

### **2 AIDMO (Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization)**

AIDMO issues unified Arab standards; this strategy is based on the adoption of International Standards in their original language.

ISO's training and awareness programmes have been active in the region.

The report submitted by AIDMO is attached at Appendix 2.

### **3 ARSO (African Regional Organization for Standardization)**

A new Secretary General, Mr. Andrew Maiyo, took office in March 2009 for a period of six months. He succeeded in this position Mr. Damian U. Agbanelo.

The Secretary-General visited ARSO headquarters in Nairobi in July 2008 where he met with the President and Secretary General of ARSO. The discussions focused on the need to review the institutional relationship between ARSO and ISO, along the lines of the ISO regional policy adopted by Council in March 2008. Some of the key issues of the review include for example:

- the use of ISO standards as the basis for technical harmonization within the various existing Regional Economic Communities, as well as those which are being developed in Africa, and the possible contribution to some coordination efforts in this respect,
- the contribution of ISO standards, including those related to conformity assessment, as a support to the quality infrastructure and culture in Africa.

The 2009 ARSO General Assembly is in principle scheduled for November.

The report submitted by ARSO is attached at Appendix 3.

#### **4 CEN (European Committee for Standardization)**

At the 35th CEN General Assembly held in Madrid (Spain) on 2 July 2009, ISO was represented by its Vice-President (technical management) and Secretary-General. The Vice-President focused on the international dimension of standardization work, and the Secretary-General commented on his first six months in this position.

In April 2009, the Secretary-General paid a visit to CEN's headquarters in Brussels where he met with CEN's Secretary General Gaston Michaud. Their discussions focused *inter alia* on work in new subject areas and on the new CEN/CENELEC situation.

At the technical level, the cooperation between ISO and CEN committees working in related fields continues to be good and no technical coordination issues appeared on the agenda for the June 2009 meeting of the ISO/CEN Joint Coordination Group. As was reported last year, however, it has been concluded that past communications concerning the Vienna Agreement do not give a true picture of the use of ISO standards within Europe; it is recalled in particular that the information technology sector in Europe has requested CEN not to transpose International Standards into European Standards, while many of ISO's basic standards (dealing with issues such as principles of terminology, documentation, quantities and units, etc.) are also used directly within Europe. The ISO Central Secretariat and the CEN Management Centre are consequently collaborating in the analysis of information concerning the use and adoption of ISO standards collected as part of the process for the systematic review of ISO standards with a view to establishing a better picture of the use of ISO standards within Europe.

In the May 2009 issue of *ISO Focus*, Mr. Michaud contributed an article highlighting the cooperation between ISO and CEN.

#### **5 COPANT (Panamerican Standards Commission)**

The Secretary-General participated in COPANT's annual General Assembly held on 11-13 May 2009 in Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic) where he updated the participants on the latest developments in ISO, including on the ongoing consultation of the ISO membership and of a number of selected international organizations for the *ISO Strategic Plan 2011-2015*.

A workshop on technical standards, energy efficiency and renewable energy was held in conjunction with the above event where the Secretary-General made a presentation on "International Standards – Working in partnership to achieve substantial improvement in energy efficiency."

The Deputy President of COPANT, Mr. Pablo Benia, contributed an article in the May 2009 issue of *ISO Focus* with a view to outlining the cooperation between ISO and COPANT.

The report submitted by COPANT is attached at Appendix 4.

#### **6 EASC (Euro-Asian Council for Standardization, Metrology and Certification)**

The Secretary-General represented ISO at the 35th EASC meeting in Minsk (Belarus) on 10-12 June 2009. On this occasion, he presented an update on ISO activities, including on the ongoing consultation of the ISO membership and of a number of selected international organizations for the *ISO Strategic Plan 2011-2015*.

At the meeting, the CEO of the Ukrainian standards body, Mrs. Larysa Losyuk, was appointed President of EASC.

#### **7 PASC (Pacific Area Standards Congress)**

The President and Secretary-General attended PASC 32 in Hobart (Australia) on 1-2 April 2009. The President's message to PASC representatives highlighted the importance of the PASC region



in ISO's work and the role of International Standards as a response to the current economic crisis, whilst the Secretary-General's message presented an update on ISO activities, including on the ongoing consultation of the ISO membership and of a number of selected international organizations for the *ISO Strategic Plan 2011-2015*.

On this occasion, PASC urged its members to become more involved in the ISO committee on energy management (ISO/PC 242) currently developing ISO 50001<sup>1</sup>. PASC also welcomed progress on ISO/CD 26000<sup>2</sup> and emphasized the importance of an end-result that is market driven, objective, does not create technical barriers to trade and is applicable to all countries and organizations.

The report submitted by PASC is attached at Appendix 5.

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<sup>1</sup> Energy management system standard

<sup>2</sup> *Guidance on social responsibility*

## **MEMBERSHIP OF THE REGIONAL STANDARDS ORGANIZATIONS formally recognized by the ISO Council under Resolution 26/1992**

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### **ACCSQ (ASEAN Consultative Committee for Standards and Quality)**

Brunei Darussalam	Malaysia	Singapore
Cambodia	Myanmar	Thailand
Indonesia	Philippines	Viet Nam
Lao People's Democratic Republic		

### **AIDMO (Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization)**

Algeria	Lebanon	Saudi Arabia
Bahrain	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Somalia
Egypt	Mauritania	Sudan
Djibouti	Morocco	Syria
Iraq	Oman	Tunisia
Jordan	Palestine	United Arab Emirates
Kuwait	Qatar	Yemen

### **ARSO (African Regional Organization for Standardization)**

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Senegal
Cameroon	Guinea	Sierra Leone
Congo, The Democratic Rep. of the	Kenya	South Africa
Congo, Rep. of	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Sudan
Côte d'Ivoire	Madagascar	Tanzania
Egypt	Malawi	Tunisia
Ethiopia	Mauritius	Uganda
Gabon	Nigeria	Zimbabwe
	Rwanda	

### **CEN (European Committee for Standardization)**

#### **Members**

Austria	Greece	Norway
Belgium	Hungary	Poland
Bulgaria	Iceland	Portugal
Cyprus	Ireland	Romania
Czech Republic	Italy	Slovakia
Denmark	Latvia	Slovenia
Estonia	Lithuania	Spain
Finland	Luxembourg	Sweden
France	Malta	Switzerland
Germany	Netherlands	United Kingdom

#### **Affiliates**

Albania	Israel	Serbia
Armenia	Jordan	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Lebanon	Tunisia
Croatia	Moldova	Turkey
Egypt	Montenegro	Ukraine
Georgia		

**COPANT (Panamerican Standards Commission)**

Argentina	Dominican Republic	Nicaragua
Barbados	Ecuador	Panama
Bolivia	El Salvador	Paraguay
Brazil	Grenada	Peru
Canada	Guatemala	Saint Lucia
Chile	Guyana	Trinidad and Tobago
Colombia	Honduras	Uruguay
Costa Rica	Jamaica	USA
Cuba	Mexico	Venezuela

**EASC (Euro-Asian Council for Standardization, Metrology and Certification)**

Armenia	Kazakhstan	Tajikistan
Azerbaijan	Kyrgyztan	Turkmenistan
Belarus	Moldova, Rep. of	Ukraine
Georgia	Russian Federation	Uzbekistan

**PASC (Pacific Area Standards Congress)**

Australia	India	Papua New Guinea
Brunei Darussalam	Indonesia	Peru
Canada	Japan	Philippines
Chile	Korea, Rep. of	Singapore
China	Malaysia	South Africa
Colombia	Mexico	Thailand
Fiji	Mongolia	USA
Hong Kong, China	New Zealand	Viet Nam

**AIDMO'S report to the ISO General Assembly  
Thirty-second Meeting Cape Town (South Africa)  
16-18 September 2009**

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The Arab Industrial Development and mining Organization is highly pleased to address a report on their recent activities to the General Assembly of the ISO on behalf of their Member States, and most distinguished members of your esteemed organization.

AIDMO's commission concentrates on three main sectors, namely: industrial development, mining and standardization, taking into account that it is considered as the only legal and official Organ to issue unified Arab standards for the Arab region.

The Arab Organization and its Member States have updated the Arab Strategy for Standardization (2009-2013) with the view of unifying Arab standardization system, which will contribute to an industrial integration, high level of Arab productivity and swell the Arab competitiveness in global markets and strengthen efforts to achieve a comprehensive Arab development, as well as upgrading the Arab standardization Bodies to play a distinct role in the areas of standardization at the national, regional and international levels; meeting health safety and environmental protection requirements in accordance with the international practices and agreements.

Moreover, the endeavours of increasing the awareness of standardization importance in the economy and meeting the needs of business, industry, governments and consumers in the Arab region is of AIDMO's paramount importance. We therefore share with others the celebration of the World Standards Day on 14 October, whereas the Arab Standards Day on 25 March, each year of which the slogan of 2009 is: "Metrology Supporting Accreditation".

AIDMO's new strategy of issuing unified Arab standards intends to enhance the unified Arab standards adoption; AIDMO, in fact, has issued so far 8 363 unified standard in both original and Arabic language (in addition to other standards projects to be adopted within the AIDMO's framework during the Advisory Committee High Standardization meeting next November).

#### **New Developments in AIDMO's Activities**

- Many achievements and developments have been made in the field of standardization, since, AIDMO has rationalized its procedures with the view of stepping up the development of their standards. In this regard, we commend the Member States efforts, in cooperation with the Organization in preparing, updating and translating the unified Arab standards.
- Preparation and adoption of an interactive standards Database, in order to step up the adoption of unified Arab Standards proposal, and meet the needs of inter-Arab trade.
- Preparation of an adopted Arabic standards Database on the network to be accessible to their users, which will contribute to the expanded use of the adopted Arabic standards, and in this regard, we aspire to access electronically to the International Standards issued by ISO, and adopted in their original language as unified Arabic standards.
- Preparation of a study on mutual recognition of conformity certificates among the Arab states and the cooperation mechanism in the field of accreditation.
- Launching the compromising project of the technical regulations (mandatory standards) and conformity assessment procedures in the Arab States, and another of an Arab agreement on a mutual recognition of conformity certificates.

In this regard, AIDMO's high Consultative Standardization Committee has formed a committee consisting of some Arab countries in addition to the organization, which will hold a meeting in

Jordan - Amman on **6-7 July, 2009** to discuss these projects and the proposed implementation mechanism.

- Setting up the project of bylaws and organizational structure of the Arab Coordinating Accreditation Organ.  
In this respect, AIDMO's Consultative Committee for Accreditation has constituted a committee composed of some Arab countries together with the organization, which will hold an assembly in Jordan - Amman throughout the period **8-9 July 2009**, to consider the project and present it to the Consultative Accreditation Committee at its next meeting.
- Creation of a Metrology division within AIDMO's Standardization and Metrology center.
- Put up a consultative Committee for Metrology; its first meeting has already been held in Rabat through the period 11-12 May 2009.
- Organising a specific workshop for Arab Metrology (Amman, **25-26 March 2009**).
- Updating and implementing the Arab Standardization Strategy (2009-2013), of which the programmes include axis covering all aspects of the infrastructure quality such as:
  1. Developing the national standards and accreditation Bodies.
  2. The establishment of an Arab coordinating Organ for Accreditation.
  3. A mutual recognition of certificates issued by the National Accreditation Bodies.
  4. Obtaining an international recognition for Arab Coordinating Organ for Accreditation.
  5. Sustaining the establishment and development of the National Institutes of Metrology in the Arab States.
  6. Seeking to find out a unified Arab system for Metrology through cooperation with Regional and International Organizations to be consistent with the global systems.
  7. Developing and amalgamating the conformity assessment procedures according to international guides, including conformity certificates and quality marks.
  8. Creating a unified mutual recognition system of conformity assessment procedures among the Arab countries in line with the TBT Convention and international guides.
  9. Fortifying and promoting the cooperation with regional and international organizations related.
- Carrying out the recommendations of the Arab Ministers Councils, such as the Arab Ministers Council responsible for electricity and Arab Committee for building materials Codes in the Arab Housing Ministers Council.
- Contribute to raising the awareness of standardization activities value in protecting health and safety of citizens and environment as well as supporting the economy (through the celebration of the Arab Standardization Day and World Standards Day ).
- Cooperation with regional and international organizations in the areas of standards, accreditation, metrology, coordinating the activities within the framework of the Arab standardization Bodies and benefiting from their financial and technical potentials in the development of standardization activities in the Arab States.
- Preparing a study for an Arab Quality Award to be presented at the next meeting of the high Consultative Standardization Committee.
- Creating a Web site in AIDMO's standardization and Metrology center, including issues related to metrology, quality, conformity assessment and accreditation.
- Organizing a training session on ISO/IEC 17025 standard<sup>1</sup> (Tripoli - Libya 13-15 July 2009), and another session on ISO/IEC 17011 standard<sup>2</sup> before the end of 2009.

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<sup>1</sup> ISO/IEC 17025: *General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories*

<sup>2</sup> ISO/IEC 17011: *Conformity assessment – General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies*



*African Organisation For Standardisation*

**ARSO STANDARDISATION ACTIVITIES, 2008-2009**

**1. Introduction**

The increasing importance of international standardisation especially in globalisation process gives ARSO a critical challenge in many issues especially the need for a call on a re-orientation in African governments economic policy to place standardisation in the centre of policy development and implementation.

By its mandate, ARSO is co-ordinating activities related to the development of African Standardisation and Conformity Assessment Infrastructure to facilitate trade by making the African Countries to compete fairly in a global trading system where, increasingly, strict requirements apply with regard to product quality, safety, health and environmental impacts.

The active participation of ARSO as an Apex African standardisation body in this process range from increasing standardisation awareness among African standardization stakeholders; capacity building through training, building dialogue and providing feedback on key standardization and quality issues, developing effective information exchanges through forums and information sources as well as promoting effective adequate access to the standardisation structures, expertise and resources by the standardisation experts and stakeholders.

**2. Capacity Building**

On capacity building, in 2008, ARSO Organised, with the Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB), a **Training and Awareness Creation workshops on the “Interplay of Technical Regulations and Standards”** for the ARSO member States.

The workshop was organized and hosted in up to four (4) selected ARSO Member States, as tabulated below:

Venue/Country	Date	Comments
<b>Gabon</b>	29-30 September 2008	Successfully Conducted
<b>Nigeria</b>	2 - 3 October 2008	Postponed due to Muslim Ramadhan Celebrations in the country
<b>Ghana</b>	6 -7 October 2008	Successfully Conducted
<b>Egypt</b>	15-19 December 2008	Successfully Conducted

Each workshop was hosted at the national level with participants drawn from the selected ARSO Member State hosting the workshop. The participants in each workshop were nominated by the host country.

### **3. Compilation of Database of African Standardisation and Conformity Assessment Experts.**

The need for a dialogue and cooperation between the Standardisation and Conformity Assessment Experts so as to highlight the trends and needs for research and future standardisation in selected areas cannot be overemphasized. This will ensure that standardisation activities are set up, as visible output of the interaction between Standardisation and Conformity Assessment Experts.

For this ARSO has developed a database on African Standardisation Experts to make them available for access and utilisation by member States, development partners, African Researches and others. The database is believed to constitute an essential information base where stakeholders could tap into for identifying trained workforce they require to establish and maintain Standardization and Conformity Assessment infrastructure.

This process started with the collection of bio data from African experts all over the continent. So far a total of 132 Experts in the field of Standardisation, Quality Assurance, Metrology, Testing and Accreditation and ISO Management System (ISO 9001; ISO 14001, ISO 22000, ISO 27001)<sup>1</sup> have been included in the ARSO African Standardisation Experts Database, which will be accessible within the ARSO Website.

### **4. ARSO Programs and activities for 2009**

#### **a). Awareness creation through Workshops, Conferences and Zoned Human Resource Development**

- Donor assistance has been sought with development partners.
- A schedule of training program for Capacity Building in Standardisation and Conformity Assessment has been developed.

#### **b). ARSO Membership Drive.**

ARSO membership drive is targeted at African countries which have not joined ARSO. A number of embassies and High Commissions in Nairobi have been visited for that purpose.

#### **c) Harmonisation of African Standards.**

Harmonization of Regional Standards as African Standards using the African Standards Harmonization Model (ASHAM) is ongoing.

ARSO is cooperating with the three Regional Economic Communities (RECs) namely: COMESA, EAC and SADC<sup>2</sup> inn tripartite move to harmonise Regional standards.

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<sup>1</sup> ISO 9001 *Quality management systems – Requirements*  
ISO 14001 *Environmental management systems – Requirements with guidance for use*  
ISO 22000 *Food safety management systems – Requirements for any organization in the food chain*  
ISO 27001 *Information technology – Security techniques – Information security management systems – Requirements*

<sup>2</sup> COMESA: Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa  
EAC: East African Community  
SADC: Southern African Development Community

ARSO also initiated a technical cooperation with UNIDO to harmonise standards through the West African Quality Programme.

ARSO is in the Process of proposing ARSO International Workshop Agreement (IWA) standards for the tourism sector and Horticultural and Floriculture sectors based on ISO 22000.

#### **d) Cooperation**

ARSO thanks ISO for providing capacity building in standardization and conformity assessment programs in Africa through the *ISO Action Plan for developing countries*.

To achieve its goals ARSO will continue to strengthen its partnerships with the Technical Partners, Donors, African Union (AU), Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and its Member States.

ARSO appreciates deeply the support from the member States, the ARSO Council, PTB – Germany in 2008 and remains hopeful for the support of Sida, UNIDO, AU, UNECA and ISO in its efforts towards trade facilitation.

#### **e) Needs Assessment and Technical Assistance of African States**

The Needs Assessment and Technical Assistance programme is targeted to African States without national standards bodies (NSBs). These include Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Mali, Niger, Somalia, and Western Sahara.

#### **f) ARSO Meetings.**

ARSO held its Extra Ordinary Meeting of the 38<sup>th</sup> ARSO Council in March 2008, Nairobi, Kenya. On 9-10 July 2009, ARSO has organised another Extra Ordinary Meeting of the 39<sup>th</sup> ARSO Council in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The ARSO General Assembly is due for November 2009.

### **5. Conclusion**

The year in review though mired with low levels of funding was generally successful. Further re-alignment of programmes and closer ties with stakeholders will take ARSO to higher levels of success in the coming year.

**By: Mr. Andrew Maiyo**



**Ag. Secretary General, ARSO.**





**REPORT OF  
ASEAN CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS AND  
QUALITY (ACCSQ)  
AT ISO GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
16-18 September 2009, Cape Town**

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The standards and conformance activities in ASEAN encompass the reduction of transaction costs through reduction of technical barriers to trade, be it in standards, conformity assessment procedures or technical regulations. This is done by harmonization of standards to international standards in selected products, harmonization of conformity assessment procedures and compliance requirements, and harmonization of technical regulations, so they are not more trade restrictive than necessary.

Harmonisation of standards and technical regulations in ASEAN is governed by the common policy of harmonizing national standards with relevant international standards using the ISO/IEC Guide 21 Parts 1 and 2 (Regional or national adoption of International Standards and other International Deliverables) as one of the guiding principles. As far as possible this is also the general principle for the development of technical regulations in ASEAN based on international standards.

As a measure to facilitate free movement of goods in ASEAN, the ACCSQ also looks into the mutual recognition of test methods and test certificates among Member States which not only simplifies procedures but also reduces transaction costs. This is in recognition that more than standards themselves, it is often the duplicative testing procedures arising from different systems of conformity assessment in various Member States that may pose as technical barriers to trade.

This common approach of “One Standard, One Test, Accepted Everywhere” is one of the trade facilitation measures adopted in ASEAN to create a single market and production base as well as free movement of goods in the region.

The current achievements and developments in the standards and conformance activities are based on three core activities, that is, harmonisation of standards with relevant international standards and practices, development of mutual recognition arrangements for conformity assessment procedures and development of harmonised regulatory regimes for priority sectors which account for more that 50% of intra-ASEAN trade.

The priority sectors being currently addressed are agro-based products (prepared foodstuff), automotive sector, electrical and electronic equipment sector, healthcare sector (subdivided to cosmetics, medical devices, pharmaceutical, traditional medicine and health supplement), rubber-based products sector and wood-based products sector.

The three core standards and conformance activities are inter-related to ensure that the entirety of technical barriers to trade for each sector is addressed thus leading towards a more coordinated and integrated approach in the removal of these technical barriers to trade.

#### Harmonisation of standards and technical requirements

- Harmonisation of 20 priority products with the relevant international standards covering electrical and electronic equipment and rubber gloves and condoms have been achieved.
- Harmonisation of standards for automotives, prepared foodstuff and wood-based products with relevant international standards are on-going.
- Harmonisation of technical requirements for the pharmaceutical sector through the development and use of the ASEAN Common Technical Requirements and ASEAN Common Technical Dossier for regional implementation by 1 January 2009.
- Harmonisation of technical requirements for medical devices through the development and use of the ASEAN Common Submission Dossier Template.
- Harmonization of technical requirements for food safety through the development and implementation of the ASEAN Common Food Control Systems which also includes common requirements for labeling of prepackaged food and food hygiene.

#### Mutual Recognition Arrangements

- ASEAN Framework Agreement on Mutual Recognition Arrangements has been developed to be used for development of further sectoral MRAs.
- ASEAN Sectoral Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Electrical and Electronic Equipment was signed on 5 April 2002 and is currently being implemented by all Member States. Thirteen testing laboratories and two certification bodies from various Members States have been listed under this MRA. Under this MRA, all Member States have notified participation in acceptance of test reports.
- ASEAN MRA for GMP Inspection of Manufacturers of Medicinal Products Inspection was signed on 10 April 2009 by the ASEAN Economic Ministers.

ASEAN Sectoral Regulatory Framework

a) ASEAN Cosmetic Directives

The ASEAN Cosmetic Directive which entered into force on 1 January 2008 is the regional regulatory agreement for cosmetic products to be placed in the ASEAN market. This agreement provides provisions for safety and quality requirements to be met for the placement of safe cosmetics products in ASEAN.

b) ASEAN Harmonized Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulatory Regime

The ASEAN Harmonized Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulatory Regime will enter into force on 1 January 2011. This agreement covers all new electrical and electronic equipment that are intended to be either directly connected or plugged-in to the low voltage power supply or is battery powered excluding medical equipment.

Prepared by ACCSQ Secretariat  
August 2009





## **CEN's Contribution to the ISO AG 2009**

Dear ISO President, Secretary General, dear colleagues

It is always a pleasure for CEN to be invited to the ISO General Assembly and to have the opportunity to address its audience stressing the main achievements.

This time, in Cape Town, I would like to report on the following main issues which, I believe, are of importance to the ISO community

### A) Relations CEN/ISO

The well-known Vienna Agreement is functioning well. In 2008, it can be reported that CEN has implemented well over three hundred ISO standards as European standards. I would like to stress that besides the Vienna Agreement, the CEN members also play a major role in the implementation of ISO standards in Europe, as can be inferred from the results of the ISO systematic review of standards. Out of a total collection of around 17,000 ISO standards, 3,600 are implemented consistently in Europe through CEN. In addition, it can be extrapolated that nearly 10,000 more are implemented by the CEN members individually. On top of that, two thousand others are recognized as used, even without national implementation. In the end, there is only a fringe of ISO standards for which we have no information – which by no means implies that they are not used in Europe at all. We would wish that all regions of the world would show the same level of commitment to the implementation and use of ISO standards.

Beside the Vienna Agreement, it is also worth mentioning that CEN's collaboration with ISO continues to progress very positively. CEN, as an organization, follows with attention the IT developments in ISO. In that respect, I can mention notably the CEN Global Directory integration with Livelink, and the National Mirror Committee service that will be completing soon the already long list of equivalent e-Services delivered to the ISO and CEN communities. It is also worth to report that CEN and ISO currently study the feasibility of a web conferencing system.

I can also testify about the good relations developed between the two CS and we have been pleased to welcome Mr. Rob Steele in Brussels for a working and courtesy meeting soon after his appointment as Secretary General in Geneva and during the July CEN/AG meeting in Madrid

Staying within the ISO family, I am pleased to inform you that we have recently developed and formalized relations with several of you who are present today, notably SAC (China); KATS (South Korea), JISC (Japan) and COPANT. GHANA will become CEN's second Partner Standardisation Body after Australia, and Morocco is the 17<sup>th</sup> CEN Affiliate. CEN Affiliates are the NSBs of the countries closer to the EU.

#### B) Relations CEN/Stakeholders

It is needless to repeat that CEN is a private organization producing voluntary standards. However, the good reputation of the EN together with the increased use of the documents as a support of the EU legislation and policies (New Approach for example) has attracted a lot of interest from the various stakeholders involved, notably the European Commission.

With the publication in June 2008 of the Small Business Act, the publication in September 2008 of the EU Council Conclusions on Standards and Innovation, a lot of activity has taken place. One of the main issues of major importance for CEN is the access to CEN processes of elaboration of EN and the availability of the deliverables, notably the aspect related to the free availability of those ENs giving presumption of conformity with the EU legislation.

In this respect, the position of CEN is clear and has been clearly defended. The existing business model of CEN and its members in line with the ISO model is to be protected. Certainly, we can always do better and some recommendations have been proposed in the frame of a study contracted by CEN/CENELEC (for example, free availability of abstracts of ENs corresponding to the scope of that EN) but, definitively, the free availability of the full text of an EN is unacceptable.

CEN has completed its overall feasibility study on service standardization and we are waiting to discuss the way forward with the European Commission.

CEN-CENELEC have a new strategic group on innovation (STAIR: Standardization, innovation and research) and will prepare proposals. We are also working at European level on Education about Standardization.

More generally, the EC is conducting a review of the European Standardization in order to propose strategic recommendations for 2020 and beyond. This exercise known as EXPRESS is developing reflexions on keys issues such as:

- innovation
- public and societal interests
- efficient and effective standards setting
- Access,
- finance

The results of the experts' panel which could have an impact on the legal framework related to European Standardization, will be known shortly and will be of major interest for CEN, which will start the review of its own strategy next month.

C) Relations CEN/CENELEC

Last year, I reported in general terms about FLES (Future Landscape of European Standardization). This time, I would like to inform you that CEN and CENELEC have, together, decided a major rapprochement between the two organizations (not a merger however) with the creation of:

- a single common Director General,
- a common secretariat (Management Centre) and
- a Presidential Committee in charge of common activities notably strategic issues (innovation and external relations)

This exercise, concluded in only one year is a major achievement which was requested by a majority of stakeholders notably during these times of economical crisis. The concretisation of the exercise should take place beginning of 2010.

May I conclude by saying that while developing our own activities, we always keep in mind that CEN and its members belong to the ISO family and are committed to developing and implementing International Standards in the framework of the WTO code on standards.

In that respect, I would like as CEN president to thank ISO and wish you all a good continuation.

Juan Carlos López Agüí  
CEN President

**COPANT**

Comisión Panamericana de Normas Técnicas  
 Panamerican Standards Commission  
 Comissão Panamericana de Normas Técnicas

## PAN AMERICAN STANDARDS COMMISSION – COPANT

### REPORT TO 32<sup>nd</sup> ISO GENERAL ASSEMBLY – CAPE TOWN – SOUTH AFRICA

SERGIO TORO, PRESIDENT

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*The principal object of COPANT is to promote the development of technical standardization and related activities in its member countries with the aim of promoting their commercial, industrial, scientific and technological development in benefit of the economic and commercial integration and the exchange of goods and services, while facilitating cooperation in the intellectual, scientific, economic and social spheres.*

#### VISION

*COPANT's leadership and support of the processes of regional standardization and harmonization in the Americas, based upon the principles of transparency and consensus, enable it to efficiently articulate a coherent regional voice toward the fulfillment of its mission and to be recognized and relied upon by industry, public authorities, consumers and other stakeholders. In this way, COPANT contributes to the competitiveness of the region, the well-being of its citizens, and a more efficient and sustainable world economy.*

<p><b>COPANT Authorities</b> 2009-2011</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• President – Sergio Toro, Chile</li> <li>• Vice-president – S. Joe Bhatia, USA</li> <li>• Treasurer - Mario Wittner, Argentina</li> <li>• Executive Secretary - Manuel Diaz Portocarrero</li> </ul>
<p><b>COPANT General Assembly 2009</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, on May 11 and 13, 2009</li> <li>• 80 delegates, including COPANT Member, the COPANT Authorities, invitees and observers. Establishing the presence of 17 Active Members, 6 Adherent Members (Germany, Spain, France, Australia, Italy and IAAC), the COPANT Authorities, and a total of 7 special guests from International and Regional Organizations [AMN, CANENA, CEN/CENELEC/ETSI, CROSO, RAN, IEC (the IEC President and the Regional Manager for Latin America) and ISO (the ISO Secretary General)}, and Observers.</li> </ul>



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Panamerican Standards Commission  
Comissão Panamericana de Normas Técnicas

<p><b>Some Highlights of 2008-2009</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ The COPANT Board of Directors held 2 meetings: N° 16 Meeting in Sao Paulo, Brazil (November 17, 2008), and N° 17 Meeting in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic (May 13, 2009)</li> <li>✓ Approved eight new COPANT standards produced by Technical Committee on Quality Management (COPANT/TC 120)</li> <li>✓ The COPANT 2009 Assembly took note of the advances of the projects (MFI / Inter American Development Bank (IADB) to enhance competitiveness of SMEs through standardization, as follows:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ATN/ME 8532 RG UNIT – MERCOSUL</li> <li>• ATN/ME 8533 RG ICONTEC – ANDEAN</li> <li>• ATN/ME 8576 RG INTECO – CENTRAL AMERICA</li> </ul> </li> <li>✓ Reported on WTO/TBT Workshop “The Role of International Standards in Economic Development”, and on the Biofuels Conference held in Brussel, March 2009</li> <li>✓ FINCA (Forum of IEC NCs (National Committees) of the Americas) held in Santo Domingo (May 11, 2009)</li> <li>✓ COPANT is working on the translation into Spanish of the ISO Document “Fast Forward”</li> <li>✓ Revision and reclassification of the collection of COPANT standards</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Legal Documents &amp; Standards Approved 2008 - 2009</b></p>	<p><b>COPANT General Assembly 2009</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signing by the President of the Memorandum of Understanding between COPANT and the ESOs (CEN-CENELEC-ETSI)</li> <li>• Approval of eight COPANT standards produced by the committee on quality management (COPANT/TC 120):             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>COPANT-ISO 9001:2008 Standard Quality management systems. Requirements.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>COPANT-ISO 10001:2009 Standard Quality management - Customer satisfaction - Guidelines for codes of conduct for organizations.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>COPANT-ISO 10003:2009 Standard Quality management - Customer satisfaction - Guidelines for dispute resolution external to organizations.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>COPANT-ISO 10005:2009 Standard Quality management systems - Guidelines for quality plans.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>COPANT-ISO 10006:2009 Standard Quality management systems - Guidelines for quality management in projects.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>COPANT-ISO 10007:2009 Standard Quality management systems - Guidelines for configuration management.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>COPANT-ISO 10014:2009 Standard Quality management - Guidelines for realizing financial and economic benefits.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>COPANT-ISO 10019:2009 Standard Guidelines for the selection of quality management system consultants and use of their services.</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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<p><b>Training 2008</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshop ISO/COPOLCO/COPANT/BSI “Participation of Consumers in International Standardization” was held in Buenos Aires-Argentina, on November 5-6, with the support of ISO/COPOLCO/DEVCO, COPANT and BSI, with the participation of Mrs. Caroline Warne, former Chair of COPOLCO, and of Mr. Charles Barker, international expert, and Representatives from Standardization Bodies and Consumer Associations from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Guatemala, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Cuba, Honduras, El Salvador and Venezuela.</li>   <li>• The Regional ISO Course “Introduction to e-Services” took place on November 11-14, 2008; organized by UNIT, sponsored by COPANT and ISO. This event was held at the UNIT headquarters in the city of Montevideo, Uruguay, and counted with the participation of representatives from the standardization bodies from Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.</li>   <li>• The following COPANT/UNIT Courses or Itinerary Seminars were held in La Habana-Cuba, on November 11-28, 2008:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Quality Management and Integrated Systems (November, 17-19, 2008)</li> <li>✓ Standardization and Conformity Assessment (November, 20-24, 2008)</li> <li>✓ System Management manuals and documentation (November, 25-27, 2008)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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<p><b>Participation in International and Regional Initiatives 2009</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation in CANENA 2009 Meeting, held on 25-26 February, 2009 in Orlando, USA</li>   <li>• Participation in the ISO/TMB/WG SR Meeting, celebrated in Quebec City, Canada, in May, 2009.</li>   <li>• Participation in PASC 32 Meeting, held on 1-2 April 2009 in Hobart, Australia</li>   <li>• Participation in the COPOLCO 2009 Plenary Meeting , in New Delhi, India, 26-29, May 2009.</li> </ul>
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Comisión Panamericana de Normas Técnicas  
Panamerican Standards Commission  
Comissão Panamericana de Normas Técnicas

<p><b>Strategic Plan Follow Up 2009</b></p>	<p><b>Strategic Objectives</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improve COPANT's leadership as the driving force for the coordination and harmonization of the regional standardization processes and for ensuring the development and use of COPANT standards</li> <li>2. Foster COPANT member participation in international standardization</li> <li>3. Prioritize human resource training</li> <li>4. Make efforts to improve the infrastructure of COPANT member organizations, especially for those that are less developed</li> <li>5. Promote conformity assessment activities in the region.</li> <li>6. Achieve better visibility for COPANT</li> <li>7. To be considered the principal body for reference in the Americas in the areas of Standardization and Conformity Assessment</li> <li>8. To improve the value of COPANT to its members and increase their participation in COPANT activities</li> </ol> <p><b>Planned activities for 2009:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal for COPANT – ICONTEC / VI Internship, to be held in Bogotá at the ICONTEC headquarters</li> <li>• Proposal on "Good National Practices in the Activities of COPANT Members"</li> <li>• COPANT/UNIT Courses or Itinerary Seminar to be held in La Habana-Cuba</li> <li>• Proposal for the Pan-American Seminar on "Standardization and certification of food products" (ISO 22000)</li> <li>• Proposal for the Constitution of the COPANT "Technology Support Group for Standardization"</li> </ul>
<p><b>Next General Assembly of COPANT</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mexico City, Mexico - April 27 to 29, 2010</li> </ul>



## **EURO-ASIAN COUNCIL FOR STANDARDIZATION, METROLOGY AND CERTIFICATION (EASC)**

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The EASC activities as a regional organization aim to realize a concerted technical policy in the field of standardization, harmonization of technical regulations, metrology and conformity assessment in the CIS countries. In formulating its technical policy, the EASC takes into account problems that the CIS member States face in the development of their economies.

In November 2008, the Council of the Heads of the CIS Governments adopted the Commonwealth of Independent States Economic Development Strategy for the period up to 2020.

The Strategy defines priority areas in the cooperation between the CIS member States in the economic field.

The CIS member States set strategic targets and objectives in the economic field and ensure their accomplishment on the basis of the key provisions of the current CIS Development Strategy.

To realize the CIS Development Strategy and to foster integration linkages, the 34th EASC session (December 2008, Kiev, Ukraine) has endorsed the EASC Development Strategy for the period up to 2020, which determines strategic targets for all areas of the EASC activities. The Strategy is based on proposals presented by national standards, metrology and conformity assessment organizations of the CIS member States and on the main provisions of the ISO Strategic Plan 2005-2010.

The strategy in the field of standardization envisages:

- improvement of the regional standardization system;
- development of the normative and technical framework that meets the latest requirements for the assessment of the conformity of products and services to the requirements of technical regulations;
- encouragement of the application of recently adopted international and European standards as regional standards;
- stimulation of a wider participation of the EASC Technical Committees in the work of the respective Technical Committees of international organizations in order to ensure that the interests of all CIS member States are taken into account in the development process of the international standards projects.

The EASC 35th session held in Minsk (the Republic of Belarus) in 10-11 June 2009, has discussed the status of work in the sphere of technical regulation in the CIS member States and considered appropriate, in order to prevent the creation of additional technical barriers to trade for a basic range of products, to focus efforts on the development of interstate standards in the following priority areas:

- food and agricultural products industry;
- essential commodities (light industry);

- construction materials;
- in the area of efficient energy utilization, energy saving and energy resources.

To ensure the realization of this decision, it envisaged to develop interstate programmes concerning the standardization of food products and in the area of efficient energy utilization, energy saving and energy resources.

The EASC is a multidisciplinary regional organization with the following major fields of activity:

- development of normative documents on standardization including regional standards, rules, recommendations and classifiers;
- creation and maintenance of the regional standards fund and activities aimed at ensuring that these standards reach the EASC member States;
- harmonization of the technical regulations of the CIS member States;
- maintenance and further development of the reference base and system of transfer of physical units;
- maintenance of the interstate exact time services and frequency services;
- maintenance of the information base on measurement instruments, standard samples and standard reference data on properties of substances and materials;
- elaboration of rules and procedures concerning the mutual recognition of the results of State tests, metrological certification, review and calibration of measurement instrumentation;
- elaboration of rules and procedures concerning the mutual recognition of the accredited testing, verification, calibration and measurement laboratories (centers), certification bodies, product certificates and systems that ensure quality;
- international cooperation in the field of regional standardization, metrology, certification and quality;
- in the field of standardization, the EASC co-operates with such international and regional standards organizations as ISO, the IEC, CEN and CENELEC.

Representatives of international and regional standards, metrology and conformity assessment organizations and a number of relevant national organizations participate in the EASC activities.

Thus for example, the ISO Secretary-General, Mr. Rob Steele, participated in the deliberations of the EASC 35th session and represented at the same time the IEC at the session, while the CEN and the CENELEC were represented by Mr. Alexandre Dechaumont, the Manager of the CENELEC International Relations Unit. At the session, national standards organizations from France, Germany, Poland, Spain as well as from other States were represented. During the session, CENELEC and the EASC signed a Memorandum of Understanding on the further development of cooperation.

Delegates at the session thanked Mr. Steele and Mr. Dechaumont for the information they presented concerning the future development of international and European standardization.

The EASC thanked ISO for the creation of a database and posting on the ISO website of the international standards in Russian. This will encourage their application as EASC regional standards and as national standards in the Russian-speaking States.

The EASC activities are aimed at fostering the quality and competitiveness of products produced by the CIS member States, ensuring the safety of these products for the life and health of their population, at protecting the environment and protecting markets against low quality and unsafe products and at ensuring their compatibility and interchangeability, and preventing misleading actions.

Interstate standards are developed in line with the procedures established in the international practice. Standards are adopted at the EASC meetings or by correspondence. The second half of 2009 will see the introduction of the new edition of the GOST 1.3-2008 «Interstate System of Standardization. Rules and technique of adoption of interstate and regional standards as interstate standards», aimed at widening the application of the international standards. It meets the requirements of ISO/IEC Guide 21-1:2005 and Guide 21-2:2005.

Since 1992, more than 5100 interstate standards and 1450 amendments to current interstate standards have been developed and adopted.

The average level of harmonization of current interstate standards with the international standards exceeds 50 %.

In order to improve the provision of information to the EASC member States concerning standardization, metrology and conformity assessment, the «СНГ Стандарт» (The CIS Standard) information retrieval system was developed and introduced. It includes bibliographic databases of international, interstate and national standards of the CIS States. The EASC 35th session decided to update it.

Operation testing of the EASC Integrated Automated Information System (AIS EASC) has been completed. The system, after revision according to the results of the operation testing, will replace the System of Electronic Voting on the projects of interstate standards that exists since 2002.

The setting into operation of the AIS EASC will enable use of information technologies at all stages of the life cycle of the EASC standards.

The Council's updated website (<http://www.easc.org.by>) contains information in Russian and English that includes legal and standard bases in the field of standardization, metrology, conformity assessment and information concerning the Organization and activities that are planned and carried out.

The EASC policy in the field of conformity assessment is aimed at ensuring a uniform approach to the recognition of results of conformity assessment in the CIS member States, the free flow of goods between the CIS countries and the elimination of technical barriers to trade. For this purpose, draft agreements on principles of harmonization of technical regulations and on modules of conformity assessment are under preparation.

Improvement of product quality and competitiveness is one of the key problems that face the EASC member States. The creation and certification of product quality management systems in line with the requirements of the new version of the ISO 9000 International Standards is an important means of accomplishing the task in question. One of the conditions for participating in the Award of the Commonwealth of Independent States Competition in the field of quality of products and services is the availability, within the enterprise, of a certified quality management system that meets the ISO 9000 International Standards requirements.

To train specialists for the CIS member States, it is envisaged to hold in the second half of 2009 an interstate seminar on ISO 9001:2008 that will permit to organize its immediate introduction within enterprises in the region. In this connection, we request the ISO management to help in holding the seminar for the CIS countries in the Republic of Belarus with the participation of leading ISO experts. On our part, we will ensure the organizational arrangements for the seminar. The CIS countries are also very interested

in holding, together with ISO, a seminar on the ISO 26000 «Guidance on social responsibility» with a view to introducing in the daily practice of our organizations, the best practices in application of the social responsibility principles.

The EASC activities in the fields of harmonization of technical regulations, updating and harmonization of the existing interstate standards fund with the international and European standards, application of uniform measurement instrumentation, use of modern information technologies will promote the further development of trade in the CIS and the integration of the economy of the member States in the world economy.

In May-June 2010 it is envisaged to hold the EASC 37th session in Ukraine.

We invite the ISO President, the Heads of the Central Secretariat, the Heads of other international and regional organizations with whom EASC maintains business relations and the Heads of national standards organizations interested in the cooperation with the EASC to participate in the work of the EASC 37th session.

N.V. Sonets

EASC Executive Secretary



Pacific Area Standards Congress (“PASC”) report to ISO General Assembly  
September 2009 – Capetown, South Africa

<p><b>Objective</b></p>	<p>This report provides a summary of activities carried out by PASC in the last 12 or so months. The key activities have been: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooperation with APEC Standards and Conformance Sub-Committee (“SCSC”)</li> <li>• PASC 31 and PASC Executive Committee (“EC”) meetings held in Shanghai, China on 22-25 April 2008.</li> <li>• PASC EC meeting held on 11 October 2008 in Dubai, UAE.</li> <li>• PASC EC meeting held on 26 February 2009 in Singapore.</li> <li>• PASC 32 and PASC EC meetings held in Hobart, Tasmania, Australia on 1-4 April 2009.</li> </ul> <p>PASC welcomed BIS (India) as a new member of PASC in December 2008. The PASC membership is composed of 24 countries/economies as it now stands</p>
<p><b>PASC themes and issues</b></p>	<p>Key themes that PASC is working on are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the importance of involving regulators in standardization and of meeting regulators’ needs.</li> <li>2. the need to clearly explain the value of a robust standards and conformance infrastructure in an economy to assist in economic growth and provide appropriate safety for citizens of that economy.</li> <li>3. consideration as to how PASC and other Specialist Regional Bodies (“SRBs”) in the Pacific region might work more effectively with APEC SCSC. This initiative led to an activity in the APEC SCSC in which a strategy paper to improve and coordinate capacity-building and awareness of standards and conformance in the APEC region was written and approved in 2007. SRB Forum meeting, which became a regular yearly event, was held</li> </ol>



	<p>on 21 February 2009 in conjunction with APEC SCSC meeting in Singapore, and PASC had taken the role of the SRB Forum Coordinator for 2008 -2009. SRB meeting reviewed and updated the strategic plan, brainstormed as to sector priorities, criteria and methodologies for SRB projects. As representative of SRBs, PASC EC Chair made a presentation at the recent WTO TBT Workshop on the Role of International Standards in Economic Development held on 16-17 March 2009.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>4. PASC members to promote stakeholders' participation in the APEC SCSC2 and its related meetings (on product safety, food safety, business interface, etc.) to be held in Singapore from 30 July to 6 August 2009.</li><li>5. encouragement of closer working between ISO and IEC with Co- operation Agreements signed with each organisation in 2006 and 2007 respectively. In November 2008 in Sao Paulo, PASC was represented and participated in the IEC Council and SMB meetings. PASC also looks for further cooperation between ISO and IEC and suggests them to consider establishing a standing annual joint ISO/Technical Management Board and IEC/Standardization Management Board meeting as well as a mechanism between ISO/TMB and IEC/SMB which can anticipate resolving issues of converging technologies.</li><li>6. establishment of a mechanism (PASC priority "pilot projects") to further facilitate cooperation among PASC members in developing international standards to reflect regional views in standards which will be the basis for free trade in the region. One of the PASC pilot projects is on ISO/CASCO, which has been carried out in collaboration with PAC and APLAC. This project has shared and exchanged the related information and encourages members to participate in CASCO activities.</li><li>7. enhancement of collaboration with business people. PASC notes with satisfaction the continuing and productive PASC interaction with ABAC, and looks forward to working with ABAC on new initiatives to enable ABAC members to realize greater value from standardization activities, while simultaneously understanding ABAC members' standards priorities and needs.</li></ol> <p>All of the above are incorporated in a PASC Action Plan which records agreed projects and which is monitored by the PASC EC.</p>
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	<p>An updated Action Plan and progress on the actions is presented at each PASC annual meeting and PASC EC meeting.</p>
<b>Conclusion</b>	<p>PASC appreciates the opportunity to report to ISO and would appreciate any feedback you may have with respect to issues and ideas in this report.</p> <p>We take this opportunity to wish ISO and its members every success at the meeting to be held in September 2009 in Capetown, South Africa.</p> <p>Juichi Nagano For PASC Secretary June 2009</p>

## COOPERATION WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

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ISO has liaison relations with some 700 international organizations, including the UN and its specialized agencies. Since the last General Assembly, a substantial number of developments have taken place regarding ISO's cooperation with international organizations. A summary highlighting the main developments is given in the report below.

For the sake of clarity, the international organizations in liaison with ISO mentioned in this document have been divided into two groups:

- the UN and its specialized agencies and bodies (section 1), and
- other international organizations (section 2).

Note that the cooperation with IEC and ITU is covered under agenda item 5 and with the WTO under agenda item 6.

### 1 The UN and its specialized agencies and bodies

The UN system is a key "partner" for ISO, since most UN specialized agencies and bodies working in fields related to technical harmonization or technical assistance have liaison status with ISO. Moreover, ISO has general consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and equivalent status with nearly all other bodies and specialized agencies of the UN system.

#### 1.1 CAC (FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission)

The 32nd Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission was held in Roma (Italy) on 29 June-3 July 2009. ISO was represented for part of the meeting. An informative paper (attached at Appendix 1) was submitted by ISO and circulated as a Codex document for that meeting. As in previous years, the subject of the CAC's relations with ISO was addressed specifically in their agenda. In this context, the Codex working paper regarding the relations between the Codex Alimentarius Commission and other International Organizations contained a section on relations between Codex and ISO; the relevant extract of this document is attached at Appendix 2.

Codex representatives participated in selected meetings of ISO, and representatives of ISO participated in selected Codex meetings. Liaison status has been granted to the Codex Alimentarius Commission by the ISO Committee on Conformity Assessment (CASCO).

The CAC has liaison relations with 24 ISO technical committees and subcommittees.

#### 1.2 IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency)

The IAEA has liaisons with the ISO Committee on reference materials (REMCO) and 14 ISO technical committees and subcommittees. ISO has a dedicated Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with IAEA. The most prominent activity is the reciprocal collaboration between IAEA and ISO/TC 85 *Nuclear energy*. This takes place in the subject areas of: safety, radiological protection, transport and waste management. Recently, there have also been discussions about bringing each organization's management system type approach to safety and security in the nuclear industry. The most recent collaboration was a joint IAEA/ISO meeting on

26 March 2009 in Vienna; this served as an opportunity for an exchange of information about current projects and co-ordination of the liaisons.

### **1.3 ILO (International Labour Organization)**

Cooperation between ISO and ILO is active in several technical areas, for example biometrics, ergonomics, and protective clothing and equipment; and ILO and its tri-partite constituency (governments, employers and workers) continue to be active contributors to the ISO/TMB Working Group on Social Responsibility (SR). It is recalled that a Memorandum of Understanding between ISO and ILO was signed in March 2005 to govern cooperation in that field.

ILO has liaison relations with 35 ISO technical committees and subcommittees.

### **1.4 IMO (International Maritime Organization)**

The Secretary-General paid a visit to IMO Secretary-General at the IMO headquarters in London (United Kingdom) in May 2009 to discuss matters of common interest, including the consultation for the *Strategic Plan 2011-2015* (IMO is one of the 32 selected international organizations invited to submit comments).

The ISO 28000 series of standards related to security in the supply chain has been published upon IMO's request. To date, the 28000 series consists of three published standards, with three additional standards currently under development. The ISO 30000 series related to specifications for ships recycling management systems is also being developed with IMO's active support and currently consists of five separate standards at various stages of development.

IMO has liaison relations with 30 technical committees and subcommittees. In particular, IMO continues to be a strong supporter of ISO/TC 8, *Ships and marine technology*.

### **1.5 ITC (International Trade Centre UNCTAD-WTO)**

ISO was represented and addressed the ITC World Export Development Forum 2008 held in Montreux (Switzerland) on 9 October 2008.

The Secretary-General met with the Executive Director of ITC, Mrs Patricia Francis, on 30 June 2009 to review cooperation activities. Among the activities retained for joint implementation in 2009 are the following:

- organising a joint ISO/ITC consultation workshop involving participants from national standards bodies (NSBs) and export promotion bodies and leading to a joint publication emphasizing the inter-linkages between such bodies;
- preparing a joint publication on ISO 14001 *Environmental management systems – Requirements with guidance for use*.

The ITC has liaison relations with four ISO technical committees and subcommittees.

### **1.6 UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)**

ISO and UNCTAD collaborate in the following areas:

- social responsibility and the current development of the ISO 26000 standard;
- energy efficiency and renewable sources, in particular energy management and biofuels;
- food safety management and the ISO 22000 series of standards;
- environmental management, GHG emissions credit trading and the ISO 14000 series of standards;

- trade facilitation in general, particularly in transportation, and the ISO 28000 series on security management in the supply chain;
- quality management in SMEs and the ISO 9000 series of standards.

UNCTAD has liaison relations with 10 ISO technical committees and subcommittees, and takes part in the ISO/TMB Working Group on Social Responsibility.

### **1.7 UNECE (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe)**

ISO was represented at the annual session of the Working Party 6<sup>1</sup> (WP 6) held in Geneva in November 2008, at which the WP 6 discussed the terms of reference of the Market Surveillance Model Initiative. In this context, the ISO representative informed the working party of the establishment of the "Strategic Alliance and Regulatory Group (STAR)" within the ISO/CASCO in order to study how to adapt its toolbox for market surveillance and to encourage more effective participation of regulators and market surveillance authorities in its activities. As another example of the existing cooperation between ISO and UNECE in the field of market surveillance, the Secretary of UNECE WP 6 participated as a speaker in the ISO/CASCO workshop on "Conformity Assessment Standards in support of Market Surveillance" held in Geneva on 29 October 2008, which she addressed on the subject "Regulatory dialogue at the United Nations".

ISO has been invited to participate in the annual session of the WP 6 to be held on 25-27 November 2009, which will include a Conference on Risk Assessment and Management.

ISO was further represented at the UNECE Workshop on Estimating Potential Wood Supply held in Geneva on 30 March 2009.

ISO maintains a close working relationship with the UNECE Inland Transport Committee.

Experts from ISO committees participate in the work of the following groups which also refer as needed to relevant ISO standards in their publications:

- UNECE Working Party 1: Road Traffic Safety
- UNECE Working Party 3: Technical & Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation
- UNECE Working Party 15: Transport of Dangerous Goods
- UNECE Working Party 29: World Forum for the Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations

Experts from ISO also participate in the work of UN/CEFACT (United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business) with which there are a number of common UNECE/ISO publications.

The UNECE has liaison relations with 87 ISO technical committees and subcommittees.

### **1.8 UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change)**

A proposed UN-ISO framework for the development of guidance materials, standards and reporting guidelines in support of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was endorsed by the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technical Advice (SBSTA) at its meeting in June 2009 and will now be considered by the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC at its meeting in Copenhagen (Denmark) in December 2009.

A meeting between representatives of ISO and of the UNFCCC accreditation programme is scheduled to take place at the end of August 2009 to introduce them to the CASCO toolbox and how they can use it in their accreditation programme. In addition, UNFCCC representatives will

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<sup>1</sup> UNECE Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies

attend the next CASCO Strategic Alliance and Regulatory Group (STAR) meeting to determine if they should participate in this group as a Guest member. This would allow for a continued interaction with CASCO.

### **1.9 UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organization)**

The Secretary-General and the UNIDO Director-General signed a new Memorandum of Understanding in Vienna (Austria) in June 2009. This new agreement (attached at Appendix 3) is a response to the increasingly important role that standards play as a policy implementation mechanism and market tool for trade and sustainable development, including climate change and mitigation. It also reflects the emerging new areas of collaboration in which shared objectives, functions and activities of the two organizations have become complementary.

ISO and UNIDO continue to work closely for the delivery of training seminars and workshops on standardization, including on energy management, greenhouse gas quantification and reporting, and conformity assessment.

ISO was represented at the launching ceremony of the UNIDO-WAITRO<sup>2</sup> Laboratory Network (Labnet) portal held in Hyderabad (India) in December 2008.

The Secretary-General participated in the International Energy Conference 2009, organized by UNIDO in Vienna (Austria) from 22-24 June 2009. He was the keynote speaker in one of the sessions and addressed the topic of "Energy Efficiency: The role of standards and ISO's current work".

A joint ISO/UNIDO publication on conformity assessment is expected to be published around September 2009. This publication is intended to help those in developing countries, whether they have governmental, business or consumer interests, to understand conformity assessment and to create an effective infrastructure within their economy. It follows the publication in 2008 of *Fast Forward – National Standards Bodies in developing countries*, also a joint ISO/UNIDO publication.

UNIDO has liaison relations with four ISO technical committees and one subcommittee, and takes part in the ISO/TMB Working Group on Social Responsibility.

### **1.10 UPU (Universal Postal Union)**

ISO and UPU signed a cooperation agreement in January 2008 and a preliminary meeting of the joint contact committee was held in November 2008 to discuss arrangements for improving cooperation, including identification of ISO committees working in fields relevant to UPU.

The Secretary-General and the UPU Director General will meet on 28 August 2009 at the UPU headquarters in Bern (Switzerland) to discuss matters of common interest, including the consultation for the *Strategic Plan 2011-2015* (UPU is one of the 32 selected international organizations invited to submit comments).

UPU has liaison relations with 13 ISO technical committees and subcommittees.

### **1.11 WHO (World Health Organization)**

Good cooperation between ISO and WHO continues and has increased in some areas, following the WSC Workshop on medical technologies of February 2004. ISO continues to be represented each year at WHO World Health Assemblies and Executive Board meetings, and at certain specialized meetings such as the Regulatory Meeting for Healthcare Professionals. This year, the

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<sup>2</sup> WAITRO: World Association of Industrial and Technological Research Organizations

Chairman of ISO/TC 215, Dr Yun Sik Kwak also attended a new WHO initiative on our behalf, the Registry of Open Access Data Standards (ROADS), held 16-17 June 2009.

WHO has shown increased interest in the activities of several ISO Technical Committees, including ISO/TC 126 *Tobacco and tobacco products* (with which it maintains its category A liaison). Some five WHO experts attended those meetings and made active and forceful contributions. Conversely, ISO/CS has raised our presence in the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), at least for Geneva-held meetings.

ISO was invited by WHO to consider writing Guidelines on drug procurement but this was put on hold for the time being.

WHO has liaison relations with REMCO and over 50 ISO technical committees and subcommittees. Some interest in ISO/PC 241 on Road Safety may develop.

### **1.12 WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organization)**

ISO has an observer status with WIPO and regularly receives WIPO's documents and invitations to its meetings and conferences. The WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center processed two complaints of the ISO Central Secretariat in 2008 related to a number of domain names infringing ISO trademarks. It should be noted that staff members of the ISO Central Secretariat had regular informal consultations on IPR issues with their colleagues from WIPO in 2008-2009.

The WIPO has liaison relations with 10 ISO technical committees and subcommittees.

### **1.13 WMO (World Meteorological Organization)**

In September 2008, working arrangements between WMO and ISO have been finalized in order to implement the Council Resolution 43/2007 (in which ISO Council recognized WMO as an international standardizing body). These working arrangements have been signed by both Secretary-Generals. Their aim is to strengthen cooperation in the development of International Standards and to avoid duplication of work on standards related to meteorological, climatological, hydrological, marine and related environmental data, products and services. Since then, WMO experts made contributions to the development of ISO standards by giving comments on a few draft International Standards or attending official ISO committees meetings.

WMO has liaison relations with 36 ISO technical committees and subcommittees.

## **2 Other international organizations**

### **2.1 OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development)**

It is recalled that ISO and OECD signed in 2005 a Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the development of standards associated with agricultural tractor testing. This MoU was renewed in 2008 for a further three-year period (August 2008 – August 2011).

OECD also takes part in the work of the ISO/TMB Working Group on SR. ISO and OECD signed in May 2008 a Memorandum of Understanding in the field of SR along the same lines as the one signed with the United Nations Global Compact Office (UNGCO). Related to this work, the Deputy Secretary-General made a presentation at a roundtable on 15 June 2009 in Paris (France) organized under the auspices of the OECD Investment Committee in cooperation with the OECD Committee on Consumer Policy, the Committee on Financial Markets and the Environment Policy Committee. Every year, the OECD holds such a roundtable in conjunction with their Annual Meeting for National Contact Points – the government-assigned bodies responsible for implementation of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises. This year's roundtable focussed on "Consumer empowerment and responsible business conduct".

Cooperation with the International Energy Agency (IEA), an inter-governmental organization within the OECD family, continues to increase. In March 2009, IEA, ISO and the IEC collaborated to host a workshop at OECD in Paris, involving 290 experts from the public and private sector, and addressing the role of International Standards to support energy efficiency and lower carbon emissions. A full report of the workshop including detailed recommendations and PowerPoint presentations made by participants is available on the ISO Web site under "Hot topics >> Energy".

The International Transport Forum (ITF) held its 2009 meeting on 26-29 May in Leipzig (Germany). The ITF is an inter-governmental organisation within the OECD family and a new global platform at ministerial level for transport, logistics and mobility. The Forum is an evolution of the previous European Conference of Ministers of Transport. The 2009 ITF Forum discussed the impacts of the economic crisis on transport and the sector's role in recovery. ISO did not attend the 2009 ITF Forum but we continue to monitor the work of the Forum. ITF did present and participate in the above-mentioned energy workshop organized by ISO, IEA and IEC.

## **2.2 WCO (World Customs Organization)**

Cooperation is maintained concerning the use of the ISO 28000 series related to security in the supply chain, electronic port clearance, containers (specifications, seals, etc.), and data exchange. Increased cooperation between WCO and ISO is expected in the area of anti-counterfeiting, with the creation of ISO/TC 247 *Fraud countermeasures and controls*.

In total, WCO has liaison relations with 132 ISO technical committees and subcommittees, including ISO/TC 8, *Ships and marine technology*, and ISO/TC 104, *Freight containers*.

## **2.3 WEF (World Economic Forum)**

ISO was represented at the WEF Annual meeting 2009 held in Davos (Switzerland) from 28 January to 1 February 2009, which was devoted to "Shaping the post crisis world". The Deputy Secretary-General took part in various sessions during the meeting and, in particular, in an interactive session on "Mending holes in the food safety net" where he commented on global food safety challenges facing both developed and developing countries and described to global leaders how multi-stakeholder, consensus-based voluntary standards could complement food safety measures taken by governments and implemented by industry.

The ISO Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General also met with Mr. André Schneider, Chief Operating Officer, at the WEF Offices in Geneva to discuss subjects of common interest between the organizations and explore potential collaboration in priority areas such as global corporate citizenship, social responsibility, anti-corruption and global governance; energy and water challenges; and climate change.

The ISO President took part in the 2009 World Economic Forum on East Asia held in Seoul (Republic of Korea) on 18-19 June 2009, which focused on "Implications of the Global Economic Crisis for East Asia".

# **3 Regional organizations<sup>3</sup>**

## **3.1 EC (European Commission)**

The Secretary-General paid a visit to the headquarters of the European Commission in Brussels (Belgium) on 21 April 2009 and met with the Director of Directorate I - New Approach Industries,

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<sup>3</sup> Other than regional standards organizations which are covered in Annex 2 to General Assembly 05/2009.



Tourism and CSR, within the Directorate-General Enterprise and Industry, to discuss matters of common interest, for example: ISO/CEN relations, ISO/IEC/ITU relations, access to standardization (EXPRESS<sup>4</sup> Group and study commissioned by the European Commission), social responsibility and standardization in the services sector.

The EC has liaison relations with 173 ISO technical committees and subcommittees.

### **3.2 NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)**

It is recalled that ISO and the NATO Standardisation Agency (NSA) signed a Technical Cooperation Agreement in 2006. Under the terms of the Agreement, besides work on standards, cooperation between ISO and NSA can also include other forms of cooperation as agreed by the parties, including the organization of and participation in conferences.

In line with the above agreement, ISO was invited to speak at the NATO Standardization Conference on “Interoperability through Standardization” held in Virginia (USA) on 16-18 September 2008. ISO also participates in the NATO Civil Standards Management Working Group which in particular is overseeing the transfer of appropriate NATO standards to civil standards organizations for maintenance purposes.

NATO has liaison relations with two ISO technical committees and subcommittees.

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<sup>4</sup> EXPRESS: Expert Panel for the Review of the European Standardisation System

# codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD  
HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION



JOINT OFFICE: Viale delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 ROME Tel: 39 06 57051 www.codexalimentarius.net Email: codex@fao.org Facsimile: 39 06 5705 4593

## JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

### CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

#### *Thirty-second Session*

*FAO headquarters, Rome, 29 June - 4 July 2009*

#### **COMMUNICATION FROM ISO\* (report of activities relevant to Codex work)**

1. The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) has prepared this information paper as part of ongoing updates and communication between the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) Secretariat and the ISO Central Secretariat. It provides a summary of current work undertaken by ISO that may be of interest to the CAC and is intended to support and enhance dialogue and coordination between the two organizations.

#### International Organization for Standardization (ISO)

2. ISO is the International Organization for Standardization (<http://www.iso.org>). ISO is a non-governmental organization established in 1947 with members consisting of the leading and recognized national standards organizations of 160 countries, on the basis of one member per country.

3. ISO has a Central Secretariat, based in Geneva, Switzerland, that employs 153 staff. However, most of the work in developing and maintaining the portfolio of more than 18 000 International Standards is shared amongst the membership, with individual national members providing and financing the Chairmanships and Secretariats for one or more of the 192 technical committees and 494 subcommittees managing some 2 300 working groups.

4. Two ISO policy committees, DEVCO and COPOLCO, identify and monitor actions and programmes to encourage and facilitate the participation, respectively of developing countries and consumer interests, in standardization. A third ISO policy committee, CASCO, deals with conformity assessment matters; its work is discussed in greater detail further on in this document.

#### International Standards

5. While the most well known standard in the ISO portfolio is ISO 9001:2008, *Quality management systems — Requirements*, the great majority of ISO standards do not relate to management system requirements. Rather they include terminology, sampling, test and analytical methods, interoperability as well as specifications and performance requirements for industrial and agricultural products, equipment, processes and, to a growing extent, services.

6. The application of the International Standards that ISO produces starts out as being voluntary. In the majority of cases, these standards are needed and used voluntarily as references within commercial contracts between market players, for example in procurement contracts or as a basis for companies to develop, test and market their products.

7. However, more and more standards are cited by regulators as a means to assist compliance with relevant governmental principles and/or technical regulations. This is recommended in the WTO TBT agreement and the SPS agreement (with regards specifically to CAC, OIE and IPPC) so as to reduce technical barriers to trade, and, for example, by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Subcommittee on Standards and Conformance (APEC SCSC), in the context of implementing good regulatory practices. In 2007, ISO published a new informative brochure entitled “*Using and referencing ISO and IEC standards for technical regulations*” to

describe certain advantages in using and referencing ISO and IEC standards. It provides examples in different sectors, and national and regional regulatory texts that refer to standards.

#### ISO's international status

8. ISO has a specific status with many UN agencies, including the WHO and FAO, and is an observer to the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC). It is also an observer at the WTO Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE), the Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (WTO TBT) and the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS). In the area of technical assistance, ISO regularly cooperates with the WTO and ITC, and has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with UNIDO.

9. ISO also regularly participates in WTO SPS meetings and mentions its basic principles.

10. The Joint Committee for Guides in Metrology (JCGM), of which ISO is a Member Organization (BIPM, OIML, IEC, IUPAC, IUPAP, IFCC and ILAC are the other members of JCGM), has adopted a revised version of the International Vocabulary of Metrology (*International Vocabulary of Metrology — Basic and General Concepts and Associated Terms* (VIM). 3rd Edition), replacing the 2nd edition published in 1993. In the new edition, an attempt has been made to meet conceptual needs of measurements in fields such as biochemistry, food science, forensic science and molecular biology. JCGM members may publish the VIM under their own name. ISO and IEC have published the revised VIM as ISO/IEC Guide 99:2007.

#### ISO status in Codex

11. ISO's observer status to the CAC provides an opportunity for the coordination of issues related to a variety of ISO standards that are adopted and used by Codex in its work. According to document "*Recommended methods of analysis and sampling*" (CODEX STAN 234-1999), approximately 310 methods refer to ISO/TC 34 standards (*Food products*) (representing approximately 60 different ISO/TC 34 standards); 19 methods refer to ISO/TC 147 standards (*Water quality*); 5 methods refer to ISO/TC 47 standards (*Chemistry*), and 1 standard each refers to ISO/TC 24, *Sieves and other sizing methods*, ISO/TC 61, *Plastics* and ISO/TC 93, *Starch*. This list is also complemented by Codex's adoption of the CASCO standard ISO/IEC 17025 for testing and calibration laboratories.

12. The priority areas of mutual interest on which ISO would like to maintain and nurture dialogue with the CAC are the work of ISO/TC 34 on food products and the generic work of the ISO Committee on conformity assessment (ISO/CASCO). It should however be noted that other ISO Technical Committees are working in fields that could be of interest for CAC:

- ISO/TC 54, *Essential oils* for which CAC has a liaison;
- ISO/TC 147, *Water quality* for which CAC has a liaison with its SC 2 and SC 4 (more details in point 43) (see [Annex 4](#) for the structure of ISO/TC 147);
- ISO/TC 234, *Fisheries and aquaculture* (which is a new committee created in February 2007) for which CAC has a liaison (more details in point 40) (see [Annex 3](#) for the structure of ISO/TC 234).

#### Codex and ISO/TC 34 Cooperation

13. There is a long history of collaboration between the Codex Committees and ISO/TC 34, *Food products*. ISO/TC 34 supports the establishment of an ongoing and sustainable framework for collaboration between Codex and ISO, in order to enhance the mutual coordination of work and the elimination of duplication and contradictions.

14. Codex and ISO activities are complementary. Codex, as a governmental organization, prepares documents to assist governments in their statutory and regulatory work to protect their citizens from health hazards caused by food consumption. ISO, as a non-governmental organization, prepares standards in particular on test methods to assist stakeholders along the whole food chain to fulfil both the statutory and regulatory requirements, as well as the requirements of consumers of these products.

15. Since its creation in 1947, ISO/TC 34 has published 732 ISO deliverables (International Standards, Technical Specifications and Technical Reports). 65 % of these documents are test methods. See Annex 1 for the structure of ISO/TC 34.

16. Remaining unchanged for quite a long time, the structure of ISO/TC 34 was modified in 2008 with the establishment of a dedicated Subcommittee on biomarkers, SC 16 (see [Annex 1](#)).

17. Considering the scope of this new SC and the standards already published in this field by ISO/TC 34 (with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN)), the following standards were moved under the responsibility of SC 16:

- ISO 24276:2006, *Foodstuffs — Nucleic acid based methods of analysis for the detection of genetically modified organisms and derived products — General requirements and definitions*

- ISO 21571:2005, *Foodstuffs — Methods of analysis for the detection of genetically modified organisms and derived products — Nucleic acid extraction*
- ISO 21569:2005, *Foodstuffs — Methods of analysis for the detection of genetically modified organisms and derived products — Qualitative nucleic acid based methods*
- ISO 21570:2005, *Foodstuffs — Methods of analysis for the detection of genetically modified organisms and derived products — Quantitative nucleic acid based methods*
- ISO 21572:2004, *Foodstuffs — Methods for the detection of genetically modified organisms and derived products — Protein based methods*

It is to be noted that an ISO Technical Specification (not developed with CEN) was also published by ISO/TC 34 and moved under the responsibility of SC 16:

- ISO/TS 21098:2005, *Foodstuffs — Nucleic acid based methods of analysis of genetically modified organisms and derived products — Information to be supplied and procedure for the addition of methods to ISO 21569, ISO 21570 or ISO 21571*

18. Concerning the current work programme of ISO/TC 34, in addition to dedicated work programmes dealing, for example, with *Fruit and vegetable products* (ISO/TC 34/SC 3), *Cereals and pulses* (ISO/TC 34/SC 4), *Milk and milk products* (ISO/TC 34/SC 5), *Animal and vegetable fats and oils* (ISO/TC 34/SC 11) or *Fresh, dry and dried fruits and vegetables* (ISO/TC 34/SC 14), several work items developed under the direct responsibility of ISO/TC 34 may also be of interest to Codex:

- ISO 22000:2005, *Food safety management systems — Requirements for any organization in the food chain*
- ISO/TS 22003:2007, *Food safety management systems — Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of food safety management systems*
- ISO/TS 22004:2005, *Food safety management systems — Guidance on the application of ISO 22000:2005*
- ISO 22005:2007, *Traceability in the feed and food chain — General principles and basic requirements for system design and implementation*
- ISO/FDIS 22006, *Guidelines on the application of ISO 9001 for crop production* (under development)
- ISO/CD 22008, *Food irradiation — Requirements for the development, validation and routine control of the ionizing radiation process used for the treatment of food for human consumption* (under development)
- ISO/DIS 26642, *Food products — Determination of the glycemic index (GI) and relevant classification* (under development)
- ISO/WD 12824, *Royal Jelly — Specifications* (under development)
- ISO/NWIP, *Food services — Good Manufacturing Practices* (under registration vote)

19. WG 8 prepared ISO 22000 and ISO/TS 22004, both published in 2005. The adoption of a food safety management system by an organization involved in the food chain is a useful tool for ensuring compliance with requirements specified by law, statute, regulation and/or customers. The design and implementation of an organization's food safety management system are influenced by varying factors, in particular food safety hazards, the products provided, the processes employed and the size and structure of the organization. ISO/TS 22004 gives generic guidance to small and large enterprises on the use of ISO 22000, which is based on the principles of HACCP as described by the Codex Alimentarius Commission and is designed to be applied together with relevant standards published by that organization.

20. The publication of ISO/TS 22004 followed that of ISO 22000:2005, which is based on a management systems approach (as in ISO 9001:2000), as well as on the Codex hazard analysis and critical control point (HACCP) system. The need for a new ISO International Standard arose from the fact that several national standards (Danish, Dutch, Australian, Irish, etc.) have been developed and from the fact that retailer organizations have prepared documents (BRC, IFS, etc.) for the establishment and auditing of food safety systems, possibly including HACCP requirements. In that context, ISO 22000 should help clarify and harmonize the present situation. Considering the importance of these standards, ISO/TC 34 worked on its organization in order to ensure their long term management and agreed in 2008 to the establishment of a dedicated Subcommittee for the management of the "ISO 22000 family" (i.e. ISO 22000, ISO/TS 22003, ISO/TS 22004 and ISO 22005) in replacement of the current Working Groups (WG 8, WG 9 and JWG 11). This decision is to be ratified by the Technical Management Board of ISO.

21. ISO 22000, and its associated conformity assessment, should have a positive impact on the harmonization and proper implementation of voluntary and mandatory food import and export requirements, inspection and certification systems. ISO 22000 underwent a systematic review process in 2008 in order to evaluate whether it should be confirmed, revised/amended or withdrawn. The outcome of this enquiry will be available soon.

22. The Publicly Available Specification BS PAS 220 was published at the end of 2008. This publication sets out the detailed requirements for the prerequisite programmes on food safety for food manufacturing. It is intended to be used to support management systems designed to meet the requirements specified in ISO 22000 in the food manufacturing industry.

23. The need for an international document containing requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of food safety management systems against ISO 22000 arose. However, to develop such a standard, the assistance of ISO/CASCO (Committee on conformity assessment) was needed. A Joint Working Group with ISO/CASCO (JWG 11) was established for the elaboration of ISO/TS 22003:2007, *Food safety management systems — Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of food safety management systems*.

24. ISO/TS 22003:2007 is based on the generic standard that covers the area of certification and auditing of management systems, namely, ISO/IEC 17021:2006, *Conformity assessment — Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems*, and includes specific guidance on certification to ISO 22000. The final version was published in February 2007.

25. The development of ISO 22005, *Traceability in the feed and food chain – General principles and basic requirements for system design and implementation* also involved the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) and Codex in view of complementing the Codex work on traceability by explaining the design of a suitable system to enable organizations to comply with the regulations set by Codex.

A traceability system is a useful tool to assist an organization operating within the feed and food chain to achieve defined objectives in a management system. However, the choice of a traceability system is influenced by regulations, the characteristics of the product and customer expectations.

ISO 22005 will assist feed and food organizations to document the history, application and location of a product or components.

26. WG 10 was established in 2005 and is working on ISO 22008, *Food irradiation — Requirements for the development, validation and routine control of the ionizing radiation process used for the treatment of food for human consumption*. This International Standard specifies requirements for the development, validation and routine control of the ionizing radiation process used for the treatment of food for human consumption. It covers irradiation processes using the radionuclides  $^{60}\text{Co}$  or  $^{137}\text{Cs}$ , electron beams or X-ray generators and does not specify a complete management system for the control of all stages of food production. However, elements of a quality management system that are the minimum necessary to control the food irradiation process are given.

This project is currently at the CD (Committee Draft) stage.

27. In addition to the "ISO 22000 family", it should be noted that WG 12 is developing ISO 22006, *Guidelines on the application of ISO 9001 for crop production*. This International Standard contains the text of ISO 9001 and adds additional elements for agricultural production operators and for documents associated with a Farm Plan. It is currently at the Final Draft International Standard (FDIS) stage.

28. Finally, ISO/TC 34 is developing ISO 26642, *Food products — Determination of the glycemic index (GI) and relevant classification*. The development of this International Standard originated from a recognized need to standardize the determination of the glycemic index (GI) of foods for practice and research purposes, particularly with its increasing use as a nutrition claim. This document sets out a method for the determination of the glycemic index of carbohydrates in foods and the classification of foods into low, medium and high GI. The document was voted on as a Draft International Standard (DIS) in 2009.

During the last year, after a general review of its Business Plan, the following 4 main objectives were identified:

- Safety of food products
- Fair practices in trade
- Quality of products
- Sustainable development

ISO/TC 34 and its subcommittees initiated new projects. As examples :

- ISO/WD 12824, *Royal Jelly — Specifications* (under development under the responsibility of ISO/TC 34)
- ISO/CD 12779, *Lactose — Determination of water content — Karl Fischer method* (under development under the responsibility of SC 5)
- ISO/WD 3720, *Black tea — Definition and basic requirements* (under development under the responsibility of SC 8)
- ISO/WD 24114, *Instant coffee — Criteria for authenticity* (under development under the responsibility of SC 15)

- ISO/NP 5526, *Cereals, pulses and other food grains — Nomenclature* (under development under the responsibility of SC 4)
- ISO/NWIP, *Food services — Good Manufacturing Practices* (under registration vote)

29. In order to increase the coordination of the work done within all its structures, ISO/TC 34 decided to establish a Chairman Advisory Group (CAG) that first met in 2007. It has the task of assisting the Chairs and Secretaries of the Technical Committee and Subcommittees in the coordination, consistency, planning and steering of the ISO/TC 34 work or other specific tasks of an advisory nature. It also has the task of advising the Chairs and Secretaries of the Technical Committee and Subcommittees of ISO/TC 34 on: strategic and critical issues; newly identified development activities that may impact the topics of interest within the subject area; gaps between those developments and Committee's outcome.

The CAG held a second meeting in conjunction with the last plenary meeting of ISO/TC 34 (October 16-17 2008, France). This was the first plenary since France and Brazil took over the responsibility of the secretariat of ISO/TC 34. Attended by representatives from more than 20 countries, this meeting was the occasion for:

- A discussion of the Business Plan and the scope of ISO/TC 34
- A presentation of the current work of the TC and its SCs
- A presentation of the work done by some of the liaison organizations of ISO/TC 34, namely Codex Alimentarius and Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI)

Concerning the work currently undertaken at the SC level, ISO/TC 34/SCs are working on the following main topics.

### 30. ISO/TC 34/SC 4, *Cereals and pulses*

The field of activity of ISO/TC 34/SC 4 covers standardization of cereals, pulses and their products in particular terminology, sampling, methods of test and analysis, product specifications and requirements for packaging, storage and transportation. There are 65 members in the Subcommittee: 17 Participating countries, 36 Observing countries and 12 international liaisons. Among these, CAC is the liaison that has most common interests with SC 4.

SC 4 has published 58 International Standards and has 16 ongoing projects.

The following projects might be of interest for CAC:

- ISO/FDIS 24333, *Cereals and cereal products — Sampling*
- Revision of ISO 7301:2002, *Rice — Specification*
- Revision of ISO 7970:2000, *Wheat — Specification*

By developing closer relations and increasing cooperation with CAC, SC 4 members sincerely hope to promote the level of International Standards of cereals and pulses.

### 31. ISO/TC 34/SC 5, *Milk and milk products*

The field of activity of ISO/TC 34/SC 5 covers standardization of methods of sampling and analysis in the field of milk and milk products.

With regard to analytical and test methods, ISO/TC 34/SC 5 and the International Dairy Federation (IDF) work together to prepare analysis methods that are published jointly. Most of these analysis methods are taken into account by the Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products and are endorsed by the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling.

An important document is ISO/TS 22964:2006, *Milk and milk products — Detection of *Enterobacter sakazakii**. This bacterium has been found to exist in some infant formulations. The bacterium is thermotolerant and can remain after sterilization. After publication of the TS in 2006, the project was handed over to ISO/TC 34/SC 9 to prepare a horizontal International Standard for food products for the detection of *Enterobacter sakazakii*.

### 32. ISO/TC 34/SC 9, *Microbiology*

The field of activity of ISO/TC 34/SC 9 covers standardization of horizontal microbiological analysis methods for all food and animal feeding stuffs.

- Number of published ISO standards under the direct responsibility of TC 34/SC 9: 57
- Participating countries: 30
- Observing countries: 25

ISO/TC 34/SC 9 develops horizontal methods, applicable to all foods, feeds, samples from primary production and from processing environment, for the detection and/or enumeration of such food-borne pathogens as *Salmonella*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Bacillus cereus*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, thermotolerant *Campylobacter* and pathogenic *Vibrio*. A set of standards also deals with the use of polymerase chain reaction (PCR) for the detection of food-borne pathogens. Another set

of standards is being developed on the validation of microbiological methods. AOAC International is in liaison with SC 9, in particular, has formally recognized the ISO *Salmonella* test method as being equivalent to the corresponding AOAC Official Method of Analysis.

33. ISO/TC 34/SC 11, *Animal and vegetable fats and oils*

The field of activity of ISO/TC 34/SC 11 covers standardization of methods of sampling and analysis of animal, marine and vegetable fats and oils.

ISO/TC 34/SC 11 has had a most satisfactory relationship with the Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO) for many years. ISO has observer status at the meetings and has usually been represented by the Chairman and the Secretary of SC 11, generally in dual capacities as their national delegates. This attendance is useful as there is usually a meeting on methods of analysis held during the meeting.

It is to be noted that ISO Standards are the first choice for methodology within the CCFO Specifications. Participation also helps to keep the focus of methodology development on the requirements of international trade.

In particular, SC 11 is working on some of the key analytical parameters for the analysis of environmental food contaminants. Some of these, such as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), can be reduced by changing the agricultural procedures which are used to dry the product. Others, such as dioxins, are almost entirely absorbed from industrial waste products which have not been disposed of to a satisfactory level. In summary, the relationship between Codex and SC 11 is both fruitful and complementary.

34. ISO/TC 34 will continue to offer its full support and cooperation to the Commission with a view to avoiding duplication of work and will adopt, for its own documents, the conclusions of the Commission on all matters concerning food hygiene requirements.

Food safety — ISO publication

35. ISO and ITC have jointly published “*ISO 22000, Food safety management system, An easy-to-use checklist for small business, Are you ready?*”. This handbook on ISO 22000 will be of benefit to small businesses, especially in developing countries and transition economies, in their effort to improve their market share of food and agricultural products in the global market. French and Spanish versions of the publication are also available. ISO has used this publication in various workshops it has conducted for developing countries.

36. This publication is a checklist consisting of questions covering various aspects of the setting-up, implementation and certification of a food safety management system according to ISO 22000:2005. It is aimed at small and medium enterprises both in developed and developing countries, and gives an overview of the requirements of ISO 22000. Working through the questions in a step-by-step manner will enable managers of an enterprise to determine the present status of their business and will help them identify main areas for improvement. It will therefore be of value even if the ultimate aim is not full certification of that enterprise.

ISO/DEVCO and food safety

37. Since 1960, ISO has had a policy development committee – DEVCO – that deals specifically with the needs of developing countries in standardization. Developing countries need to focus both on acquiring world-class technological competence and on achieving a good understanding of the technical requirements underlying global trade. For over 40 years, ISO has been assisting in both these areas through ISO/DEVCO, the ISO Committee on developing country matters. DEVCO's membership comprises over 133 national standards institutes from industrialized as well as developing countries.

38. The committee has four main objectives:

- to identify the needs and requirements of developing countries in the fields of standardization and related activities (i.e. conformity assessment including accreditation, quality and metrology) and to assist the developing countries, as necessary, in defining these needs and requirements;
- having established these needs and requirements, to recommend actions to assist the developing countries in meeting them;
- to monitor the implementation of *the ISO Action Plan for developing countries*;
- to provide a forum for the discussion of all aspects of standardization and related activities, and for the exchange of experience among developed and developing countries.

39. In 2008, ISO/DEVCO carried out 14 projects in relation to ISO 22000 technical assistance and has already planned 3 for 2009 (see [Annex 2](#)). The main objective is to improve awareness of key stakeholders in developing countries of the role of such standards in economic growth, world trade and their contribution to sustainable development. In addition, 7 sponsorships were provided in 2008 to individuals from developing countries to attend the Plenary Meeting of ISO/TC 34 on 16 – 17 October 2008, Paris, France.

Codex and ISO/TC 234 (see structure in Annex 3)

40. The increasing importance of seafood as a protein source for the world population, and the increasing internationalization of both seafood production and trade, have led to a need for international standards to enable sustainable development and environmental compatibility of the fisheries and aquaculture sectors.

41. In the process leading to the establishment of ISO/TC 234, it was stressed that the work of the committee should be complementary to and not in competition with ongoing standardization under the auspices of other non-governmental or governmental organizations.

42. ISO/TC 234 held its second plenary meeting in Madrid, Spain in November 2008 and the following two working groups have started their work:

- WG 1 Traceability of fish products
- WG 2 Environmental monitoring of the seabed impacts from marine finfish farms

In addition other areas are under consideration for future work.

Codex and ISO/TC 147 (See structure in Annex 4)

43. ISO has an observer status in CAC, and CAC maintains a category A liaison with ISO/TC 147 "Water quality", and especially with sub-committee SC 2 "Physical, chemical and biochemical methods" and sub-committee SC 4 "Microbiological methods".

As water plays an important role in food processing (for all kinds of cleaning purposes, preparation of half-finished food products, production of beverages like beer and lemonades), many International Standards elaborated in ISO/TC 147/SC 2 and SC 4 are, or should be, taken into account.

44. Topics covered by ISO/TC 147/SC 2 range from metal determinations (single or multicomponent methods), anions, cations, to methods for organic substances such as plant treatment agents, or methods for ubiquitous pollutants like phthalates or polycyclic hydrocarbons, PAH.

In the investigations on the quality of food products, International Standards from ISO/TC 147 may be used as basic standards because water is – compared with all food products – the less difficult matrix to be investigated.

It should be stressed as well that all methods from ISO/TC 147/SC 2 have been validated by interlaboratory trials and are only accepted as standards if the results have been found satisfactory.

In addition, standards on analytical quality control are available.

45. In respect to microbiological methods (ISO/TC 147/SC 4), special importance is given to existing standards on the determination of *salmonella*, *coliforms* (*E.coli* and other substances), or e.g. methods on the investigation of microorganisms by culture. Special emphasis is laid on the preparatory work for a standard on the estimation of uncertainty in microbiological analysis.

It is important to note that ISO/TC 147/SC 4 is in liaison with ISO/TC 34/SC 9 (*Microbiology*): There is a Joint Working Group between ISO/TC 34/SC 9 and ISO/TC 147/SC 4 preparing ISO 11133 for quality criteria for media used for microbiological analysis of food and water samples.

The scope of all standards from ISO/TC 147/SC 4 does not exclude bottled water, so all standards can, in principle, be applied to analysis of bottled water.

Besides the fact that tap water is used for preparation of food and rinsing purposes in food production the exact interface where responsibility for water quality changes from water to food regulations may be different in different regions of the world. At some appliances the exact responsibility lies somewhat "in between" (e.g. automatic vending machines for beverages which are connected to tap water). This makes cooperation and harmonization between food and water microbiology necessary.

ISO/TC 147/SC 4 has recently worked on basic standards for enumeration (ISO 8199:2005) and for sampling for microbiological analysis (ISO 19458:2006). These standards have some overlaps with the food sector.

Other work has dealt with *Salmonella* (ISO/DIS 19250: 2007), *Legionella* (ISO 11731-2:2004), *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* (ISO 15553:2006), *Campylobacter* (ISO 17995:2005) and comparison of different microbiological methods for water analysis (ISO 17994:2004).

Codex and ISO/TC 54

46. The ISO Technical Committee on "Essential Oils" (ISO/TC 54) works continuously on the characterization and authentication of essential oils used as raw material for food flavour compounding. All physicochemical, odour, obtention, etc. properties have been discussed and agreed within the ISO committee P-members prior to their inclusion in the standard.



ISO's conformity assessment standards and their use in food safety

47. ISO is an International Standards developer and does not itself undertake assessments of conformity of products, management systems, processes or services against the requirements of the standards it produces.

48. ISO does however produce International Standards and Guides on how assessment of conformity should take place – this is the role of the ISO Policy Committee on Conformity Assessment ([ISO/CASCO](#)). It is this body within ISO that is closest to covering the same subject matter as the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS).

49. In relation to ISO/CASCO, most of the conformity assessment Guides have been, or are in the process of being, turned into International Standards. [Annex 5](#) gives a list of documents and ongoing work.

50. Since its last session in June-July 2008 in Geneva, the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) has obtained the status of A-liaison.

This new status allows Codex to participate in all ISO/CASCO working groups. To date, Codex has the following memberships:

- CASCO STAR (Strategic Alliance and Regulatory Group);
- CASCO WG 28 (General requirements for proficiency testing);
- CASCO WG 29 (Requirements for certification bodies certifying products (including services) and processes, revision of ISO/IEC Guide 65).

Apart from its participation in ISO technical work (WG's 28 and 29), Codex attended four important ISO/CASCO meetings:

- a CASCO workshop entitled "Conformity Assessment Standards in Support of Market Surveillance" (29 October 2008);
- the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> CASCO STAR meetings (29 October 2008 and 02 April 2009);
- the 24<sup>th</sup> CASCO plenary meeting (30-31 October 2008).

51. CASCO plenary meeting

Codex is one of the 14 A-liaisons that were present at the 24<sup>th</sup> ISO/CASCO plenary meeting.

The CAC Secretary (Mr. Kazuaki Miyagishima) gave an update on Codex work. He indicated that Codex standards recognize ISO standards (cooperation between Codex and ISO/TC 34) and that Codex and ISO standards are complementary (Codex standards are generally used by governments, and ISO standards are much welcomed by the market). The CAC Secretary stressed the importance of the exchange of information between Codex and ISO at general and technical levels.

52. CASCO STAR meeting

CASCO STAR provides a mechanism for industry sectors and regulators to interact with CASCO (keeping abreast of activities in conformity assessment, promotion of CASCO toolbox, forum to discuss conformity assessment needs and concerns). The 2<sup>nd</sup> STAR meeting was attended by the CAC Secretary Mr. Kazuaki Miyagishima and the 3<sup>rd</sup> STAR meeting attended by the CAC Chair Dr. Karen Hulebak. The CAC seeks to increase collaboration with ISO to participate in the production of international standards and although the CAC currently did not have a process enabling it to actively participate in the development of ISO standards it was developing a procedure to facilitate its participation in ISO work. The STAR group welcomed this and stressed that cooperation in identification of real concerns between the members of CASCO STAR should be sought. It was vital that all can contribute to providing confidence and quality to the consumer.

Dr. Karen Hulebak informed the 3<sup>rd</sup> STAR meeting that CAC is the interface between national and international entities. Dr. Hulebak indicated that CAC together with the World Health Organization are working on guidance on risk assessment for industry and governments.

Codex through the STAR group raised issues for possible future discussion within ISO/CASCO:

- methods for analysis of sampling (current CAC project);
- food inspection and certification system (current CAC project);
- food (and product) traceability is a growing concern and although Codex does not see a need for an ISO standard at this stage, it should be monitored;
- Codex and ISO/CASCO should initiate a dialogue in order to determine how both ISO/IEC 17065 (product certification) and ISO/IEC 17020 (Inspection bodies) can be used for food safety.

- Dr. Hulebak indicated that the CAC would be interested in participating in the ISO/CASCO 2009 workshop on the "Role of standards in managing global supply chains". A session of the workshop would be devoted to food and food traceability.

### Conclusion

53. It is recognized that the Commission's members, as governments, have the authority to regulate at the national level and that ISO, as a producer of voluntary International Standards, does not. In the framework of good regulatory practice, as promoted at international and regional levels, International Standards and Guides may be considered useful by regulators as effective and efficient tools to achieve important regulatory mandates, manage risk and address market confidence.

54. ISO considers that by using its International Standards, regulatory authorities will achieve their aims in public health and safety at less cost to manufacturers and consumers. Using International Standards also assists countries to meet their WTO TBT and SPS Agreement obligations.

55. For any further information on technical developments within ISO that have been reported in this paper, please do not hesitate to contact the following individuals:

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## Annex 1

**Structure of ISO/TC 34, Food products**

ISO/TC 34 comprises 51 Participating countries and 55 Observing countries. ISO/TC 34 secretariat is held jointly by France and Brazil (twinning arrangement). ISO/TC 34 has established several substructures [active structures are: 14 Subcommittees (SC) and 5 Working Groups (WG)]; the development of important horizontal standards being under the responsibility of Working Groups directly reporting to ISO/TC 34. These substructures are the following:

- WG 8, *Food safety management systems (FSMS)* [with DS (Denmark) having the convenorship]
- WG 10, *Food irradiation* [with IRAM (Argentina) having the convenorship]
- JWG 11, *Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of FSMS* [with DS (Denmark) having the convenorship] (Joint CASCO – TC 34 Working Group)
- WG 12, *Application of ISO 9001 in the agriculture* [with ANSI (USA) having the convenorship]
- WG 13, *Royal jelly* [with SAC (China) having the convenorship]
- ISO/TC 34/SC 2, *Oleaginous seeds and fruits and oilseed meals* (secretariat held by France)
- ISO/TC 34/SC 3, *Fruit and vegetable products* (secretariat held by Poland)
- ISO/TC 34/SC 4, *Cereals and pulses* (secretariat held by China)
- ISO/TC 34/SC 5, *Milk and milk products* (secretariat held by The Netherlands)
- ISO/TC 34/SC 6, *Meat, poultry, fish, eggs and their products* (secretariat held by Botswana)
- ISO/TC 34/SC 7, *Spices, culinary herbs and condiments* (secretariat held by India)
- ISO/TC 34/SC 8, *Tea* [(secretariat held jointly by UK and China (twinning arrangement))]
- ISO/TC 34/SC 9, *Microbiology* (secretariat held by France)
- ISO/TC 34/SC 10, *Animal feeding stuffs* (secretariat held by The Netherlands)
- ISO/TC 34/SC 11, *Animal and vegetable fats and oils* (secretariat held by UK)
- ISO/TC 34/SC 12, *Sensory analysis* (secretariat held by Argentina)
- ISO/TC 34/SC 14, *Fresh, dry and dried fruits and vegetables* (secretariat held by Turkey)
- ISO/TC 34/SC 15, *Coffee* (secretariat held by Brazil)
- ISO/TC 34/SC 16, *Horizontal methods for molecular biomarker analysis* (secretariat held by USA)

It can be noted that out of these 14 Subcommittees, only 3 are horizontal in scope (ISO/TC 34/SC 9, ISO/TC 34/SC 12 and ISO/TC 34/SC 16).

**Selected ISO/TC 34 work items and publications of interest to Codex**

(as of March 2009)

<b>Project number</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Status</b>
ISO 22000:2005	<i>Food safety management systems — Requirements for any organization in the food chain</i>	Published in September 2005. Systematic review enquiry in 2008 (decision to be taken in 2009).
ISO/TS 22003:2007	<i>Food safety management systems — Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of food safety management systems</i>	Published in February 2007.

ISO/TS 22004:2005	<i>Food safety management systems — Guidance on the application of ISO 22000:2005</i>	Published in November 2005. Systematic review enquiry in 2008 (decision to be taken in 2009).
ISO 22005:2007	<i>Traceability in the feed and food chain — General principles and basic requirements for system design and implementation</i>	Published in July 2007.
ISO/FDIS 22006	<i>Guidelines on the application of ISO 9001 for crop production</i>	Final Draft International Standard under FDIS vote in 2009.
ISO/CD 22008	<i>Food irradiation — Requirements for the development, validation and routine control of the ionizing radiation process used for the treatment of food for human consumption</i>	Committee Draft under vote in 2009.
ISO/DIS 26642	<i>Food products — Determination of the glycemic index (GI) and relevant classification</i>	Final Draft International Standard to be received in 2009.
ISO/TS 22964:2006	<i>Milk and milk products — Detection of Enterobacter sakazakii</i>	Published in January 2006. Note that a horizontal International Standard for food products for the detection of <i>Enterobacter sakazakii</i> is presently under development in ISO/TC 34/SC 9.

## Annex 2

**Overview of ISO 22000 technical assistance projects carried out in 2008  
and those planned for 2009**

*ISO 22000 events carried out in 2008*

**Objective 1: Improve awareness of key stakeholders in developing countries of the role of standardization in economic growth, world trade and sustainable development**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Venue/Host</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Total participants</b>	<b>Sponsored participants</b>	<b>Beneficiary countries</b>
Awareness raising national seminar on ISO 22000 - Food safety management systems	Aden, Yemen	20-21 January 2008	48	0	Yemen
Awareness raising national seminar on ISO 22000 - Food safety management systems	Accra, Ghana	22- 24 January 2008	35	0	Ghana
Awareness raising regional seminar on ISO 22000 - Food safety management systems	Amman, Jordan	1 – 4 April 2008	40	9	Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Palestine, Syrian Arab Rep., Tunisia, Yemen
Awareness raising national seminar on ISO 22000 - Food safety management systems	Yerevan, Armenia	3 – 5 June 2008	45	0	Armenia
Awareness raising national seminar on ISO 22000 - Food safety management systems	Tashkent, Uzbekistan	24-26 June 2008	50	0	Uzbekistan
Awareness raising regional workshop on ISO 22000 - Food safety management systems	Lusaka Zambia	28 – 30 July 2008	40	15	Burundi, Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Awareness raising national seminar on ISO 22000 - Food safety management systems	Manila, Philippines	15 – 16 September 2008	107	0	Philippines
Awareness raising national seminar on ISO 22000 - Food safety management systems with Training of Trainers	Manila, Philippines	17-19 September 2008	15	6	Philippines

Title	Venue/Host	Dates	Total participants	Sponsored participants	Beneficiary countries
Awareness raising national seminar on ISO 22000 - Food safety management systems	Cebu, Philippines	20 – 21 October 2008	34	0	Philippines
Awareness raising national seminar on ISO 22000 - Food safety management systems	Davao, Philippines	23 – 24 October 2008	34	0	Philippines
Awareness raising regional seminar on ISO 22000 - Food safety management systems	Caracas, Venezuela	15 – 17 October 2008	48	9	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela
Awareness raising regional seminar on ISO 22000 - Food safety management systems	Santo Domingo, Dominican Rep.	19 -21 November 2008	43	12	Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Rep. , El Salvador, Honduras, Jamaica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad & Tobago
Awareness raising national seminar on ISO 22000 - Food safety management systems	Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania	1 – 3 December 2008	30	0	Tanzania
Awareness raising national seminar on ISO 22000 - Food safety management systems	Yaoundé Cameroun	17 – 19 December 2008	60	0	Cameroun

*ISO 22000 events planned for 2009*

Title	Region	Country
Regional awareness raising seminar and ToT on ISO 22000	East and South East Asia	Hanoi, Vietnam
National workshop on ISO 22000	Africa	Angola
National workshop on ISO 22000	Eastern & Central Europe	Macedonia

## Annex 3

**Structure of ISO/TC 234, Fisheries and aquaculture**

ISO/TC 234, *Fisheries and aquaculture*, was established in 2007. The current list of member countries comprises 17 participating members and 17 observing members.

**Participating members**

Norway, (SN), secretariat	Iceland (IST)	Spain (AENOR)
Belgium (NBN)	India (BIS)	Thailand (TISI)
Canada (SCC)	Malaysia (DSM)	USA (ANSI)
Denmark (DS)	Mauritius (MSB)	United Kingdom (BSI)
Fiji (FTSQCO)	New Zealand (SNZ)	Viet Nam (STAMEQ)
France (AFNOR)	South Africa (SABS)	

**Observing members**

Argentina (IRAM)	Indonesia (BSN)	Netherlands (NEN)
Brazil (ABNT)	Israel (SII)	Poland (PKN)
Croatia (HZN)	Italy (UNI)	Sweden (SIS)
Cyprus (CYS)	Japan (JISC)	Ukraine (DSSU)
Finland (SFS)	Malta (MSA)	
Germany (DIN)	Montenegro (ISME)	

**Scope of the work of ISO/TC 234:**

Standardization in the field of fisheries and aquaculture, including, but not limited to, terminology, technical specifications for equipment and for their operation, characterization of aquaculture sites and maintenance of appropriate physical, chemical and biological conditions, environmental monitoring, data reporting, traceability and waste disposal.

Excluded:

- methods of analysis of food products and traceability covered by ISO/TC 34;
- personal protective clothing covered by ISO/TC 94;
- environmental monitoring covered by ISO/TC 207.

The work of this committee should be complementary to and not in competition with ongoing standardization under the auspices of other non-governmental or governmental organizations.

## Annex 4

**Structure of ISO/TC 147, *Water quality***

ISO/TC 147 comprises 33 Participating countries and 53 Observing countries

ISO/TC 147 consists of the following active groups:

- WG 4, *Radiological measurements* [with AFNOR (France) having the convenorship]
- SC 1, *Terminology* (secretariat held by South Africa)
- SC 2, *Physical, chemical and biochemical methods* (secretariat held by Germany)
  - WG 17 *Phenols* [with DIN (Germany) having the convenorship]
  - WG 19 *Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH)* [with NEN (The Netherlands) having the convenorship]
  - WG 33 *Ion chromatography methods* [with DIN (Germany) having the convenorship]
  - WG 38 *Flow analysis methods* [with DIN (Germany) having the convenorship]
  - WG 48 *Precision and accuracy* [with DIN (Germany) having the convenorship]
  - WG 52 *Antimony, arsenic and selenium* [with BSI (UK) having the convenorship]
  - WG 53 *GC-MS for groups of non-polar substances* [with NEN (The Netherlands) having the convenorship]
  - WG 55 *Glyphosate and AMPA* [with AFNOR (France) having the convenorship]
  - WG 56 *PFOS and PFOA* [with JISC (Japan) having the convenorship]
  - WG 57 *SPME* [with DIN (Germany) having the convenorship]
  - WG 59 *Chloroalkanes* [with DIN (Germany) having the convenorship]
  - WG 60 *Colour determination* [with SN (Norway) having the convenorship]
  - WG 61 *Mercury determination* [with DIN (Germany) having the convenorship]
  - WG 62 *Dissolved oxygen determination* [with DIN (Germany) having the convenorship]
- SC 4, *Microbiological methods* (secretariat held by Germany)
  - WG 2 *Coliforms (E. coli and other coliforms)* [with DIN (Germany) having the convenorship]
  - WG 7 *Salmonella* [with BSI (UK) having the convenorship]
  - WG 10 *Legionella* [with NEN (The Netherlands) having the convenorship]
  - WG 12 *Analytical quality control of microbiological media* [with AFNOR (France) having the convenorship]
  - WG 13 *Cryptosporidium/Giardia* [with BSI (UK) having the convenorship]
  - WG 15 *Uncertainty of measurement* [with SFS (Finland) having the convenorship]
  - WG 16 *Sampling for microbiological analysis* [with AFNOR (France) having the convenorship]
  - WG 17 *Legionella by PCR* [with AFNOR (France) having the convenorship]
- SC 5, *Biological methods* (secretariat held by Germany)
- SC 6, *Sampling (general methods)* (secretariat held by UK)



## Annex 5

## List of CASCO Guides and Standards by field of application

<i>Vocabulary, principles and common elements of conformity assessment</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17000:</b> 2004	Conformity assessment - Vocabulary and general principles
	<b>ISO PAS 17001:</b> 2005	Conformity assessment - Impartiality - Principles and requirements
	<b>ISO PAS 17002:</b> 2004	Conformity assessment - Confidentiality - Principles and requirements
	<b>ISO PAS 17003:</b> 2004	Conformity assessment - Complaints and appeals - Principles and requirements
	<b>ISO PAS 17004:</b> 2005	Conformity assessment - Disclosure of information - Principles and requirements
	<b>ISO PAS 17005:</b> 2008	Conformity assessment - Use of management systems - Principles and requirements
<i>Product certification</i>	<b>ISO/IEC Guide 23:</b> 1982 Reconfirmed in 2003	Methods of indicating conformity with standards for third-party certification systems
	<b>ISO/IEC Guide 28:</b> 2004	Conformity assessment - Guidance on a third-party certification system for products
	<b>ISO/IEC Guide 53:</b> 2005	Conformity assessment - Guidance on the use of an organization's quality management system in product certification
	<b>ISO/IEC Guide 65:</b> 1996	General requirements for bodies operating product certification systems
	<b>ISO/IEC Guide 67:</b> 2004	Conformity assessment - Fundamentals of product certification
<i>Code of good practice for conformity assessment</i>	<b>ISO/IEC Guide 60:</b> 2004	Conformity assessment - Code of good practice
<i>Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRAs)</i>	<b>ISO/IEC Guide 68:</b> 2002	Arrangements for the recognition and acceptance of conformity assessment results
<i>Accreditation</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17011:</b> 2004	Conformity assessment - General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies
<i>Inspection</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17020:</b> 1998 Reconfirmed in 2002	General criteria for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection
<i>System certification</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17021:2006</b>	Conformity assessment - General requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems
<i>Certification of persons</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17024:</b> 2003	Conformity assessment - General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons
<i>Testing/calibration</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17025:</b> 2005	General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories
	<b>ISO/IEC Guide 43-1:</b> 1997	Proficiency testing by interlaboratory comparisons – Part 1: Development and operation of proficiency testing schemes
	<b>ISO/IEC Guide 43-2:</b> 1997	Proficiency testing by interlaboratory comparisons – Part 2: Selection and use of proficiency testing schemes by laboratory accreditation bodies
<i>Marks of conformity</i>	<b>ISO Guide 27:</b> 1983 Reconfirmed in 2003	Guidelines for corrective action to be taken by a certification body in the event of misuse of its mark of conformity

	<b>ISO/IEC 17030: 2003</b>	Conformity assessment - General requirements for third-party marks of conformity
<i>Peer assessment</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17040: 2005</b>	Conformity assessment - General requirements for peer assessment of conformity assessment bodies and accreditation bodies
<i>Supplier's Declaration of Conformity (SDoC)</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17050-1: 2004</b>	Conformity assessment - Supplier's declaration of conformity - Part 1: General requirements
	<b>ISO/IEC 17050-2: 2004</b>	Conformity assessment - Supplier's declaration of conformity - Part 2: Supporting documentation

#### List of CASCO projects underway

<i>Writing specifications for use in conformity assessment</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17007</b> [CASCO WG 27] Revision of ISO/IEC Guide 7:1994 DIS ballot closed on 2008-11-20.	Conformity assessment – Guidelines for drafting normative documents suitable for use for conformity assessment
<i>Inspection</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17020</b> [CASCO WG 31] Revision of ISO/IEC 17020:1998 1 <sup>st</sup> WG meeting planned in Q1 2009.	Conformity assessment – Requirements for the operation of bodies performing inspection
<i>Auditing competence</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17021 Part 2</b> [CASCO WG 21] CD2 ballot in progress and closing on 2009-02-25.	Conformity assessment – Requirements for third party certification auditing of management systems
<i>Certification of persons</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17024</b> [CASCO WG 30] Revision of ISO/IEC 17024:2003 1 <sup>st</sup> meeting on 9-10 February 2009.	Conformity assessment – General requirements for bodies operating certifications of persons
<i>Proficiency testing</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17043</b> [CASCO WG 28] Revision of ISO/IEC Guide 43:1997 DIS ballot in progress and closing on 2009-04-13.	Conformity assessment – General requirements for proficiency testing
<i>Product certification</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17065</b> [CASCO WG 29] Revision of ISO/IEC Guide 65:1996 Working Draft in progress.	Conformity assessment – Requirements for certification bodies certifying products (including services) and processes



## **EXTRACT OF THE CAC DOCUMENT *RELATIONS BETWEEN THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS\****

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### **International Organization for Standardization (ISO)**

22. At its 30th Session the Commission supported continued cooperation and coordination with ISO and agreed that the Codex Secretariat should maintain its contacts with ISO and continue to report regularly to the Commission on ISO activities of relevance to Codex work. The Commission also supported increased coordination and cooperation between the focal points of Codex and ISO at the national level<sup>6</sup>.

23. Codex representatives participated in selected meetings of ISO, and representatives of ISO participated in selected Codex meetings. Liaison status has been granted to the Codex Alimentarius Commission by the ISO Committee on Conformity Assessment (CASCO). Information provided by the ISO Central Secretariat on activities relevant to Codex work is contained in CAC/32 INF/7.

24. The Commission is **invited** to note the information provided, identify those areas where coordination of work between Codex and ISO should be maintained or strengthened and make proposals on practical modalities for implementing such coordination, as appropriate.

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\* Reference ALINORM 09/32/9D Part I

<sup>6</sup> ALINORM 07/30/REP, para. 234



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON ENHANCED COOPERATION  
BETWEEN  
THE UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION  
(UNIDO)  
AND THE  
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION (ISO)**

**WHEREAS** the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (hereinafter referred to as “UNIDO”), as a specialized agency of the United Nations, has the primary responsibility in promoting industrial development in developing countries and in countries with economies in transition;

**WHEREAS** the International Organization for Standardization (hereinafter referred to as “ISO”) is a non-governmental organization having as its objective to develop voluntary technical standards which contribute to the dissemination of technology and good business practices, support the development, manufacturing and supply of more efficient, safer and cleaner products and services, and make trade between countries easier and fairer while also safeguarding users and consumers;

**WHEREAS** the UNIDO and ISO (hereinafter referred to collectively as “the Parties”) have a long and fruitful history of collaboration and cooperation in areas of mutual concern in order to enhance the effectiveness of their respective efforts;

**WHEREAS** the Parties wish to consolidate and enhance their collaboration and to strengthen their strategic partnership in order to promote sustainable development *inter alia* through standards development, trade and productive capacity building;

**WHEREAS** the Director-General of UNIDO and the Secretary-General of ISO have, in accordance with their constitutions and relevant by-laws, agreed that the following Memorandum of Understanding will govern the cooperation between the two organizations and the coordination of their activities in areas where their functions and activities are complementary and mutually supportive;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

Two handwritten signatures in black ink, one above the other, located in the bottom right corner of the page.

## **1. Purpose of the Memorandum of Understanding**

**1.1** The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to consolidate and enhance the collaboration and to strengthen the strategic partnership between the Parties, in order to promote sustainable industrial development and economic growth, *inter alia* by encouraging the widest use of standards, and assisting the beneficial integration into the global economy of developing countries, least developed countries and countries with economies in transition.

## **2. Fields of cooperation**

**2.1** With a view to facilitating the effective attainment of the objectives set forth in their respective constituent instruments, UNIDO and ISO agree to act in close cooperation with each other and to consult each other as appropriate in regard to matters of common interest.

**2.2** The Parties agree to cooperate, subject to their respective mandates, policies and resources, through joint programmes and projects identified by and agreed between the Parties, *inter alia* in the following fields: development, adoption, harmonization and implementation of standards; capacity building and training, including e-learning; joint publications; and related research.

**2.3** Subject to the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding, the Parties agree to undertake joint projects and to organize seminars and workshops at the global, regional, sub-regional and national levels on related matters such as good standardization practice; environmental and energy management; food safety; energy use and energy efficiency; social responsibility; and conformity assessment.

## **3. Exchange of information and publications**

**3.1** The Parties will keep each other informed about work of mutual interest carried out by each organization, in particular on their standardization and technical assistance programmes to developing countries.

**3.2** The Parties will arrange for the furnishing, free of charge, by each organization of the necessary numbers of copies of its periodicals and other publications which may be of interest to the other.

**3.3** Nothing in this Memorandum of Understanding will be so construed as to require either Party to furnish any material, data or information the furnishing of which could, in its judgment, require it to violate its policy regarding the confidentiality of such information.

**3.4** Appropriate arrangements may be made by agreement from time to time between the Director-General of UNIDO and the Secretary-General of ISO for the reciprocal representation of UNIDO and ISO as observers at meetings convened under their respective auspices and which consider matters of common interest in accordance to their respective constitutions, rules and regulations.

#### **4. Administrative and financial modalities**

**4.1** The implementation of the activities envisaged in this Memorandum of Understanding will depend on the availability of the necessary financial resources, and will be made in accordance with the regulations and procedures in force in the two organizations.

**4.2** The Parties will normally convene at least one annual meeting to review current programmes and projects under this Memorandum of Understanding and to plan future activities.

**4.3** The modalities of joint projects under the present Memorandum of Understanding will be reflected in a project document agreed upon by the Parties.

**4.4** The following Contact Persons of the Parties are specified for the purposes of this Memorandum of Understanding:

- a) For ISO: the Secretary-General of ISO
- b) For UNIDO: the Director-General of UNIDO

#### **5. Final Clauses**

**5.1** The present Memorandum of Understanding supersedes the Memorandum of Understanding between the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) signed at Vienna on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 2003.

**5.2** Nothing in or relating to this Memorandum of Understanding will be deemed a waiver, express or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities of UNIDO.

**5.3** Neither Party will use the name, emblem, official seal or abbreviation of the name of the other Party without the prior written authorization of that Party.

**5.4** This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended by mutual written agreement of the Parties.

**5.5** Each Party may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding by giving the other Party at least six months' written notice of such intention.

**5.6** If the Memorandum of Understanding is terminated by either Party, steps will be taken to ensure that the termination does not affect any prior obligation, project or activity already in progress. Existing projects which are due to be completed within one calendar year from the date of notice of termination will not be affected by such termination unless otherwise provided for.

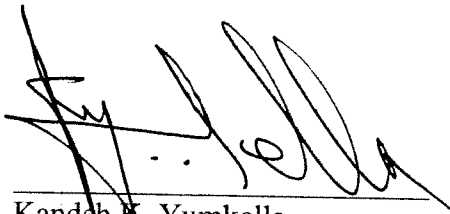
**5.7** This Memorandum will enter into force upon signature by the Director-General of UNIDO and the Secretary-General of ISO.

5.8 In the event of a dispute, controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Memorandum of Understanding, or the breach, termination or invalidity thereof (a "dispute"), the Parties will use their best efforts to settle promptly such dispute through direct negotiation. Any dispute that is not settled within sixty (60) days from the date either Party has notified the other Party of the nature of the dispute and of the measures that should be taken to rectify it will be resolved through consultation between the Director-General of UNIDO and the Secretary-General of ISO or their duly authorized representatives. Each Party will give full and sympathetic consideration to any proposal advanced by the other to settle amicably any matter for which no provision has been made or any controversy as to the interpretation or application of this Memorandum of Understanding.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the undersigned, duly authorized representatives of the respective Parties, have signed this Memorandum of Understanding in the English in two (2) originals.

For the United Nations Industrial  
Development Organization:

For the International Organization for  
Standardization:



Kanden K. Yumkella  
Director-General

Date: 23 June 2009

Place: Vienna



Rob Steele  
Secretary-General

Date: 23 June 2009

Place: Vienna

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## AGENDA ITEM 5      ISO/IEC/ITU COOPERATION

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Under this agenda item, the IEC President, Mr. Jacques Régis, and the ITU-T<sup>1</sup> Director, Mr. Malcolm Johnson, will be addressing the General Assembly. The report below highlights the main developments in ISO/IEC/ITU cooperation since the last General Assembly.

### 1 Developments in ISO/IEC/ITU cooperation (World Standards Cooperation)

The tripartite cooperation between ISO, the IEC and the ITU takes place through the World Standards Cooperation (WSC), as well as through regular contacts between the CEOs and staff of the three organizations. (The membership list in 2009 and the terms of reference of the WSC are attached at Annex 1 for ease of reference.)

The World Standards Cooperation (WSC), established in 2001, held its eighth meeting in Geneva on 13 February 2009. A brief report on the outcome of the meeting, circulated at the same time to the ISO Council and IEC Council Board, is attached at Annex 2.

It is to be noted that, after the approval by the three member organizations to include conformity assessment in the WSC Goals and Terms of Reference, the following recommendations were endorsed for action by the WSC member organizations at the meeting on 13 February:

- to harmonize how IEC, ISO and ITU address conformity assessment as relevant when developing standards where the modalities for assessing compliance might be addressed;
- to promote the use of ISO/IEC International Standards and Guides on conformity assessment, as well as ITU Recommendations when appropriate, both within their respective constituencies and to regulators, industry and civil society at large;
- to exchange information on how IEC, ISO and ITU authorize the use of their names, trademarks and logos in relation to conformity assessment and on how they monitor their possible misuse by market players;
- to examine ways to enhance the input of relevant stakeholders (particularly industry) in the appropriate bodies of all three WSC member organizations.

An update on some of the initiatives, undertaken by ISO, IEC and ITU under the aegis of the WSC and not included in the report attached, is given below:

#### – **Workshop on *The Fully Networked Car***

At its meeting in February 2009, the WSC noted that the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) had launched a very similar event and agreed that this should be monitored in order to identify areas of overlap or that might require coordination.

#### – **World Standards Day (WSD)**

As decided by the WSC in 2008, the theme of the **2009** World Standards Day (14 October) is **Tackling climate change through standards**. A joint message by the ISO and IEC Presidents and the ITU Secretary-General was made available online at the end of June and a common poster will be sent to the ISO membership end of July/beginning of August.

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<sup>1</sup> ITU-T: ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector

The theme chosen by the WSC for the **2010** World Standards Day is **Accessibility**. This theme will cover, *inter alia*, how International Standards on accessibility can help to disseminate technological innovation to developing countries, to increase the market for new products and services, while meeting the generalized aspiration towards social responsibility.

### – **Academia initiative**

In 2007, the WSC agreed to improve coordination in joint efforts to promote the values of international standardization to academia.

At its meeting in February 2009, the WSC endorsed a proposal from ISO for a WSC Academia Week to be organized in 2010 to promote dialogue between academic institutions and the three organizations of the WSC.

It has now been decided that this Academia Week will take place in Geneva the week starting 5 July. A number of initiatives are under development, including the presentation of ISO/IEC/ITU programmes targeting academic institutions (such as the ISO Award) as well as events dedicated to academic and research institutes' projects focused on international standardization. The ICES<sup>2</sup> workshop will also be hosted by ISO/IEC/ITU during the week to raise awareness and to foster cooperation and possible joint initiatives.

In addition, support was voiced at the meeting for the eventual creation of a "centre of excellence in standardization education and studies" in the Geneva area.

## **2 Developments in ISO/IEC cooperation**

### • **Policy level**

Contacts with the IEC at policy level have taken place in the framework of the WSC (see item 1 above) and through regular meetings between the two Chief Executive Officers.

### • **Technical level**

The technical collaboration between ISO and IEC is good, and a number of areas of overlap and duplication which were being reviewed and monitored by the TMB and the IEC Standardization Management Board (SMB) have all been resolved over the last year. There has also been a strengthening of ISO/IEC collaboration in the technical policy area: over the last year, a number of joint groups have been established by the TMB and IEC/SMB to address such issues as the market relevance of ISO and IEC technical work, the development of guidelines for committees developing standards which can support public policy, and to investigate whether there is a need to simplify the range of ISO and IEC deliverables.

As reported previously, annual meetings are held in June between representatives of the TMB and SMB, at which views are exchanged on strategic/policy issues and on technical cooperation issues. A meeting of the ISO/IEC Joint Directives Maintenance Team is also held at that time and at its meeting in June 2009 the group finalized a revision of Part 2 of the ISO/IEC Directives.

Good collaboration has also been established between the TMB and SMB strategy groups addressing energy efficiency and renewable energy resources; in particular, based on a joint recommendation from these groups, the TMB and SMB have agreed to establish a joint project committee to develop standardized terminology in that field.

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<sup>2</sup> The International Cooperation on Education about Standardization is an informal group of academic institutions that share significant interests and activities in the standards field.

- Participation in meetings

The TMB and SMB secretaries regularly attend meetings of the other management board.

IEC participates in the work of ISO's policy development committees (mainly CASCO and COPOLCO).

Where relevant, there is joint ISO/IEC representation (through a single representative) at certain meetings; for example the ISO Secretary-General represented IEC at the yearly meeting of the Euro Asian Interstate Council for Standardization, Metrology and Certification (EASC) held in Minsk (Belarus) in June 2009.

- Communication

The ISO and IEC communication teams consult each other and cooperate on media and public relations initiatives relating to both organizations. In addition to the regular cooperation (with ITU) on the joint World Standards Day message, poster and press release, examples of this cooperation include consultation on statements in response to media enquiries.

- Action plan for the sustainability of ISO's business model

ISO and IEC are currently working together on the development of a common document with a consolidated argumentation to support the current ISO and IEC business models.

- Second ISO and IEC Marketing and Communication Forum

Building on the success of the first ISO and IEC Marketing and Communication Forum held in Geneva in December 2006, ISO and IEC are currently working on the preparation of a second such Forum to take place in Geneva on 3-4 December 2009. The main objective of the forum is to help the audience to produce business results in terms of increased sales and use of International Standards and raise awareness of standards.

- ISO/IEC Information Centre

The ISO/IEC Information Centre, accessible on the Web since 2004, provides a focal point for enquiries on the two organizations, in particular in relation to WTO issues. The creation of two new sections *Economic and social benefits of standardization* (an inventory of studies in this field) and *Standards and regulations* (including using and referencing ISO and IEC standards for technical regulations) was reported last year. The section *Economic and social benefits of standardization* was updated this year in the framework of maintenance of the site. The site is appreciated by ISO and IEC customers: on average more than 30 000 users visit the site monthly.

### 3 Developments in ISO/ITU cooperation

As reported in previous years, ISO's collaboration with ITU principally falls in the area of ISO/IEC JTC 1 *Information technology*, where there is strong collaboration with the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) as a result of the convergence of IT and telecommunication technologies. In recent years, the collaboration has expanded into new areas, especially IT security (JTC 1/SC 27) and radio-frequency identification (RFID) (JTC 1/SC 31) while there is also collaboration in the areas of intelligent transport systems (ISO/TC 204) and e-health (ISO/TC 215).

In 2008, ISO, IEC and ITU received the Emmy Award for the work conducted jointly in the Joint Video Team.

ISO, IEC and ITU staff meet periodically to exchange information and experience in the implementation of the common ISO/IEC/ITU patent policy as well as the common implementation guidelines and patent statement and licensing agreement.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

The General Assembly is invited to comment on the above and other matters arising from this report and from the addresses made under this item at the meeting.

## GOALS, MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE IEC, ISO, AND ITU WORLD STANDARDS COOPERATION (WSC)

### 1 Goals

The primary functions of the WSC are:

- to strengthen and advance the voluntary consensus-based international standards system of IEC, ISO, and ITU through specific policies and cooperation, and by the sharing of information on experiences;
- to promote and increase the worldwide visibility of international consensus-based standardization and related conformity assessment matters;
- to resolve expeditiously any issue regarding cooperation in the technical work of the three organizations, if the matter has failed to be resolved in a timely manner at all lower levels of coordination.

### 2 WSC membership in 2009

For IEC	For ISO	For ITU
President <i>Mr. Jacques Régis</i>	President <i>Dr. Alan Morrison</i>	Director, Telecommunication Standardization Bureau <i>Mr. Malcolm Johnson</i>
Immediate Past President <i>Mr. Renzo Tani</i>	Vice-President (policy) <i>Dr. George Arnold</i>	Deputy to the Director, Telecommunication Standardization Bureau <i>Mr. Reinhard Scholl</i>
Vice-President and Standardization Management Board (SMB) Chairman <i>Mr. Frank K. Kitzantides</i>	Vice-President (technical management) and TMB Chairman <i>Mr. Jacob Holmblad</i>	Chairman, Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) <i>Mr. John Visser</i>
General Secretary <i>Mr. A. Amit</i>	Secretary-General <i>Mr. Rob Steele</i>	Deputy to the Director, Radiocommunication Bureau <i>Mr. Fabio Leite</i>

### 3 Terms of reference

The WSC shall seek:

- to develop policy and strategy on the promotion of international consensus-based standards, including the guides and standards on which global conformity assessment may be based, to industry, the business community, governments, the World Trade Organization (WTO), other international organizations and users, including consumers;
- to develop a promotion and orientation programme aimed at educational institutions, in particular engineering schools and management schools;

- to guide the Joint Technical Advisory Board (JTAB), when needed, on technical issues of work delineation – the ITU-T<sup>1</sup> will be invited to attend JTAB meetings;
- to address issues of common interest;
- to set up, when needed, ad hoc task forces with participation as required.

The chairmanship and the secretariat will be from the same WSC member organization, and will rotate annually.

The WSC members will report to their respective bodies on agreements reached. Approval of executive actions on such agreements and recommendations remains at the discretion of each organization.

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<sup>1</sup> ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector



## **SUMMARY REPORT OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE IEC/ISO/ITU WORLD STANDARDS COOPERATION (WSC)**

**Geneva, 13 February 2009**

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Following the agreement that the WSC chairmanship and secretariat would be provided by the same WSC member organization and would rotate annually, the meeting held on 13 February 2009 was chaired by the IEC President, Mr Jacques Régis, and the secretariat was provided by IEC Central Office. The main items discussed at the meeting were as follows:

### **1 Conformity assessment**

Noting that the ITU had recently joined the IEC and ISO in approving the inclusion in the WSC's Goals and Terms of Reference of conformity assessment matters and related guides and standards, members discussed the three organizations' slightly different approaches to conformity assessment and their principal common interests in the field. The following recommendations were endorsed for action by the member organizations:

- IEC, ISO and ITU harmonize how they address conformity assessment as relevant when developing standards where the modalities for assessing compliance might be addressed;
- IEC, ISO and ITU promote the use of ISO/IEC International Standards and Guides on conformity assessment, as well as ITU Recommendations when appropriate, both within their respective constituencies and to regulators, industry and civil society at large;
- IEC, ISO and ITU exchange information on how they authorize the use of their names, trademarks and logos in relation to conformity assessment and on how they monitor their possible misuse by market players;
- IEC, ISO and ITU examine ways to enhance the input of relevant stakeholders (particularly industry) in the appropriate bodies of all three organizations.

### **2 WSC Workshops**

Members noted that the fourth in the series of annual WSC workshops on information and communication technologies (ICTs) in automobiles, entitled "The fully networked car" and having the ITU as lead organizer, was due to be held once again in conjunction with the March 2009 Geneva Motor Show. This year the event would be over two days rather than three.

WSC members were informed that the March meeting of the tripartite ISO/IEC/ITU Strategic Advisory Group on Security (SAG-S) would focus on the gaps in standardization that need to be filled, as well as looking at the draft ISO/IEC Guide for this field. Although the US (ANSI) had expressed interest in another security workshop and Israel had agreed to host one in conjunction with the next SAG-S meeting, there was no agreement as yet on a topic of interest.

### **3 WSC Standardization community management course**

Noting the overall positive feedback from participants in the September 2008 WSC Standardization community management course, the WSC agreed that, later in 2009, they would assess demand from the three organizations' members for a further course in 2010. It was agreed that the CEOs of

the organizations would coordinate on potential improvements to the structure of the course and on a response to the recurring problem of “no-shows”, people who registered for the course but who then did not attend.

#### **4 Academia Initiative**

The WSC endorsed a preliminary proposal from ISO for a WSC Academia Week in 2010 to promote dialogue between academic institutions and the three organizations of the WSC. A number of events would take place, and particular support was voiced for the eventual creation of a “centre of excellence in standardization education and studies” in the Geneva area.

#### **5 Common patent policy**

WSC members were informed that feedback on the ITU/ISO/IEC common patent policy and implementation guidelines continued to be positive. It was expected that some minor modifications to the latter might be considered in 2010, when there will have been three years of experience with the policy.

#### **6 World Standards Day**

Having selected in 2008 the theme of climate change for the 2009 World Standards Day, the WSC was informed that the slogan would be “Tackling climate change through standards” and that the poster was this year being designed by a Canadian artist.

WSC members agreed on “Accessibility” as the World Standards Day theme for 2010, while requesting the communications staff of the three organizations to further qualify and explain the term which, on its own, was open to different interpretations. Pending commitments from the three organizations’ Chinese member bodies to support and assist the WSC to reach its target audiences, WSC members also recommended going ahead with a one-day conference at the World Expo 2010 in Shanghai, China, in conjunction with World Standards Day on 14 October.

#### **7 Participation in the World Energy Congress 2010 (Montreal, Canada)**

The WSC members requested their organizations’ CEOs to coordinate on developing a common approach to potential participation in the World Energy Congress 2010, focusing on promoting IEC, ISO and ITU work in all areas of energy efficiency, inter alia by proposing to support jointly a session in the programme on “International Standards and the metrics of energy efficiency”.

#### **8 Date of the next meeting**

The date of the next WSC meeting was set for Friday, 12 February 2010, with ISO being responsible for finalizing time and location.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Action:** ISO/Council and IEC/Council Board are invited to note the outcome and recommendations of the 2009-02-13 WSC meeting.



## AGENDA ITEM 6 COOPERATION WITH WTO

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Under this agenda item, the WTO Deputy Director-General, Mr. Harsha V. Singh, will address the General Assembly. New developments in the WTO that are of specific relevance to ISO are carefully analysed on a continuing basis by the ISO Central Secretariat. The report given below highlights the cooperative work carried out by the WTO and ISO since the last ISO General Assembly in Dubai in 2008.

### 1 High level contacts between the WTO and ISO

Since the last General Assembly, the Secretary-General has been in regular contact with the Director of the Trade and Environment Division.

### 2 Cooperation with specific WTO committees and Working parties

#### 2.1 WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (WTO/TBT Committee)

##### 2.1.1 Operation of the WTO Code of Good Practice for the Preparation, Adoption and Application of Standards

The *WTO Code of Good Practice for the Preparation, Adoption and Application of Standards* (Annex 3 to the *Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade*) designates the ISO/IEC Information Centre in Geneva as the channel for notifications by standardizing bodies of their acceptance of the WTO TBT Standards Code. In accordance with the "ISO/WTO Memorandum of Understanding on a WTO Standards Information Service Operated by ISO", information on standardizing bodies accepting the WTO TBT Standards Code is published annually in the *WTO TBT Standards Code Directory* and is updated monthly in the magazine *ISO Focus* on a cost recovery basis. The 13th edition of the *WTO TBT Standards Code Directory* was issued in January 2009. The WTO/TBT Committee appreciates the fact that the Directory is also regularly updated in the *WTO, ISO and World Trade* section of the *ISO/IEC Information Centre* Web site.

At 1 July 2009, 169 standardizing bodies from 128 countries/customs territories and three regional standards organizations had accepted the Code, of which 122 ISO members (92 member bodies, 25 correspondent members and 5 subscriber members). ISO members not having yet accepted the Code are encouraged to join in line with the *ISO Code of Ethics*.

##### 2.1.2 Cooperation with the WTO/TBT Committee

ISO has the status of permanent observer on the WTO/TBT Committee and is allowed to provide information to the Committee on matters regarding international standardization and conformity assessment. The TBT Committee has been regularly updated on ISO programmes relevant to its activities.

ISO was represented at the three regular meetings of the TBT Committee held since the 2008 General Assembly:

- on 5-6 November 2008. At this regular meeting, the TBT Committee agreed on a timeline to prepare for the Fifth Triennial Review of the TBT Agreement which should be completed by November 2009. The Secretary-General took this opportunity to update the TBT Committee on relevant ISO work in the area of conformity assessment (the ISO submission, circulated as a formal TBT document is attached at Annex 1);
- on 18-19 March 2009, where a proposal was presented by Japan on the global relevance of international standards in the context of the preparation of the Fifth Triennial Review. At this meeting, the Secretary-General updated the TBT Committee on ISO's actions in support of developing countries (the ISO submission, circulated as a formal TBT document is attached at

Annex 2.) This regular meeting was preceded on 16-17 March 2009 by a TBT workshop on the role of international standards in economic development, which was also attended by ISO representatives. A summary report of the TBT workshop is attached at Annex 3.

Both at the TBT workshop and regular meeting, participants expressed concern about the proliferation of private standards that could result in unnecessary barriers to trade which created confusion in the market place. It was pointed out that the issue of private standards was being addressed by the WTO Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) Committee;

- on 25-26 June 2009. This regular meeting also focused on the Fifth Triennial Review. WTO members discussed in particular the following issues: transparency, good regulatory practice, conformity assessment, and standards (including private standards).

The next meeting of the TBT Committee is scheduled for 4-5 November 2009.

The participants in the First Specialized Course on the TBT Agreement, organized by the WTO in October-November 2008 in Geneva, paid a visit to the ISO Central Secretariat on 29 October 2008. The participants received an update on ISO by the Secretary-General and a presentation on the organization of ISO technical work. The objectives of this WTO course were to promote greater understanding of the TBT Agreement and to address implementation challenges in a practical manner.

In regard to technical assistance, ISO has also been invited to make a presentation in the TBT Regional Workshop for Asia to be held in Hanoi (Viet Nam) on 24-26 November 2009.

## **2.2 Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE)**

ISO has the status of permanent observer on the Committee on Trade and Environment for items related to standardization. The CTE is closely following the work of ISO/TC 207/SC 3 *Environmental labelling*. International Standards in this field are of particular importance to the WTO since, if inappropriately practiced, any form of environmental labelling could have the potential to create unnecessary barriers to trade.

ISO is represented at CTE sessions as appropriate and contacts are maintained at secretariat level. The Deputy Secretary-General made a presentation on climate change and related matters at the WTO CTE meeting in November 2008. At a CTE workshop on the subject of private standards and related certification and labelling schemes, held in July 2009 prior to the regular meeting, he presented an overview of ISO and its approach to standardization.

## **2.3 Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures (SPS Committee)**

The SPS Committee is specifically mandated to monitor the use of international standards in its field. The Committee brings any identified problems to the attention of the standards organization concerned. To date, no problems with ISO standards have been identified. The ISO Central Secretariat informs the SPS secretariat regularly of the progress of the ISO standardization programme relevant to their activities.

In 2007, the SPS Committee started including a standing agenda item on the subject of "private standards". The main concerns expressed by members on this issue relate to requirements and standards set by food retailers (so-called "private standards"). ISO is represented at all WTO SPS Committee meetings to ensure that relevant information, necessary clarification and replies to questions are provided on this subject, as well as to promote the complementary role that ISO Standards play in the marketplace and in support of the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

The General Assembly is invited to comment on the address of the WTO representative and on the above report.



## **AGENDA ITEM 6                      COOPERATION WITH WTO**

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### **Results of the WTO Workshop on Environment-related Private Standards, Certification and Labelling Requirements**

After the dispatch of the General Assembly working documents, a WTO workshop on "Environment-related Private Standards, Certification and Labelling Requirements" was held in Geneva on 9 July 2009. The results of the workshop have been summarized by the Chair of the Roundtable discussions, Mr. John Tucker (Chief Executive of Standards Australia), in the attached document "Observations and Conclusions on Main Challenges and Opportunities".

As a follow-up to this workshop, the Secretary-General intends to organize a high-level meeting with the International Social and Environmental Accreditation and Labelling (ISEAL) Alliance to examine cooperation opportunities.

#### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

The General Assembly is invited to note/comment on the results of the above workshop.

## **WORKSHOP ON ENVIRONMENT-RELATED PRIVATE STANDARDS, CERTIFICATION AND LABELLING REQUIREMENTS**

**Geneva, Switzerland  
9 JULY, 2009**

### **OBSERVATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS ON MAIN CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **Objectives of the Workshop**

- The objective of the Workshop was to provide an opportunity for delegations to deepen their knowledge and understanding of recent developments in voluntary environment-related standards, and related certification/labelling schemes developed in the private sector.
- It provided a forum for an exchange of knowledge, drawing from experience and work carried out in this area. Information was provided on a variety of schemes in various sectors, including their environmental and sustainable development objectives, standard development processes, conformity assessment procedures, stakeholders involved (e.g. standard developers, standard users and producers), market access opportunities and challenges faced, in particular by producers and exporters in developing countries.

#### **Format and schedule**

- This one day Workshop was held in the WTO premises, Centre William Rappard, 154 Rue de Lausanne, Geneva, Switzerland. It was addressed to Geneva-based delegations, held back-to-back with the regular meeting of the Committee of Trade and Environment (CTE) of 10 July 2009.

#### **Programme and presentations**

- The Workshop started with an introductory session, setting the scene by addressing the following: what are private standards? and what are the issues involved?
- It was followed by a session focussing on the various features of environment-related private standards, certification and labelling schemes, in particular those imposed by retailers and buyers along the supply chain in the following sectors: fisheries, coffee, forestry and horticulture sectors. Perspectives of standard developers, as well as standard users and producers, in particular those from developing countries, were reflected.
- The event concluded with a round-table discussion structured around a number of generic issues, namely, transparency and standard development processes; proliferation and harmonization; environmental impact and effectiveness of private standards; and technical cooperation and capacity building in this area.

#### **Observations and Conclusions on Main Challenges and Opportunities**

Questions considered: How do private standards, certification and labelling schemes impact on the various stakeholders? What are the interests and involvement of the stakeholders? How do these standards and schemes impact on trade? What are the challenges and opportunities faced, particularly by small producers in developing countries? What are the possible ways to overcome these challenges? What is the role of government? What are the existing technical assistance and capacity building activities in this area?

### **Overview**

Issues associated with environment-related private standards, certification and labelling requirements and their interface with consensus standards and regulatory requirements are many, varied and not entirely new. However, these issues are receiving increased focus as these private schemes develop, mature and proliferate in response to a variety of drivers, including market requirements, regulatory requirements and consumer demand.

### **Transparency and standard development processes**

- A recurring theme throughout the workshop was recognition of the existence of key principles, legitimacy criteria and best practice guidelines available to standards setters by which to benchmark their standards, including criteria developed by the WTO TBT Committee, ISO Guides, the FAO Code and various ISEAL Codes.
- Standards setters – be they private, open consensus or public – can aspire to set their standards having regard to these criteria in order to achieve best ‘fit for purpose’, accepting for example that a business to business market instrument is unlikely to involve or require the same level of multi-party input and consensus as a business to consumer scheme.
- Similarly, advisory design criteria exist to guide accreditation, certification, verification and enforcement scheme components.

### **Proliferation and harmonization**

- Delegates heard the call for dialogue, public/private alignment and partnership, co-operation, collaboration, outcome/performance/risk based criteria and greater focus on strategic, multi-party approaches to maximise harmonisation and minimise proliferation of private schemes.
- Many parties are concerned about loss of order, efficiency and consumer confidence where standards proliferate in a sector whilst compliance efforts and costs multiply.
- Harmonising features can be anticipated and in-built into standards, schemes and certification criteria.
- National and international open consensus standards and other guidance codes can help bring harmonisation, benchmarking of equivalence and mutual recognition to help address proliferation, as can government regulatory and advisory interventions.
- Forums for dialogue and collective communication are critical to enhance mutual understanding, cooperation, coherence, alignment and partnership.

### **Environmental impact and effectiveness**

- The workshop yielded many case by case examples of positive benefits arising from these schemes, as well as negative consequences and other effects and unintended consequences which must be taken into account to determine net benefits/imposts.
- The collective aim must be to maximise the positives, minimise the negatives and assess other impacts objectively whether they be positive or negative.
- Delegates heard that whilst many economic benefit studies, peer reviewed studies and impact assessments are available on environment-related private scheme outcomes, more rigorous research, comprehensive life cycle analyses and sharing of detailed case studies is required to reduce reliance upon anecdotes and generalisations.

### **Technical cooperation and capacity building**

- A major concern raised repeatedly by presenters and discussants throughout the workshop and roundtable discussion was whether cost benefit distribution down the supply chain was sufficient, fair and incentive driven. There must be sufficient return on investment in scheme compliance to justify the investment of scarce time, energy, focus and resources, especially for producers in developing economies.

- A worst case scenario would see a transfer of supervision costs from the purchaser to the producer, without prospect or certainty of a return, premium, market share or tangible benefit from conformity assessment costs.
- However, whether due to market power, contract or regulatory requirements, participation and compliance may be de facto mandatory.
- Accordingly, much attention was focused on the information, guidance, capacity development needs and opportunities, financial support, innovation and strategic advice required in developing countries, especially by small holders.
- Strengthening local conformity assessment providers was discussed to avoid imposing first world costs structures onto developing country farmers and producers.
- Studies suggest innovative incentives are required to encourage public/private collaboration and to encourage major global retailers, for example, to incorporate developing country considerations into private standards schemes.
- Encouraging capacity building case studies, pilots, handbooks, toolkits and information initiatives were reported and discussed. Scaling up to widely implement outcomes from successful pilots will require institutional, national and donor prioritisation, commitment and coordination.

### **Concluding Comment**

The consistency of observations, messages and issues identified at this workshop was testimony to the value of open discussion and provides a basis for optimism in moving forward to address issues associated with these private standards, certification and labelling schemes.

*John Tucker (CEO, Standards Australia)*

*Roundtable Discussion Chairman*

*09/07/09*

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/TBT/GEN/78  
15 December 2008

(08-6126)

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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: English

## UPDATE ON ISO AND CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT

The following information was provided by ISO at the TBT Committee meeting of 5-6 November 2008.

### I. INTRODUCTION

1. ISO, in cooperation with IEC, is the recognized provider of consensus based International Standards and Guides relating to conformity assessment. As a strategic orientation ISO does not get involved directly in assessing compliance to its standards and is neutral towards first, second and third party intervention.

2. CASCO is ISO's Policy Development Committee on conformity assessment under which these documents are developed. CASCO's current membership consists in 107 ISO members, including 76 Participating (P) members and 31 Observer (O) members. In addition to IEC, CASCO maintains category A liaison with 15 other international organizations (see list at Annex 1).

3. At its Plenary Meeting in October 2008, CASCO addressed the following issues:

- (a) Revision of ISO/IEC 17020, General criteria for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection;
- (b) Revision of ISO/IEC 17024, General requirements for bodies operating certification of person;
- (c) A resolution on market surveillance requesting ISO/CASCO to investigate future activities for ISO/CASCO in the area of market surveillance in relation to the CASCO standards and guides;
- (d) A joint ISO-IAF action plan on monitoring and improving the effectiveness of accredited management system certification;
- (e) Updating of the CASCO Road Map which sets out the sequencing of future systematic reviews and revisions of the CASCO documents for the next decade.

### II. MARKET SURVEILLANCE

4. CASCO held a market surveillance workshop in October 2008 to assist CASCO with identification of future possible activities related to market surveillance. The workshop had three sessions addressing regulators/ governmental bodies, conformity assessment activities and lastly consumers and industry. The aims of the workshop were to:

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- (a) Identify good market surveillance practices at the national level;
- (b) Raise awareness and capacity to use the CASCO toolbox in market surveillance activities;
- (c) To investigate market surveillance activities related to the oversight processes for conformity assessment activities;
- (d) To identify actions when a product does not comply.

5. CASCO, following the workshop, will now develop an action plan to address:

- (a) How to facilitate rapid sharing of information on market surveillance;
- (b) Possible future ISO publications on good market surveillance practice;
- (c) Market surveillance in the area of services;
- (d) Promotion of existing ISO/IEC standards for conformity assessment.

### **III. ONGOING TECHNICAL WORK**

6. Other CASCO development projects are being progressed by their respective working groups. These projects include the development of the following documents:

- (a) ISO/IEC 17021 Part 2 Conformity assessment – Requirements for third-party certification auditing of management systems;
- (b) ISO/IEC 17007 Conformity Assessment – Guidelines for drafting normative documents suitable for use for conformity assessment;
- (c) ISO/IEC 17043 General Requirements for proficiency testing;
- (d) ISO/IEC 17065 Conformity assessment – requirements for bodies providing certification of product (including services) and processes.

### **IV. PROMOTION OF THE CASCO 'TOOL BOX' AND WORKSHOPS**

7. Over the course of 2007-2008, the Chair and Secretary of CASCO have participated in numerous events to promote the CASCO toolbox and highlight the importance of implementing recognised conformity assessment practices. This is essential to address technical barriers to trade, reduce the cost of conformity assessment procedures and ensure greater confidence in the trade of goods and services.

8. ISO/CASCO chaired a session at the annual Global Harmonization Task Force (GHTF – Medical Devices) meeting held in Washington (USA) in October 2007.

9. In 2007, two ISO regional workshops on conformity assessment for sustainable development and trade were organized; the first in South Africa in May and the second in Tunisia in November. On 12-13 June 2008 a similar ISO workshop was held in Kiev (Ukraine).

10. ISO has compiled a collection of three CD's (for sale) that contain all relevant standards and guides for conformity assessment. The CD's are:



- (a) International Standards and Guides relevant to an Accreditation Body
- (b) International Standards and Guides relevant to a Laboratory and/or Inspection Body
- (c) International Standards and Guides relevant to Certification and/or Inspection Body (published in 2007)

11. The 2008 March edition of the ISO magazine *ISO Focus*, focused on conformity assessment, gives an update on developments within CASCO and the implementation of ISO standards in this area.

12. ISO jointly with UNIDO have recently issued a promotional document *Fast Forward* which takes an entry level perspective aimed at interested parties who are tasked with the establishment, upgrading and management of a National Standards Body in a developing country. It is intended to issue in 2009 a complementary stand-alone publication specifically on good conformity assessment practices.

13. An updated list of CASCO guides and standards, published and under way, is contained in Annex 2.

**LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS IN LIAISON WITH CASCO**

BIPM:	Bureau International des Poids et Mesures
CEOC:	International Confederation of Inspection and Certification Organisations
CAC:	Codex Alimentarius Commission
EOQ:	European Organisation for Quality
Eurolab:	The European Federation of National Associations of Measurement, Testing
IAF:	International Accreditation Forum
IFAN:	International Federation of Standards Users
IFIA:	International Federation of Inspection Agencies
IIOC:	Independent International Organisation for Certification
ILAC:	International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation
IPC:	International Personnel Certification Association
QNet:	International Certification Network
ITU-T:	International Telecommunication Union, Standardization Bureau
OIML:	International Organization for Legal Metrology
UILI:	International Union of Independent Laboratories

## ANNEX 2

**LIST OF PUBLISHED CASCO GUIDES AND STANDARDS BY FIELD OF APPLICATION  
(UPDATED AT 1 NOVEMBER 2008)**

<i>Vocabulary, principles and common elements of conformity assessment</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17000:</b> 2004 <b>ISO PAS 17001:</b> 2005 <b>ISO PAS 17002:</b> 2004 <b>ISO PAS 17003:</b> 2004 <b>ISO PAS 17004:</b> 2005 <b>ISO PAS 17005:</b> 2008	Conformity assessment - Vocabulary and general principles Conformity assessment - Impartiality - Principles and requirements Conformity assessment - Confidentiality - Principles and requirements Conformity assessment - Complaints and appeals - Principles and requirements Conformity assessment - Disclosure of information - Principles and requirements Conformity assessment - Use of management systems - Principles and requirements
<i>Product certification</i>	<b>ISO/IEC Guide 23:</b> 1982 Reconfirmed in 2003 <b>ISO/IEC Guide 28:</b> 2004 <b>ISO/IEC Guide 53:</b> 2005 <b>ISO/IEC Guide 65:</b> 1996 <b>ISO/IEC Guide 67:</b> 2004	Methods of indicating conformity with standards for third-party certification systems Conformity assessment - Guidance on a third-party certification system for products Conformity assessment - Guidance on the use of an organization's quality management system in product certification General requirements for bodies operating product certification systems Conformity assessment - Fundamentals of product certification
<i>Code of good practice for conformity assessment</i>	<b>ISO/IEC Guide 60:</b> 2004	Conformity assessment - Code of good practice
<i>Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRAs)</i>	<b>ISO/IEC Guide 68:</b> 2002	Arrangements for the recognition and acceptance of conformity assessment results
<i>Accreditation</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17011:</b> 2004	Conformity assessment - General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies
<i>Inspection</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17020:</b> 1998 Reconfirmed in 2002	General criteria for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection
<i>System certification</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17021:2006</b>	Conformity assessment - General requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems
<i>Certification of persons</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17024:</b> 2003	Conformity assessment - General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons

<i>Testing/calibration</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17025: 2005</b> <b>ISO/IEC Guide 43-1: 1997</b> <b>ISO/IEC Guide 43-2: 1997</b>	General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories Proficiency testing by inter-laboratory comparisons – Part 1: Development and operation of proficiency testing schemes Proficiency testing by inter-laboratory comparisons – Part 2: Selection and use of proficiency testing schemes by laboratory accreditation bodies
<i>Marks of conformity</i>	<b>ISO Guide 27: 1983</b> Reconfirmed in 2003	Guidelines for corrective action to be taken by a certification body in the event of misuse of its mark of conformity
	<b>ISO/IEC 17030: 2003</b>	Conformity assessment - General requirements for third-party marks of conformity
<i>Peer assessment</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17040: 2005</b>	Conformity assessment - General requirements for peer assessment of conformity assessment bodies and accreditation bodies
<i>Supplier's Declaration of Conformity (SDoC)</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17050-1: 2004</b>	Conformity assessment - Supplier's declaration of conformity - Part 1: General requirements
	<b>ISO/IEC 17050-2: 2004</b>	Conformity assessment - Supplier's declaration of conformity - Part 2: Supporting documentation

**LIST OF CASCO PROJECTS UNDER WAY (UPDATED AT 1 NOVEMBER 2008)**

<i>Writing specifications for use in conformity assessment</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17007 [CASCO WG 27]</b> Revision of ISO/IEC Guide 7:1994 DIS launched on 2008-06-20.	Conformity assessment – Guidelines for drafting normative documents suitable for use for conformity assessment
<i>Inspection</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17020 [CASCO WG 31]</b> Revision of ISO/IEC 17020:1998 1st WG meeting planned in Q1 2009.	Conformity assessment – Requirements for the operation of bodies performing inspection
<i>Auditing competence</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17021 Part 2 [CASCO WG 21]</b> CD closed on 2008-07-12. CD2 planned end November.	Conformity assessment – Requirements for third party certification auditing of management systems
<i>Certification of persons</i>	<b>ISO/IEC 17024 [CASCO WG 30]</b> Revision of ISO/IEC 17024:2003 1st WG meeting planned in Q1 2009	Conformity assessment – General requirements for bodies operating certifications of persons

<b><i>Proficiency testing</i></b>	<b>ISO/IEC 17043</b> [CASCO WG 28] Revision of ISO/IEC Guide 43:1997 CD closed on 2008-06-14. DIS planned mid-November.	Conformity assessment – General requirements for proficiency testing
<b><i>Product certification</i></b>	<b>ISO/IEC 17065</b> [CASCO WG 29] Revision of ISO/IEC Guide 65:1996 Working Draft in progress.	Conformity assessment – Requirements for certification bodies certifying products (including services) and processes

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/TBT/GEN/83  
1 May 2009

(09-2123)

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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

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## ISO ACTIONS IN SUPPORT OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The following information was provided by ISO at the TBT Committee meeting of 18-19 March 2009.

### I. INTRODUCTION

1. The globalization of the world economy, and hence international trade, is underpinned by the adoption and application of standards in all spheres of economic activity. The importance of international standards is further stressed in the WTO rules, especially the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), which encourages WTO members to use, as far as possible, such standards as a basis for mandatory technical regulations. Developing countries are a vulnerable group with regard to the adoption and use of international standards because many of them do not have the proper standardization infrastructure or resources to adequately play a part in the preparation of such international standards. Article 11 of the TBT Agreement does provide for WTO members to provide, upon request, technical assistance to other members, especially developing country members.<sup>1</sup>

2. Some 75% of ISO's 159 members are from developing countries. ISO has implemented activities for supporting its developing country members since the 1960s. In view of the fact that these ISO members continually need support to strengthen their standardization infrastructures, a set of actions has been defined in order to build capacity and to increase their involvement in international standardization. These actions, as described below, go a long way towards fulfilling the needs identified in the WTO survey referred to in the footnote.

### II. ISO ACTION PLAN FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES 2005-2010

3. Aligned with the *ISO Strategic Plan 2005-2010*, the *ISO Action Plan for developing countries* sets the direction for the support to be provided to members in developing countries.

4. The *Action Plan* represents the implementation of those elements of the *ISO Strategic Plan 2005-2010* relating to developing countries and is built around the following five key objectives:

- Improve awareness of key stakeholders in developing countries of the role of standardization in economic growth, world trade and sustainable development;

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<sup>1</sup> Following a survey of the needs of developing country WTO members carried out in 2003 at the request of the TBT Committee, 22% of responses identified a need for assistance "for the effective implementation of the TBT Agreement in the area of the preparation, adoption and application of standards". Around 29% wished a better "participation in the work of relevant bodies (e.g. international standardizing activities)" and 35% saw a need for "infrastructure and capacity building in relation to standardizing bodies".  
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- Build capacity of ISO members and stakeholders involved in developing the standardization infrastructure and participating in international standardization work;
- Increase national and regional cooperation to share experience, resources, training and information and communications technologies;
- Develop electronic communication and expertise in IT tools to participate in international standardization work, reach out to stakeholders and make efficient use of ISO e-services;
- Increase participation in governance and technical work of ISO to voice priorities, contribute and influence the technical content of ISO deliverables.

5. The implementation of the *Action Plan* is monitored by the ISO Committee on developing country matters (DEVCO).

6. Endorsed by the ISO Council in September 2004, the *ISO Action plan* is in its fourth year of implementation. Significant progress has been made in meeting the five objectives defined in the *Action Plan*. Since 2008, there has been a considerable expansion in the volume of technical assistance and training provided to members thanks to a considerable increase in donor funding.

7. The annual technical assistance plan is established based on requests received from developing countries around September each year. In 2008, some 3600 ISO member representatives participated in technical assistance and training activities and well over 400 of them benefited from financial support under the *ISO Action Plan*.

8. The overview in the **Annex** lists assistance projects and training activities implemented between January and December 2008.

9. A brief description of the activities carried out under the 5 objectives of the *Action Plan* is provided in the following sections:

A. IMPROVE AWARENESS OF THE ROLE OF STANDARDS

10. Considerable effort has been made to disseminate and improve awareness of new standards, particularly in the fields of food safety, environmental management and climate change as well as on building technical infrastructure.

**1. Food safety management systems**

11. *ISO 22000 - Food safety management systems -- Requirements for any organization in the food chain* continued to be one of the key areas of focus in light of requests made by members and thus a number of seminars and workshops were organized worldwide.

12. Many of the above events made use of the publication entitled *ISO 22000, Food safety management systems - An easy-to-use checklist for small business - Are you ready?* which was published in collaboration with the International Trade Centre (ITC) in 2007.

**2. Environment**

13. In response to issues related to climate change, ISO has responded with the development of standards such as ISO 14064 and ISO 14065 for Greenhouse Gas Quantification, Reporting and Verification. The regional seminar held in February 2008 in Pretoria, South Africa, in which 13 countries from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) participated, was meant to provide a common approach in dealing with such issues within a regional economic community.

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### 3. Information security

14. Several workshops on *ISO/IEC 27001 - Information technology — Security techniques — Information security management systems — Requirements* were held. The implementation of the standard will reassure customers and suppliers that information security is taken seriously within the organizations they work with because they have in place state-of-the-art processes to deal with information security threats and issues.

### 4. Building technical infrastructure

15. ISO continues to play an active role within the Joint Committee on Coordination of Assistance to Developing Countries in Metrology, Accreditation and Standardization (JCDCMAS) comprising the following organizations:

- Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM)
- International Accreditation Forum (IAF)
- International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)
- International Laboratory Accreditation Co-operation (ILAC)
- International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
- International Trade Centre – UNCTAD/WTO (ITC)
- Telecommunication Standardization Bureau of ITU (ITU-T)
- International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML)
- United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

16. JCDCMAS members are invited to participate in the workshops organized by ISO on conformity assessment in order to present participants with an integrated view of all the technical tools that are required to ensure adequate and technically competent conformity assessment, in the spirit of the TBT Agreement. Thus, several JCDCMAS members participated in the last of a series of 8 regional workshops on Conformity Assessment for Sustainable Development and Trade organized in Kiev (Ukraine) in June 2008. As a follow-up to these regional workshops, more specific training materials on the CASCO Toolbox comprising the conformity assessment standards were prepared with contents designed for regional as well as national events. Three (one regional and two national) awareness workshops in conformity assessment based on these new materials were held in Africa in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2008.

17. A guidance document entitled *Fast Forward - National Standards Bodies in Developing Countries*, was published in 2008 in collaboration with UNIDO. This publication is intended as a user-friendly introduction and practical tool for people who are tasked with the establishment, upgrading and management of a national standards body (NSB) in a developing country or a country with an economy in transition. It explains the role of standardization in industrial development, trade facilitation and improving access to markets. The document is available for free download from the ISO Web site at [http://www.iso.org/iso/fast\\_forward.pdf](http://www.iso.org/iso/fast_forward.pdf).

### B. DEVELOP CAPACITY

18. Participating actively in standardization activities of direct importance to the national economy and accessing the relevant information, requires an effective infrastructure, appropriate tools and qualified staff in the national and regional bodies in charge of standardization.

19. During the period under review, training courses and e-learning programmes have been organized to train experts and ISO member staff in standards development. Also, efforts were sustained to support the participation of developing countries in the development of ISO's future standard on Social Responsibility – ISO 26000, which is due for publication in 2010.

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## **1. Enhanced Participation in International Standardization**

20. Several training courses on *Enhanced Participation in International Standardization* were organized. The course is aimed at ISO member staff and focuses on the international standardization process, the roles and responsibilities of the key players as well as the tools and web technologies that support the process.

## **2. E-learning programme**

21. ISO's e-learning programme comprises the following three modules:

- Module 1: Assessing of national priorities in standardization
- Module 2: Participating in international standardization
- Module 3: Implementing international standards

22. The e-learning modules follow a "learning-by-doing" approach. Advantage is taken of the opportunities that information technology, combined with careful instructional design, offer to create a virtual environment where the student is given the possibility to perform the "same" activities that she/he is supposed to undertake in real life.

## **3. Marketing and Promotion of International Standards**

23. Several training courses on Marketing and Promotion of International Standards were held.

24. The course is targeted at marketing, information and communication specialists and aims at providing knowledge, practical information and tools to help ISO members promote standardization and to give easy access to ISO standards to users and stakeholders in their countries.

## **C. INCREASE REGIONAL COOPERATION**

25. Greater emphasis has been placed on strengthening regional and subregional cooperation and building partnerships to increase efficiency in the delivery of technical assistance and training programmes. Experience has shown that regional and subregional cooperation is the most effective mechanism for sharing experience, organizing training and optimizing the participation of developing countries in international standardization.

26. Joint activities have been held with several regional/subregional organizations around the world and this cooperation will continue.

## **D. DEVELOP ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS AND EXPERTISE IN IT TOOLS**

27. Reaching out to stakeholders as well as accessing and participating in international standardization requires the ability to use and implement electronic communication and IT tools developed by ISO in support of the international standardization process.

## **1. ISO Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Programme**

28. Through the ICT Programme, ISO members in developing countries and economies in transition receive hardware and software to strengthen their computer infrastructure, as well as training in the effective use of the standards development tools and web technologies.

29. The guidance manual "Standards work on the Web: the ISO solutions", which is a key element in the ISO ICT Programme for ISO members in developing countries, was published recently and is available for free download from the ISO Web site at [http://www.iso.org/iso/standards-work-on-the-web\\_iso-pub100205.pdf](http://www.iso.org/iso/standards-work-on-the-web_iso-pub100205.pdf). The current situation with respect to ICT capabilities of ISO members in developing countries has been assessed on the basis of information available and four ICT packages consisting of equipment, software and technical assistance will be deployed to ISO members as from 2009.

## **2. Training in IT for Standards Development**

30. Many ISO members in developing countries take advantage of the training courses offered at the ISO Central Secretariat by participating in the regular sessions organized in Geneva free of charge.

31. The following training courses are proposed by the ISO Central Secretariat, on a regular basis: *ISOTC Server and e-balloting*; *Using the ISO STD Template: practical tips*; *ISO Global Directory* and *ISO project management*. The course descriptions can be found in the *Training in Standards Development* brochure available on ISO Online. However, strict eligibility criteria for nominations submitted by ISO members apply. As from 2009, ISO will also offer 3 one-week courses meant exclusively for secretaries of ISO technical committees.

### **E. INCREASE PARTICIPATION IN ISO TECHNICAL WORK**

32. The fifth objective of the *ISO Action Plan* is to encourage the involvement of developing countries in the technical work performed by ISO technical committees, subcommittees and working groups. By participating at these three levels, developing countries ensure that their interests are taken into account and in doing this they contribute to strengthening ISO's global relevance.

33. Sponsorships continued to be provided to delegates from developing countries to participate in ISO technical committee meetings covering food safety, environment, societal security, energy management, etc.

### **III. PARTNERSHIPS WITH DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

34. Partnerships have been established with international organizations and development agencies at the multilateral and bilateral levels for the implementation of technical assistance projects under the *ISO Action plan for developing countries*.

35. Active collaboration takes place with the International Trade Centre (ITC), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO). The cooperation takes various forms such as reciprocal participation in meetings and increasingly the joint implementation of technical cooperation projects.

## ANNEX

**OVERVIEW OF ISO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS AND  
TRAINING ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT IN 2008**

**I. OBJECTIVE 1: IMPROVE AWARENESS OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS IN  
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OF THE ROLE OF STANDARDIZATION IN  
ECONOMIC GROWTH, WORLD TRADE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Venue/Host</b>	<b>Other Beneficiary Countries</b>
Awareness Raising National Seminar On ISO 22000 - Food Safety Management Systems	Aden, Yemen	-
Awareness Raising National Seminar on ISO 22000	Accra, Ghana	-
Awareness-Raising Seminar on Greenhouse Gas Quantification, Reporting And Verification Based on ISO 14064 – Greenhouse Gases	Johannesburg South Africa	Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe
Regional Workshop on ISO 27001- Information Technology — Security Techniques — Information Security Management Systems — Requirements	New Delhi India	Afghanistan (1), Bangladesh (1), Bhutan (1), Nepal (1), Pakistan (1), Sri Lanka (1)
Awareness Raising Regional Seminar On ISO 22000 - Food Safety Management Systems	Amman Jordan	Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Palestine, Syrian Arab Rep., Tunisia, Yemen
Regional Workshop on ISO 27001- Information Technology — Security Techniques — Information Security Management Systems — Requirements	Riyadh Saudi Arabia	Morocco and Tunisia
Awareness Raising National Seminar on ISO 22000	Yerevan, Armenia	-
Awareness Raising National Seminar on ISO 22000	Tashkent, Uzbekistan	-
Regional Workshop on Food Safety Management Systems and ISO 22000	Lusaka Zambia	Burundi, Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, Zimbabwe
Regional Seminar and Workshop on ISO 27001	Hanoi, Vietnam	Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand

Title	Venue/Host	Other Beneficiary Countries
Atelier Régional sur le Rôle de la Normalisation dans le Développement Économique et le Commerce International	Yaoundé, Cameroun	Benin (2), Burkina Faso (2), Burundi (2), Côte d'Ivoire (2), Gabon (2), Guinée (2), Morocco (2), Rwanda (1), Senegal (1), Seychelles (2), Tunisia (2)
Training of Trainers on ISO 22000 - Food Safety Management Systems	Manila, Philippines	-
Awareness-Raising National Seminar on ISO 22000	Manila, Cebu, Davao (Philippines)	-
Awareness Raising Regional Seminar on ISO 22000	Caracas, Venezuela	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay.
Awareness Raising Regional Seminar on ISO 14001 - Environmental Management Systems	Astana Kazakhstan	Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan
Awareness Raising Regional Seminar on ISO 22000 - Food Safety Management Systems	Santo Domingo, Dominican Rep.	Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Rep. , El Salvador, Honduras, Jamaica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & Grenadines, Surinam, and Trinidad & Tobago
Awareness Raising Regional Seminar on ISO 22000	Dar-es-Salaam Tanzania	Tanzania
Atelier Régional sur ISO/CEI 27001 – Systemes de Gestion de la Securite de l'Information (SMSI)	Tunis Tunisia	Algeria (2), Burkina Faso (1), Cameroon (2), Congo DR (1), Cote d'Ivoire (2), Gabon (1), Guinea (1), Lebanon (2), Morocco (2), Mauritius (1), Rwanda (1), and Senegal (1)
National Workshop on ISO 27001 - Information Technology — Security Techniques — Information Security Management Systems — Requirements	Bogota, Colombia	-
Séminaire National sur la Norme ISO 22000 Et Les Systèmes De Management De La Sécurité Des Denrées Alimentaires	Yaoundé Cameroun	-

**II. OBJECTIVE 2: BUILD CAPACITY OF ISO MEMBERS AND STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN DEVELOPING THE STANDARDIZATION INFRASTRUCTURE AND PARTICIPATING IN INTERNATIONAL STANDARDIZATION WORK**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Venue/Host</b>	<b>Other Beneficiary Countries</b>
National Workshop on Social Responsibility	Port Louis Mauritius	-
E-Module 1 – Assessing National Priorities	e-learning	Croatia (2) Czech Rep. (1) Egypt (2) Ghana (2) Iran(1) Rep of Korea (1) Madagascar (1) Mozambique (1) Palestine(1) Peru (1) Singapore (1) Tanzania(1)
Enhanced Participation in International Standardization with "Training-of-Trainers (ToT)" Component	Bangkok Thailand	Indonesia (2) Malaysia (2) Mongolia (2) Philippines (1) Vietnam (1)
ISO Workshop on Stakeholder Participation in International Standardization	Riyadh Saudi Arabia	Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Tunisia, UAE and Yemen
National Workshop on Social Responsibility	Lima Peru	
Marketing and Promotion Course	Geneva Switzerland	Cyprus, Ghana, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania (2), Malaysia, Namibia (2), Singapore (2), South Africa (2)
National Workshop on Social Responsibility	Kiev Ukraine	
Regional workshop on Social Responsibility	Belgrade Serbia	Armenia (2) , Bosnia and Herzegovina (1) , Croatia (1) , Lithuania (1) , Montenegro (1) , Romania (2) , Ukraine (1) , Uzbekistan (1)
Course on Marketing and Promotion of International Standards	Sao Paulo Brazil	Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay, Peru, Venezuela
E-Module 3 - Adopting and implementing International Standards	e-learning	Australia, Croatia (2), Ethiopia, Iran (2), Lebanon, Thailand (2)
National Workshop on Social Responsibility	Harare, Zimbabwe	
ISO Project Management course	Geneva Switzerland	Australia, Bahrain, China, Germany, Kuwait, Netherlands (3), Mexico, Rep. of Korea, Russian Fed., Saudi Arabia (2)

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Title	Venue/Host	Other Beneficiary Countries
Regional workshop on Social Responsibility	Castries Saint Lucia	Barbados (1), Costa Rica (1), Dominica (2), Guyana (2), Honduras (1), Jamaica (2) and Trinidad & Tobago (2).
Regional workshop on Social Responsibility	Rio de Janeiro Brazil	Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela
Enhanced participation in International Standardization	Teheran Iran	-
ISO Workshop on increasing the impact of Developing Country participation in International Standardization on Social Responsibility	Santiago, Chile	Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain (2), Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt (2), Egypt, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya (2), Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Mongolia, Morocco (2), Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Peru, Philippines, Romania, Senegal, Serbia (2), South Africa, Syria, Tanzania, Thailand, Ukraine, Uruguay and Vietnam
E-Module 2- Managing Participation in International Standards	e-learning	Croatia (2), Iran(2), Jamaica(2), Lebanon, Madagascar, Palestine(2) Peru, Rwanda, Thailand (2), Zambia
National Workshop on Social Responsibility	Cairo, Egypt	Algeria, Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon 2, Morocco, Oman 2, Palestine 2, Qatar, Syrian Arab Rep.and Tunisia
Regional Workshop on Societal Security	Bali, Indonesia	Armenia, Bagladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Colombia, Cote d'Ivoire, Eygpt, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Libya, Palestine, Peru, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Uzbekistan
Course on Marketing and Promotion of International Standards	Doha Qatar	Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya; Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, Yemen
Customised course on ISO Project Management	Sydney Australia	

### III. OBJECTIVE 3: INCREASE NATIONAL AND REGIONAL COOPERATION TO SHARE EXPERIENCE, RESOURCES, TRAINING AND INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES

Title	Venue/Host	Other Beneficiary Countries
DEVCO <sup>1</sup> /COPOLCO <sup>2</sup> Workshop on Trainers for Consumer Participation in International Standardization ("Train The Trainers")	Accra, Ghana	Argentina, Armenia, Chile, Costa Rica, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, Nigeria, Oman, Philippines, Saint Lucia, Sri Lanka & Thailand
DEVCO/CASCO <sup>3</sup> Regional Workshop on Conformity Assessment for Sustainable Development and Trade	Kiev, Ukraine	Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Montenegro, FYR Macedonia, Serbia, Romania, Uzbekistan
National Consumer Participation Training Workshop	Nairobi, Kenya	ToT follow-up Trainee Trainers from Kenya (1) and Ethiopia (1)
Conformity Assessment National Workshop	Kampala, Uganda	
Regional Consumer Participation Training Workshop	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela
National Workshop on Conformity Assessment Infrastructure Supporting Trade	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	
Regional Workshop on Conformity Assessment Infrastructure Supporting Trade	Windhoek, Namibia	Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe
National Workshop On Consumer Involvement In Standardization	Tripoli, Libya	
Regional Workshop On Consumer Involvement In Standardization	St. Michael, Barbados	Antigua & Barbuda (2), Dominica (2), Jamaica (2), Saint Lucia (2), Saint Vincent & The Gren. (2), Surinam and Trinidad & Tobago (2)

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<sup>1</sup> ISO Committee on developing country matters

<sup>2</sup> ISO Committee on consumer policy

<sup>3</sup> ISO Committee on conformity assessment

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/TBT/W/310  
20 May 2009

(09-2452)

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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE TBT WORKSHOP ON  
THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS  
IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
16-17 MARCH 2009**

Note by the Secretariat<sup>1</sup>

The use of international standards and conformity assessment systems facilitates the conduct of international trade. The TBT Committee has explored ways and means of enhancing Members' awareness of, and participation in, the work of international standardizing bodies, thereby improving the implementation of the TBT Agreement. To build on this work the Committee held a Workshop on the Role of International Standards in Economic Development.

The Workshop was divided into four sessions. The first session focused on the economics of standardization, the second on case studies on the use of international standards, the third on efforts to build capacity for standardization in developing countries, and the fourth on the identification of key challenges.<sup>2</sup>

This Report provides a summary of key points and issues that arose from the presentations and discussions during the Workshop. The full presentations made by speakers are available on the [WTO TBT website](#).<sup>3</sup> Two background notes by the Secretariat, circulated at the Workshop, are contained in documents JOB(09)/15 and JOB(09)/17.

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<sup>1</sup> This document has been prepared under the Secretariat's own responsibility and is without prejudice to the positions of Members and to their rights and obligations under the WTO.

<sup>2</sup> The programme, as well as the biographies of speakers and moderators, is contained in Annex 1.

<sup>3</sup> WTO TBT Website [http://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/news09\\_e/tbt\\_16mar09\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news09_e/tbt_16mar09_e.htm).  
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## OPENING REMARKS

1. Mr. Harsha V. Singh, Deputy-Director General of the WTO, opened the Workshop. In his opening remarks, Mr. Singh provided an overview of issues related to standards, trade and the WTO. He stressed the economic benefits of standardization and highlighted some of the costs; he underscored the importance of the disciplines in the TBT Agreement as they apply to standardizing bodies and to Member governments, and he also drew attention to the increasing importance of addressing non-tariff barriers to trade in the WTO, including in the negotiating context.

### I. THE ECONOMICS OF STANDARDIZATION

2. The moderator, Mr. John Tucker<sup>4</sup> (Australia), noted that the purpose of Session I was to provide an overview and perspective of current work on the topic of standards, trade and economic growth, including issues such as: quantifying the welfare effects of standardization; the contribution of standards to innovation and technical progress; and, the importance of standards in development work. It was important, he said, that standards – just like regulation – complied with the same principles that constitute good regulatory practice.<sup>5</sup> It was important, he said, to focus on features in standards development that contribute to successes, that promote trade rather than create barriers. Mr. Tucker noted that Australia requires a "net benefit case" for each and every standard that is developed. He noted that his organization was contributing to work underway in the ISO looking at a harmonized assessment methodology for assessing the economic effects of standards.<sup>6</sup>

#### A. STUDIES ON THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF STANDARDS IN EUROPE

3. Prof. Knut Blind (European Communities) noted that it is not easy to categorize economic studies that are about the impact of standards on economic development. Although standards can be considered as an instrument for regulation and, consequently, analyzed under the classical Regulatory Impact Analysis<sup>7</sup>, this was generally not done. He said that standards have to be seen as an output of a complex innovation process. They are, in fact, a pool of knowledge available to the economy as a whole, as well as to specific companies. Technical standards, in particular, are strongly based on state-of-the-art science and technology. Prof. Blind said that it is possible to distinguish between micro and macro economic studies on the impact of standards. For instance, he noted that there are a number of studies relating to the ISO 9000 and ISO 14000 series, especially in the United States; these studies tied productivity effects to the implementation of those standards. On the macro level, however, there are fewer studies. A number of these, discussed below, focus on Europe and relate to the stock of existing standards with economic growth.

4. Prof. Blind said that a general assumption with respect to the macro studies is that technical standards qualify technological know-how like other public instruments, especially patents. In his work with other authors (Jungmittag), Prof. Blind held that standards, like patents, contribute to economic growth. The European studies on the economic impact of standards started with the study of the German Institute for Standardization (DIN) on the Economic Benefits of Standardization.<sup>8</sup> This study found that standards made a very significant contribution to economic growth, similar to that of

<sup>4</sup> Document G/TBT/GEN/80/Rev.1 contains brief biographies on the speakers and moderators.

<sup>5</sup> Document G/TBT/W/287 contains a summary report of a WTO TBT Committee Workshop on Good Regulatory Practice, held on 18-19 March 2009.

<sup>6</sup> The ISO/IEC Information Centre website contains an "Inventory of Studies on the Economic and Social Benefits of Standardization". Website: <http://www.standardsinfo.net/info/livelihood/link/2000/148478/6301438/benefits/benefits.html>

<sup>7</sup> OECD (1997): Regulatory Impact Analysis: Best Practices in OECD Countries, Paris: OECD Publications Service. Website: <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/21/59/35258828.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> German Institute for Standardization e. V. (DIN), "Economic Benefits of Standardization – Summary of results", Beuth Verlag, Berlin, Germany, 2000. jnb/15341398

patents. Based on this study, others were made elsewhere – for instance, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) of the United Kingdom in 2005 replicated the German approach and found significant but somewhat lower impacts of standards on total factor productivity and economic growth.<sup>9</sup> Another, more recent study done in Denmark (in 2007) also found a lower contribution of standards to growth.<sup>10</sup> In 2009, a French study, also replicating the German approach, found almost identical results, i.e., around one per cent of the annual GDP is related to the existing stock of standards.<sup>11</sup>

5. Work done in 2008<sup>12</sup> which compared four countries (United Kingdom, France, Italy and Germany) confirmed that both the stock of technical standards and patents contributed significantly to economic growth in the 1990s. A notable empirical finding of this study was that standards contribute to growth in those sectors which are less R&D intensive and that, for more R&D intensive industries, patents are more important.

6. In terms of the role of standards in trade flows, Prof. Blind drew participants' attention to the pioneering work of Peter Swann. In his work, Swann had found, in general, that in the United Kingdom, standards are trade enhancing – not only international standards but also national standards contributed positively, especially for intra-industry trade. Hence, standards promote exports.<sup>13</sup> In further work, Prof. Blind noted that it had been found that international standards are especially positive for international trade, whereas the contribution of national standards is ambivalent.<sup>14</sup>

7. Prof. Blind concluded with five challenges. First, he said that all the studies referred to (above) did not reflect the fact that standards, like patents, are a result of R&D and innovation efforts. Second, the trade enhancing effect of standards had to be acknowledged, especially the market integration effect of European standards for the completion of the single market in Europe. Third, all of the studies mentioned relied on the stock of standards published by formal standardization bodies (like ISO, IEC and ITU). However, increasingly, and particularly in the information and communication technologies (ICT) sector, consortia standards were being published; in other words, *de facto* standards played a more relevant role than formal standards, e.g. certain published standards that are the basis for the internet.<sup>15</sup> Fourth, the studies are based on publications of the active number of standards, whereas their diffusion and implementation is not taken into consideration. Finally, there is a need to come up with a more advanced methodology to assess the impact of standards, as well as more comprehensive databases, in order to make progress in assessing the economic impact of standards. Prof. Blind said that this is crucial because standards are an important instrument not only for trade policy but also an instrument for innovation and competition policy.

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<sup>9</sup> UK Department of Trade and Industry (2005), "The Empirical Economics of Standards", DTI Economics Paper No. 12, DTI, UK.

<sup>10</sup> CEBR - Centre for Economic and Business Research (2007): Standards and economic growth in Denmark, Frederiksberg.

<sup>11</sup> AFNOR (2009): The economic impact of standardization - Technological change, standards and long-term growth in France, Paris.

<sup>12</sup> Blind, K.; Jungmittag, A. (2008): The Impact of Patents and Standards on Macroeconomic Growth: A Panel Approach Covering Four Countries and 12 Sectors. In: Journal of Productivity Analysis, 29, pp. 51-60.

<sup>13</sup> Swann, G.M.P.; Temple, P.; Shurmer, M. (1996): Standards and Trade Performance: The UK Experience. In: Economic Journal, 106, pp. 1297-1313.

<sup>14</sup> Blind, K.; Jungmittag, A. (2005a): The Impacts of Innovations and Standards on German-French Trade Flows. In: *Économie Appliquée*, 58 (2), pp. 99-125; and Blind, K.; Jungmittag, A. (2005b): Trade and the Impact of Innovations and Standards: The Case of Germany and the UK. In: *Applied Economics*, 37 (12), pp. 1385-1398.

<sup>15</sup> Blind, K.; Gauch, S. (2008): Trends in ICT Standards in European Standardization Bodies and Standards Consortia. In: *Telecommunication Policy*, 32 (7), pp. 503-513.

8. Mr. Heinz Gaub (European Communities) complemented Prof. Blind's presentation with a number of practical examples on benefits of standards use.<sup>16</sup> Among the examples presented by Mr. Gaub, he noted that standards facilitate communication. Whenever a new technological field became a subject of standardization work, typically it would start with terminology standards. Indeed, international and inter-cultural communication among scientists and engineers would be difficult without a common language for quantities and units. The International System of Units (IS) as laid down in ISO 1000, DIN 1301 and the ISO 31 series of standards (soon to be the ISO 80000 series) provided a basis for worldwide understanding. As another example, Mr. Gaub explained how standards also made possible the comparisons of quality. For instance, by specifying the means of obtaining and presenting comparable data describing the basic properties of plastics, the two standards series DIN EN ISO 10350 and DIN EN ISO 11403 provided the basis for an international database of plastics properties and characteristics which today cover 90 per cent of the world plastics market. These standards had been useful for producers because they reduced the number of samples for tests and provided a good basis for the automation of plastics manufacturing.

9. In addition to the points made by Prof. Blind, Mr. Gaub noted that by *participating* in standardization, particularly at the international level, companies gained a competitive advantage. They learned about new technologies and were able to build networks and familiarize themselves with other parties interested in a specific standardization project. Such participation also lowered transaction costs and, in the R&D context, reduced research risk and development costs of new technologies and new products. Mr. Gaub also drew participants' attention to an assessment tool that had been programmed at DIN to help the user assess potential economic benefits for the application of a particular standard, or group of standards. Essentially, this was a computer-based interactive checklist that helped the user establish a monetary value on the specific business benefits for the use of a certain standard.<sup>17</sup>

10. In response to questions, Prof. Blind noted that, particularly at the European level, standardization activities were progressively being recognized as an important instrument for innovation policy and knowledge transfer. Increasingly, standardization was seen as an important conduit between research and market. This, he said, was also valid for developing countries.<sup>18</sup> For developing countries two issues were important to consider. First, standards were a means to gain knowledge. Second, there was a need to build up infrastructure which would be compatible with the infrastructures in major export markets; this infrastructure was crucial as it provided compatibility and acceptance to exported products. Prof. Blind also pointed out the importance of developing countries establishing priorities, to focus on specific sectors that enjoyed a comparative advantage. In respect of participation, Prof. Blind noted that efforts were underway to find ways to improve incentives for SMEs to participate in standardization; in particular, it was important to clarify to SMEs the benefits of standards and to make more concrete the positive impact of such participation.

11. In response to a question about ways to maximize the economic benefits of standards, Prof. Blind stressed the importance of an open and transparent process that allowed all stakeholders to be involved. As well, standards needed to take into account state-of-the-art science and technology. This meant that standards have to continuously adapt to new developments in the field of science and technology. Outdated standards were not good for economic growth. On the contrary, they hindered innovation.

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<sup>16</sup> More detail on these examples can be found in Mr. Gaub's PowerPoint slides on the WTO website.

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.anp.din.de/cmd?level=tpl-artikel&cmstextid=90249&languageid=en>. Currently in German only. An English version is forthcoming.

<sup>18</sup> More information is contained in a paper on the role of standards and IP for developing countries on the UNIDO website: [http://www.unido.org/fileadmin/import/44913\\_BackgroundPaper\\_Blind.pdf](http://www.unido.org/fileadmin/import/44913_BackgroundPaper_Blind.pdf).  
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B. STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY DIFFUSION IN CHINA

12. Mr. Rengang Huang (China) noted that studies in China demonstrated a positive relationship between standardization and economic growth. A recent empirical analysis undertaken by China's National Institute for Standardization (CNIS) had shown that from 1978 to 2007 the flexibility coefficient of China's stock of standards contributing to the GDP growth was 0.079 (meaning that a one per cent increase in the national standards stock was related to a 0.079 per cent increase in GDP). Hence, a key conclusion was that the stock of standards in China over the past 30 years had contributed positively to China's economic growth.<sup>19</sup>

13. Mr. Huang cautioned, however, against the notion that the impact of standards on trade was only positive. He said that the existence of certain technical standards imposed by trading partners had generated barriers to trade that, each year, cost China up to USD 8 billion. Hence, he said, it is also important to consider the cost of standards. Moreover, not all standards are "open" so it is not always possible to assume that standards always contribute to technology transfer, innovation and progress – and, therefore, economic growth. Sometimes, the fact that some technology is patented could hinder progress in standardization. Of course, he said, the appropriate use of standards in regulation is an important policy tool for Members. In sum, given the complexity of the subject, it is too simplistic to say that standards are either "good" or "bad". Many factors need to be taken into account, including the notion of what constitutes a legitimate policy objective to be pursued. In this respect, Mr. Huang emphasized that there is no agreed definition of the term "legitimate objective" in the TBT Agreement.

14. In respect of participation by developing countries in international standard-setting activities, Mr. Huang stressed the need for developing countries to become more active and involved – with respect to both the development of standards and their implementation. He urged developed countries with more experience to make a firm commitment to help developing countries raise and improve capacity in this regard.

15. In the discussion, the representative of Kenya noted that even when developing countries made the effort to participate in international standards-setting activities, increasingly "private standards" were becoming the real constraint. This constituted an additional burden as it was not possible to participate in private standardization activities. Mr. Huang said that, in his view, most international standards were, in some sense, "private": they were often developed by private individual organizations without necessarily global consensus or approval procedures. In terms of addressing private standard-setting, there was no "quick fix". A concerted effort at the international level by developing countries to address these issues was important.

16. Prof. Blind pointed out that private standards are often developed by two or three very strong players on the market, based on intellectual property rights (patents), and that the solutions developed in this context were not necessarily good for competition, and were at times developed in parallel with the formal standard-setting processes. Nevertheless, Prof. Blind noted that this remained an important instrument for single companies to gain competitive advantage and should not be restricted unless they hindered competition. Hence, there had to be a careful balance between the open and transparent processes which benefited everybody, while leaving open the incentives for single companies or small groups of companies to come up with their own solutions (unless these hindered competition). He noted that at the moment there were discussions at the European level about how to align this separate standardization with the formal standardization so as to avoid friction. This was particularly an issue in the ICT sector.

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<sup>19</sup> The analysis was conducted by Dr. Ding Wenxing, China National Institute for Standardization (CNIS). It is contained in the publication "Standardization and Economic Development: Theory, Empirical Studies and Cases", by Professor YU Xinli, Standards Press of China, 2008.

### C. THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF STANDARDIZATION IN CANADA

17. Mr. Stephen Head (Canada) presented an overview of a study undertaken in Canada in 2006 on the impact of standardization on the Canadian economy.<sup>20</sup> The empirical quantitative section, which used a model similar to that used in the UK and Germany, made comparable findings to those arrived at in these two countries: there was a positive and significant impact on labour productivity and economic growth as a result of the existence of standards. In essence, this work suggested that over the period 1981 to 2004, the growth in the number of standards (in Canada) had accounted for 17 per cent of labour productivity growth and about nine per cent of growth in economic output (real GDP). This implied that, in any given year, growth in the quantity of standards had been an important contributor to growth in labour productivity and output.

18. In the qualitative part of the study, key stakeholders had provided compelling examples of the benefits of standardization. For instance, stakeholders had cited that standards: facilitate trade, encourage innovation and R&D; establish credibility and quality; and reduce health and safety risks. Also, participation in standard-setting was beneficial in and of itself, for instance, because such participation: enhances professional interaction, enables firms to influence standards, and creates a demand for superior products (through a professional exchange of ideas).

19. Two case studies were undertaken to allow for a more in-depth look at benefits at an individual firm level. The first was on the implementation of ISO 14001 in SaskPower (an energy company in the Canadian Province of Saskatchewan). This case study showed benefits with respect to: increased confidence that environmental risks were being managed with better trained and environmentally sensitive staff; increased credibility with regulators and customers; improved understanding and compliance with legal requirements; and greater focus and attention to priority areas through objective setting and progress monitoring. The second case study was done on the implementation of ISO 9001 in Infasco, a Canadian manufacturer of steel products. Similar benefits were found, as well as: higher quality products through the use of performance metrics; and improved handling of customer complaints.

### D. JAPAN: THE VALUE OF STANDARDIZATION AT THE BUSINESS LEVEL

20. Prof. Manabu Eto (Japan) noted that, in June 2003, a "Study group on the economic impact of standardization" had been established to quantify the "meaning" and "value" resulting from the commitment of business management and policy to international standardization activities. This Group had, over five years, worked on a number of case studies conducted at the corporate level focusing on the effect standardization had on business development. A report was compiled on the outcome of the projects. Among the conclusions made, Prof. Eto drew participants' attention to the following. First, it appeared that mainstream standardization had moved from *de facto* standards to the development of consensus based standards (such as an international standards). Second, the influence of standards on economic welfare could be classified as "market expansion" and "cost reduction" for such consensus-based product standards. Third, standardization made it possible for both countries which had technology and those which had productive capacity to benefit from their respective strengths.

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<sup>20</sup> Haimowitz, Joseph and Warren, Joanne, Economic Value of Standardization, The Conference Board of Canada, Standards Council of Canada (SCC), 2007.  
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E. QUANTITATIVE ASSESSMENT – THE EXPERIENCE OF CHINESE TAIPEI

21. Mr. Eho-Cheng Lo (Chinese Taipei) stressed that quantitative assessment is important because it objectively demonstrates the tangible value of standardization. He pointed out the usefulness of focusing on the effects and changes (standards outcome) resulting from the use of these standards, rather than the number of standards produced (standards output). Although much work had been done at national levels, assessing the economic benefits of standards, the use of a *harmonized* quantitative assessment method in standardization economics had only been explored to a limited extent. He argued that a globally accepted, harmonized quantitative assessment methodology at both a micro- and a macro-level, if workable, could make the economics of standardization more persuasive and easier to present. It would make comparisons possible both geographically and over time. Such a harmonized assessment methodology could pave the way for formulating economically efficient standardization policies. In light of this, Mr. Lo strongly encouraged the collaboration between relevant bodies, such as standards development organizations, academia and regulatory bodies, in order to develop and agree on a harmonized methodology, which could be quantitative models, equations, directives, guidelines and/or principles, for assessing and quantifying the benefits of standardization.

F. ANALYTIC TOOLS FOR THE ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF STANDARDIZATION – A MODEL DEVELOPED IN KOREA

22. Dr. Hyang Sun (Korea) noted, as with the previous speaker, that there is no generally accepted, single methodology for the impact assessment of standards programs. This, he said, is because the economic outcomes that analysts seek to quantify vary significantly with the diversity and complexity of affected industries. Nevertheless the Korean Agency for Technology and Standards (KATS), had developed a methodology and an associated web programme which is designed to analyze the economic effect of standards programs.<sup>21</sup>

## II. CASE STUDIES ON THE USE OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

23. The moderator, Mr. Michel Jeanson (European Commission) introduced the session which focused on cases/experiences illustrating how the use of standards has contributed to economic development. He said that both national and international standards are developed in an open process based upon the consensus of all interested parties. Significantly, their development is a form of cooperation at the international level. Case studies during this session were intended to reflect topics of interest to developing countries - the importance of the implementation and application of voluntary, national and international standards. Mr. Jeanson emphasized issues for reflection during the session: possible commonalities; whether standards provide solutions; and, where they have proved successful, why?

A. COFFEE AND ASPARAGUS: THE IMPACT OF STANDARDIZATION IN PERU

24. Mr. Augusto Mello (Peru) presented the Peruvian experience of standards and their impact in the agri-business sector, specifically asparagus and coffee. Once standardization was applied the impact on quality and innovation resulted in a substantial increase in exports over a ten year period and an ongoing increase in production. Uncertainty over product quality and safety was reduced. Producers and exporters, with the support of the Government and the Peruvian Standardization and Accreditation Body (INDECOPI<sup>22</sup>), forged a strategic alliance which provided greater investment and complementary use of technology and innovation. The importance of technical assistance and

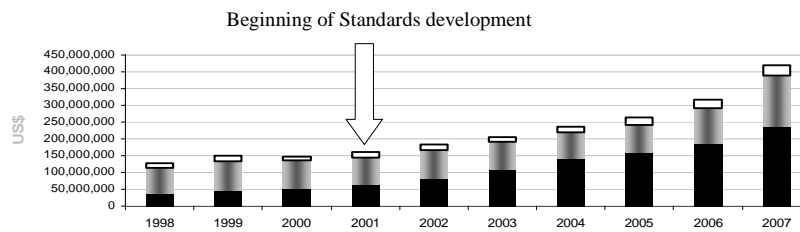
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<sup>21</sup> The details of this programme are set out in Dr. Sun's PowerPoint presentation, available at: [http://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/news09\\_e/tbt\\_16mar09\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news09_e/tbt_16mar09_e.htm) (Session 1).

<sup>22</sup> INDECOPI website <http://www.indecopi.gob.pe/>

capacity building is demonstrated in the cooperation between INDECOPI and PromPeru (the Peruvian Export Promotion Agency) who, on the basis of international technical cooperation, have contributed to the development of standards and conformity in Peru. This development, through technical committees and based on international standards, has affected the entire production chain - training, risk analysis, critical control points – resulting in quality produce for the international market and a substantial increase in exports. This model is now being used for other products in Peru.

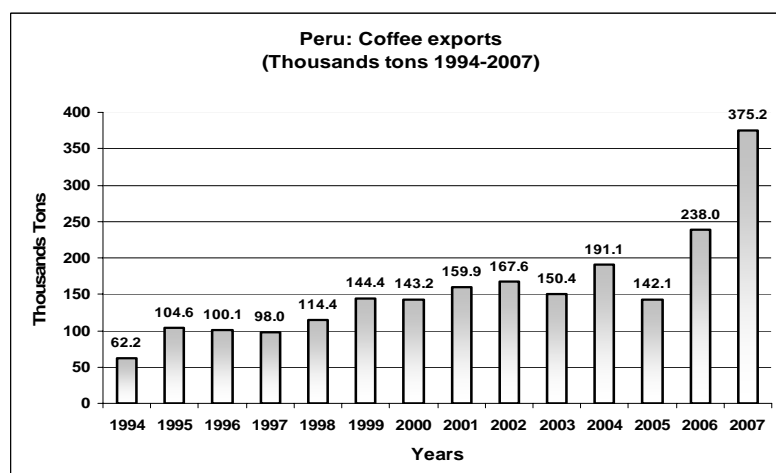
**Figure 1: Asparagus Exports (USD Mills FOB 1998-2007)**



VALUE (US\$Mills)	1998	2006	2007	Part % 98	Part % 07	Var % (98-07)	Var % (06-07)
FRESH ●	35.70	187.00	235.10	28%	56%	559%	26%
CANNED ○	77.80	104.30	154.30	61%	37%	98%	48%
FROZEN ○	14.10	26.60	30.20	11%	7%	114%	14%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>127.60</b>	<b>317.90</b>	<b>419.60</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32%</b>

Source: SUNAT / ADEX  
Prepared by: Inform@ccion

**Figure 2: Peru Coffee Exports (Thousands of tons 1994 - 2007)**



Source: PROMPERU



B. TEXTILES: THE USE OF STANDARDS IN THE TEXTILES SECTOR AND CHALLENGES TO SMES IN PAKISTAN

25. Mrs. Aisha Humera Moriani and Mr. Muhammad Muzzammil Hussain presented Pakistan's use of standards in the textiles sector and challenges to SMEs. Pakistan is a major cotton producer whose textile industry generates 60 per cent of exports, constitutes 40 per cent of the manufacturing industry and impacts on other sectors such as transport, shipping, insurance and banking. Forty per cent of Pakistan's workforce is engaged in activities related to the textile sector – agricultural producers, spinners, weavers, specialists in all aspects of processing. The need for industry-specific standards for SMEs, the backbone of the economy, has proved imperative - necessitating Pakistan's regulatory framework being merged under Pakistan's Standard Quality Control Authority (PSQCA). Given Pakistan's experience in dealing with a proliferation of 'private standards', it was recommended that variations in private standards needed first to be reduced, and then harmonized to international standards.

26. The establishment of the Small Medium Enterprise Development Authority, to promote a facilitating environment, enabled SMEs to interact with stakeholders; identifying issues and assisting in the development of relevant policies (e.g. training) and standards. International standards compliance has provided encouragement to SMEs, supporting them with the motivation to gain premium prices. The encouragement and incentives offered by the Government, including national reward systems, assisted in promoting compliance with international standards.

C. BIOFUELS: THE USE OF STANDARDS IN THE BIOFUELS SECTOR

27. Mr. Jorge Cruz (Brazil) presented on the cooperation between the Brazilian National Institute of Metrology, Standardization and Industrial Quality (INMETRO) and the United States National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) on measurement standards. To support the global trade of biofuels, INMETRO and NIST are working cooperatively to promote biofuels-related standards through the development of certified reference materials. INMETRO is taking the lead producing CRMs for ethanol, whilst NIST is producing CRM for biodiesel. This work would not only facilitate the increased use of biofuels in each of their markets, but would also support both exporters and importers of biofuels by helping to avoid adverse trade impacts in a global market. Brazil and the United States, through the Tripartite Task Force (Brazil, European Union and United States), have initially identified: (i) areas of existing measurement and (ii) the need for additional refinements of testing methods. They will review consistency of test methods to ensure comparability and validation of results; they also intend to make recommendations to harmonize terminology.

28. The scope of collaboration between NIST and INMETRO will be to advance work on the technical issues identified above with the aim to support biofuels trade, to improve efficiency of biofuels production and to promote innovative energy resources. Cooperation is also promoted through the International Biofuels Forum (IBF) and the BIOREMA Project for biofuels reference materials. This Project was established by the European Commission under its 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme for research.

D. LAMPS AND REFRIGERATORS: THE USE OF STANDARDS FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN CHILE

29. Mr. Jorge Muñoz Canave (Chile) presented on the use of standards for energy efficiency. In 2004 Chile faced energy difficulties due to the lack of rain for hydroelectric power and limitations in the supply of natural gas. In 2005 an Energy Efficiency Program was established, based on three pillars: to ensure energy safety and supply; to diversify energy input; and, to provide energy savings and efficiency. This program, funded by the government agency that promotes innovation and production (CORFO), gave rise to an energy efficiency labelling scheme. The government identified

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that the largest consumption of domestic electricity was refrigeration at 32 per cent and lamination at 27 per cent. Together with SEC, the Chilean energy agency, a project on energy efficiency to improve the quality, safety and efficiency of domestic appliances was established in conjunction with CORFO.

30. The selection of standards to be adopted/harmonized was to be agreed by SEC and the National Institute for Standards (INN<sup>23</sup>), using international standards as a baseline. The Energy Efficiency Program was implemented from 2005 to 2008 and was subject to the preliminary understanding that appliances would be labelled on the basis of Chilean standards, with the agreement of all interested parties (manufacturers, importers, consumer groups, laboratories) and that requirements and testing methods would be based on international standards. As a result, 52 Chilean standards for energy efficiency were adopted. Standards labelling, where the efficiency rating Class A (highest) to G (lowest) is used, has resulted in the majority of lamps now complying with Class A and B; and 50 per cent of refrigeration units complying with Class A. The success of energy efficiency labelling for refrigerators and lamps is now spreading to other products, for example: microwave ovens and motors.

E. BUILDING CODES AND CONSTRUCTION: THE USE OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS IN THE AREA OF PUBLIC SAFETY

31. Mr. Manuel Lascarro (Colombia) presented on the use of standards in the public safety area: building codes and construction materials. In the 1990s, it was estimated that a USD 40 billion investment in risk reduction strategies for natural disasters worldwide could have saved not only lives, but USD 280 billion in economic losses. One effective risk reduction strategy is the correct understanding of up-to-date codes and standards. In Colombia's experience, helping to address understanding, through partnership in standards development, leads to improvement in public safety. Colombia has suffered major natural disasters resulting in injury, death and economic loss. Experts concluded that problematic construction was contributory due to the lack of quality control and extended self-construction practices. The construction industry is a complex activity which has to take into account many variables to ensure public safety: materials; testing laboratories; structural design; production equipment; construction techniques; and, contractor qualifications. Any miscalculation with any of the variables could result in human and/or economic risk.

32. Many developing countries lack the resources to develop their own codes or standards. In 2001, ASTM International<sup>24</sup> initiated their Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) Program to promote communication between ASTM and national standards bodies in developing countries worldwide. The programme aids the development of national standards to assist the country's health, safety, environmental and economical conditions. Standards developed at ASTM are the work of over 30,000 members – technical experts representing producers, users, consumers, government and academia from over 120 countries. Participation in ASTM International is open to all and the first to sign a MoU was Colombia. More than 90 Colombian representatives now participate directly in ASTM technical committees and their work has continued to influence the content of ASTM standards. As an example, in 2006, thanks to modern tools like web-conferences, a testing standard for self consolidating concrete, a relative new material, was delivered by ASTM incorporating the point of view of Colombian engineers. The joining of forces between ASTM, its members, and the Colombian national standards body (ICONTEC) has enhanced awareness of standards application in construction and assisted in the identification of diverse needs and gaps in different parts of the construction quality chain. Today, approximately 850 Colombian standards made by ICONTEC are based on, or have a relation with, ASTM standards. This is an example of how developing countries

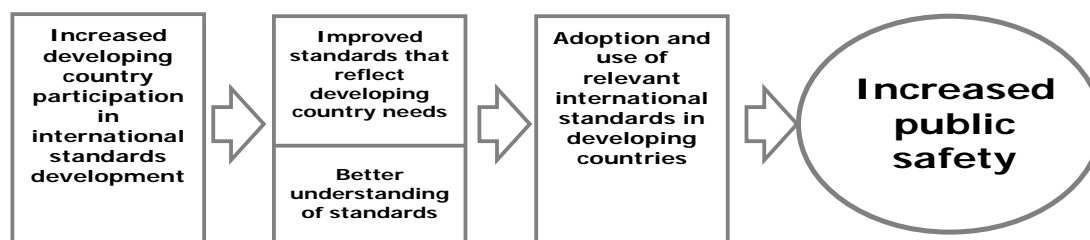
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<sup>23</sup> INN website: <http://www.inn.cl>

<sup>24</sup> Originally known as the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), a large developer of voluntary standards, covering materials, products, systems and services. (Website: <http://astm.org/>)  
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with construction needs can obtain support to develop and adopt international standards which reflect their specific needs and provide increased awareness of the quality chain and public safety.

**Figure 3: Impact of Construction Standards on Public Safety**



F. THE IMPACT OF HARMONIZATION OF NATIONAL STANDARDS WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS IN EGYPT

33. Eng. Samia El-Azazy (Egypt) presented on the impact of the harmonization of Egyptian standards with international standards. The presentation included an introduction on the Egyptian Organization for Standardization and Quality (EOS) and its role in promoting Egyptian trade and industry. The objectives of EOS are to: harmonize standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures in the national and international arena; support the growth and development of Egypt's industry and trade; promote exports; transfer of technology and know-how; increase Egyptian product competitiveness; environmental protection and consumer awareness. EOS' main activities are elaboration of Egyptian Standards; certification of products (schemes of Quality Mark and Conformity Mark); testing and inspections; calibration of measuring and testing equipment; technical consultancy and training services in the areas of Standards and Quality; information services related to standards; and, maintaining the EOS/TBT Enquiry Point. EOS views the setting of standards as crucial, with the positive effect of increasing price competition, improving quality, as well as ensuring compatibility and interoperability between products.

34. Harmonization of standards for Egypt is an element of the Egyptian National Quality Plan, adopted in 2004 with a view to strengthening and upgrading the national quality infrastructure to attain international recognition. Harmonization has meant reviewing national standards against international standards in order to assess technical equivalence, and modernization of standards in order to ensure that differences would not constitute technical barriers to trade. In Egypt, out of more than 8,500 standards adopted so far, less than seven per cent are mandatory, the majority are voluntary. The impact on Egypt's economy, following international standards adoption, has resulted in manufacturers producing more products in accordance with international standards; having greater access to international markets; and foreign investments have increased as international companies are no longer obliged to produce according to local standards. Harmonization has resulted in a faster,

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consistent standardization process; a wider range of manufacturing and service areas; enhanced commitment and participation by stakeholders; increased awareness of consumers and standard users; fewer consumer complaints and the introduction of acceptable solutions for trade and industry problems; confidence in standardization and conformity assessment procedures; and the facilitation of trade with the resulting increase in both imports and exports. Harmonization of national standards with international standards, although not an easy process, is the easiest way to access international markets.

#### G. STANDARDS IN THE AREA OF ELECTROTECHNOLOGY: THE KENYAN EXPERIENCE

35. Mrs. Evah Oduor (Kenya) presented on electrotechnology standards in Kenya. Kenya's electronics industry is small and the majority of electrical and electronic products are imported, necessitating the use of electrotechnology standards for conformity assessment purposes. Previous imports of below-standard products necessitated the need to improve quality and protect customers. Kenya joined the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) Affiliates Programme<sup>25</sup> in 2004 and through this programme was able to adopt 50 free standards.<sup>26</sup> Despite the absence of voting rights, Kenya exercised their entitlement to comment on standards under development. Membership to the IEC followed in 2005. In order to fulfil membership qualification a national electrotechnical committee was set up, the Kenya National Committee of the IEC (KNCIEC). The Committee membership stakeholders include manufacturers, regulators, utility companies, communication companies and consumer organizations.

36. The effective use of electrotechnical standards has also facilitated an expansion of exports. Kenyan companies who apply IEC standards have succeeded in gaining market share in east, central and southern Africa. Previously some of those companies had little or no domestic presence. The quality of product has enabled them to penetrate those markets. In 2005 Kenya launched a Preshipment Verification of Conformity to Standards (PVOC) programme for products considered to have an impact on health, safety and the environment. Under this programme products must be verified in the country of origin prior to shipment, easing imports. Using PVOC, and the IEC Certification Scheme, product rejection has fallen from 52 to 21 per cent over a four year period. Benchmarking new and international standards has provided fair trade for everybody - improvement in technology, product and consumer confidence. Using electrotechnical standards, and finding that they are able to manage the conformity assessment program, has improved market access for exports from small industries in Kenya.

### III. BUILDING CAPACITY

37. The moderator, Ms Ileana Martinez (United States) introduced the session on building capacity, the purpose of which was to discuss ongoing efforts to address developing country capacity constraints with respect to international standards. The efficacy of existing efforts to promote and enhance participation in developing countries in international standard-setting activities was addressed. Discussion touched upon work done at regional and international level to build capacity with specific regard to conformity assessment infrastructure; the relevancy of work on Aid for Trade in the WTO and the activities of SPS Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF).

#### A. TWINNING ARRANGEMENTS IN TECHNICAL STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT: THE COLOMBIAN VIEW

38. Mr. Fabio Tobón (Colombia) presented on twinning arrangements in international standards development. Developing internationally accepted standards has predominantly been undertaken by

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<sup>25</sup> IEC Affiliates Programme website: <http://www.iec.ch/affiliates/>

<sup>26</sup> 200 free standards are now available under the Affiliates Program.

developed or industrialized countries through international standardization bodies worldwide. Developing countries, through National Standards Bodies (NSB), seldom participate actively in the development of international standards due to the lack of resources, both economic and technical. Although about 75 per cent of ISO members are from developing countries, these countries only make up three per cent of the working groups and technical committees in ISO. The need to create capacity for active participation was identified and, in 2002, the Technical Management Board of ISO introduced the concept of 'twinning': cooperation between a developed and a developing countries.

39. Twinning was designed to enable a developed country and a developing country to cooperate and work together, for instance to lead a working group or a technical committee – the developing country would benefit from the experience of the developed country. In addition, the developed country could represent the developing country in various committees if the developing country could not attend, even holding voting rights on their behalf. However, despite good intentions, 'twinning' proved problematic and in 2007 the concept was expanded to that of 'partnering', which likewise encountered obstacles. Mr. Tobón was of the view that the value and reach of different twinning arrangements and their usefulness to the development of international standards needed analysis. Other means could be considered as well, including the use of electronic tools and videoconferencing. Colombia, a member of the Pan American Standards Organization (COPANT), worked with fellow members in central and southern America to identify the best way to run technical committees, how to work on standard-setting, and how to assist other countries in their participation in standards organizations.

40. Mr. Tobón said that the number of international standards organizations, the duplication of standards, and the proliferation of voluntary technical standards, are serious problems for developing countries. Although developing countries may lack the technical know-how and economic resources, they recognize the need to expand their own capacity and participate in international standards-setting. Developing countries realize the importance of implementing standards and therefore it is imperative that governments play an active role within the standards development framework.

41. In the discussion, it was pointed out that a major challenge with standardization was the *implementation* of the standard – not only its development and adoption. Appropriate implementation made all the difference in terms of realization of the benefits. It was important for Members to look into strategies and mechanisms in this regard.

#### B. TECHNICAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN THE ASIA PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION (APEC)

42. Mr. Gary Kushnier (United States) presented on technical infrastructure development in APEC. APEC's Committee on Trade and Investment works to reduce impediments to business activities through sub-fora which includes the Sub-Committee on Standards and Conformance (SCSC). Within APEC there are five Specialist Regional Bodies<sup>27</sup> (SRBs) with expertise in the areas of standardization, accreditation and metrology. The SRB final objective is a standards and conformance infrastructure that simultaneously addresses APEC goals, including sustained economic growth through a commitment to open trade, investment and economic reform in the Asia Pacific region, and also meets the needs of APEC member economies. A "Specialist Regional Bodies Strategic Plan for Technical Infrastructure Development in Support of Trade Facilitation for and in APEC Economies"<sup>28</sup> summarizes activities undertaken by the SRBs in recent years and outlines some projects and activities planned for the next five years. The SRBs emphasize that the objectives of the

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<sup>27</sup> Asia-Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC); Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (PAC); Asia-Pacific Metrology Forum (APLMF); Asia-Pacific Metrology Programme (APMP); and the Pacific Area Standards Congress (PASC).

<sup>28</sup> Website: [http://aimp.apec.org/Documents/2009/SCSC/SCSC1/09\\_scsc1\\_035.pdf](http://aimp.apec.org/Documents/2009/SCSC/SCSC1/09_scsc1_035.pdf)

plan will be more effectively realized through the active support of the APEC SCSC. In particular, the APEC SCSC encourages regulators in the APEC economies to see the value of a strong standards and conformance infrastructure in their economies and for national infrastructure to be linked within the region via the SRBs. Further, the APEC SCSC should encourage regulators to use the infrastructure as a means to achieve good regulatory practice and minimize barriers to trade. Industry should also be encouraged to use the standards and conformance infrastructure. Engagement by the APEC SCSC with the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC) has been encouraged and the SRBs have begun a dialogue with the ABAC to better understand industry needs in the region.

43. Mr. Kushnier highlighted two critical points with regard the importance of adopted national standards being aligned with international standards to provide transparent, national requirements. The first, that SRBs rely and leverage the critical WTO TBT criteria for the development of international standards, emphasizing the process rather than the particular sources of international standards which can be used and adopted to meet trade and compliance goals in the region. Second, neither APEC nor the Pacific Areas Standards Congress (PASC) develop regional standards, as their primary objective is to strengthen Asia Pacific direct participation in international standardization to meet regional and global objectives. APEC and PASC have succeeded in not developing regional standards, choosing to push towards the international standards development process wherever it may be found.

44. In the discussion it was noted that efforts to develop regional infrastructure were also taking place elsewhere. Barbados informed that, for instance, in the Caribbean region the CARICOM Regional Organization for Standards and Quality (CROSQ)<sup>29</sup> is currently working on a strategic plan for the development of regional quality infrastructure across its member states to build capacity and increase participation in international standards development. More specifically, currently there is a Caribbean laboratory accreditation scheme. Kenya noted that similar efforts are underway in Africa to build technical infrastructure at a regional level. The East African Community Secretariat (EAC)<sup>30</sup> envisages harmonized standardization removing trade barriers within the Community.

#### C. BENEFITS FOR COSTA RICA FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE IEC AFFILIATE COUNTRY PROGRAMME

45. Mr. Rodriguez (Costa Rica) presented on participation in the IEC Affiliate Country Program. Costa Rica joined the IEC Affiliate Country Programme in 2001 after recognizing that their industry was doubly influenced by the installations from both European and American products, sometimes with different technology. The establishment of a National Electrotechnical Committee was a challenging task. Producers and distributors of electrical material were, at first, sceptical of their country's participation in the development of standards; but they soon realized that non-participation could be just as problematic. In 2004, having benefited from the expertise of an IEC expert and trust having been established, the tide turned and Costa Rica witnessed increased success in bringing together all stakeholders. Today a sound, active National Electrotechnical Committee exists, providing a neutral forum that has credibility with interested partners, including producers and consumers, as well as Costa Rica's trading partners. The Committee also has the authority to resolve disputes.

46. The success of participation in the IEC Affiliate Country Programme provided confidence for integration into other fora, such as the Council for Harmonization of Electrotechnical Standards of the Nations of the Americas (CANENA) and the Pan-American Standards Commission (COPANT). Costa Rica's suggestion at COPANT 2008, that American IEC membership (Canada, USA, Brazil, Argentina and Mexico) encourage greater participation by affiliate members, was welcomed. Mr.

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<sup>29</sup> Website: <http://www.crosq.org/>

<sup>30</sup> Website: <http://www.eac.int/>

Rodriguez identified this as an example of twinning/partnering – where mentoring countries with seniority within the International Electrotechnical Commission could provide support to newcomers. Awareness of calculability of resources is essential, he said - the IEC Affiliate Country Programme provides a unique opportunity to acquire the means to develop national standards based on international criteria.

D. CAPACITY BUILDING OF THE QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGH TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECTS IN THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN PARTNERSHIP - THE EXPERIENCE OF JORDAN

47. Ms Rula Madanat (Jordan) presented on capacity building of quality infrastructure through technical co-operation projects in the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. She said that capacity building represented a key element in the establishment of the European Twinning Project "Strengthening of the Jordan Institution for Standards and Metrology for its Compliance with the EU-Jordan Association Agreement", financed by the European Commission and emphasizing accreditation, conformity assessment, market surveillance, standardization and metrology. The national standardization system had been upgraded in accordance with international and European rules, and procedures to enable Jordan to participate in the standards development on international and European levels had been established. The project had provided momentum and, consequently, the Jordan Institution for Standards and Metrology (JISM) joined the European Committee for Standardisation (CEN) as an affiliate member in 2008. Moreover, JISM was the first Arab standards body to partner with the Perinorm Database<sup>31</sup>, affording Jordanian economic sectors with valid, up-to-date, and easy access to information on standards and technical regulations. Furthermore, an electronic project management system for the development of Jordanian standards was being created, allowing for monitoring procedures to commence.

48. Ms Madanat said that the Project had contributed to the development of Jordan's national quality infrastructure to support business and industrial development and underlined a commitment and obligation toward the EU-Jordan Association Agreement, fostering a climate that supports bilateral trade. Within two years, and with a total budget of €1.9 Million, the existing standards components were harmonized with international requirements and the application of European rules. Although the results achieved thus far could not be underestimated, Ms Madanat stressed that there was still some way to go and that Jordan depended on trading partners' support in order to develop and progress.

E. UNIDO: QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE CAPACITY BUILDING

49. Mr. Gerardo Pataconi (UNIDO) noted that UNIDO is a main provider of technical assistance and advisory services to developing countries to address capacity constraints in respect of the use of international standards and technical regulations. In particular, he said that UNIDO supports: strengthening legal, institutional and human capacities and infrastructure, including at the regional level.<sup>32</sup> Moreover, UNIDO works with enterprises and institutions to *implement* standards and conformity assessment procedures to increase trade opportunities and overcome barriers to trade. UNIDO's work is based on strong partnership with key technical institutions, including ISO<sup>33</sup>, IEC (as

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<sup>31</sup> Website <http://www.perinorm.com/pol/accueil.php>

<sup>32</sup> This includes issues such as measurement standards; legal metrology; standards development and harmonization; material testing laboratories; certification and inspection; accreditation (of testing and inspection bodies and certification bodies); quality management; consumers and environmental protection.

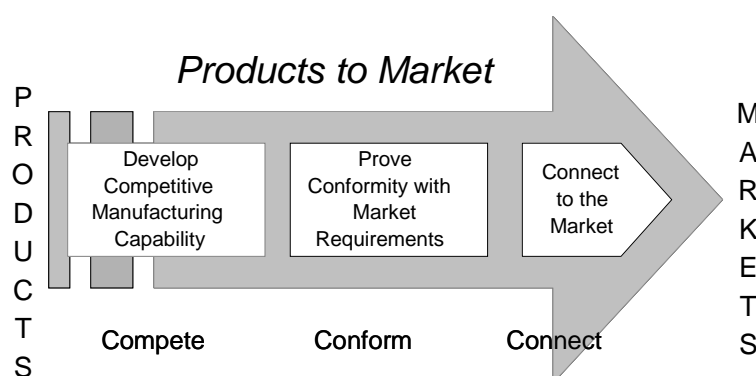
<sup>33</sup> See, for instance the publication: "Fast Forward - National Standard Bodies in Developing Countries", a manual on helping building or upgrading standard bodies based on based on ISO and UNIDO experience in this regard, available at:

[http://www.unido.org/fileadmin/ext\\_media/Publications/documents/fast\\_forward.pdf](http://www.unido.org/fileadmin/ext_media/Publications/documents/fast_forward.pdf)

well as other standardizing bodies) the WTO, and accreditation bodies such as the IAF and ILAC and metrology institutions such as the BIMP and OIML.

50. UNIDO's strategic Trade Capacity-Building (TCB) approach, developed to overcome supply-side and conformity constraints is aimed at achieving an increase in developing country manufacturing value added and exports by: (i) removing supply-side constraints and developing competitive manufacturing capability (compete); (ii) developing and ensuring conformity with technical and market requirements (conform); and (ii) enhancing integration with and connectivity to markets (connect) (see Figure 4, below).

**Figure 4: UNIDO's "3Cs Approach"**



51. Mr. Pataconi said that UNIDO actions recognize that the stage of development of the quality infrastructure in developing countries tend to reflect their general level of economic and industrial development. This, in turn, has a bearing on the efficacy of their technical regulation regimes as well as on their need to protect consumers, ensure efficiency of production and trade activities, and foster market access. UNIDO assistance focuses on global/regional/national value chains, with emphasis on agribusinesses. In terms of industrial trade policy, Mr. Pataconi noted that there had been a significant increase in demand from developing countries in respect of standards-related assistance; in particular for SMEs – a key industrial sector in need of upgrading. What is positive, he said, is that in parallel to the increase in demand there is also a clear increase in willingness from donors to provide support. This is more evident now than in the past; in fact, issues related to standards and conformity and barriers to trade are growing in importance in industrial and trade policies.

52. With respect to "private standards" Mr. Pataconi said that UNIDO has held a number of assessments and workshops on the impact of private sector standards on developing countries; in addition, a major study will be finalized in 2009. He further emphasized that UNIDO's focus is on helping suppliers and companies to *comply* with market requirements, regardless of whether they are set by the private sector or by governmental authorities.



F. WTO SECRETARIAT: AID FOR TRADE AND THE STANDARDS COMPLIANCE NEEDS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

53. Mr. Michael Roberts (WTO Secretariat) recalled that, in 2007, a Global Review and three Regional Reviews of Aid for Trade had been held in Asia, Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean.<sup>34</sup> One conclusion which had emerged from these events was the need for continued assistance to help developing countries comply with standards commonly applied in international trade. Compliance needs, Mr. Roberts said, were considered both in the context of the need to demonstrate conformity with importing market requirements and in the context of the trade facilitation agenda. As input for the Aid for Trade events, the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)<sup>35</sup> carried out research in three regions (East Africa, Central America and the Greater Mekong Delta Sub-region) to examine both the need for and supply of standards-related technical assistance in the SPS area. The results highlighted a number of challenges, including: multiple needs assessment; un-coordinated assistance strategies; and, more generally, a continuing need for assistance, in particular to address long-term structural weaknesses, such as – in the SPS area – the continued presence of endemic animal diseases of concern in international trade.

54. Mr. Roberts stressed the importance of mainstreaming trade and international development objectives – in other words: integrating trade into national development policies. Aid for Trade needed to help developing countries, particularly least developed countries, to build their supply side capacity and trade-related infrastructure so as to benefit from opportunities under WTO agreements and more broadly to expand their trade. The focus, hence, is on overcoming a series of supply-side constraints. The WTO's role, Mr. Roberts said, is not a funding one but rather about raising the profile of supply-side constraints. Mr. Roberts also emphasized the importance of good practice in capacity building and referred to the OECD Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, signed in 2005.<sup>36</sup> These "Paris Principles" rely on five main themes, namely those of: ownership by developing countries, alignment of programs with national programs in the country, harmonization with other ongoing efforts by donors, managing the results and mutual accountability.

G. WORLD BANK: GLOBAL BEST PRACTICE AND STRATEGIES IN STANDARDS – ANALYTIC TOOLS TO ASSESS THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF STANDARDS AND TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE

55. Mr. John S Wilson (World Bank) noted that the global economic crisis is linked to a rapid decline in world trade. Global trade, one of the most powerful engines of economic growth, had been projected to fall in 2009 by approximately 9 per cent. This would be the largest decline in about 80 years, representing a threat to welfare worldwide.<sup>37</sup> Mr. Wilson emphasized that the crisis directly affects the poor today, as well as those who may fall into poverty prior to recovery. Action to address the crisis, including steps to assist the poor, involves a number of key issues. This includes how best to sustain momentum to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, as well as taking measures against trade protection in the form of both tariff and non-tariff measures. In fact, in times of crisis it was particularly important to take action to forestall the use of unnecessary non-tariff barriers to trade, including standards-related technical barriers to trade.

56. What is the link to standards and technical barriers apparent in today's crisis and long-term development goals? Standards, Mr. Wilson said, are an engine of trade facilitation and growth – relying on market-driven standards can help economies move out of the crisis more rapidly.

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<sup>34</sup> The Second Global Review of Aid for Trade will be held in Geneva on 6-7 July 2009.

<sup>35</sup> <http://www.standardsfacility.org/>.

<sup>36</sup> [http://www.oecd.org/document/18/0,2340,en\\_2649\\_3236398\\_35401554\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_1,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/document/18/0,2340,en_2649_3236398_35401554_1_1_1_1,00.html)

<sup>37</sup> Taylor, Benjamin & John S. Wilson, "The Crisis and Beyond: Why Trade Facilitation Matters," The World Bank Development Economics Research Group, Trade Issue Brief; April 2009.

Mr. Wilson emphasized that empirical analysis and best practice case studies show that private sector-led standards systems, a limited role of government in technical regulations and conformity assessment systems, and continual steps to reduce and remove technical barriers, could make a significant difference to development. Harmonization was an essential component of best practices in standards work: harmonization to international standards needed to be part of both short- and long-term capacity building programs. Recent work by the World Bank, for example, demonstrated that European Union textiles, apparel and electronics product standards that are harmonized with ISO standards exert a less negative impact on export volumes than standards that are not. This work suggests, among other points, that Africa has an important interest in dialogues on standards, as just 20 percent of EU standards for clothes are currently harmonized with international standards.<sup>38</sup> Mr. Wilson also emphasized quality as an important component of best practices in standards work. Standards development driven by private market forces was often led by the objective of improving quality – this was essential for developing countries looking to sustain economic growth and to remove themselves from dependency on primary products.

57. In the long-term, Mr. Wilson stressed the importance of Aid for Trade – and suggested that support under this initiative for standards and reducing technical barriers to trade should be noted. He said that institutions like the World Bank, regional development banks, bilateral donors and others were prepared to support demand-driven requests for investing in standards, an important component of the Aid for Trade agenda. In addition, as part of the overall response to the current crisis, the World Bank was prepared to triple its investment to about USD100 billion over the next three years in projects, lending and technical assistance. This includes potential projects with a focus on standards and based on clients' demands. Mr. Wilson further noted that new analysis was underway in the World Bank's Research Department examining the impact of various channels of Aid for Trade on trade facilitation goals. Preliminary results from this work suggested that Aid for Trade targeted at trade policy and regulation had a higher rate of return on investment in comparison to other types of Aid for Trade.

#### **IV. IDENTIFICATION OF KEY CHALLENGES**

58. The Chairperson of the TBT Committee, Ms Xueyan Guo (China), noted that at the outset of the Workshop, participants had been presented with a synopsis of current work on the topic of standards, trade and economic growth. In particular, based on studies undertaken in Germany, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and China, participants heard expert views from both academia and governments on the benefits and costs of standardization activities – and efforts to quantify these. The essence of the findings of various studies presented show that standards, as a pool for technological know-how, can contribute positively to economic growth. Standards promote innovation and technical progress and are an important instrument to facilitate competition in markets and transfer of technology. These benefits, however, remain difficult to quantify and need to be better understood, both in qualitative and quantitative terms. More research is therefore needed, also with respect to aligning methodologies and assessment tools. Participants were urged to circulate widely any case studies on the impacts of standards, regardless of methodologies used.

59. Ms Guo said that participants had reflected on the relevance of standards to the crisis affecting the global economy. It had been pointed out that in times of crisis it is ever more important to ensure that standards are not used for protectionist purposes. Instead, standards should be seen as an opportunity. For instance, well crafted standards, as the basis for regulatory measures, may increase confidence in markets and serve to boost trade. As well, standards are an important link between research, innovation and markets; in effect, an efficient tool for the transfer of technology.

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<sup>38</sup> Czubala, Witold, Ben Shepherd, and John S. Wilson. 2007. "Help or Hindrance? The Impact of Harmonized Standards on African Exports." Policy Research Working Paper 4400, World Bank, Washington, DC.  
jnb/15341398

For companies in particular, participation in standardization processes could potentially compensate for a downturn in R&D spending. This is particularly important today in the areas of sustainability and environmental technology.

60. To stay relevant, standards need to be maintained: they have to be up-to-date with current technology and science – they should not lag behind technology. Science does not stay still. Timing is therefore important. Standards that arrive too late can lock in old technology and be counter-productive in terms of innovation.

61. During the Workshop, a number of practical case studies that illustrate how the use of standards has contributed to economic and social development, in particular in developing countries, were presented and discussed. For instance, in the agricultural sector, participants heard how international standards have been used to increase exports of asparagus and coffee from Peru. Egypt illustrated how the adoption and use of international standards in general had facilitated trade, leading to increases in both imports and exports. Participants heard how Pakistan's textile sector had increased exports subsequent to the use of international quality standards. There were also other benefits to the use of standards. The case of the US-Brazil cooperation to develop testing and measurement methods on biofuels, and the application of Chilean standards on energy efficiency showed how standards can contribute to address global environmental challenges. Standards can also successfully address public safety issues, as illustrated by Colombia in the presentation on building codes and construction. Kenya's experience showed how the adoption of international standards in the electrotechnology field had contributed to improvement in the quality and safety of *imported* products. Ms Guo noted that a common element in several of the cases presented was the importance attributed to collaborative work between the public and private sectors; government support for standardization activities is considered important, particularly in developing countries. It is also important, she said, to have the absorptive capacity to implement standards (not only participate in their development), and, sometimes, to tailor them to local or regional circumstances.

62. Participants considered efforts to address developing country capacity constraints in respect of the use of international standards. Clearly, participation in international standards-setting activities is considered essential and remains a constraint. In this respect, several initiatives by international standardizing bodies, regional bodies, bilateral donors and other international bodies, such as UNIDO, to increase participation were mentioned. Kenya suggested that developing countries should, to a greater extent, be hosting working groups and technical committees developing standards. However, it was also pointed out that participation in and of itself serves no purpose: it has to be effective. Building expertise in developing countries and filling information gaps has to be done in ways that reflect the needs of each individual country.

63. Several participants expressed concern about the proliferation of private standards that could result in unnecessary barriers to trade that created confusion in the market place. It was pointed out that initiatives existed and were underway in other organizations, such as UNIDO, to help countries comply with such schemes, and that the issue was also being addressed in the WTO SPS Committee.

64. The importance of identifying best practices for technical cooperation in the standards-setting field was stressed. Aid effectiveness meant that Aid for Trade in the standard-setting world has to be driven by needs, be sector-specific and include the effective participation of all stakeholders. As an example of Aid for Trade applied to standards, the relevant work of the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) in the SPS area was presented.

65. Ms Guo said that many key challenges remain with respect to standardizing activities. In her capacity as Chair, she stressed the following:

- (a) **Quantifying the benefits of standards:** The studies and experiences shared at the outset of the Workshop show the significant positive role standards can play in promoting innovation and technical progress. The use of standards makes production more efficient. Yet measuring and expressing (numerically) the benefits of standards remains a key challenge. Members were encouraged to use the TBT Committee to share case studies on the economic benefits of the use of standards.
- (b) **Involving all stakeholders:** Creating awareness among all relevant stakeholders, including SMEs, of the importance of being involved in standard-setting activities is crucial. Broad stakeholder involvement ensures an open and transparent process, in line with the disciplines on standardizing bodies contained in the TBT Agreement. On various occasions during the Workshop, speakers and participants pointed out that government support and involvement in standardization is important, particularly in developing countries – where standardization may not always be given priority and the strategic importance of standards is not always appreciated. It is important to find incentives to increase support and promotion of standardizing activities in developing countries.
- (c) **Participation in international standard-setting activities:** Actual participation in standards-setting activities by developing countries remains a challenge, both financially and technically. Only a small proportion of developing countries are responsible for the management of working groups and technical committees, where the nuts and bolts of international standardization work takes place. Although participants had heard of various initiatives, finding effective ways of increasing such participation remains a challenge. It was pointed out that an essential component of making participation effective at the country level is a two-way exercise. On the one hand – at the national level – it is important to raise levels of expertise in selected areas of importance to the participating developing country. And, on the other hand – at the international level – it is important to engage that local knowledge and expertise in the international standard-setting community.
- (d) **Building up standards-related infrastructure:** Standards development is part of a bigger whole – that of a quality infrastructure including: metrology, standards development and conformity assessment activities, including accreditation. It is not obvious that all components of this infrastructure are needed everywhere; for instance, it was pointed out that in the Caribbean, efforts are underway to build quality infrastructure at the regional level. It is important that countries prioritize and are selective about where efforts to build capacity should be concentrated.
- (e) **Importance of transparency:** In this time of economic crisis, Members of the TBT Committee needed to guard against cases where standards could be used as a basis for unnecessary non-tariff measures. Continued effective use of TBT transparency provisions is crucial in this respect. WTO Members also need to reinforce and boost the beneficial, confidence-building aspects of standards. The use of international standards should serve the purpose of facilitating international trade, as envisaged in the WTO TBT Agreement.
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**ANNEX 1: PROGRAMME AND BIOGRAPHIES**  
**TBT COMMITTEE WORKSHOP ON THE ROLE  
OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS  
IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**16-17 March 2009**

Programme<sup>1</sup>

**16 March 2009**

*Registration (08h30 – 10h00)*

**10h00            Opening Remarks**

*WTO Deputy Director-General, Mr. Harsha V. Singh*

**Session 1:        The economics of standardization (Panel)**

The aim of this panel is to provide an overview and perspective of current work on the topic of standards, trade and economic growth. Expert interventions have been sought from Member governments, standardizing bodies and relevant international bodies. Panellists will be asked to address the following questions in particular:

- The difficulty of quantifying welfare effects of standardization is known; given this, what can be said today about the importance of standardization to economic development and trade?
- How do standards contribute to innovation and technical progress?
- What is the current state of research on quantifying the economic impacts of standards? Is there a harmonized assessment methodology?
- Is there sufficient appreciation of the importance of standards development work, particularly in developing countries?

*Moderator:*     **Mr. John Tucker**, Australia

*Panellists:*

- **Prof. Dr. Knut Blind and Mr. Heinz Gaub**, European Communities: Studies on the economic impact of standards in Europe
- **Mr. Rengang Huang**, China: Standards and Technology Diffusion
- **Mr. Stephen Head**, Canada: The value of standards to the Canadian economy
- **Prof. Dr. Manabu Eto**, Japan: The value of standardization for innovation
- **Mr. Eho-Cheng Lo**, Chinese Taipei: Quantitative assessment
- **Dr. Hyang Sun**, Republic of Korea: Analytic Tools Development on the Economic Impact Assessment of Standards/Standardization Projects in the Republic of Korea

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<sup>1</sup> The Programme is also contained in document G/TBT/GEN/80/Rev.1.

**Session 2: Case studies on the use of international standards (Presentations)**

The focus of this session is on cases / experiences illustrating how the use of standards has contributed to economic development. The selection of cases is intended to reflect topics of interest to developing countries. The following brief presentations will be made (10 minutes each):

*Moderator:* **Mr. Michel Jeanson**, European Communities

*Presentations (10 minutes each):*

- Coffee and Asparagus (two cases): impact of standardization (**Mr. Augusto Mello**, Peru)
- Textiles: the use of standards in the textiles sector and challenges to SMEs (**Mr. Muhammad Muzzammil Hussain** and **Mrs. Aisha Humera Moriani**, Pakistan)
- Biofuels: the use of standards in the biofuels sector (**Mr. Jorge Cruz**, Brazil; and the United States)
- Building Codes and Construction: The use of international standards in the area of public safety (**Mr. Manuel Lascarro**, Colombia)
- Lamps and Refrigerators: The use of standards for energy efficiency (**Mr. Jorge Muñoz Canave**, Chile)
- Impact of Harmonization of national standards with international standards: (**Ms Samia El Azazy**, Egypt)
- Standards in the area of electrotechnology: The Kenyan experience (**Mrs. Evah Oduor**, Kenya)

**17 March 2009**

**Session 3: Building capacity (Panel)**  
(10h00)

The purpose of this panel is to discuss ongoing efforts to address developing country capacity constraints in respect of the use of international standards. Panellists will be asked to address the following issues in particular:

- The efficacy of existing efforts to promote and enhance participation of developing countries in international standard-setting activities, for instance through schemes such as "twinning" (in the ISO) or other forms of participation (such as the IEC's "Affiliate Programme").
- Work done at the international or regional level to build capacity, particularly with respect to conformity assessment infrastructure (e.g. metrology, laboratories, certification capacity and accreditation).
- Relevant work on aid-for-trade in the WTO and the activities of the SPS Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF).

*Moderator:* **Ms Ileana Márquez Martínez**, United States

Panellists:

- **Mr. Fabio Tobón**, Colombia: "Twinning"
- **Mr. Gary Kushnier**, U.S.: Technical infrastructure development in APEC
- **Mr. Carlos Rodriguez**, Costa Rica: Benefits for Costa Rica from participating in the IEC Affiliate Country Programme
- **Ms Rula Madanat**, Jordan: Capacity Building of the Quality Infrastructure through Technical Cooperation Projects in the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership -The experience of Jordan
- **Mr. Gerardo Pataconi**, UNIDO: Quality infrastructure capacity building
- **Mr. Michael Roberts**, WTO Secretariat: Aid for Trade and the Standards Compliance Needs of Developing Countries
- **Mr. John S. Wilson**, World Bank: Global best practice and strategies in standards

**Session 4: Identification of key challenges**

The final session will draw from the previous discussions to identify key challenges for developing countries, and discuss ways of addressing them.



**BIOGRAPHIES**

**Session 1: The economics of standardization (Panel)**

John Tucker (Australia)

Mr. Tucker joined Standards Australia as Chief Executive Officer in 2004, following a diverse career path traversing public and private sectors, and political advising. Established in 1922, Standards Australia is a company recognised by the Australian Government as the peak non-government standards development and approval body in Australia. Mr. Tucker's background is in health surveillance, occupational hygiene and industrial relations. An experienced company director and Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, he formerly held statutory appointments in the fields of health and safety and workers' compensation. He has held CEO positions in the fields of injury and risk management and industry association management. Mr. Tucker's qualifications include a Bachelor of Applied Science in Environmental Health.

Knut Blind (Germany)

Prof. Blind has been a Senior Researcher at the Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research at Karlsruhe since 1996. In 2006 he was appointed Professor of Innovation Economics at the Faculty of Economics and Management, Berlin University of Technology, and Head of the Competence Center "Regulation and Innovation" of the Fraunhofer Institute. He has held the endowed Chair of Standardisation at the Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University, since 2008. Prof. Blind, a graduate of Brock University (Canada) and Freiberg University, has published numerous articles on standardisation and intellectual property rights.

Heinz Gaub (Germany)

Mr. Gaub joined the Management Board of DIN, the German Institute for Standardization with responsibility for standardization process management, in 2007. He has some 17 years of industrial experience, most recently with Willy Vogel AG, the world's leading supplier of centralized lubrication technology for machinery, systems, commercial and railway vehicles, where he was a member of the Management Board for over six years. Mr. Gaub studied mechanical engineering at the Technical University of Berlin, specializing in production technology, and also studied at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge (USA), where he obtained a Master of Science.

Rengang Huang (China)

Mr. Rengang Huang is Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of China to the World Trade Organization, Geneva. He has years of experience in international trade negotiations, including the ongoing WTO Doha Round. His current responsibilities cover mainly the areas of trade in goods, including agriculture, market access, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, technical barriers to trade, import licensing measures, and trade-related investment measures. He has experience in attending standards and trade-related seminars and has extensive contacts with a variety of stakeholders, including some NGOs on open standards to promote economic and trade development. Before 2002, he worked for the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation of China, and took part in the development of some foreign investment and trade policies of China. He holds an M.A. degree from the University of International Business and Economics, Beijing, China and an MBA from Cardiff Business School, University of Wales, UK.

Stephen Head (Canada)

Mr. Head is a Senior Policy Analyst in the Intergovernmental Affairs and Trade Branch of the Standards Council of Canada. His current responsibilities for the Standards Council include monitoring the files of the WTO Technical Barriers to Trade Committee, the APEC Sub-Committee on Standards and Conformance, as well as a number of other trade policy issues in the field of standardization. He provides policy advice and analysis on the international, national and regional implications of a broad range of regulatory, trade and standardization policies, initiatives, programs and practices. His research interests are international trade policy and regulatory cooperation.

Manabu Eto (Japan)

Dr. Eto is a Professor at the Institute of Innovation Research, Hitotsubashi University and Consulting Fellow at the Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry. He joined the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry after gaining his M.E. Dr. Eto has worked for the Science and Technology Agency, the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology and the OEC and for over 20 years has predominantly been engaged in the field of technology transfer, management of technology, and standardization at these organizations. Dr. Eto is author and co-author of several books and articles, including: "Strategic Use of Consensus-based Standards" and "Business Strategy in the Standardization of Semiconductor Equipment and Optical Connectors". He organized the study group on the economic and social effects of standardization, which analyzed the value of standardization through examining case studies (e.g., DVD-associated equipment, electronic components, raw materials). Dr. Eto gained his B.E. in Engineering Science at Osaka University, a M.E. in Engineering Science at Osaka University, and a Ph. D in Engineering Science at Tohoku University.



Eho-Cheng Lo (Chinese Taipei)

Mr. Lo is Deputy CEO of a technology policy research think-tank in Chinese Taipei. Over a period of ten years in the field of standardization, he has served in various capacities, including on the Technology & Standards Function Team as Commissioner. At the technical level, Mr. Lo initiated and established Chinese Taipei's first online collaboration platform for standards development, and the registry and repository for XML-based standards. In the policy domain, he is the main drafter and the Editor-in-Chief of Chinese Taipei's strategy for standards development, as well as the Blueprint for Standardization Education. Mr. Lo has several degrees, including an MS in Management Science & Engineering at Stanford University (USA), and an MPhil in Technology Policy at the University of Cambridge (UK) as a Chevening Scholar awarded by the British Council. Mr. Lo is author and co-author of several books, including: "Asia PKI Interoperability Guidelines, The Fundamentals of Standardization" and "The Winning Standardization Strategy for Enterprises". His areas of interest and research include technology foresight applied to standardization, standards in a sustainable infrastructure, and the synergy between R&D, standardization and commercialization.

Hyang Sun (Republic of Korea)

Dr. Sun is the Deputy Director of the Standards Policy Division of the Korean Agency for Technology and Standards (KATS), which represents the Republic of Korea in the ISO and IEC. His career began as a Governmental Officer in 1993 and he has been working in the international standardization and policy field since 1999. He has served as the KATS Liaison Officer to ISO and other international bodies for several years and was Secretary of the ISO Technical Committee 224 Working Group for two years. Dr. Sun received his Philosophy Degrees (Engineering Major) from Inha University and completed his post-Doctoral studies at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, USA.

**Session 2: Case studies on the use of standards**Michel Jeanson (European Communities)

Mr. Jeanson, who joined the European Commission in 2004, is in charge of horizontal policy issues in the Standardisation Unit of DG Enterprise and Industry. His duties involve the representation of the Commission's services on the Administrative Boards of CEN<sup>2</sup>, as well as in the General Assemblies of CEN and CENELEC.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Jeanson was involved in the preparation of the Commission Communication published in March 2008 entitled "Towards a greater contribution of standardisation to innovation in Europe". He is currently heavily involved in the reform process of European standardisation, and manages the study on "Access to Standardisation". He is also responsible for international standardisation cooperation, especially with Russia and the United States, as well as international organisations. His 20 years' experience in standardisation was acquired in various positions, beginning with the French Standards Institute (AFNOR) as Technical Officer, becoming secretary of national, European and international technical committees dealing with food standards. He joined the European Committee for Standardisation (CEN) in 1991, where he was responsible for food and environmental protection standardisation and further occupied various functions. In 2002 Mr. Jeanson joined Eurometaux, the industrial trade federation of the European non-ferrous metals industries, as Health and Safety Manager, taking up the challenge of the creation of the European Environmental Citizens Organisation for Standardisation (ECOS). Mr. Jeanson was chosen by Environmental NGOs as the first Secretary General of ECOS, representing environmental protection organisations within the standardisation organisations for two years.

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<sup>2</sup> European Committee for Standardisation.

<sup>3</sup> European Committee for Electro-technical standardisation.

Augusto Mello (Peru)

Mr. Mello is the Director of the Peruvian Standardization and Accreditation Body (INDECOPI), a position he has held for the past 12 years, and Head of the National Accreditation Service. From 2000 to 2004 he served as Vice President of the Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC) and in 2008 was Chairman of the APEC Sub-Committee of Standards and Conformance. Mr. Mello graduated from the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru and gained his Master of Arts in Economics from Ilades-Georgetown University, Santiago.

Aisha Humera Moriani (Pakistan)

Mrs. Moriani is the WTO Economic Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of Pakistan, Geneva, who is responsible for Agriculture, Trade and Development, Safeguards, SPS and TBT related matters. Before joining this Mission she was the Director of the Economic, Trade and Investment wing of the Agriculture Ministry. Mrs. Moriani has a MSc. in Development Management from the London School of Economics and is an experienced civil servant with a diverse experience. She started her carrier with Economic Affairs Division in the Ministry of Finance where she worked with various organizations on issues related to effective utilization of foreign assistance. She has also served as a Director in the Trade Promotion Authority, as well as in the Ministry of Commerce, and participated in several bilateral and regional trade negotiations.

Muhammad Muzzammil Hussain (Pakistan)

Mr. Muzzammil Hussain is a progressive businessman who has been associated with the textile industry for the past 20 years. He has, among other things, served as Chairman of the Towel Manufacturers Association (TMA) of Pakistan and Advisor to the Minister of Transport, Government of Sindh (Provincial Government). He currently holds the post of Chairman in several organizations, including the Managing Committee of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI). As well, he is the Senior Director of the SMA Rizvi Textile Institute, Karachi and the Executive Director of Shahi Textiles, Karachi. He has a keen interest in corporate social responsibility, skill development and quality control systems.

Jorge Cruz (Brazil)

Mr. Cruz is the General Coordinator of International Affairs at the National Institute of Metrology, Standardization and Industrial Quality (INMETRO). His responsibility is for International Relations (bilateral and multilateral) and he is predominantly involved in Scientific and Technological Cooperation Agreements, Memoranda of Understanding, Intention Protocols, Regional and International Negotiations and Technological Innovation. Mr. Cruz is an INMETRO representative in fora and organizations such as the WTO and Mercosur. He has degrees in Mechanical Manufacturing Engineering and Mechanical Engineering from Santa Ursula University, and a Masters in Technology from the Federal Technological Education Center, Rio de Janeiro.

Manuel A. Lascarro (Colombia)

Mr. Lascarro is the Director of Special Projects at the Colombian Ready Mixed Concrete Producers Association (ASOCRETO). He manages activities related to competitiveness, environmental issues, and legal affairs and is also responsible for the ASOCRETO concrete housing promotion program. Mr. Lascarro has broad experience in international standardisation issues, from active involvement in technical standards committees to membership on the board of directors of ASTM International, a leading standards development organization. In addition, he serves as Executive Secretary of the Iberoamerican Federation for Ready Mixed Concrete (FIHP), an organization of concrete trade associations in Latin America whose membership includes partner organizations from Spain and

Portugal. In this role, Mr. Lascarro encourages international cooperation among national and regional trade associations in Europe and the Americas to raise awareness of the ready mixed concrete industry and improve its effectiveness. He also serves on the editorial boards of two construction industry magazines in Colombia, *Noticreto* and *Mineria Colombia*. Mr. Lascarro gained his Industrial Engineering Degree from Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Bogota. He also holds a Master's Degree in Private Development and Project Finance from the Fundación Antonio Camuñas, Universidad San Pablo CEU, Madrid.

Jorge Nestor Muñoz Canave (Chile)

Mr. Muñoz is Project Manager for the Innova project "Support for the Electrical Product and Fuel Certification System" of the Chilean Production Development Corporation (Corporación de Fomento de la Producción – CORFO). CORFO's aim is to develop standards and protocols for electrical, gas and kerosene products for regulatory certification. He is responsible for the preparation, drafting and approval of technical standards in the area of information technologies, such as the security and privacy of electronic documents, for incorporation in the Regulations to the Law on Electronic Signatures, and for the development of other standards for CORFO and Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) projects on traceability and photovoltaic energy. His previous work experience was with NEC Chile SA, Under-Secretariat of Telecommunications, Manquehue Telephone Company, National Petroleum Company and Telefónica CTC, Chile. Mr. Muñoz graduated as an Electronics Engineer from the Federico Santa Maria Technical University of Valparaíso, Chile.

Samia El Azazy (Egypt)

Eng. El Azazy is the Manager of the Standards Harmonization Project in the Egyptian Organization for Standardization and Quality (EOS) and a Member in Egyptian Enquiry point and the Egyptian TBT Committee in EOS. She holds a B.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering and a diploma in quality, and has more than 30 years experience in the fields of standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment activities. She served as General Manager of the Quality Department in the Ministry of Trade and Industry, and as Technical Director in Egyptian Accreditation Council for about 10 years. She has represented Egypt in many international, European and regional conferences and workshops on issues concerning standardization and accreditation. Moreover, Eng. El Azazy is an Advisor and lead Examiner in the Egyptian National Quality Award for Excellence for both the governmental service institutions and the industrial organizations.

Evah Adeg Oduor (Kenya)

Ms Oduor is the Director of Standards & International Trade with the Kenya Bureau of Standards. She has almost 30 years experience in standardisation, conformity assessment and metrology. Ms Oduor has participated in several trade negotiations and is active in the East Africa Community (EAC) and Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) regions on issues of standardisation and conformity assessment. She is the Vice President of the Africa Electrotechnical Standardization Commission (AFSEC) on Conformity Assessment and is the IEC Affiliate Coordinator for Africa. Ms Oduor gained her Master of Science Degree in Biochemistry from the University of Nairobi.

**Session 3: Building capacity**Ileana Márquez Martínez (United States)

Ms Martinez is Acting Group Leader of the Global Standards and Information Group at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and serves as International Affairs Advisor to the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) at NIST and is Vice Chair of the Inter American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC). Her expertise focuses on the US approach to standards, regulations, certification, laboratory accreditation and WTO trade obligations. From 1996 through 2000, she served as the NIST Regional Standards Attaché in South America, with standards-related responsibilities for the region. She has worked as a Standards Engineer in industrial sectors for both U.S. and overseas organizations, spending eight years at AFNOR, the French national standards body. Ms. Martinez earned a bachelor degree in Mechanical Engineering, did graduate work in Science/Technology Policy and is a recipient of a 2001 Bronze Medal from the Department of Commerce for contributing to NIST efforts in standards and conformity assessment outreach and of a 2004 ANSI Meritorious Service Award.

Fabio Tobón (Colombia)

Mr. Tobón is the Executive Director of the National Standards and Certification Body of Colombia (ICONTEC). With more than 16 years experience in Standards and Conformity Assessment, Mr. Tobón has been a member of the Board of Directors and the Technical Management Board (TMB) of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Pan-American Standards Organization (COPANT) and a former member of the BoD of ASTM International. An Agronomist from the Universidad Nacional in Bogota, Colombia, he received his Masters Degree in Agricultural Engineering and Administration at the University of Minnesota.

Gary Kushnier (United States)

Mr. Kushnier has held the post of Vice-President of International Policy at the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) since 1995. His primary responsibility is for overall liaison and policy coordination of ANSI's activities with international and regional organizations, as well as national member bodies. ANSI is a not-for-profit membership organization that brings together organizations from both the private and public sectors dedicated to furthering US and international voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessments. ANSI accredits national standards developing organizations and approves American National Standards and is the sole US representative to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and, via the US National Committee, the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC). Prior to his current appointment he served as Vice President of ANSI's Brussels Office, where he worked closely with various European standards organizations during the early years of the formation of the European Union. Currently he serves as Chair of the PASC Executive Committee and as staff liaison to the ANSI International Policy Committee. Mr. Kushnier received his Bachelor of Science degree from Kean College, New Jersey.

Carlos E. Rodríguez (Colombia)

Carlos E. Rodríguez has been the Executive Director of the Costa Rican Technical Standards Institute (INTECO) since 1996. He is currently also the ISO Regional Liaison Officer for Central America and the Caribbean and the Leader of the IEC Affiliate Country Programme. As well, Mr. Rodríguez is a member of the Board of Directors of the Costa Rican Accreditation Authority (ECA) and the Director-General of the Inter American Development Bank (IDB)/Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) project on "SME Competitiveness through Technical Standardization". From 2003 to 2005, Mr. Rodríguez was President of the Pan American Standards Commission (COPANT). Mr.

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Rodríguez graduated from the University of Costa Rica and obtained a Masters in Policy Development and Evaluation from the Getulio Vargas Foundation. He is also professor at the Faculty of Economics of the University of Costa Rica.

Rula Madanat (Jordan)

Ms Madanat is Assistant Director General for Technical Affairs at the Jordan Institution for Standards and Metrology (JISM). She has held several technical and managerial positions with JISM for the past 21 years. She was Team Leader for the "European-Jordan Twinning Project for Strengthening JISM" and twice headed JISM's team for the King Abdullah II Award for Government Performance and Transparency. In addition to her knowledge of the WTO TBT and SPS Agreements, Ms Madanat possesses substantive practical experience in the areas of standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures. She has represented Jordan in many international, European and regional meetings, conferences, and workshops on issues concerning trade and technical barriers. For instance, she was a member of the Jordanian negotiation delegation of the Free Trade Agreement with the USA and Canada. Ms Madanat is a certified Management Development Expert under the Certified Trade Advisors Program of the International Trade Centre (ITC), European Quality Auditor and European Quality Systems Manager, certified by the European Organization for Quality (EOQ). Ms Madanat holds a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Jordan.

Gerardo Pataconi (UNIDO)

Mr. Pataconi is Chief, Quality, Productivity and Enterprises Upgrading, UNIDO Trade Capacity Building Branch, and focal point for cooperation with ISO and the WTO/TBT. Holder of a high-level degree in Statistics and Management Science, he was awarded European Young Scientist in Operational Research in 1984. He has contributed to the development and implementation of the UNIDO Trade Capacity Building Approach. Over recent years he has focussed on the implementation of large-scale national and regional industrial restructuring and upgrading programmes and food traceability. After joining UNIDO in 1987, he has carried out research work and directly extended technical assistance and training to industries and quality-related institutions to over 80 developing countries. Mr. Pataconi is an ISO 9000 and ISO 14000 Lead Auditor and a trained Total Quality Management Specialist.

Michael Roberts (WTO)

Mr. Roberts is a Counsellor in the Development Division. He was appointed Aid for Trade Coordinator at the WTO Secretariat in January 2009. Prior to joining the Development Division, Mr. Roberts spent seven years with the Agriculture Division, the majority as Secretary of the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF). During this time, he oversaw the evolution of the STDF into a multi-donor Trust Fund with 16 donors and annual resources of approximately US\$5 million. The STDF is a funding and co-ordination mechanism which assists developing countries comply with sanitary and phytosanitary measures.

John S. Wilson (World Bank)

Mr. Wilson is a Lead Economist in the Development Economics Research Group of the World Bank, directing policy research on trade facilitation, standards, regulatory reform, and economic development. Providing expertise in lending operations and participating in Bank projects, he has provided leadership for the World Bank establishment of the inter-agency Standards and Trade Development Facility. A member of the World Economic Forum Global Agenda Council on Trade Facilitation, he is co-author of numerous publications, including "Help or Hindrance? The Impact of Harmonized Standards on African Exports", "Trade, Transparency, and Welfare in the Asia Pacific" and "Standards and Export Decisions: Firm-level Evidence from Developing Countries." Work in

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progress includes "Aid for Trade Facilitation: Does it Matter?" Previously Vice President for Technology Policy at the Information Technology Industry Council in Washington, D.C. and a Visiting Fellow at the Institute for International Economics, he was also a Senior Staff Officer at the U.S. National Academy of Sciences and National Research Council and Adjunct Professor of International Affairs at Georgetown University. He holds degrees from Wooster College and Columbia University in New York.

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## MANAGEMENT OF TECHNICAL WORK

### AGENDA ITEM 7.1 TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT BOARD INITIATIVES IN 2009

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The reorientation over the last two years towards a TMB with a more pronounced strategic focus for its work has been intensified and the TMB now includes regular brainstorming sessions as part of its meeting schedule. This evolution reflects the endeavours to reinforce ISO's profile as the world's leading standards organization and is an important factor in shaping ISO to address market relevance, for example in new standardization areas. By doing so, the TMB can contribute to an ISO which is responsive to market wishes and demands caused by the ongoing global transformation.

A half day brainstorming session was held in February 2009 on the TMB's working methods and effectiveness and a full day session in June 2009 reflected on the *ISO Strategic Plan* for the period 2011-2015. The results from the February session are being implemented by the TMB secretariat while the results from the June session will be provided as a TMB input in the framework of the current consultation intended to define ISO's strategy for the next planning period.

#### 1 *ISO Strategic Plan 2005-2010*

*ISO Strategic Plan 2005-2010* and the TMB business plan which is derived from it continues to be the main focus for the TMB's strategic deliberations and most of the action items originally identified have now been completed.

On outstanding issues, discussions are continuing in a joint ISO/IEC group to determine whether there is a need for the range of deliverables currently offered by ISO and IEC or whether there is confusion in the market place about them and if so, whether there is a need for simplification. At present, no coherent message is coming from the market place and the joint group is consequently proposing to carry out a survey to try to elucidate a clear response.

One further item still under development relates to the compilation of data concerning the use and adoption of International Standards at the national level. Currently such data is collected as part of the new process for the systematic review of standards. Members are requested to note that in its Resolution 6/2007, the General Assembly encouraged member bodies to provide as much information as possible about the adoption and use of International Standards in their countries.

The capture of such data was intended firstly to provide information that could lead to improving, where necessary, the global relevance of standards by identifying modifications that a member body may have needed to introduce in order to make a standard suitable for use nationally. It is also recognized, however, that information concerning the use and adoption of International Standards potentially holds great value for all ISO members as well as for the ISO committees that develop them. Indeed, a similar conclusion has been reached in the IEC; and the ISO Central Secretariat and IEC Central Office are currently working together in order to collect the same information and to make it available in a coordinated manner to the members of the two organizations.

The disappointing aspect is that a preliminary analysis of the replies received during systematic reviews indicates that these are principally being submitted by member bodies that are participating or observer members of the relevant ISO committees and very little information is being provided by other member bodies. All member bodies are consequently reminded of General Assembly Resolution 6/2007 and urged to provide information in response to the systematic review of standards in order to obtain valid data on the actual global relevance of standards.

## **2 Technical work**

### **2.1 Social responsibility and the Process Evaluation Group**

As its main focus in the technical work, the TMB has continued to monitor the work of its Working Group on Social Responsibility. In particular, it is pleasing to note that the circulation of the first committee draft demonstrated that there was significant consensus supporting the draft. As a consequence, the work will now advance to the enquiry stage and a Draft International Standard (DIS 26000) will be issued for voting by all ISO member bodies in September/October 2009.

In recognition of the fact that the TMB established a working group to develop the draft standard to facilitate the engagement of stakeholders who do not usually participate in ISO work and recognizing that this approach is different to the usual method whereby such work is carried out, the TMB has established a Process Evaluation Group (PEG) to review the lessons that can be learned from this exercise. The PEG will also address a number of other instances where stakeholder engagement issues have been raised. As part of its work, the PEG also intends to issue a questionnaire to all ISO member bodies to collect information related to the establishment of national mirror committees as a means of identifying and disseminating best practices.

### **2.2 Energy and climate change**

As reported last year, there have been several new initiatives in the energy sector which have now led to the establishment of committees to prepare standards for energy management, and for solid and liquid bio fuels. The Strategic Advisory Group on Energy efficiency and renewable energy sources has identified a number of other areas which should be addressed by existing technical committees or for which new committees should be established.

The TMB had chartered a group to address the issue of climate change some ten years ago and the report of the group was circulated to all ISO member bodies in 2002. The TMB has recently reviewed the report and requested that the inventory of standards relevant to climate change be updated.

One particular development in this field is that following discussions between the Central Secretariat and the United Nations Global Terrestrial Observing System (GTOS), it is proposed to establish a United Nations - ISO framework for the development of guidance materials, standards and reporting guidelines in support of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The proposed UN-ISO framework was endorsed by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technical Advice (SBSTA) at its meeting in June 2009 and will now be considered by the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC at its meeting in Copenhagen in December 2009.

### **2.3 New fields of work**

Over the last year the TMB has established a project committee on anti-counterfeiting tools and more recently a technical committee for fraud countermeasures and controls. A number of other proposals are under consideration including sustainability criteria for biofuels, consumer credit scoring, traditional Chinese/Asian medicine, treated wastewater re-use, sustainability in events management, stakeholder engagement in consultative processes, liquefied and compressed natural gas vehicle filling stations, and criteria for evaluating the economic benefits of energy saving measures.

The TMB highly appreciates the positive market response to the successful project committee concept and intends to make further use of the flexibility obtained by introducing project committees.



### 3 Collaboration with the IEC

The TMB was pleased to note at its meeting in June that there were currently no issues of overlap or duplication of work between ISO and IEC committees and that the technical collaboration is good.

The TMB and IEC/SMB<sup>1</sup> continue to reinforce their own collaboration. The usual series of joint meetings, including the meeting of TMB-IEC/SMB representatives and of the Joint ISO/IEC Directives Maintenance Team, was held in conjunction with the June meetings of the TMB and IEC/SMB. The respective secretaries of the two management boards participate in the TMB and IEC/SMB meetings themselves and the TMB and IEC/SMB chairs also endeavour to attend at least one meeting per year of the other's management board. Of particular note at their June meetings was the fact that the two management boards agreed to the establishment of a joint project committee to develop standardized terminology related to energy efficiency and renewable energy sources. This decision resulted from a joint recommendation from the TMB's Strategic Advisory Group on Energy efficiency and renewable energy sources and its counterpart IEC/SMB's Strategic group 1 which held a joint meeting in March 2009.

Work is continuing in a joint group looking at the need to simplify the range of deliverables; staff of the ISO Central Secretariat and IEC Central Office are working together to develop harmonized databases of information related to the use and adoption of ISO and IEC standards; and the TMB and IEC/SMB have also recently approved a series of recommendations from the joint ISO/IEC Task Force on Market Relevance. In relation to the latter, the TMB and IEC/SMB have agreed that a pilot project be carried out to trial the recommendations from the Task Force. In particular, between five and ten committees in each organization will be invited to participate in the pilot project which is intended to run from October 2009 to March/April 2010. Based on this experience, appropriate amendments will then be introduced into the *ISO/IEC Directives*.

### 4 Collaboration with CEN

The annual meeting of the ISO/CEN Joint Coordination Group of the Technical (Management) Boards was held in conjunction with the TMB's June meeting and it was noted in particular that there is generally good collaboration between ISO and CEN committees working in related fields.

Nevertheless, recognizing that the most recent edition of the Vienna Agreement dates from 2001, it has been suggested that it may be opportune to review it. Although this does not imply that any modifications will be made, some changes may be needed to the implementation guidelines to reflect changes in procedures agreed by the TMB or the CEN Technical Board in recent years.

### 5 Meeting with CASCO representatives

The TMB held a highly successful half-day meeting with representatives of CASCO in conjunction with its June meeting in order to exchange views on a number of issues. These included ISO's neutrality policy whereby no preference is given to first, second or third party certification; the technical interface between CASCO and ISO committees which wish to include aspects of conformity assessment in standards, particularly in the area of sustainable buildings and energy efficiency; and CASCO's interpretation process.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

The General Assembly is invited:

- a) to note/comment on the above report; and
- b) to consider urging all member bodies to provide information in response to the systematic review of standards in order to obtain valid data on the actual global relevance of standards as explained at the end of item 1 above.

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<sup>1</sup> SMB: Standardization Management Board



## MANAGEMENT OF TECHNICAL WORK

### AGENDA ITEM 7.2      **PRESENTATION OF THE LAWRENCE D. EICHER LEADERSHIP AWARD**

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By its resolution 21/2002, Council expressed the wish that an event be organized on a regular basis in remembrance of the late Secretary-General, Dr. Lawrence D. Eicher, and it decided to create the "Lawrence D. Eicher award for excellence in creative and innovative ISO/TC/SC services and initiatives", to be presented by the President at the General Assembly.

The TMB has defined a broad range of criteria against which committees could qualify for consideration for this award, the key factors being demonstrable outstanding performance and innovative and efficient approaches to management of the technical work, which also contribute to the dissemination of practices of excellence to other committees.

In accordance with the procedure established by the TMB, a call for nominations was issued to all member bodies; and nominations received were reviewed and decided upon by the TMB. The award will be presented to a representative of the recipient committee under this agenda item.

It is recalled that the award was presented:

- in 2003, to ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 29 *Information technology/Coding of audio, picture, multimedia and hypermedia information*;
- in 2004, to ISO/TC 176/SC 2 *Quality management and quality assurance/Quality systems*;
- in 2005, to ISO/TC 8 *Ships and marine technology*;
- in 2006, to ISO/TC 67 *Materials, equipment and offshore structures for petroleum, petrochemical and natural gas industries*;
- in 2007, to ISO/TC 184/SC 4 *Industrial automation systems and integration/Industrial data*;
- in 2008, to ISO/TC 127 *Earth-moving machinery*.

#### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

The General Assembly will be invited to express its congratulations to the recipient of the award.

## AGENDA ITEM 8      ISO ACTIONS IN SUPPORT OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

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Some 75% of ISO's 161 members are from developing countries. They face a number of challenges in response to which a set of actions has been defined in order to improve national standardization infrastructures, to build capacity and to increase their involvement in international standardization. Aligned with the *ISO Strategic Plan 2005-2010*, the *ISO Action Plan for developing countries* sets the direction for the support to be provided to members in developing countries.

Endorsed by Council in September 2004, the *ISO Action plan* is in its fifth year of implementation. The DEVCO Chair's Advisory Group (CAG) has, at its last meeting in March 2009 in Geneva, initiated discussions and consultations to take stock of the achievements under the Action Plan and to reflect on the future. Thus, one of the three DEVCO discussion group sessions on Monday 14 September 2009 will be devoted to this topic.

Further progress has been made in meeting the five objectives defined in the *ISO Action Plan for developing countries*, namely to raise awareness, build capacity, foster regional cooperation, develop expertise in Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and enhance the participation of developing countries in ISO technical work. Also, a significant expansion of the activities has taken place, with a considerable increase in the donor funding obtained and therefore the volume of assistance provided to members.

Information is given below on actions carried out since the 2008 General Assembly.

### 1      Implementation of the ISO Action Plan for developing countries

#### 1.1    Improve awareness of the role of standardization

Awareness workshops and seminars in topical areas of interest for developing countries were:

- maintained (e.g. ISO 22000 on food safety; ISO 14001 on environmental management systems; ISO 14040 on Life cycle assessment; ISO 14064 on greenhouse gases; ISO 27001 on information security management systems; consumer involvement in standardization), or
- introduced (e.g. conformity assessment; role of International Standards in economic development and trade).

A joint activity with COPOLCO and AFNOR led to the successful design and delivery of the second "Train-the-trainer" workshop on consumer participation in standardization in Paris (France) in April 2009 for French-speaking countries from the African and Arab regions.

#### 1.2    Develop capacity

The next step after raising awareness of the importance of standards is developing the capacity of ISO members in developing countries to facilitate the implementation of International Standards and to participate more effectively in ISO's technical work.

Capacity-building activities for the staff of national standards bodies (NSB) in developing countries aim at providing guidance on good practices in standardization that the NSB applies in its own structure. Activities are also carried out to develop the skills and knowledge of experts from developing countries to participate in the international standardization process.

Several good standardization practice workshops have been carried out in previous years. In 2009, ISO launched workshops in the areas of “adopting and referencing International Standards” and “effective stakeholder participation through national mirror committees”.

In the second category, five regional and global workshops were held to provide the skills to stakeholders to be more actively involved in the process for the formulation of ISO 26000 on social responsibility which is unique in the sense that between 30-50 experts from developing countries have been sponsored in the past years by ISO and development agencies to participate at each meeting of the Working Group. These experts are chosen from six stakeholder categories in order to provide the proper balance of interests.

A regional workshop on societal security was held in November 2008 in Indonesia as a pre-event to the meeting of ISO/TC 223 *Societal security*. The 15 sponsored participants also took part in the meeting of ISO/TC 223 which aims to develop International Standards that support and increase crisis management capabilities as well as business continuity management capabilities in the face of crises at a societal level. ISO organized the workshop to enable developing country members to participate fully and actively in the work of ISO/TC 223. This is essential since past experiences have unfortunately shown that developing countries are the most at risk.

### **1.3 Increase regional cooperation**

Experience has shown that regional and subregional cooperation in standardization and related matters is one of the most effective channels for sharing experience, organizing training and optimizing participation in international standardization.

Thus, 22 regional seminars and workshops have been carried in the various ISO regions during the period under review. Some 280 regional participants shared their experiences and knowledge during these events.

Some of the above events were run jointly with regional/subregional organizations, such as the ASEAN Consultative Committee on Standards and Quality (ACCSQ), the Pan American Standards Commission (COPANT), the CARICOM Regional Organization for Standards and Quality (CROSQ), and the Gulf Standardization Organization (GSO).

### **1.4 Develop electronic communications and expertise in IT tools**

Under the *ISO Action Plan for developing countries*, assistance and training is provided in the acquisition, implementation and maintenance of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). The expertise in the use of ICT tools developed by ISO in support of the standards development and dissemination processes is strongly encouraged to enable national standards bodies to engage fully in ISO's technical work.

Through the ISO ICT Programme, support was provided to two countries to strengthen their computer infrastructure, including training on the effective use of the standards development tools and Web technologies.

Geneva-based regular training courses were provided on ISOTC Server and e-balloting, while training on introduction to ISO e-services were conducted in four regions. E-learning courses were also run from Geneva for trainees based in their home country.

The publication "Standards work on the Web: the ISO solutions" – formerly Manual 11 –, which is a key element in the ISO ICT Programme for ISO members in developing countries, was revised and published. The current situation with respect to ICT capabilities of ISO members in developing countries has been assessed on the basis of information available; and revised and diversified ICT packages combining equipment, software and technical assistance have been identified for four groups of countries depending on their level of development in the ICT field and of their participation in the standards development process. More detailed information is given in Annex to document General Assembly 13/2009 under agenda item 10.2.

## 1.5 Increase participation in ISO technical work

The fifth objective of the *ISO Action Plan* is to support the involvement of developing countries in the technical work performed by ISO's technical committees (incl. project committees), subcommittees and working groups. By participating at these three levels, developing countries ensure that their interests are taken into account and, in so doing, contribute to strengthening ISO's global relevance.

Sponsorships continued to be provided to delegates from developing countries to participate in ISO technical committee meetings, such as ISO/TC<sup>1</sup> 34, 37, 71, 85, 138, 207, 217, 223, 228, and 242.

Following the meeting of representatives of DEVCO and the TMB held during the DEVCO meeting in 2006, a guidance document on partnership and twinning arrangements has been developed and made publicly available. Over the last years, the TMB has also adopted a general policy of preferentially allocating and reallocating secretariats to twinned partners as a way of increasing developing country involvement in ISO's technical work. As a result, the number of twinning arrangements increased; 32 such arrangements were recorded in June 2009 compared to 26 in September 2007.

## 2 Assessment of the impact of activities carried out under the Action Plan

The technical assistance activities carried out in support of the objectives set in the *ISO Action Plan for developing countries* are monitored by DEVCO with the support of the DEVCO Chair's Advisory Group (CAG).

The number of activities implemented by ISO for developing countries has significantly increased over the years due to additional resources made available by donors. Both donor agreements and the need for ISO to evaluate whether delivered activities have had a beneficial effect require that procedures be in place to assess impacts.

In order to assess impacts satisfactorily, ISO will continually require the full support of the national standards bodies (NSBs) hosting ISO activities or having designated participants to regional or international activities. To that effect, the Secretary-General issued a circular letter on 21 April 2009 requesting all member bodies and correspondent members in developing countries to collaborate with ISO in collecting the data that will enable such assessments to be made.

The first such request covers the activities carried out in the second semester of 2008. A number of countries have responded and further response is expected. An analysis of this data will be presented at the 43rd DEVCO meeting in Cape Town. As of now, impact assessment reporting will constitute a regular feature of DEVCO meetings in order to allow DEVCO members to monitor the implementation of the Action Plan. It is important to stress again that ISO members should collaborate fully in this exercise.

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<sup>1</sup> ISO/TC 34 *Food products*  
ISO/TC 37 *Terminology and other language and content resources*  
ISO/TC 71 *Concrete, reinforced concrete and pre-stressed concrete*  
ISO/TC 85 *Nuclear energy*  
ISO/TC 138 *Plastics pipes, fittings and valves for the transport of fluids*  
ISO/TC 207 *Environmental management*  
ISO/TC 217 *Cosmetics*  
ISO/TC 223 *Societal Security*  
ISO/TC 228 *Tourism and related services*  
ISO/TC 242 *Energy management*

ISO also evaluates feedback from participants having attended each awareness activity organized under the Action Plan through a questionnaire that each participant completes on the last day of the event. Such feedback seeks to find out, *inter alia*, whether the participants' expectations were met and to what extent they think the activity will enable them to better perform their work in the future. For example, an analysis of the feedback obtained from the regional activities covered under 1.3 above indicates that between 67 and 100% of participants expressed full satisfaction on the first aspect above and between 87 and 100% on the second. Such information is used to continually improve technical content and delivery.

### 3 Governance related matters

It is recalled that, for the past years, discussion groups have been organized as part of the annual DEVCO meeting and that they are considered an important contribution to the on-going process of identification of needs and requirements for standardization and related matters in developing countries. The topics of this year's discussion groups are:

- What can NSBs do to address the challenges of sustainability and growth?
- How does the NSB ensure that its strategic objectives match those of the national economy and industry? How to develop a national standardization strategy?
- Lessons learned in implementing the *ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2005-2010*.

### 4 Partnerships with development agencies

Partnerships have been established with international organizations and development agencies at the multilateral and bilateral levels for the implementation of technical assistance projects under the *ISO Action plan for developing countries*. In particular, collaboration with UNIDO has been enhanced through a new MoU between the two organizations. Financial support is achieved either through member contributions to the Funds-in-trust, the ISO/DIN Endowment or through funding agreements with national development agencies, such as the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and the Finnish government.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

The General Assembly is invited:

- a) to note/comment on the above report;
- b) to urge ISO member bodies and correspondent members to collaborate in the data collection exercise aiming at assessing the impact of activities carried out under the *Action Plan for developing countries*, as indicated under item 2 above.

## **AGENDA ITEM 9                      ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF CONSENSUS-BASED INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS**

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The development of a "methodology to assess and communicate the economic benefits of consensus-based standards" was one of the projects "aiming to contribute to the sustained development of ISO and the promotion of the ISO system" approved by Council under its Resolution 29/2007.

The methodology has the following three objectives:

- to provide a set of methods that measure the impact of standards on organizational value creation with an emphasis on business organizations;
- to provide decision-makers with clear and manageable criteria to assess the value associated with using standards, and
- to provide guidance on developing studies to assess the benefits of standards within a particular industry sector.

The methodology was developed with the support of Roland Berger Strategy Consultants (RBSC) between November 2008 and June 2009 and two main deliverables have been made available by them:

- the Methodology Guide, which provides information about the theory behind the approach and details how the methodology can be applied to a company (from the private sector), to an industry sector and how it can be adapted to deal with organizations from the public sector;
- the Methodology Toolbox, which provides a number of relevant frameworks and methods to manage the iterative analysis process, combining inductive and deductive approaches.

The methodology will be applied in the final phase of the project (currently underway) to a specific industry sector worldwide. The deliverables will therefore be complemented by a detailed study of the benefits of standards for the automotive sector (the sector selected by the ISO/RBSC project team).

At the end of the process, all deliverables will be made available to the ISO membership.

The matter will be addressed under this item by Prof. Roland Berger, Chairman, RBSC, and further debated under this agenda item.

### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

The General Assembly will be invited to comment on Prof. Berger's presentation.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF COUNCIL ACTIONS IN 2009

### AGENDA ITEM 10.1 IMPLEMENTATION OF ISO STRATEGIC PLAN 2005-2010

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#### Introduction

The *ISO Strategic Plan 2005-2010*, unanimously approved by the General Assembly in September 2004, sets out a global vision for ISO in 2010, outlining seven objectives with expected results and actions required for their achievement, and describing ISO's added value.

By Council decision, an annual implementation plan (STRATPLAN) for the *Strategic Plan*, defining the intermediate objectives and actions required to move forward, is developed by Council. The annual implementation plan is also used as input for the preparation of the Central Secretariat's budget assumptions (business plan) and budget proposals for the year under consideration.

The final report on the Strategy Implementation Plan for 2008 (STRATPLAN 2008) was noted by Council at its meeting in March 2009 and circulated to the ISO member bodies and correspondent members through the Secretary-General's circular letter dated 27 March 2009 in accordance with Council Resolution 9/2009.

STRATPLAN 2009 was approved by Council at its March 2008 meeting, together with the ISO/CS business plan and budget for 2009, and was conveyed to the ISO membership by circular letter dated 25 March 2008.

To assist the ISO members in identifying the actions devolving upon them, these are summarized under each key strategic objective, in the Annex to the circular letter conveying STRATPLAN 2009 (attached at Annex for ease of reference).

#### Implementation of STRATPLAN 2009

A brief report on the implementation of STRATPLAN 2009 at 1 July 2009 is given below under each key strategic objective. It is intended to have a full report prepared in due course for review by Council at its March 2010 meeting.

##### 1 Developing a consistent and multi-sector collection of globally relevant International Standards

Several developments have taken place in 2009 under this strategic objective, particularly to "Increase and monitor the effectiveness of ISO procedures and initiatives for identifying market needs and opening new work areas".

As a follow-up to General Assembly Resolution 5/2005 regarding *inter alia* **standardization in innovative fields**, relating in particular to new technologies, Council approved a pilot process to complement the existing approaches used for identifying and prioritizing innovative fields of work<sup>1</sup>. In addition to the field of energy, implementation of the process has continued in the field of biotechnology with the establishment of a Council Task Force on biotechnology due to submit recommendations to Council in September 2009. In addition, Council has decided to address in 2009 the question of how International Standards can be a tool for helping organizations to face the economic recession. Furthermore, some ISO initiatives regarding the technical work have

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<sup>1</sup> Council Resolution 35/2006



been taken (e.g. energy, fraud countermeasures and controls, market relevance), which are reported in sections 2.2, 2.3 and 3 of document General Assembly 08/2009 under agenda item 7.1.

In March 2009, an international workshop on "International Standards to Promote Energy Efficiency and Reduce Carbon Emissions" was organized in Paris (France) in partnership with IEC and the International Energy Agency (IEA). About 290 experts representing the major players from standardization, the private sector and public policy makers participated in this event. Presentations and discussion panels provided an overview of needs and challenges concerning energy efficiency in a variety of fields, highlighting the links with standardization activities and the importance of the international standardization system for this sector.

Regarding additional **new areas of activity**, the fields of services (including financial services) and of water supply and use are considered the most suitable candidates for the future implementation of the process. In addition, the 2008 open session on "Buildings for a sustainable future" provided input on standardization initiatives to be taken in that domain.

## 2 Ensuring the involvement of stakeholders

Several initiatives aiming to achieve this key strategic objective are underway, including steps to optimize liaisons with and involvement of representative international organizations of stakeholders; to optimize relations with regional/sub regional organizations; to develop mechanisms to better capture the expectations and feedback of industry; and to foster the development and dissemination of information services, educational material and training services.

Communication toward the **corporate and political spheres** has been enhanced, as illustrated by the launch of a communication package for industry and political leaders, entitled *Today's state-of-the-art global solutions for CEOs* (this package is the result of one of the ISO development and promotion projects approved by Council [detailed information is given in Annex to document General Assembly 13/2009 under agenda item 10.2]). It is also illustrated by the regular high-level interviews in *ISO Focus*, and by the visits made to national members by the ISO Officers, which usually include high-level contacts with governmental authorities, industry, the media and other stakeholders.

The ISO Web site, *ISO Online*, has been enhanced in February 2009 with the introduction of an RSS feed service that allows users to keep track of changes in the Catalogue of ISO standards and to catch up with the latest news.

It is recalled that Council approved in 2007 an ISO development and promotion project to develop a common methodology to assess and communicate the **economic benefits** of consensus-based standards<sup>2</sup>. Detailed information is given in document General Assembly 11/2009 under agenda item 9.

Necessary steps are being taken for the implementation of the "2007-2010 Action Plan to promote the involvement of **consumers' interests in standardization**". As part of this *Action Plan*, Council approved an ISO development and promotion project to create an online directory and networking for consumers' interests in standardization. Detailed information is given in Annex to document General Assembly 13/2009 under agenda item 10.2.

## 3 Raising the awareness and capacity of developing countries

The main objective is to progress with the implementation of the *ISO Action Plan for Developing Countries 2005-2010* endorsed by Council at its September 2004 meeting. Section 1 of the Action Plan for Developing Countries identifies the needs, objectives and actions, while section 2 sets out the administration, funding and monitoring of actions supported by the ISO Central Secretariat.

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<sup>2</sup> Council Resolution 29/2007.

Upgrades of membership from developing countries continue to be encouraged, and specific actions are taken to assist those upgrading their status to correspondent or full membership.

Relations with international and national donor agencies are being strengthened and expanded.

The ISO development and promotion project "IT tools and related assistance for member bodies in developing countries", approved by Council under its Resolution 23/2008, has started to be deployed. Detailed information on this project is given in Annex to document General Assembly 13/2009 under agenda item 10.2.

Further detailed information with respect to raising the awareness and capacity of developing countries is given in document General Assembly 10/2009 under agenda item 8.

#### **4 Being open to partnerships for the efficient development of International Standards**

The collaboration with IEC and ITU is being actively pursued, in particular in the framework of the WSC. Detailed information is given in document General Assembly 06/2009 under agenda item 5.

The ISO/IEEE Partner Standards Development Organization (PSDO) cooperation agreement, signed in February 2008, is being successfully implemented.

The network of collaboration between the ISO System and major international organizations has been expanded, both with governmental organizations such as the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and with the private sector such as the Object Management Group (OMG).

#### **5 Promoting the use of voluntary standards as an alternative or a support to technical regulations**

The ISO Central Secretariat is actively working to strengthen institutional relationships and collaboration with a number of intergovernmental organizations involved in the harmonization of technical regulations and international trade, in particular the corresponding UN Agencies and the WTO (detailed information is given in Annex 3 to document General Assembly 05/2009 and in document General Assembly 07/2009 under agenda items 4 and 6, respectively).

The information document "Using and referencing ISO and IEC standards for technical regulations", jointly developed by ISO and IEC, is being widely distributed and promoted.

#### **6 Being the recognized provider of International Standards and guides relating to conformity assessment**

The CASCO "toolbox" developed by the ISO Policy Committee on Conformity Assessment (CASCO) is being intensively promoted in accordance with the specific strategic initiatives devolving upon the ISO Central Secretariat, in particular among regulators and industry sectors.

The Action Plan to monitor the effectiveness of accredited certification to ISO management system standards, endorsed by Council under its Resolution 29/2008, has also been endorsed by IAF. The latter has formed five task groups to determine the actions necessary to implement this plan and CASCO has a representative on each of these task groups.

As a follow-up to the CASCO workshop on "Conformity Assessment Standards in support of Market Surveillance" held in October 2008, CASCO is currently developing a project plan to address how to facilitate rapid sharing of information on market surveillance; possible future

ISO publications on good market surveillance practice; market surveillance in the area of services; and the promotion of existing ISO/IEC standards for conformity assessment.

## **7 Providing efficient procedures and tools for the development of a coherent and complete range of deliverables**

Several initiatives have been taken to move forward on this key strategic objective. A significant effort is in progress to monitor the implementation of the TMB measures aimed at improving the efficiency of the standards development process.

A major effort is also underway to further the widespread use of advanced IT solutions supporting the ISO standardization and standards dissemination processes, including in particular the further deployment and promotion of the use of the ISO National Mirror Committee server. The ISO/CS is also testing the use of Web-based technologies for electronic meetings and will be promoting such technologies before the end of 2009. This work is being carried out in cooperation with IEC and ITU-T.

At its meeting in March 2009, Council approved the modalities for the implementation of the Action Plan to ensure the sustainability of the ISO business model. In this connection, Council approved an ISO development and promotion project to analyze trends and initiatives both in other standards development organizations (SDOs) and in industries where copyright is a key business component. Detailed information is given in Annex to document General Assembly 13/2009 under agenda item 10.2.

### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

The General assembly is invited to note/comment on the above report.



## **ISO STRATPLAN 2009 – SUMMARY, PER KEY STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE, OF THE ACTIONS DEVOLVING UPON THE ISO MEMBERS**

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### **1 Developing a consistent and multi-sector collection of globally relevant International Standards**

ISO members are urged to:

- consolidate successful examples and continue to experiment new approaches to promote work in new fields – including fields already covered by ISO/TCs but not performing fully in line with market dynamics;
- apply consistently the principles of global relevance on the initiation of technical work;
- promote the concept and principles of global relevance;
- monitor the application of the ISO policy on global relevance;
- monitor the application of the new procedure for production of official ISO deliverables in non-official ISO languages.

### **2 Ensuring the involvement of stakeholders**

ISO members are urged to:

- develop and promote good practices concerning stakeholder participation in standardization;
- progress with the implementation of the 2007-2010 Action Plan (approved by Council in 2007) to promote the involvement of consumers' interests in standardization;
- enhance communication and dissemination of information to stakeholders, taking actions to encourage and support their participation, starting at the early stages of the development process;
- evaluate the potential applicability to other areas of the model of engagement of consumers and other stakeholders followed in the SR field;
- based on 2007 decisions, progress with implementation of:
  - the policy for organizations in liaison with TCs and PDCs, and of
  - ISO regional policy;
- enhance education and training activities and related communications;
- support the promotion of the ISO Award on higher education in standardization;
- expand cooperation with academic institutions;
- effectively promote studies (and support new ones) on the economic and social benefits of standardization;
- structure the exchange of information and studies highlighting the benefits of standardization in different sectors;
- make use of the ISO communication package for industry and political leaders.

### **3 Raising the awareness and capacity of developing countries**

ISO members are urged to:

- enhance and support participation of developing countries in ISO technical work through twinning arrangements and technical assistance;
- strengthen support for using ICT and ISO e-Services in standardization and relations with ISO;
- cooperate with ISO/CS on assistance projects.

### **4 Being open to partnerships for the efficient development of International Standards**

ISO members are urged to:

- pursue and support the collaboration with IEC and ITU, in particular in the context of the World Standards Cooperation (WSC);
- pursuant with objective 5 of the *ISO Strategic Plan*, continue the network of collaboration between the ISO System and major international organizations also involved in standards development (UN agencies and intergovernmental organizations such as the OECD, IEA, WCO and many others), with a view to ensure complementarity and collaboration.

### **5 Promoting the use of voluntary standards as an alternative or as a support to technical regulations**

ISO members are urged to:

- enhance communication and dissemination of information to national members of IGOs and public authorities concerning ISO's work programmes, starting at the early stages of the development process;
- disseminate guidance and information material concerning use of and reference to International Standards in regulations;
- consolidate and develop relations between ISO members and national members or delegations of international organizations in liaison with ISO.

### **6 Being the recognized provider of International Standards and guides relating to conformity assessment**

ISO members are urged to:

- promote the use of the CASCO "toolbox" in all applicable contexts including notably the field of services;
- strengthen the liaison with ITU aiming at promoting the CASCO "toolbox" in the telecommunication industry;
- progress with the adoption of and ensure consistency with the CASCO approach concerning sectorial implementations;
- disseminate to ISO TCs the CASCO policy on sector approaches;
- monitor the use of ISO's name and logo;
- monitor the implementation of ISO 17021:2006, Part 1, *Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems*.

## **7 Providing efficient procedures and tools for the development of a coherent and complete range of deliverables**

ISO members are urged to:

- follow-up to the decisions taken in 2008 concerning the simplification of ISO and IEC deliverables;
- support the implementation of Council decisions concerning ISO's distribution policy;
- support the implementation of Council decisions concerning ISO's medium-term financial perspectives;
- monitor the application of the new edition of POCOSA and of ISO/GEN 9, and the deployment of DRM by ISO members;
- organize the second ISO/IEC common marketing and communication forum;
- support the dissemination and effective use of ISO's eServices and collect users' feedback.



## HIGHLIGHTS OF COUNCIL ACTIONS IN 2009

### AGENDA ITEM 10.2 ISO DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION PROJECTS – UPDATE

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In the context of the update of the medium-term financial perspectives and based on the provisions made on the positive results achieved in 2006 and 2007, Council decided at its March 2007 meeting to support projects which contribute to the development of ISO and to the promotion of the ISO System (Council Resolution 15/2007). A procedure was adopted by Council for identifying and selecting such projects (Council Resolution 21/2007).

Eligible projects are those contributing to the development, promotion and sustainability of the ISO System and its members. They should be limited in time, not requiring recurrent funding and with a clear justification for being financed by ISO.

Regarding the financing of the projects, Council decides on the allocation of funding for ISO development and promotion projects in conjunction with the annual closure of the accounts (and related allocation of provisions). The implementation of the selected projects is under the responsibility of the Secretary-General on the understanding that the financial commitment of the ISO Central Secretariat is limited to the funding approved by Council.

So far, the following ISO development and promotion projects have been approved by Council:

- a) Communication package for industry and political leaders.
- b) IT tools and related assistance for member bodies in developing countries (ICTDEV).
- c) Market study on food safety.
- d) Methodology to assess and communicate the economic benefits of consensus-based standards (MBS).
- e) Online directory and networking for consumers' interests in standardization.
- f) Study of trends and initiatives in business models.

A status report on each of the above projects is given at Annex, with the exception of **d)** which is being dealt with under agenda item 9.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

The General assembly is invited:

- a) to note/comment on the above report;
- b) to urge those members who have not yet responded to the questionnaire in the framework of project e) above to do so as quickly as possible.

## STATUS REPORT ON ISO DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION PROJECTS

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### a) Communication package for industry and political leaders

At its meeting in September 2007, Council decided to launch a project related to the development of a communication package targeted at industry and political leaders with the following objectives:

- To complement the existing tools and the initiatives already taken in terms of communication to industry and political leaders;
- To encourage and assist ISO members in their communication at the highest level;
- To promote the use by ISO members of the reference to their membership in ISO as a major asset to gain support and recognition from their national political and industry leaders;
- To provide a basic tool which may subsequently be used to address more specifically targeted industrial sectors and economic activities.

It was decided that the communication package would consist of an illustrated brochure on the economic and societal benefits of standards. It would expand on their international dimension and topicality, outline why and how companies and public authorities should get involved, contribute their expertise to the standards development process and encourage the implementation of ISO standards, whether directly or through national adoptions. The brochure would be complemented by a set of PowerPoint slides to be used by ISO Officers, as well as by Chairpersons and CEOs of ISO members.

Following a call for tenders, it was decided that Burson-Marsteller would assist the ISO/CS in the preparation of the package, together with a small group of communication managers selected from among the membership of Council and the Commercial Policies Steering Group (CPSG) to ensure that the package met members' expectations and requirements.

The communication package for industry and political leaders, entitled *Today's state-of-the-art global solutions for CEOs*, has been made available exclusively to members at the beginning of June 2009. Available in both English and French, *Today's state-of-the-art global solutions for CEOs* can be downloaded by members from the ISO Marketing & Communication Web site for translation and adaptation, including for affixing members' logos and contact details. The brochure is also available in paper format, in English and French, from the ISO/CS Marketing and Sales department.

*Today's state-of-the-art global solutions for CEOs* will be progressively complemented with case studies highlighting the benefits and impact of implementing standards.

### b) IT tools and related assistance for member bodies in developing countries (ICTDEV)

In line with the *ISO Action Plan for developing countries* and, in particular, with those actions aimed at promoting developing country participation in ISO and building capacity through technical assistance programmes, Council decided in 2008 to launch the ISO development and promotion project "IT tools and related assistance for member bodies in developing countries (ICTDEV)"<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Council Resolution 23/2008.



The starting point was the review and update of Manual 11 “Standards work on the Net”<sup>2</sup>, which was published in early 2009 under the title “Standards work on the Web: the ISO solutions”. This update led the Secretary-General to re-formulate, complement and structure the presentation of the e-services and IT tools currently provided to ISO member bodies in developing countries.

The objective of this ISO development and promotion project is to accelerate the deployment of four customized ICT packages (comprising equipment, software and assistance) and training, targeted at different groups of member bodies in developing countries with the creation of a three year, full-time project manager post to implement the project.

A description of each of the four ICT packages is given below:

- *Package 1* is intended for members with least-developed infrastructures. The objective of package 1 is to improve abilities of ISO members in handling information from ISO/CS.
- *Package 2* is intended for members with limited participation in ISO standards development, and small-scale development of national standards. The objective of package 2 is to improve abilities of ISO members to participate in the ISO standards development process.
- *Package 3* is intended for members with significant participation in ISO standards development, and significant development of national standards. The objective of package 3 is to improve abilities of ISO members and their national stakeholders to participate in the standards development process.
- *Package 4* is intended for members wishing to develop a Web site containing a catalogue of national standards. The objective of package 4 is to improve abilities of ISO members in providing information on standardization activities and standards, and in distributing standards to the public and national stakeholders.

Before receiving a package, the member body is requested to meet certain prerequisites (e.g. the member body should agree to maintain the installed services and to attain specific targets of participation in International Standards activities resulting from ICT support).

The development of the revised manual and of the packages was funded by the normal budget of the ISO Central Secretariat and the costs for the individual deployment within ISO developing country members (including travel expenses and time of ISO/CS staff and consultants on site, supply of equipment and software) is being funded through the Funds-in-Trust and the DIN endowment.

The full-time project manager was recruited in April 2009. The content of the packages as well as the target countries are being further refined through individual surveys. The packages will begin to be deployed in the second semester of 2009 and some 10 member bodies should receive a package by the end of 2009. All member bodies from developing countries could potentially benefit from this project if their needs for assistance are confirmed through the individual surveys.

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<sup>2</sup> Manual 11 was developed in the framework of the Mediterranean 2000 project and provides information and guidance on ISO e-services and the use of ICT in national standards bodies.

### **c) Market study on food safety**

At its meeting in March 2007, Council discussed the possibility of analysing, through market studies to be conducted with the help of external experts, options to develop and promote International Standards in specific sectors where a potential has been identified.

A workshop open to Council and CPSG members was organized at the invitation of BSI in London on 14 September 2007 with a view to discussing the objectives and components of such studies, the modalities for conducting them and the identification of priority target sectors.

Food safety was considered to be the most interesting sector for the pilot project, on the basis of the perceived market potential (so far exploited in a limited way by ISO and its members); the added value already created (a high quality ISO standard); the need to better understand key stakeholder requirements and sector dynamics; and to develop relations with key players (such as retailers).

In September 2007, Council decided that a market study for the development and promotion of ISO standards on food safety be conducted with the objectives of providing a market analysis and recommendations on the following elements:

- Understanding of the food safety sector's business environment and trends in relation to documentary standards, regulations and guidelines, with a view to positioning the existing ISO deliverables;
- Identification of key global partners (e.g., multinationals, retailers, international organizations, industry associations, consumer associations, etc.) to be targeted through appropriate information and communication campaigns and/or with which to be associated in the process of further developing and complementing the existing ISO deliverables;
- Overview of the food safety supply chain with an identification of key players, decision-makers and their priority issues
- Improvement of the perception of the ISO system in general and of the benefits offered by its portfolio of deliverables and related activities, including identifying possible new ISO deliverables and improving the take-up of existing ones;
- Communication drivers, i.e., key messages and elements of the ISO value proposition likely to be recognized and valued by key international driving forces in the sector;
- Communication channels to be used to deliver the above.

The study was conducted with the assistance of Frost & Sullivan, a consulting company with experience in such studies and an extensive knowledge of the food sector. A steering committee was established with one representative from the ISO Commercial Policies Steering Group (CPSG), two representatives from ISO/TC 34 *Food products*, and representatives from the consulting company and from the ISO/CS.

The findings were presented by Frost & Sullivan to the Steering Committee in early June 2009 with a number of recommendations. These recommendations will be further discussed by the Steering Committee with a view to proposing a number of concrete actions for consideration by Council in due course.

### **d) Methodology to assess and communicate the economic benefits of consensus-based standards (MBS)**

A status report of this project is given in document General Assembly 11/2009 under agenda item 9.

## e) Online directory and networking for consumers' interests in standardization

This special project is an outcome of the Council-approved *Action plan to promote the involvement of consumers' interests in standardization*. The development began in the fourth quarter of 2007 and is almost complete after approval by Council under its Resolution 29/2007.

The aim of this project is to expand the static and paper-based COPOLCO directory of members and to develop a dynamic and interactive online repository of data on *ISO Online*, giving complete information about ISO members' structures and mechanisms to involve consumer interests in their policy and technical work.

To that effect, design and development of an appropriate input form for use by all member bodies and correspondent members was completed in November 2008, and circulated with instructions for accessing the forms. COPOLCO members were also alerted to this correspondence.

Members answered questions on the following items:

- 1 The contact person for consumer affairs in the organization
- 2 Participation of consumer representatives in policy or governance committees
- 3 Participation of consumer representatives in ISO and IEC technical committees or regional committees
- 4 National technical committees, or mirror committees of ISO or IEC technical committees
- 5 Other structures for consultation
- 6 Useful information on consumer-oriented standards, legislation and related issues to share

The form also contains a list of technical committees in priority areas as defined by COPOLCO, to facilitate the input of representatives covered under questions 2 to 4.

In parallel, the ISO Central Secretariat developed a programme and adapted pages to allow input of the data onto *ISO Online*.

There are now three main pages of information on *ISO Online*:

- A list of ISO members that have responded to the survey, and for each member on the list: a link leading to a separate page containing the information generated from the **input questions** (above).
- A dynamic page of main priority technical areas of consumer interest, showing consumer representatives from various countries for each sector, automatically generated from ISO members' input data, and
- A query page allowing searches of the ISO work programme for published standards and standards under development, in areas of priority interest for consumers in standardization<sup>3</sup>.

Despite several collective and individual reminders, only 57 ISO members have responded to the survey.

Although it is still necessary to complete the gathering of data to have a complete profile of ISO members' involvement of consumer interests in their activities, the publication of the online Directory in English and French is planned for mid-July 2009. A programme that will generate paper-based reports on demand is also planned.

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<sup>3</sup> These priority areas are defined by COPOLCO.

## f) Study on trends and initiatives in business models

The issue of the free availability of standards has become increasingly topical, especially in view of the increasing use of standards in regulations and trade and of their electronic distribution. In order to protect the current business model which is significantly based on the sales of standards, some ISO members and the ISO Central Secretariat have undertaken a number of initiatives, amongst them:

- Implementation of a plan to communicate to standards users the importance of copyright in standards;
- Implementation of a number of technical measures to reinforce the protection of copyright. In particular the inclusion of a copyright warning sign and a watermark on electronic copies of ISO Standards or national adoptions thereof that are distributed to end-users;
- For standards made freely available for further standards development purposes, as in the case for standards on the ISO/IEC Information Technology Task Force (ITTF) Web pages, display of a licence that the user must accept before being authorized to download the documents;
- Publication, together with the IEC, of a brochure "Using and referencing ISO and IEC standards for technical regulations" which, *inter alia*, gives regulators practical advice on how to use International Standards to achieve their objectives without affecting ISO's copyright.

Copyright in standards has also been challenged in cases where a standard becomes the law. However, initiatives undertaken by ISO members in countries in recent years such as Germany and New Zealand resulted in the amendment of legislation to confirm that copyright subsists when standards are referenced in legislation. Similar initiatives are currently underway in other countries.

Despite these initiatives, pressure on the current ISO business model persists. For this reason, in October 2008 Council decided to include the ISO business model in the agenda of the development of the *ISO Strategic Plan 2011-2015*, and approved in principle the Action Plan to ensure the sustainability of the ISO business model which includes a study proposal to analyse trends and initiatives in other standards development organizations (SDOs) and in industries where copyright is a key business component (Council Resolution 27/2008). This study will cover the following:

- analysis of trends in the business models used by some other SDOs;
- analysis of trends in the publishing, media and entertainment industries where copyright revenue and protection are vital;
- current and potential use of digital rights management (DRM) technologies to monitor and selectively control the distribution of information products.

The outcome of the study will take the form of a report which will include, in particular, a detailed description of the business models used by selected other SDO's, each with a SWOT<sup>4</sup> analysis, and a description of the initiatives and trends in these specific sectors. Concerning the use of DRM, the report will also include an analysis of the current use of these technologies for the distribution of content, and recommendations on the potential use of these technologies for the distribution of information products that ISO could publish.

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<sup>4</sup> SWOT: Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats

The specification of the study was approved by Council together with a budget allocation from the provisions for ISO projects. A Steering Committee will be appointed with one member from CSC/FIN, one from CPSG and one from ITSIG to assist the Secretary-General in the selection of the consultant and the monitoring of the study.

Currently, the ISO/CS is identifying possible external consultants having a strong experience in the analysis of business models and expertise in copyright-revenue based industries. A progress report will be made to Council at its meeting in September 2009.



*HIGHLIGHTS OF COUNCIL ACTIONS IN 2009*

**AGENDA ITEM 10.3      FINANCIAL MATTERS – REPORT OF THE  
TREASURER**

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Under this agenda item, the Treasurer will present a report to the General Assembly taking into account General Assembly Resolution 9/2003 which asked for more detailed information, as and when appropriate, on certain of the financial items.

The Treasurer will concentrate on the evolution of the main financial parameters including the funds-in-trust. He will also express his views on the possible effects of the economic crisis on ISO and the Central Secretariat budget. This report will be circulated in writing before the General Assembly, together with the report of the Secretary-General.

NOTE – As member bodies and correspondent members were informed by the Secretary-General's circular letter dated 27 March 2009, the Central Secretariat budget for 2010 was approved, on a provisional basis, by Council at its meeting in March 2009. Council decided to postpone the approval of a final budget for 2010 at its September 2009 meeting to take into account any significant impact of the economic crisis.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

The General Assembly is invited to note/comment on the Treasurer's report.



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**AGENDA ITEM 10.3**  
***REPORT OF THE TREASURER***  
**TO THE ISO GENERAL ASSEMBLY, Cape Town,**  
**SEPTEMBER 2009**

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Distinguished Guests,  
ISO Officers,  
ISO Members,

In the last twelve months economies around the World have been experiencing the sharpest declines seen since the Great Depression. You are no doubt wondering what the consequences are for ISO, and what the general global forecast is.

My objective today is to give you a brief overview of the current world financial situation as I see it and how it has affected ISO. In the process, I would like to briefly touch on some of the questions that you may have about the crisis, what triggered it, its expected evolution and lessons learnt.

## **1 What triggered it?**

In my view, the crisis was caused partly by a decline in underwriting (banking) standards, poor lending requirements from investors and rating agencies, and an increased reliance on complex and opaque credit instruments, which ultimately could not resist stress and overcome risk. In other words, the crisis developed because the financial system failed to consistently follow and uphold widely recognized standards. As a result, investors lost confidence in credit markets.

And this is why ISO will ultimately not fare badly from the crisis, because we are part of the solution.

## **2 How ISO is experiencing the crisis**

From a financial standpoint, no organization can completely escape the domino-effects of a crisis which has resulted in the failing of key businesses, a loss of consumer wealth estimated in trillions of US dollars, and a significant decline in economic activity.

For ISO, the 2008 accounts were closed with an operating surplus of kCHF 1 400. This is an excellent result as it includes a lowering of the value of the membership subscription unit by 1%, an increase in retrocessions paid on sales made in member countries through the ISO Web store and good control over expenditure. Sales of ISO publications reflect the value of having a Web store under the ISO banner. Financial revenue for investments was adversely affected by the crisis as interest rates and yields of bonds fell sharply.

This result was also after significant investment in the ISO development and promotion projects approved by the Council, and dealt with under the previous agenda item.

Given the financial crisis, Council took steps at the end of 2008 to ensure investments made from the General Fund were prudently valued by an increase in provisions for losses on those investments of kCHF 300.

As to the 2010 budget, Council will be invited to adopt, at its meeting tomorrow, a budget which reflects the views I have expressed and also the opportunities ahead of ISO over the coming 12 months.

### **3 Expected evolution**

Now, you are probably wondering what the outlook for the remainder of 2009 and 2010 is like. As I explained, ISO is in good health and I do not foresee any major losses. Some ISO members have experienced a decrease in certification services, but all membership fees that are due to ISO so far have been paid. I thank you for your commitment to meeting your obligations on membership fees. Financial results for the first half of 2009 are satisfactory and in line with budget expectations.

That said, ISO must and will keep focused on continuously improving our sustainability, security and ability to manage risk.

On a financial level, ISO has recently completed an information security risk assessment and will use the result for updating, in 2010, the wider study on risk identification and management of the ISO system that was carried out in 2007.

Furthermore, given the purpose of the General Reserve in uncertain times investments made in equities by the General Fund were liquidated and the basis of investments in the Fund has been revised. This has meant a focus on lower yielding but higher security bonds and cash investments being made by the General Fund.



#### **4 Lessons learnt**

Coming from the financial sector, I strongly believe that ISO Standards will be a powerful tool for recovery. Voluntary standards can help organizations become actively committed and accountable to principles of transparency, quality, security and risk management. And clients – whether businesses, suppliers, consumers, or even regulators – will have confidence in this commitment because of the international recognition and the brand power of ISO.

In fact, if I could summarize, I would say that the biggest lesson from the crisis is the need for internationally-recognized standards. This is particularly important in the financial sector, where failings can have huge repercussions for the world economy.

ISO standards offer robust solutions to businesses and to the financial sector, ranging from quality, to IT security to specific financial standards such as IBAN or ISIN to name a few. And ISO is actively responding to global challenges with new projects such as anti-counterfeiting and fraud countermeasures.

But my advice to you as someone familiar with the financial system is the following: our challenge now lies in communication. In these standards, there is a lot of good information with the potential to make a difference, but we have to get it out there. I encourage you all to multiply your communication efforts in your countries about these standards and the role they can play in strengthening the economy.

Last but not least, you have heard earlier today of the many activities ISO is carrying out in support of developing countries. One of the important funding mechanisms for these activities is the funds-in-trust which is funded by ISO members; and its level remains stagnant if not decreases. I therefore reinforce the message I gave last year and exhort the ISO members to raise the level of their contribution. The funds-in-trust are vital as seed money for new training and awareness raising initiatives and projects.

I would like to conclude this report by encouraging you to see the crisis in a positive light – as an opportunity to come out tougher and more resourceful than we have ever been.

Julien Pitton



## *ECONOMIC CRISIS FACING THE WORLD*

### **AGENDA ITEM 11.1 STANDARDS AS A SOLUTION**

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Mr. Mike Low, Director of the British Standards Institution (BSI), will introduce the item.

#### *Abstract*

Thousands of national and international standards are used daily by millions of enterprises worldwide. Standards offer considerable value – to economies, to businesses and to people. Indeed research has quantified those benefits economically – in the United Kingdom, standardization accounts for an annual contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of GBP 2,5 billion per year.

However, in an economic downturn, do the benefits that standards bring still apply? The answer is an emphatic yes. In difficult economic times, standards can provide extra cost saving, new customers, product innovation, market differentiation and lower risks, all of which makes the difference – enabling organizations to survive, grow and ultimately thrive even in the toughest economic conditions.

#### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

The General assembly will be invited to comment on Mr. Low's presentation.



*ECONOMIC CRISIS FACING THE WORLD*

**AGENDA ITEM 11.2.1 MECHANISMS TO FACILITATE EXPERTS'  
PARTICIPATION IN STANDARDS WORK – AN  
ISO MEMBER'S EXPERIENCE**

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In the context of the current economic crisis facing the world and its numerous consequences, the question of how to deal with a reduction or even the potential collapse of experts' participation in the standardization development process is a priority both at the national and international levels.

Under this agenda item, Mrs. Suraiya Adam, Senior Manager, Standards Operation at South African Bureau of Standards (SABS), will explain what are SABS's best practices at the national level to facilitate the experts' participation in standardization.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

The General assembly will be invited to comment on Mrs. Adam's presentation.

## *ECONOMIC CRISIS FACING THE WORLD*

### **AGENDA ITEM 11.2.2 MECHANISMS TO FACILITATE EXPERTS' PARTICIPATION IN STANDARDS WORK – THE EXPERIENCE AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL**

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In the context of the current economic crisis facing the world and its numerous consequences, the question of how to deal with the potential collapse of experts' participation in the standardization development process is a priority both at the national and international levels.

At the international level, the following initiatives are being taken by ISO, including in the framework of the World Standards Cooperation (WSC).

#### **1 Initiatives of the World Standards Cooperation (WSC)**

Under its Resolution 3/2009, Council expressed the strong opinion that, considering the current economic crisis facing the world and its numerous consequences, the WSC should consider as a matter of urgency measures that would assist in improving the responsiveness and the efficiency of the standards process as well as issues such as priorities and the use of best practices to secure attendance of experts at meetings; and should publicize its efforts outside of the international standards community.

As a follow-up, the CEOs of the three WSC member organizations established a small group composed of one staff member of each organization. The group is working on the identification of common and related user needs for collaboration tools to further assist the development of International Standards and Recommendations; the collection of a toolbox of existing platforms and approaches that can facilitate development (e.g. voice and Web-conferencing, collaboration tools); and on the collection of good practices and approaches to optimize the use and benefits of such tools.

It is intended that a report will be submitted by the group to the CEOs of the three WSC member organizations at the beginning of the 2009 fourth quarter; and the ISO members will be informed accordingly.

#### **2 Initiatives of the Technical Management Board (TMB)**

Under its Resolution 10/2009, Council encouraged the TMB to look as a matter of urgency at guidelines and procedures for organizing video- and teleconferences for the technical work in order to compensate the expected decrease in participation at TC/SC meetings in view of the current economic crisis.

As a follow-up, the TMB agreed at its meeting in June 2009 that such mechanisms were not suitable as replacements for physical committee meetings, but could be useful in the case of small groups (such as editing committees, task forces, etc.) comprising a limited number of participants. They would also provide an option for those who are not physically able to attend meetings but nevertheless wish to participate. TMB members are currently considering proposed guidelines, including best practices, which can be disseminated to ISO technical bodies.

### **3 Initiatives of the Information Technology Strategies Implementation Group (ITSIG)**

The matter was also considered at the ITSIG plenary meeting in May 2009, and ITSIG decided to establish:

- a project team for the evaluation of IT tools for informal collaboration, and
- an interest group for sharing information on the evaluation of voice and Web-conferencing systems from the technical point of view.

ITSIG members and observers have been invited to nominate representatives to take part in both groups. With regard to the interest group on voice and Web-conferencing systems, a questionnaire was circulated to ITSIG members and observers with a view to obtaining information as to the types of conferencing systems already in use and in what context, to determine what were the key business requirements, and to get user feedback on the systems tested. The responses to the questionnaire have been compiled and will serve as a first working document for the interest group.

### **4 Conferencing facilities to be introduced by the ISO Central Secretariat (ISO/CS)**

In partial application of the TMB and ITSIG initiatives and as an initial response to the issues raised by some committees to encourage virtual meetings using Web-based systems, the ISO/CS has been progressing with the testing and validation of various voice and Web-conferencing systems. User requirements for such conferencing tools have been based on the specifications and feedback reviewed at the May 2009 ITSIG meeting. In the first phase, the ISO/CS will make a commercially-available conferencing system available for use in the framework of the ISO technical programme during the third quarter of 2009. The intent is to focus on real-time voice and Web-conference (not video) meetings of smaller groups (e.g. working groups, advisory groups, editing committees), as recommended by both the TMB and ITSIG. A second phase in 2010 will review the results and consider possible further integration with ISO e-Services.

#### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

The General assembly is invited to comment on the above, including the Secretary-General's presentation.

## ISO AND EDUCATION

### AGENDA ITEM 12.1 INTERNATIONAL STANDARDIZATION IN SUPPORT OF EDUCATION

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The importance of standardization activities in education is increasingly recognized around the world, and International standards of the type developed by ISO are increasingly understood, worldwide, as a major asset for:

- states and communities, in terms of economic competitiveness and access to world markets, regulation, sustainable development, local competition, public purchases;
- companies, in terms of technology transfer, market knowledge, good management practices, quality recognition;
- consumers, in terms of products and services comparison, quality improvement, information on performance, security and impact on environment;
- researchers, in terms of measurements, risk assessment, dissemination of innovation.

Consequently, knowledge of the economic, technical and social importance of standards as well as of their benefits become imperative in the curricula of future managers, scientists and technologists, and many universities and other higher education institutions have begun introducing their students to standardization. Moreover, the subject of standardization and its relationship with economic and social issues is addressed in a number of publications, including books, research articles and other academic publications.

It is also recalled that the *ISO Strategic Plan 2005-2010* calls for action to ensure the involvement of stakeholders through development, training and the dissemination of educational material.

In view of the above, Council, following a proposal made by JISC (Japan), established the **ISO Award for Higher Education in Standardization**. This Award aims to raise awareness of the importance of standardization worldwide by supporting institutions of higher education that have successfully developed and implemented educational programmes related to standardization as a tool to access world markets, to transfer technology and to promote good business practices and sustainable development.

The Award is co-sponsored by ISO and JISC. It is run every two years. The first ISO Award for Higher Education in Standardization was presented at the 2007 General Assembly and the second one will be presented at this year's General Assembly in Cape Town (see document General Assembly 19/2009 under agenda item 12.2).

NOTE – In this context of international standardization in support of education, it is to be recalled that ISO, IEC and ITU have agreed to organize a WSC Academia Week in July 2010 in Geneva. Detailed information is given in section 1 of document General Assembly 06/2009 under agenda item 5.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

The General Assembly is invited to note/comment on the above report.

## ISO AND EDUCATION

### AGENDA ITEM 12.2 PRESENTATION OF THE 2009 ISO AWARD FOR HIGHER EDUCATION IN STANDARDIZATION

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The ISO Award for Higher Education in Standardization, to run every two years, was presented for the first time at the 2007 General Assembly. The winner was China Jiliang University, People's Republic of China, which was one of six finalists. The other five finalists were educational institutions from Egypt, France, Republic of Korea, Japan and the Netherlands.

#### Application and nomination process

An invitation to participate in the 2009 award contest was sent to ISO members by circular letter dated 1 December 2008, with a closing date for participation of 28 February 2009. In this invitation ISO members were invited to select a team, group or department from an eligible institution of higher education in their country and to nominate it for the ISO Award.

Valid applications were submitted by the following 16 institutions of higher education:

Armenia	State Engineering University of Armenia
Belarus	Belarussian National Technical University
Bulgaria	University of National and World Economy, Natural Resources Economics Department
Cameroon	ENSAI – Université de Ngaoundéré
Egypt	Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT)
France	Ecole Internationale des Sciences du Traitement de l'Information
Germany	University of Duisburg-Essen
Iran, Islamic Rep. of	The Industry for Energy and Hydro Technology- Guilan Training Center
Japan	Kwansei Gakuin University
Kenya	Kenyatta University
Korea, Rep. of	Chung-Ang University
Nepal	Lalitpur Valley College
Netherlands	Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University
Romania	Universitatea Politehnica din Bucuresti
South Africa	Tshwane University of Technology
Ukraine	National University of Life and Environmental Science of Ukraine

#### The ISO Award Selection Committee

The candidatures were reviewed by the Award Selection Committee and evaluated according to the following **criteria**:

- major achievements and impact of the programme substantiated by well identified performance indicators;
- curriculum requirements (methodological teaching methods);
- connections with business, government and other stakeholders;
- replicability of the programme: a model that can be implemented elsewhere in the world;
- high visibility and media exposure of the programme.

The **members of the Selection Committee** are eminent international personalities from academia, the economic sphere and the media.

- *Dr. George Arnold*, Chair of the Committee and ISO Vice-President (policy); National Coordinator for Smart Grid Interoperability, US National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST);
- *Mr. Guillaume Chenevière*, Executive Director, Media and Society Foundation (Switzerland);
- *Dr. Barbara Ischinger*, Director, Directorate for Education, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD);
- *Mr. Georges Haddad*, Director of the Division of Higher Education (UNESCO)
- *Prof. Masami Tanaka*, Vice-President, Japanese Industrial Standards Committee (JISC).

The Selection Committee met on 8 July 2009 at the ISO Central Secretariat in Geneva. The Committee reviewed the application and nomination process, validated the established selection criteria and selected the winner.

### **The Winner of the ISO Award**

The Award will be presented to a representative of the recipient institution under this agenda item by the ISO President.

The 2009 ISO Award for Higher Education in Standardization consists of a certificate of appreciation and a cash prize of CHF 15 000.

### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

The General assembly will be invited to express its congratulations to the recipient of the award.



## **AGENDA ITEM 13      OUTCOME OF THE OPEN SESSION HELD ON 17 SEPTEMBER ON ENERGY – WHY INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS ARE VITAL**

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In the framework of the General Assembly, an open session will be held on 17 September (full day) on the theme *Energy – why International Standards are vital*. The open session will address this subject both by taking the perspective of the contribution of standards, relating current developments in various parts of the world and by focusing on the current status and potential contribution of international standards and ISO.

The open session (17 September 2009) is organized around two panels, dealing respectively with:

- *Energy efficiency*  
After a keynote speech on “Energy efficiency and renewable energy sources – A key for a better tomorrow”, this panel will cover the following topics:
  - Measuring energy efficiency –  
If you cannot measure it, you cannot manage it
  - Energy management –  
It needs a systems approach
  - Climate change –  
How managing energy consumption can have a big impact
  - Managing energy use in industry –  
What is possible?
  - Managing energy use in transportation –  
Why?
  
- *Renewable energy sources*  
After a keynote speech on “Renewable energy – A step towards sustainability”, this panel will cover the following topics:
  - From the earth – Geothermal energy
  - From thin air – Wind energy
  - From light – Solar heating  
– Solar thermodynamics
  - Key challenges for electric cars

Panelists in each of the panel sessions will be invited to present introductory remarks for 10 minutes, after which the floor will be open for an exchange of views among the panel members and with the audience.

A text explaining the objectives and purpose of the open session is attached at Annex; the programme in a leaflet format, including the names of the speakers, will be circulated during the second half of July.

### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

The General Assembly will be invited to assess the results of the open session on *Energy – why International Standards are vital* and to take any action it deems appropriate.

## OPEN SESSION ORGANIZED IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE 32nd ISO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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### *Energy – why International Standards are vital*

Challenges related to energy are among the most serious facing the international community. The drastic need to change current habits of energy consumption which provoke climate change and the requirements to make more efficient use of energy and to develop renewable sources of energy are high on the global agenda.

Agreement on what needs doing in relation to energy challenges is relatively easy. How to meet these challenges is more difficult because, as often, "the devil is in the detail". And this is precisely where the ISO standards development system proves its worth.

Today's trends in world energy demand impose a sense of urgency, which explains the choice of energy as the subject for this ISO Open Session organized within the framework of the ISO 2009 General Assembly. There is a need both to act now with available solutions and to develop new solutions. In both cases, International Standards are part of the solution.

Technical standards are needed to define the detailed metrics that are indispensable for measuring carbon emissions reduction and energy efficiency. When such standards distil state-of-the-art expert knowledge and are based on international consensus, they provide the international community with practical tools for achieving objectives in the fields of climate change, energy efficiency and sustainable energy.

The Open Session comprises two panels. The first is dedicated to energy efficiency which includes the contribution of existing and future standards to energy management and energy use in transport and in industry. The latter is an issue that directly impacts on economic growth since industry makes up the majority of energy use today in both developed and developing countries, including emerging economies. The second panel explores the contribution that international standardization can make to renewable energy, with concrete examples drawn from geothermal, wind and solar energy, as well as the possibilities offered by electric cars and the challenges to their widespread deployment.

As in other areas, ISO works hand-in-hand with major players in this field, and the keynote speeches to this Open Session are delivered by two important partners, the International Energy Agency (IEA) and the World Energy Council (WEC).

Each panel session will allow time for interaction between the panel's speakers and the audience.

## AGENDA ITEM 14      ENDORSEMENT OF CRITERIA FOR APPOINTMENT/ ELECTION TO COUNCIL

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In accordance with Clause 3.1.1 of the *ISO Rules of Procedure* (amended by General Assembly Resolution 14/2008), the criteria used for the appointment/election of members to Council are established by Council and endorsed by the General Assembly. These criteria are to be reviewed – and confirmed or revised – at intervals of no less than three years. As the previous review dates back to 2006, Council undertook the procedure again earlier this year.

The following three criteria have been applied since 1994, ranking member bodies within four groups according to the:

- number of payable units – 60% weight;
- number of TC, SC and PC<sup>1</sup> secretariats – 20% weight<sup>2</sup>;
- number of P-memberships in TC, SC and PC<sup>1</sup> – 20% weight<sup>3</sup>.

It has been generally agreed that the criteria to be used for ranking member bodies for Council membership eligibility should reflect the size of the economy of the countries and the degree of involvement of the member bodies in ISO's technical work, both quantitatively and qualitatively.

At its meeting in March 2009, Council decided to confirm the criteria given above and asked the Secretary-General to submit this decision to the General Assembly for endorsement (Council Resolution 6/2009).

The following draft General Assembly resolution is therefore submitted for consideration:

*The General Assembly, in accordance with Clause 3.1.1 of the ISO Rules of Procedure,*

*endorses the Council decision confirming that the criteria for the appointment/election of member bodies to Council shall continue to be the following:*

- number of payable units – 60% weight;*
- number of TC, SC and PC secretariats – 20% weight (standby TCs/SCs not being counted),*
- number of P-memberships in TC, SC and PC – 20% weight (on the understanding that Clause 1.7.5 of the ISO/IEC Directives relating to the obligations of P-members is strictly applied),*

*thereby confirming that the criteria to be used in ranking member bodies for eligibility to Council membership should reflect the relative size of the economies of member body countries and the degree of member body involvement in ISO's technical work, both quantitatively and qualitatively.*

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<sup>1</sup> Under the terms of its Resolution 8/2007, Council confirmed that, when applying the criteria for election to Council and the TMB, involvement of member bodies in project committees will be considered as equivalent to that in TCs and SCs.

<sup>2</sup> standby TCs/SCs not being counted.

<sup>3</sup> on the understanding that Clause 1.7.5 of the *ISO/IEC Directives* relating to the obligations of P-members is strictly applied.

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION**

The General Assembly is invited to consider the above draft General Assembly resolution with a view to its adoption.



## AGENDA ITEM 15      ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR THE 2010-2011 TERM

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The terms of office of the following nine Council members expire on 31 December 2009:

ABNT (Brazil)	JISC (Japan)
AENOR (Spain)	KEBS (Kenya)
BIS (India)	NEN (Netherlands)
BSI (United Kingdom)	SAC (China)
INNORPI (Tunisia)	

It is recalled that 2010 will be the first year of implementation of the General Assembly's decision to increase the number of seats on Council from 18 to 20 with one more member in group 1 and one more member in group 4 (General Assembly Resolution 14/2008).

In accordance with clause 3.1.1 of the *Rules of Procedure* (amended by General Assembly Resolution 14/2008) stating that six member bodies which are considered to be the largest contributors to the operations of the Organization are automatically appointed to consecutive terms on Council, **three of the outgoing Council members** appear among the six top-ranking contributors and **are** therefore **automatically appointed** for a consecutive term (2010-2011); these are BSI (United Kingdom), JISC (Japan) and SAC (China).

In the light of the above (20 members on Council, including six in group 1), eight seats remain to be filled on Council. Regarding these **eight Council seats**, member bodies were invited, by circular letter Council vote 2010 dated 6 April 2009, to submit by 6 July 2009 the names of the member bodies they wish to nominate for election to Council for the 2010-2011 term (five member bodies in group 2, one member body in group 3 and two member bodies in group 4).

At the end of the nomination period, the Secretary-General will send a letter to all member bodies, listing the ones that have been proposed and supported by at least three member bodies, not including the member body nominated.

The election as such will be held during the General Assembly under this agenda item, by means of a ballot paper that will be distributed at this point in the meeting. In this respect, member bodies' attention is drawn to the following resolution adopted by Council at its February 1996 meeting, and confirmed at its meeting in January 1999:

*Council,*

*considering that, when electing Council members, the member bodies should express their choice with respect to the Council membership as a whole and not merely in terms of their preference for some members,*

*decides to strongly recommend to all member bodies that they have an obligation to exercise their right to vote for the exact number of seats to be filled within each specific group of eligible members.*

(Council Resolution 08/1996)

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

The General Assembly is invited to elect eight Council members for the 2010-2011 term.



## APPOINTMENT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENTS FOR THE 2010-2011 TERM

### AGENDA ITEM 16.1 VICE-PRESIDENT (POLICY)

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The term of office of the current Vice-President (policy), Dr. George Arnold, expires on 31 December 2009. Dr. Arnold is completing his second term and, therefore, in accordance with clause 7.1.1 of the *Rules of Procedure*, is not eligible for a further term.

The nominating committee, consisting of the President, the immediate past President, the outgoing Vice-President (policy), the Vice-President (technical management) and the Secretary-General, has decided to propose to the General Assembly the appointment of Mr. Sadao Takeda (Japan) as Vice-President (policy) for the 2010-2011 term.

**Mr. Takeda**, Director General of the Japanese Standards Association (JSA) since 2007, has been a Member of the Japanese Industrial Standards Committee (JISC) since 1997.

He has been the JISC representative on the ISO Council since 2003. In this capacity, Mr. Takeda has been Chair of the Council Standing Committee on Finance (CSC/FIN) since 2006; from 2003 to 2005, he was a member of the Council Standing Committee on Strategy (CSC/STRAT).

At JISC, he has held different managerial positions including Secretary-General, Director of the Conformity Assessment Division, and Director of the Measurement Standards Division.

During his career at the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) from 1975 to 2002, Mr. Takeda held various responsibilities in the areas of Standards Policy, International Trade Policy, Research and Development Policy, Information Technology (IT) Industry, and Industrial Policy Planning. He has an academic background in IT engineering.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

The General Assembly is invited to appoint a Vice-President (policy) for the 2010-2011 term.



## APPOINTMENT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENTS FOR THE 2010-2011 TERM

### AGENDA ITEM 16.2 VICE-PRESIDENT (TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT)

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The term of office of the current Vice-President (technical management), Mr. Jacob Holmblad, expires on 31 December 2009. In accordance with clause 7.1.1 of the *Rules of Procedure*, Mr. Holmblad, who is completing his first term, is eligible for a second term of office.

The nominating committee, consisting of the President, the immediate past President, the Vice-President (policy) and the Secretary-General, has decided to propose to the General Assembly the reappointment of Mr. Jacob Holmblad (Denmark) as Vice-President (technical management) for a second two-year term (2010-2011).

**Mr. Holmblad** has been appointed ISO Vice-President (technical management) for the 2008-2009 term. He has been Managing Director of Danish Standards (DS) since 1991. Before joining DS, he had a long-standing experience within the Danish Ministry of Energy (1973-1991), including ten years as Deputy Managing Director of the Danish Energy Agency. His career also includes commitments within the Danish Government such as Acting personal assistant to the Minister of Industry (1974-1978). Mr. Holmblad has also been involved in the board of several entities, such as the Danish Energy Society (Vice-Chairman), the Wind Turbines Capital Fund Ltd. (Vice Chairman and Chairman), the Danish-Chinese committee for technological and scientific cooperation (Member 1997-2008), the Danish Energy Regulatory Authority (Deputy Chairman) and the Danish Innovation Centre (Vice Chairman). From 2000 until 2004, Mr. Holmblad was Vice President Technical of CEN.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

The General Assembly is invited to appoint a Vice-President (technical management) for the 2010-2011 term.



## AGENDA ITEM 17      ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT FOR THE NEXT TERM

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The term of office of the incumbent President, Dr. Alan Morrison, will finish on 31 December 2010. According to the *Statutes and Rules of Procedure*, the term of office of the President consists of one year as President-elect (which coincides with the last year of the incumbent President), followed by two years as President (clause 6.1 of the *Rules of Procedure*). The term of the future President should therefore start as President-elect on 1 January 2010.

On 27 March 2009, the member bodies were invited to submit nominations by 27 June 2009 for the office of President for the 2011-2012 term, serving therefore as President-elect during 2010. In a letter dated 30 June 2009 (attached at Annex for ease of reference), the Secretary-General informed the member bodies that one nomination has been received: that of **Mr. Yashwant Bhawe** (India).

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

The General Assembly will be invited to elect an ISO President for the 2011-2012 term, who shall also serve as President-elect for 2010.



**ISO Central Secretariat**

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International Organization for Standardization  
Международная Организация по Стандартизации



**Rob Steele**  
**Secretary-General**

Your ref.  
Our ref. Pres. vote 2010

Date 2009-06-30

**TO THE ISO MEMBER BODIES AND, FOR  
INFORMATION, TO THE CORRESPONDENT  
MEMBERS AND SUBSCRIBER MEMBERS**

**Election of next ISO President**

Dear Sir or Madam,

Further to my letter of 27 March 2009 and in accordance with Clause 6.5 of the *Rules of Procedure*, I hereby inform you that there is one confirmed nomination for the next ISO presidency, that of **Mr. Yashwant Bhawe** (India).

The nominee has assented to the presentation of his name. The biography of Mr. Bhawe is attached at Annexes 1 (short version) and 2 (long version).

The election will take place during the General Assembly in Cape Town next September, under agenda item 17.

Yours faithfully,

Rob Steele

Enclosures

cc. President  
Vice-President (policy)  
Vice-President (technical management)  
Treasurer  
IEC General Secretary



## BIOGRAPHY OF MR. YASHWANT BHAVE, INDIA

### Experience regarding Industry, Commerce and NGOs<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Yashwant S. Bhave, currently Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Consumer Affairs (he will retire at the end of July 2009).

#### Industry, Trade, Business and Commerce

- Had extensive interactions with Trade, Commerce, Business and Industry in areas of Strategic Management, Private Sector Development, Development Cooperation, & Industrial Promotion.
- Director on various Companies, Corporations and Boards concerned with Industry, Trade, Finance, Business promotion and Infrastructure.
- Chairman and Managing Director on Maharashtra State Financial Corporation (MSFC); Maharashtra Small Scale Industries Development Corporation (MSSIDC) etc.
- Representative of the Government of India on the UN ICT Task Force.
- Coordinated the Media Lab Asia Program (2001-2003) for the benefit of the underserved and disadvantaged.
- Set up Indian Institute of Software Engineering (IISE) in 2001, jointly with Carnegie Mellon University USA to be a high-end education and research institution to train manpower in Software Engineering.
- Planned, coordinated, directed and monitored an annual budget of INR 1 000 million (USD 30 million) for providing Industrial Infrastructure.

#### NGOs

- Interacted and assisted over 50 NGOs working in areas of consumer advocacy, education and awareness such as "CORE" and "VOICE".
- Operated "National Consumer Helpline" for the benefit of consumers.
- Played a key role in structuring joint collaboration of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) with ANSI and BIS.
- Set up "Consumer Alliance" for consumer guidance, awareness and advocacy with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).
- Set up a professorial Chair in the National Law School, Bangalore for Research in consumer issues and development of course curriculum.
- Coordinated organization of ISO/COPOLCO meeting in New Delhi (25-28 May 2009) through BIS. This was inaugurated by H.E. Mrs. Partibha Devisingh Patil, President of India.
- On the Governing Body of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), the National Standards body for India, (working in the area of standardization for over 60 years).

<sup>1</sup> NGO: Non-governmental organization  
ame/15343558

## Education

- Harvard University, USA  
*Degree:* Master in Public Administration (M.P.A.) 1990
- Nagpur University, Nagpur, India  
*Degree:* Master of Science (M.Sc.) – 1970 with Specialization in Electronics

## Publications

*Macro Economic Adjustments; Theoretical Issues and Practical Policies*  
Published by M/s S. Chand & Co. New Delhi in 1993

## Personal

Extra Curricular Activities: Swimming, Badminton, Debate, Computers  
Marital Status: Married, two sons



## BIOGRAPHY OF MR. YASHWANT BHAVE, INDIA

### Experience regarding Industry, Commerce and NGOs<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Yashwant S. Bhave, currently Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Consumer Affairs (he will retire at the end of July 2009).

### Industry, Trade, Business and Commerce

Extensive interactions with Trade, Commerce, Business and Industry in areas of Strategic Management, Private Sector Development, Development Cooperation, & Industrial Promotion.

### Chairman/CEO Board Director level positions

- Director on Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.  
This is a National Telecom Service Provider and the largest in the country, having its pan India network
  - Staff: 321 000, Profit after tax: INR 101 280 million (USD 2.1 billion)
- Director on the Board of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.  
This is a Telecom service provider with mandate to operate in the metro cities of Delhi (capital of India) and Mumbai (former Bombay), the commercial capital of India
  - Staff: 49 000, Profit After tax: INR 5 780 million (USD 120 million)
- Director, Indian Telephone Industry (ITI) Ltd.  
This is India's large telecom equipment manufacturer
  - Staff: 14 000. Turnover: INR 18 000 million (USD 360 million)
- Director on various Companies, Corporations and Boards concerned with Industry, Trade, Finance, Business promotion and Infrastructure:
  - Computer Maintenance Corporation (A Tata group company after privatization)
  - Tata Communications (erstwhile Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd (VSNL), an Indian Telecom Gateway)
  - Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd (IPCL)
  - Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd (Fertilizer Company)
  - Mahanagar Gas Ltd. (Gas Utility promoted by British Gas and Gas Authority of India)
  - Hindustan Organic Chemicals (HOC): a petrochemical company
  - State Industrial and Investment Corporation of Maharashtra (SICOM): Asset Base INR 12 billion (USD 350 million): a development finance institution (DFI)

<sup>1</sup> NGO: Non-governmental organization

- City and Industrial Development Corporation (CIDCO)
- Haffkine Biofarma Ltd.
- Maharashtra Electronics Ltd. (MELTRON)
- Maharashtra Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd. (MPCL)
- Maharashtra Industrial and Technical Consultancy Corporation of Maharashtra
- Federation of Cooperative Sugar Mills in Maharashtra

### **Chairman/Managing Director**

Of the following organizations concerned with Industry, Trade, Finance, Business promotion and Infrastructure:

- Maharashtra State Financial Corporation (MSFC) Asset Base: INR 16 billion (USD 550 million): Development Finance Institution (DFI)
- Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC): Industrial Infrastructure provider
- Maharashtra Small Scale Industries Development Corporation (MSSIDC) Marketing and Raw Material Support to Small Scale Industry
- Maharashtra State Electricity Board: Vertically integrated electric utility

### **Member Secretary of:**

- Maharashtra's Board of Industrial and Trade Development (Chairman: Chief Minister)
- Maharashtra Export Promotion Council (Chairman: Minister for Industries)
- Empowered Committee of Secretaries to Government on Industrial Development. (Chairman: Chief Secretary)
- Growth Center Committee for development of growth centers for industry. (Chairman: Secretary, Industries)

### **Permanent Invitee on:**

- General Committee, Bombay Chamber of Commerce and Industry

## **Industry, Trade Business and Commerce facilitation**

- Internet Governance:  
Government of India Representative on the World Summit for Information Society (WSIS organized by UN/ITU in 2003), with particular mandate to coordinate the position with respect to the Working Group on Internet Governance (WGIG).
- Representative of the Government of India on the UN ICT Task Force (an initiative of the UN Secretary General, Mr. Kofi Annan) as well as its working groups on Resources and Fund Raising and Micro Enterprises. (2001-2003).
- Coordinated the Media Lab Asia Program (2001-2003) from its inception to its restructuring, to bring the fruits of the latest in ICT for the benefit of the underserved and disadvantaged. Media Lab Asia is a joint venture between Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and the Government of India, with an annual budget of approx. USD 13 million. Its mandate is to work with centres of excellence to develop ICT technologies for the rural masses.
- Set up Indian Institute of Software Engineering (IISE) in 2001, jointly with Carnegie Mellon University USA to be a high-end education and research institution to train manpower in Software Engineering.
- As Chairman, Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB), largest vertically integrated electric utility in India to provide power to different consumers in the State  
Total capacity: 13 000MW, Annual revenue: over USD 2 billion, Technical Personnel, Officers and staff of 110 000
  - Interacted with NGOs, Consumer Organizations and Industry Associations and Chambers of

Commerce in matters of their grievances regarding power supply (2000). Coordinated at the field level, power generation and distribution of Independent Power Producers (IPP's) and licensees in the private sector (ENRON, TATA ELECTRIC, BOMBAY SUBURBAN ELECTRIC SUPPLY ETC).

- Business and Trade Seminars and Workshops for Academia, Government and Private Sector Partnership.
  - Organized numerous delegations led by the Chief Ministers of the State to countries like USA, Europe, South Asia, Japan and China to attract investments and project the State as the most favored destination for entrepreneurs (1991-2000).
  - Chief Presenter on behalf of the State at the US-India Business Council Meet in Mumbai (1997).
  - Interacted and participated, in numerous seminars and delegations of the Chamber of Commerce and Industries like the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM), Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Indian Merchants Chamber (IMC), Bombay Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI), as well as trade shows organized by foreign missions in India.
- Industry Houses Interactions:  
Extensively interacted with individual large Industrial Houses in India and abroad for bringing new investments. Examples are numerous, to mention a few:
  - Infosys, WIPRO, Mahindra & Mahindra, TATA motors,
  - Negotiated and facilitated projects of FIAT (USD 250 million), Volkswagen (Skoda): USD 180 million, Michelin (USD 120 million),
  - Interacted with Trade and Industry bodies and consumer organizations to conceptualize, draft and pilot the State of Maharashtra's Industrial Policy 1993 and Industry, Trade and Commerce Policy 1995.
- Seminars and Workshops: Organized along with "Hinduja Foundation", CII and FICCI, a business and Investment seminar in Mumbai "Advantage Maharashtra", where about 50 investment projects worth USD 3 billion were offered to about 1 000 investors from over 30 countries. This put the State of Maharashtra on the global investment map as the most desired investment destination.
- Investment Promotion: Attracted large catalytic investments into the State through close liaison with Industrial Houses, Trade Councils, and Business Delegations. About USD 45 billion worth of investment in over 6 500 projects is taking shape in the State today, of which USD 8.5 billion is in projects involving foreign investment and joint ventures.
- Project Monitoring: Monitored over 100 large private sector projects and prepared a comprehensive database for another 3,000, for their infrastructure requirements and easy follow up.
- Coordination: As Chairman, "Udyog Mitra" (literally meaning: friend of industry), coordinated industrial development programs of other industrial development agencies for rapid service delivery.
- Human Resources Department: As Chairman, Governing Council, Maharashtra Center of Entrepreneurship Development, planned, coordinated and directed Entrepreneurship Development programs for over 3 500 first generation entrepreneurs to start their new ventures.
- Credit to SMEs and Micro Enterprises: With an annual business plan of INR 3 500 million (USD 100 million), rendered financial assistance to over 10,000 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in three years. (Each year over 4 000 SME's and Micro Enterprises assisted).
- Income Support and venture finance: Provided start up Seed Capital (margin money, start up/venture capital, seed capital, term loans and in some cases working capital) for self employment income generation schemes by rendering financial assistance to economically

weaker sections like artisans, first generation entrepreneurs in small, micro and medium business and service industry especially in the rural and semi urban areas.

- With an annual business plan of INR 3 500 million (USD 115 million), provided marketing support and raw materials inputs to over 5 000 Micro and Small Enterprises in three years.
- Directed Entrepreneurship Development in State's depressed regions.
- Organized exhibitions (within India and overseas) to assist the export effort of State's small scale and informal sector.
- Started Maharashtra Center for Entrepreneurship Development to train first generation entrepreneurs.
- Infrastructure for MNCs<sup>2</sup>, SMEs and Industrial Promotion: Planned, coordinated, directed and monitored an annual budget of INR 1 000 million (USD 30 million) for providing industrial infrastructure (Land: 303 521 km<sup>2</sup>; water: 1 363 822 m<sup>3</sup> per day; total length of water pipeline: over 1 127 km; flatted factory premises: 5 000) for rapid industrialization primarily in State's depressed regions.

## NGOs

- Interacted and assisted over 50 NGOs working in areas of consumer advocacy, education and awareness, in particular
  - Assisted setting up of Consumer Clubs in schools and colleges (6 599 such clubs set up till 31 Dec. 2008) for generating awareness in children regarding consumer issues.
  - Operated Consumer Welfare Fund (corpus of USD 35 million) through NGOs to promote and protect the welfare of the consumers, generate consumer awareness and strengthen the consumer movement in India, especially its rural areas.
- Interacted with and assisted NGO "CORE" and "VOICE" in consumer satisfaction and Quality of Service surveys in fields of Telecom, Insurance, Banking and Health. Comparative testing of nearly 60 consumer products.
- National Consumer Helpline: Operated "National Consumer Helpline" through University of Delhi to register consumer complaints and their follow up with industry. Annually, about 50 000 calls are handled by this helpline.
- CII: In association with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), regular interactions with its Standards Committee for evolution and adoption of standards for industry. Structured joint collaboration of CII with ANSI and BIS.
- FICCI: Regularly interacted with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) for industry feedback on issues of standards and Legal Metrology. Set up "Consumer Alliance" for consumer guidance, awareness and advocacy with FICCI.
- Set up a professorial Chair in the National Law School, Bangalore for Research in consumer issues and development of course curriculum to be introduced in colleges for Consumer advocacy.
- Coordinated organization of ISO/COPOLCO meeting in New Delhi (25-28 May 2009) through BIS. This was inaugurated by H.E. Mrs. Partibha Devisingh Patil, President of India.
- On the Governing Body of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), the National Standards body for India, (working in the area of standardization for over 60 years).
  - Directed and monitored the process of standardization and conformity assessment in India.

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<sup>2</sup> MNC: Multinational company

## Education

### Harvard University, USA

- *Degree:* Master in Public Administration (M.P.A.) 1990
- *Subjects:* Open Economy Macro- economics, Structural Adjustments, Public Finance, Project Appraisal of Development Expenditures, Management Information Systems, Trans-national Investments analysis.
- *Distinctions:* Selected as "*Littauer Fellow*" (1990) for Academic Excellence and dedicated public service.

### Nagpur University, Nagpur, India

- *Degree:* Master of Science (M.Sc.) - 1970
- *Subject:* Physics (Specialization in Electronics)
- *Distinctions:* First Class, Second in order of Merit.

### Nagpur University, Nagpur, India

- *Degree:* Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) - 1968.
- *Subjects:* Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics
- *Distinctions:* First Class, Ninth in order of merit.

## Publications

### *Macro Economic Adjustments; Theoretical Issues and Practical Policies*

- Published by M/s S. Chand & Co. New Delhi in 1993. The book intertwines the theoretical underpinnings of the various issues involved in this debate with the large body of empirical research that has been generated in the area of what has come to be called Open Economy Macro economics. Emphasizing that fiscal deficit and current account deficit are but two sides of the same coin, and it is the unsustainable macro economic policies leading to fiscal deficit that is most often the driving force behind current account deficit, the book analyzes the consequences of inward looking growth strategy, the regulatory and licensing regime and exchange controls on the macro economic framework of India. Suggests that perhaps a growth rate must rise above a critical level for the trickle down effects to take place. It highlights the fact that putting fiscal house in order is of paramount importance as is the need to prioritize multiple objectives which though very desirable if taken one at a time, are probably mutually conflicting if taken in conjunction.

## Personal

Extra Curricular Activities:

Swimming, Badminton, Debate, Computers

Marital Status:

Married, two sons

Computer Skills:

Fully conversant with application software packages like Word Processing, spreadsheet, database management, dtp systems like Ventura and PageMaker