



INTRODUCTION

ITEM 1 Official opening ceremony, including keynote speech and address by the President



An official opening ceremony for delegates only will be held on Monday 12 September at 09:00 at the China National Convention Center (CNCC) in Beijing. **Delegates are therefore kindly asked to be seated**, where indicated by their country nameplate, **at 08:50 at the latest**.

In the framework of the official opening ceremony, the ISO President, Dr Zhang Xiaogang, will formally open the 2016 General Assembly statutory sessions.

THIRTY-NINTH ISO GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 12-13 September 2016¹
China National Convention Center, Beijing, China, starting at 09:00
on the 12th

DRAFT AGENDA – Monday 12 September **Page**

INTRODUCTION

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | Official opening ceremony, including keynote speech and address by the ISO President | 1 |
| 2 | Explanation and adoption of the agenda | 3 |

2015 – 2016 UPDATE

- | | | |
|-----|--|----|
| 3 | Report from the Acting Secretary-General | 7 |
| 4 | Strategy and policy matters - Report from the Vice-President (policy) | 35 |
| 5 | Financial matters – Report from the Vice-President (finance) | 41 |
| 6 | Technical matters | |
| 6.1 | Report from the Vice-President (technical management) | 47 |
| 6.2 | Presentation of the Lawrence D. Eicher leadership award | 51 |
| 6.3 | Announcement of the winner of the 2016 ISO/DIN essay contest for young standardizers in developing countries | 53 |
| 7 | Introduction of breakout sessions | 55 |

AFTERNOON SESSION

- | | | |
|---|--|------------------------------------|
| 8 | Breakout sessions (<i>these will run in parallel</i>): | |
| | Breakout 1: | Engaging public authorities |
| | Breakout 2: | Services |
| | Breakout 3: | Upcoming high-impact ISO standards |
| | Breakout 4: | ISO governance review |

¹ The General Assembly statutory sessions on 12-13 September will be followed by a General Assembly open session on 14 September 2016. The ISO Week in China at a glance is attached.

DRAFT AGENDA – Tuesday 13 September²

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- | | | |
|-------------|---|-----|
| 9 | Innovation, Sustainable Development Goals and Standardization | 57 |
| 9.1 | Address on circular economy | |
| 9.2 | Leading national experience | |
| 9.3 | Contribution of international partners | |
| 9.4 | Panel discussion | |
|
 | | |
| 10 | Cooperation with IEC and ITU | 61 |
| 11 | Reports from General Assembly breakout sessions held on 12 September | |
|
 | | |
| 12 | Panel discussion on regional engagement strategy | 67 |
|
 | | |
| 13 | <i>APPROVALS / ELECTIONS / APPOINTMENTS BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY</i> | |
| 13.1 | Approval of the audited financial statements of ISO Central Secretariat for the year ended 31 December 2015 | 137 |
| 13.2 | Approval of ISO membership fees for 2017 (unit value) | 159 |
| 13.3 | Election of Council members for 2017-2019 term | 161 |
| 13.4 | Election of the next ISO President | 165 |
| 13.5 | Appointment of Vice-President (finance) for the 2017-2018 term | 173 |
| 13.6 | Appointment of financial auditors for the 2017 financial year | 177 |

OTHER

- | | | |
|-----------|--|--|
| 14 | Any other business, next meeting (20-22 September 2017 in Berlin [Germany] and close of meeting) | |
|-----------|--|--|

² The morning session on 13 September 2016 will be preceded by a 90-minute networking time (09:00-10:30) allowing, amongst other things, bilateral meetings between members.

ISO Week in China

DATE	MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
Saturday Sept. 10	TMB	TMB	
Sunday Sept. 11	Council DEVCO	Council DEVCO breakouts and plenary	Welcome reception
Monday Sept. 12	General Assembly	GA breakouts	
Tuesday Sept. 13	Networking time General Assembly	General Assembly	Gala dinner
Wednesday Sept. 14	Open session	Open session	

For more information, please go to www.iso.org/ga2016

2015-2016 UPDATE

ITEM 3 Report of the Acting Secretary-General

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

The General Assembly will be invited to comment on the report of the Acting Secretary-General and to note the:

- 2015 Annual Report published on 2 June 2016, and
- Strategy implementation update (Annex 1).

Together these documents constitute a report on the current operations and forward planning of the organization – as required under Article 6.6 (a) of the ISO Statutes.

- 1 Under this agenda item, the **Acting Secretary-General**, Mr Kevin McKinley, will present a **report** to the General Assembly commenting on the current status and the perspectives for the Organization. His report will also be circulated to the membership in writing before the General Assembly.
- 2 Each year, the Central Secretariat prepares an **Annual Report**. The Annual Report covering the year 2015, entitled “Reaching milestones in standards innovation”, was published on 2 June 2016 and is available at http://www.iso.org/iso/annual_report_2015.pdf.

The ISO Annual Report is a communication tool and ISO members are encouraged to actively share it with their stakeholders. Comments from ISO members are welcome on the content and presentation of the Annual Report so that we can make further improvements next year.
- 3 Council monitors the implementation of the ISO Strategy 2016-2020. At its meeting in March 2016, Council decided to transition from yearly priority achievements to reporting based on the implementation of seven strategic programmes. The 2016 priority achievements, as approved by Council, have been included in the above-mentioned strategic programmes. A report on the ISO **strategy implementation** is attached at Annex 1.
- 4 **Developments in ISO’s membership** since the 2015 General Assembly, including on the initiatives to encourage greater ISO member participation, are attached at Annex 2.
- 5 Summary of **cooperation with international organizations** is attached at Annex 3. The subject of cooperation with regional and sub-regional organizations is covered under agenda item 12 “Panel discussion on regional engagement strategy”.

ISO Strategy 2016-2020 – Implementation update

The ISO Strategy 2016-2020 was approved by the General Assembly under its Resolution 9/2015 which, among other things, underlined “that the successful implementation of the new ISO Strategy will depend on the joint efforts of all members, supported by the Central Secretariat, as pointed out in the panel discussion on the ISO Strategy 2016-2020 held at the 2015 ISO General Assembly”.

This clear indication has been a key reference for the development of the strategy implementation plan approved by Council at its meeting in March 2016.

1 Strategy implementation approach

The ISO Strategy 2016-2020 document indicates 6 “strategic directions” for the organization. Each strategic direction includes a number of aspirational objectives and many of them are inter-related.

To operationalize the strategy, a clear and consistent approach has been followed, linking those aspirational objectives to a plan of action.

The ISO Strategy Map, highlighted below, provides the underlying framework, showing how the key components of the strategy are logically connected, into a causal chain.

The map shows that “ISO standards used everywhere” is the overarching goal of the strategy, to which all the other elements contribute to.

It also highlights the central role of the *ISO member network*. ISO members are the primary actors securing the functioning and the development of the Organization and the ISO Strategy 2016-2020 recognizes that all the aspirations related to improving the Organization and its contribution to market and society, are based on strengthening the member network and exploiting its value.

2 Strategic programmes

Specific objectives have been identified for the key components of the strategy. The responsibility to achieve them, along with the related plans of action, has been assigned to existing ISO Central Secretariat (ISO/CS) units, under the supervision of the competent/relevant ISO governance bodies. These specific plans of actions are called “Strategic Programs” (SP).

To ensure the coherence of the approach, the Priority achievements for 2016, *Annex 1 (rev) to Council 15/2015*, approved by Council under its resolution 19/2015, are included in the framework of the SPs¹ as priority action items.

Seven SPs have been defined. The first five are linked to the key components of the strategy visualized in the Strategy Map. The last two SPs (Conformity assessment and IPR protection) refer to narrower, but very important areas covered by the ISO Strategy, which is worth to maintain as specific, distinct elements, to facilitate a focused approach.

For each SP, a limited set of objectives has been identified, along with the key actions to be undertaken to achieve them. The detailed description of the SP's objectives and actions is provided at Appendix (extract of document Council 06/2016, as modified according to the comments made by Council and CSC/SPC members at its respective meetings in March 2016).

3 Indicators

Indicators are essential to evaluate results, monitor progress and adjust, if necessary, the approach and actions undertaken.

Indicators must be *relevant* – i.e. they need to capture significant aspects of the results of the activities they refer to, allowing to evaluate (ideally, measure) if progress is being made. On the other hand, they also need to be *manageable* – i.e. it should be relatively easy and cost-effective to collect the required data.

The list of indicators will be considered by Council for approval at its meeting in September 2016.

¹ With the exception of the Priority Achievement # 2, *Review of ISO governance*, which is a particular action involving the ISO governance, under the leadership of the CSC/SPC.

Strategic Programmes: Objectives and key actions

1 - Standards Development

Objectives	Key actions
1.1 Ensure the high-quality of ISO deliverables	1.1.1 Revision of the publishing process. Development and implementation of a specific project plan.
1.2 Continual process improvement	1.2.1 In the short term, priority given to strengthen project management: - TMB project including performance review of TCs and NSBs; Promotion of best practices aiming to spread the culture of faster standards development.
1.3. Ensure that ISO's deliverables meet market needs and that the ISO portfolio is and remains relevant.	1.3.1 <u>Priority Achievement 2016 - # 5</u> , TMB " <i>age of standards</i> " initiative is covered under this item. Actions to be defined.
1.4. Development of people involved in the standards development process	1.4.1 Training priorities and activities to be finalized. (to address: ISO/CS and NSBs staff; secondary focus: TC Chairs and convenors, then experts).

2 – Stakeholder engagement

Objectives	Actions
2.1. Improve ISO members' engagement with their stakeholders (proportional to development, expectations, national priorities, language needs, and regional context).	2.1.1 Review existing publication and activities: - develop new guidance and communication materials; organize focused ISO regional workshops. 2.1.2 Advocacy: - analyze and select the type of activities to be undertaken; - plan and execute a first set of activities.
2.2 Ensure that mutually beneficial partnerships are established, maintained or developed with other organizations active in standards development.	2.2.1. Coherent management of existing partnerships: a new, dedicated function to be established within STAND, assess need for annual reporting on partnerships. 2.2.2 Identification of new partnerships, with existing or new partner organizations (focus on business needs).
2.3 Ensure ISO's effective regional engagement and deployment	2.3.1 Develop a regional engagement strategy, considering the experience of Singapore (to be presented to Council in September 2016). <u>Priority Achievement 2016 - # 1</u> , " <i>Enhance regional engagement</i> " is covered under this item. 2.3.2 Implement the regional engagement initiative in Asia Pacific (REI – Singapore). 2.3.3 Consider new activities covering other regions, based on members' input and the experience gained through the Singapore – REI.

<p>2.4. Ensure that the correct profile of interests are represented in ISO’s work and that critical stakeholders for specific areas are engaged</p>	<p>2.4.1 Evaluating the possibility of organizing surveys / focused studies on stakeholder engagements (in consultation with relevant ISO member).</p>
<p>2.5. Define and apply effective approaches to identify priority areas to be addressed by ISO, with focus on the leading global challenges</p>	<p>2.5.1 Develop and recommend to CSC/SPC/TMB a proposal re: the approaches to identify priority areas to be addressed by ISO, with focus on the leading global challenges.</p> <p><u>Priority Achievement 2016 - # 4</u>, “...review the introduction of new work into ISO” is covered under this item.</p> <p>In 2016, hold <i>ISO services workshop</i> Priority Achievement 2016 - # 3) and <i>International Workshop on Smart Cities</i>, <u>Priority Achievement 2016 - # 9</u>.</p>

3 – Development and Training

Objectives	Actions
<p>3.1. Secure adequate financial resources to the ISO programme for developing countries (professional donor management and fund raising activities)</p>	<p>3.1.1 Short term: proposals for funding developed and promoted to key known partners and, if needed, to Council</p> <p>3.1.2 Medium-long term: development of a structured activity of donor management/fund raising</p> <p><u>Priority Achievement 2016 - # 8</u>, “secure funding to support APDC 2106-2020” is covered under this item.</p> <p>3.1.3 Establish and exploit partnerships with other organizations (as indicated in the APDC).</p>
<p>3.2 Implement the APDC 2016-2020</p>	<p>3.2.1 Finalize the ISO Academy strategy.</p> <p><u>Priority Achievement 2016 - # 11</u>, “Completion of the work of the Council TF on the ISO Academy” is covered under this item.</p> <p>3.2.2 Annual work-programme for the APDC implementation developed and regularly updated, on the basis of the ISO members needs assessment.</p> <p>3.2.3 Implementation activities undertaken in line with existing plan, with monitoring and supervision in place.</p>
<p>3.3 Develop and disseminate high-quality training material to all ISO members</p>	<p>3.3.1 Plan, set-up and maintain a repository of ISO training materials, available to all members.</p>
<p>3.4 Provide training services to ISO members in focused areas (where ISO/CS can provide significant and clear added value: in particular, areas related to Standards Development, processes and tools supporting that)</p>	<p>3.4.1 Refine and update the training work-programme; develop annual catalogue, plan and execute trainings.</p>
<p>3.5 Promote and support collaboration among education institutions (especially universities) and NSBs and undertake focused research projects covering the benefits of standards and other aspects</p>	<p>3.5.1 Collaboration among education institutions (especially universities) and NSBs (conferences, workshops, publications, develop network of partnerships).</p> <p>3.5.2 Focused research projects.</p>

4 – Marketing and Communication

Objectives	Actions
4.1 Develop and disseminate high-quality communication materials about standards, standardization, their value and the relations between standardization and important areas	4.1.1. Develop and execute the MCI work-programme on an annual basis. The programme is based (inter alia) on members' input.
4.2 Support the development of a community of communication experts from ISO members and exploit the value of NSBs' efforts and deliverables	4.2.1. Network of communication experts: identify and list the people; interact with them regularly to exchange information and materials. 4.2.2 Design, develop and maintain a platform to store and share communication materials produced by ISO members. <i>Priority Achievement 2016 - # 10, "Support members marketing and communication activities" is covered under this item.</i>
4.3 Provide training and support services to ISO members covering issues related to marketing, communication and sales of standards.	4.3.1. Organize trainings targeting different types of member needs. 4.3.2 Organize ISO events – such as the Marketing and Communication forum. 4.3.3 Support services to ISO members (on issues related to marketing, communication and sales of standards).
4.4 Support ISO members to successfully reach their markets (by providing materials, training, guidance, and other forms of support)	4.4.1 <i>Priority Achievement 2016 - # 7, "ISO's future commercial policies (POCOSA) including national adoptions"</i> to be presented to Council in September 2016 (covered under this item). Identification of the type of services to be provided (combining materials, training, guidance, and other forms of support).
4.5 Promote voluntary standardization (and ISO, as the leading developer of International Standards) as an effective instrument providing solutions to global challenges	4.5.1 Develop advocacy and a variety of communication efforts.

5 – Information Technology Services

Objectives	Actions
5.1 Consolidate, rationalize and simplify the suite of applications supporting the standards development process.	5.1.1 Two main efforts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Close the active projects in the current portfolio; - Develop an action plan based on the IT strategy.
5.2 Provide business focused technical support to the standards publishing process (of ISO/CS), contributing to ensure the high-quality of ISO deliverables	5.2.1 Review of problems identified by STAND as caused by IT (either bugs or lack of functionality). Review of the software and of the workflow used to support the publishing. Development of a plan for improvement.

<p>5.3 Ensure the technical viability and cost-effectiveness of ISO's IT infrastructure and key applications</p>	<p>5.3.1 Evaluation of IT architectures (servers, basic software and services) as well as to the key application software used to support the core ISO processes and to evaluate and, if required, plan and execute migrations.</p>
<p>5.4 Improve committee experts' access to information and ability to undertake collaborative work</p> <p>(Follow recommendations from the AHG for Future Standards Development including IT)</p>	<p>5.4.1 Planning of products and services aiming to support committee experts' access to information and ability to undertake collaborative work.</p>
<p>5.5 Take advantage of the investment made with the XML project (completed), aiming to make easier for ISO members' to reuse ISO content for their own publishing and product development processes.</p>	<p>5.5.1 Participation in international efforts aiming to develop XML schemas supporting standards publishing that could be adopted by all ISO members.</p> <p>Extensive interaction with ISO members to identify present and future requirements for structured content – to be effectively and efficiently used by NSBs' publishing and product development.</p>

6 – Conformity Assessment

Objectives	Actions
<p>6.1 year communication strategy aiming to promote the Casco Toolbox – with members' help.</p>	<p>6.1.1 Develop 5 year communication strategy.</p> <p>Undertake gap analysis of the ISO Toolbox to identify new standards and/or updates required.</p>
<p>6.2 Organize stakeholder engagement activities aiming to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reach-out to new stakeholder groups (especially regulators) - Ensure a balanced representation of stakeholders at all stages of standards development 	<p>6.2.1 First "Stakeholder Forum" possibly in May 2016, targeting the insurance sector.</p> <p>Actions aiming to ensure a balanced representation of stakeholders: TBD.</p>
<p>6.3 Develop training material and organize trainings to increase ISO members understanding and use of ISO conformity assessment standards</p>	<p>6.3.1 First educational brochure under development – available on paper and online to members for comments; will then be finalized.</p> <p>Other educational material to be developed.</p>
<p>6.4 Support ISO TCs to deal with conformity assessment issues, to ensure a coherent approach</p>	<p>6.4.1 Actions to be specified.</p>
<p>6.5. Collect market/user feed-back on the implementation of conformity assessment schemas based on the CASCO toolbox</p>	<p>6.5.1 Analysis, proposal and execution of specific initiatives.</p>

7 – IPR Protection

Objectives	Actions
<p>7.1 Coordination and exchange of information with the ISO member network</p>	<p>7.1.1 Establishment of the members network (WebEx sessions, and a task force on the subject needs to be set-up).</p> <p>Collect and share information (as early as possible) about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - actual infringements or potential threats; - initiatives and solutions adopted by ISO and its members to protect their IP. <p>Develop a repository to keep ISO members aware and updated on the subject.</p> <p>7.1.2. Report to Council on the experience of existing IBR portals (ANSI and SII).</p>
<p>7.2 Support ISO members in addressing challenges to standards' IP (including communication, technical and legal support)</p>	<p>7.2.1 Support ISO members.</p> <p>Action plan to be developed, based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - specific members' requirements; - ISO/CS pre-emptive actions.
<p>7.3 Advocacy – by producing and disseminating clear and convincing arguments on the fairness of the current ISO and NSBs' business model; and by organizing various initiatives to reach and sensitize decision-makers</p>	<p>7.3.1 Action plan to be developed, considering various possibilities.</p>
<p>7.4 Enable members, using appropriate tools and methods, to fight illegal use of standards' content, ensuring that they meet customer demand</p>	<p>7.4.1 Analysis of requirements and examples of solutions adopted by NSBs or by other organizations – with a view to introduce new ISO solutions.</p>

Developments in ISO membership since the 2015 General Assembly

New rights for correspondent and subscriber members

The new rights pilot programme is a Council initiative that allows correspondent and subscriber members looking to upgrade to full membership to become P-members in up to 5 standards development committees of ISO (Council Resolutions 3/2013 and 22/2015).

Thanks to the pilot, participation in ISO standards development work is growing steadily. Since 2013, 32 correspondent and subscriber members – three quarters of all correspondent and subscriber members – have registered to take part in the pilot. Two members – in Afghanistan and Latvia - upgraded to full membership in July 2014 and January 2015 respectively, leaving 30 current participants². 12 more correspondent and subscriber members³ remain eligible to take part.

The pilot is an environment where members can learn how to operate actively in the ISO system without normal sanctions (i.e. no downgrade for failing to vote). The ISO Central Secretariat (ISO/CS) performs the MBUA role for participants, managing Global Directory information and registration in committees. All current 30 members have identified ISO technical committees aligned with their national priorities. As at July 2016, pilot members were registered in a total of 103 new P membership (75 parent committees and 28 sub-committees - an average of ≈4 committees per member) and in 85 working groups. Voting performance is slowly improving for DIS/FDIS but SR and CIB needs strengthening. No P-member twinning have been established. 15 participants attended 14 meetings through ISO Sponsorships.

ISO/CS carried out induction training for participating member CEOs and Standards Development Directors in November 2013. Following Council's request in 2015 for increased training and support to members in the programme, a training course was held at the ISO Central Secretariat 20 to 24 June 2016 for participating members. 25 members attended the week-long event which covered all aspects of participation in standards development work, including the rights and responsibilities of members and gave emphasis to good voting practice, commenting on standards, twinning opportunities and eligibility for ISO Sponsorship.

Feedback on the training was positive and members undertook to report on progress to date and next steps for the coming year. This would be shared with Council at its September 2016 meeting. The group also agreed to establish a WebEx community, coordinated by ISO/CS, that would meet quarterly over the next year to share member experience and best practice; review performance issues and action needed; receive follow up ad-hoc training/advice and other general support as needs evolve; help identify needs for further training in 2017 and beyond.

² New rights member countries: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bhutan, Bolivia, Burundi, Cambodia, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Gambia, Georgia, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Moldova, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Niger, Palestine, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Suriname, Zambia.

³ Potential new rights member countries: Albania, Belize, Brunei Darussalam, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Mauritania, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Swaziland, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan. Hong Kong and Macao are not eligible to participate.

Current ISO Members

On 1 July 2016, ISO had 163 members: 119 full members (member bodies); 40 correspondent members; and 4 subscriber members. This compares with 119 full members; 38 correspondent members; and 5 subscriber members on 1 July 2015. The following membership changes are ongoing:

a) Full members

- ABENOR (Benin), YSMO (Yemen) and CSK, Democratic People's Republic of Korea) were suspended from membership in 2016 for non-payment of 2015 membership fees. CSK are looking to return to membership as a correspondent member from 1 January 2017.
- AGANOR (Gabon) and LNCSM (Libya) remain suspended from membership for non-payment of 2014 membership fees.
- SASMO (Syria) dropped out of ISO membership in 2015 for non-payment of their 2012-2014 membership fees.

b) Correspondent members

- For most correspondent members, upgrading to full membership has been postponed pending further experience as a P-member under the new rights pilot. However, the following correspondent members have expressed interest in upgrading to full membership:
 - INDOCAL (Dominican Republic)
 - SWASA (Swaziland)
- SKNBS (St. Kitts and Nevis) joined as a correspondent member on 1 July 2016.
- CSN (Togo), IGMN (Guinea), and LDS (Liberia) remain withdrawn from membership since 2015, and ACONOR (Congo) since 2013.

New and Former ISO Members

ISO welcomes new and former members. In your contacts with these NSBs, please invite them to read the [ISO membership manual](#) and contact the ISO membership team: memb@iso.org. As the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement obliges WTO member governments to '*use international standards as a basis for regulation and play a full part, within the limits of their resources, in the preparation by appropriate international standardizing bodies of guides and recommendations for conformity assessment procedures*', the national standards bodies of WTO member countries are ideal candidates for ISO membership:

- **Potential New Members:** Andorra**, Cabo Verde*, Chad*, Djibouti*, Equatorial Guinea**, Kiribati, Liechtenstein*, Maldives*, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Palau, Samoa*, San Marino, Sao Tomé and Príncipe**, Solomon Islands*, Somalia, South Sudan, Timor-Leste, Tonga*, Tuvalu
- **Past Members:** Central African Republic*, Comoros**, Congo*, Guinea*, Guinea-Bissau*, Grenada*, Liberia**, Togo*, Syria**, and Venezuela*

WTO Members and Observers***

COOPERATION WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

ISO has liaison relations with some 700 international organizations, including the UN and its specialized agencies. A summary highlighting the main developments regarding ISO's cooperation with international organizations is given below⁴.

1 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 38th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission took place in Geneva, Switzerland, from 6 to 11 July 2015. As usual an informative paper was submitted by ISO and circulated as a Codex document for that meeting. ISO was represented at the meeting by the Chair and Secretary of ISO/TC 34 *Food products* and by the Deputy Secretary-General. An update paper was tabled and a statement made by the Deputy Secretary-General, on the planned workshop co-organized by ISO on "Using International Standards to support public policy" (November 2015), the ongoing revision of ISO 22000 and the relationships between ISO and CAC at the international level but also the linkage at national level over the past years and for the future.

CAC participated, as a speaker, to the regional workshop on the Role of international food standards in international trade organized by ISO from 22 to 23 April 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand. The CAC has liaison relations with 22 ISO technical committees and subcommittees.

The 39th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission will take place in Roma (Italy) in the FAO Headquarters, from 27 June to 1 July 2016. ISO will be represented for part of the meeting. An informative paper was submitted by ISO and circulated as a Codex document for that meeting (attached at Appendix).

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, nuclear technologies, and radiological protection. This takes place in the subject areas of: safety, radiological protection, transport and waste management. As from 2006, an IAEA Safety Requirement, under revision, promotes the use of integrated management systems for nuclear activities. In response to this, ISO/TC 85 investigated the feasibility to develop specific additional standards to improve conformity assessment practices and certification process for nuclear activities. As a result, a work item (Quality management systems -- Specific requirements

⁴ The cooperation with IEC and ITU is covered under agenda item 10.

for the application of ISO 9001 and IAEA GS-R Part 2 requirements by organizations in the Supply Chain of the Nuclear Energy sector) was approved in 2014 and work is being done in close collaboration with IAEA. The last meeting of the working group in charge of this project was held at the beginning of June 2016 in IAEA premises, and the CD ballot has just been launched.

ISO/TC 85 is actively working on a harmonization programme of the existing national standards and other normative documents in the nuclear sector, which should complete, at the level of industrial standards, the harmonization process of national nuclear regulations already promoted through IAEA safety standards.

Nuclear Safety Advisory Group was created under ISO/TC 85 in 2012, with two objectives: on the one hand, the improvement of the safety relevance of ISO standards and, on the other hand, the improvement of ISO feedback to IAEA in its Nuclear Safety Standards Commission.

1.3 ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization)

ICAO has liaison relations with 7 technical committees and subcommittees. Recent engagement with ICAO and ISO has been seen in ISO/TC20 – Aircraft and space vehicles, ISO/TC20/SC16 – Unmanned aircraft systems, as well as in ISO/IEC/JTC1/SC17 – Cards and personal identification.

In particular, ISO/TC20/SC16 has expressed interest in future participation ICAO RPAS (Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems) panel work, and is expected to become engaged here more in the coming months. ISO/IEC/JTC1/SC17 also has worked extensively with ICAO on passport technology. This collaboration is ongoing.

1.4 ILO (International Labour Organization)

Cooperation between ISO and ILO was particularly active in the field of social responsibility (SR) and in Occupational Safety and Health. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ISO and ILO was signed in March 2005 to govern cooperation in the field of social responsibility and remains in place to help guide cooperation in post publication activities.

ILO is a member of the Post Publication Activity Stakeholder Advisory Group on SR (PPO SAG). A further MoU was signed in June 2013 given the impending start of work by PC 283 *Occupational health and safety management systems* to provide ILO with A Liaison status and the right to circulate views to ISO members as this work reaches key stages in development.

The work in PC 283 remains the most challenging area of work in the collaboration ISO/ILO, particular at technical level where the views from ILO and the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) are aligned (focused on a standard closer to international legal requirements) but IOE (International Organisation of Employers) has diverging views (a document closer to industry). Additional efforts to improve communication and collaboration have been made by PC leadership and ISO/CS.

Other liaison activities include technical areas such as biometrics, ergonomics, and protective clothing and equipment, manually portable forest machinery, etc. Overall, the ILO participates in 25 ISO committees as Category A liaison and in 11 as Category B.

The increased communication and liaison between ILO and ISO is assisting in addressing areas of concern and has resulted in much closer dialogue.

1.5 IMO (International Maritime Organization)

IMO has liaison relations with 26 technical committees and subcommittees. In particular, IMO continues to be a strong supporter of ISO/TC 8 *Ships and marine technology*, and ISO continues to have regular representation at various IMO meetings with the assistance of ISO/TC 8.

The ISO 29400 series related to offshore wind energy maritime standards is one of many subject areas requiring close coordination between ISO and IMO. In addition, IMO has supported development and publication of standards in marine environmental protection, lifesaving and fire protection, piping and machinery, outfitting and deck machinery, navigation and ship operations, inland vessels, ship design, and other areas.

1.6 ITC (International Trade Centre UNCTAD-WTO)

ISO and ITC have an existing fruitful and productive collaboration based on a number of joint activities developed over the last 12 years, concerning in particular:

1. the organization of joint events aiming to support developing countries' Export capabilities by strengthening the relationships between trade promotion organizations (TPOs) and national standards bodies (NSBs) and the related publication, and
2. a series of of publications jointly developed based on ISO standards, such as the handbooks on
 - a. *ISO 50001: Energy Management Systems: A practical guide for SMEs*, published in 2015 (also with the contribution of UNIDO).
 - b. *ISO 31000 – Risk management – A practical guide for SMEs* published in 2016.
 - c. Handbook on ISO 14001 and ISO 14046 under development.

The ITC has liaison relations with two ISO technical committees and two subcommittees

1.7 UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)

ISO and UNCTAD maintain communication, mainly through UNCTAD's invitations to attend meetings on various topics. As an illustration of the existing good relationship between the two organizations, ISO will co-host an event on trade costs, regulatory convergence and regional integration during the Fourteenth session of UNCTAD to be held in Nairobi (Kenya) from 17-22 July 2016. This event, which is part of the official programme, will be opened by the UNCTAD Secretary-General and will be moderated by the ISO Acting Secretary-General.

1.8 UNECE (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe)

ISO participates regularly in the UNECE Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP6) and the ISO Committee on Conformity Assessment (ISO/CASCO) also participates in the WP6 Group of experts on Risk Management in Regulatory System (GRM). Recently, CASCO participated in the revision of UNECE Recommendations F (Recognition of Conformity Assessment Procedures and Results) and G (Creation and Promotion of International Agreements on Conformity Assessment). UNECE WP 6 hosted the World Standards Cooperation Conformity Assessment Workshop. UNECE is an active member of the CASCO Strategic Alliance and Advisory Group (STAR) group and participates in the CASCO plenary when in Geneva. CASCO representatives attend the annual meeting of WP6.

1.9 UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change)

UNFCCC has liaison relations with CASCO and is a member of both the Chairman's Policy and Coordination Group (CPC) and the STAR group of CASCO. UNFCCC has actively participated in these groups in the last 12 months. There is an effort to ensure the uptake of the CASCO toolbox by UNFCCC. UNFCCC has expressed an interest in participating in a number of CASCO Working Groups.

UNFCCC also has a liaison with ISO/TC 207 *Environmental management*. Following communication exchanges between ISO Secretary-General and the Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC in 2015, the UNFCCC committed to take a more active role in the work of TC 207/SC 7 and, in particular, their new projects related to climate change adaptation frameworks.

ISO (in conjunction with the Greenhouse Gas Management Institute) also held a side event to promote its international standards in support of carbon neutrality during the UNFCCC's Conference of Parties (COP 21) in Paris, December 2015.

In June 2016 UNFCCC also joined the ISO Technical Management Board's Climate Change Coordination Task Force 7 (CCC TF7) to provide input to an ISO climate change strategy and development of an ISO Guide on the subject.

1.10 UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organization)

ISO and UNIDO continue to partner for the delivery of training seminars and workshops addressing standardization and related matters. UNIDO also sponsors the development and publishing of publications based on ISO standards, such as the handbook, *ISO 50001: Energy Management Systems: A practical guide for SMEs*, published in 2015 (also with the contribution of ITC).

UNIDO is exploring the feasibility of engaging ISO further in the implementation of UNIDO-executed regional projects, especially in the components dealing with standardization and involving the ISO members in the respective regions.

UNIDO has liaison relations with four ISO technical committees and one subcommittee.

1.11 WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organization)

WIPO has liaison relations with 16 ISO technical committees. ISO has 5 international trademark registrations in the WIPO Madrid Protocol for ISO trademarks. ISO has a Common Patent Policy with IEC and ITU. The Common Patent Policy does not favour any particular dispute resolution mechanism concerning disputes between Standard Essential Patent (SEP) holders and standard users but is neutral on this issue. WIPO offers an alternative dispute resolution to address some of the issues in relation with SEPs.

1.12 WB (World Bank Group)

Further to the interaction started in 2015, with the participation of World Bank's representatives in the ISO CEO Forum in Singapore, the dialogue with the World Bank Group has significantly developed.

The WB and ISO have signed in March 2016 a MoU concerning collaboration in building the technical and institutional capacity to strengthen national quality infrastructures in developing countries.

ISO has participated in several meetings organized by the WB and discussions are underway to evaluate the possibility of joining forces in a number of countries where either organization has active, ongoing projects.

2 Other international organizations

2.1 BIPM (International Bureau of Weights and Measures / Bureau international des poids et mesures)

BIPM is in liaison with 7 ISO technical committees and subcommittees, CASCO and REMCO. Good co-operation, with BIPM experts participating in the ISO Committees and their WGs. ISO/TC 12 *Quantities and units*, ISO/TC 43/SC 3 *Underwater acoustics* and REMCO regularly attend the meetings of the BIPM *Consultative Committee for Units (CCU)*, *Consultative Committee for Acoustics, Ultrasound and Vibration (CCAUV)*, and *Consultative Committee for Amount of Substance (CCQM)*. ISO/TC 12 and BIPM/CCU are working closely together to ensure that the ongoing revisions of the BIPM *Brochure of the System of Units* and the ISO 80000 series, which defines the System of Quantities, are well aligned.

ISO and BIPM also co-operate, with other organizations, in the JCGM (*Joint Committee for Guides in Metrology*), which meets once a year and is responsible for the development of the *Guide to the expression of uncertainty in measurement* and the *International vocabulary of basic and general terms in metrology*, both currently under revision, and in the Network DCMAS (*Network on Metrology, Accreditation and Standardization for Developing Countries*).

Finally, through the *Joint BIPM, OIML, ILAC and ISO Declaration on Metrological Traceability*, the organisations meet once a year for an informative exchange, to be kept up to date with ongoing technical work and to explore possibilities for further co-operation.

2.2 IAF (International Accreditation Forum) and ILAC (International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation)

Both IAF and ILAC have A-liaison status with CASCO. They actively participate in the Chairman's Policy and Coordination Group (CPC), the Strategic Alliance and Regulatory Group (STAR) and the Technical Interface Group (TIG). Both organizations have representation on all active working groups in CASCO and participate in the CASCO plenary. A meeting of the Joint Strategic Group (JSG of IAF, ILAC and ISO) was held in early May 2016 to address issues specific to all three organizations. Amongst a number of decisions taken the JSG is looking at possibilities to verify that accredited certified organizations possess legal copies of the ISO standards. CASCO participated in the technical meetings of both IAF and ILAC in Frankfurt in March 2016 and will also participate in their General Assemblies in October 2016.

2.3 GRI (Global Reporting Initiative)

No current liaison in ISO technical committees following the disbandment of PC 250 *Sustainability in event management* although GRI are active members in the Post Publication Activity Stakeholder Advisory Group on Social Responsibility (PPO SAG).

Following the publication of GRI's *G4 Sustainability Reporting Guidelines*, GRI and the PPO jointly revised the *GRI and ISO 26000: How to use the GRI Guidelines in conjunction with ISO 26000*.

2.4 UIC (International Union of Railways)

UIC has liaison relations with 23 technical committees and subcommittees. One of UIC's newest liaisons is with ISO/TC 269 *Railway applications*. As ISO/TC 269 is a new committee (established

in 2012), there are ongoing discussions for collaboration on future work. A letter of intent was signed in May 2016 in order to continue discussions to formalize a cooperation agreement between the two organizations.

2.5 WCO (World Customs Organization)

WCO has liaison relations with 99 technical committees and subcommittees, and continues to support harmonization of procedures across a wide variety of subject areas to facilitate trade, build capacity and ensure competition.

2.6 WEF (World Economic Forum)

ISO was represented in the WEF Annual meeting held in Davos (Switzerland) on 20-23 January 2016. The theme was Mastering the Fourth Industrial Revolution. The Acting Secretary-General took part in various sessions and namely on the Future of Manufacturing which has received interest from a number of countries around the world including Germany, Mexico, South Africa and the United States.

2.7 WTO (World Trade Organization)

The WTO has liaison relations with two technical committees and subcommittees. The Deputy WTO Director General, Mr David Shark was a key speaker at ISO's "[Global services: ISO standards as solutions](#)" workshop held in June 2016 in Geneva.

ISO has the status of permanent observer on the following WTO Committees and regularly provides information to these committees on matters regarding international standardization and conformity assessment:

- WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (WTO/TBT Committee)
- WTO Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE)
- WTO Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures (SPS Committee)

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

39th Session
Rome, Italy - 27 June to 1 July 2016

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

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.

Any general information regarding the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) can be found on <http://www.iso.org/>. ISO counts more than 21200 International Standards, 232 technical committees and 491 subcommittees managing some 2 607 working groups.

ISO's international status

ISO has a specific status with many UN agencies, including the WHO and FAO. 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).

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. ISO methods have been endorsed in the document "*Recommended methods of analysis and sampling*" (CODEX STAN 234-1999) which is updated each year during the CCMAS meeting.

ISO Strategy 2016-2020

The ISO Strategy 2016-2020 was approved at the ISO General Assembly in September 2015. It outlines the ISO priorities for the next five years and focuses on six interlinked strategic directions: ISO will *Develop high-quality standards* through ISO global membership, by ensuring to effectively *Engage stakeholders and partners*. A strong foundation in *People and organization development*, effective *Use of technology*, and a focus on *Communication*, will help to achieve the ultimate objective of *ISO standards used everywhere*.

ISO Academy

Further to the confirmation by the ISO Council in March 2016 of its strategic direction, the ISO Academy oversees the following six programme areas:

- Implementation of the ISO Action Plan for developing countries which maps out how ISO aims to contribute to improving developing countries' economic growth and access to world markets and helping to achieve sustainable development. (available at: http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_action_plan_2016-2020_en_id.pdf)
- DEVCO secretariat
- Development of training materials
- Provision of training services to ISO members
- Education
- Research activities

In 2015, technical assistance and training projects were carried out under the ISO Action Plan 2011-2015 to increase developing countries participation in international standardization work, to build capacity for effective participation, and to raise awareness of the role of standards in promoting trade and sustainable development.

Sponsorships were granted to experts from developing countries to participate in the standardization work of the following committees dealing with food:

- ISO/TC 34/SC 17/WG 8 on *Food safety management systems* (Dublin, February 2015)
- ISO/TC 34/SC17 on *Food Safety* (Paris, October 2015)
- ISO/TC 34/SC 8 on *Tea* (Shizuoka, June 2015)

A number of sponsorships were also granted to experts from developing countries to participate in the standardization work on conformity assessment led by ISO/CASCO and on several other fields covered in ISO.

A capacity building workshop for French-speaking developing countries, sponsored by ISO, will be held in conjunction with the plenary meeting of ISO/TC 34, in Paris, in July 2016.

ISO and developing countries – DEVCO

DEVCO, ISO's policy committee on developing country matters, established in 1961 is a unique forum for ISO members from developed and developing countries to discuss standardization and related issues, to exchange experience and best practice, and to identify needs and requirements of developing countries. It is also the role of DEVCO to monitor the implementation of the ISO Action Plan for developing countries.

Today, 155 out of the 161 ISO members are members of DEVCO. (Find out more about DEVCO on <http://www.iso.org/iso/home/about/iso-and-developing-countries.htm>)

ISO's conformity assessment committee – 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). To date, CASCO has 132 members.

The 31st CASCO Plenary, associated policy meetings and workshop will take place from 1-5 May 2016 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Topical issues currently being addressed in CASCO:

- CASCO co-organized with IEC and ITU the WSC Workshop on Conformity Assessment, hosted by UNECE from 1-2 December 2015, at the Palais des Nations, in Geneva. The workshop included 4 panels and gathered some 130 industry representatives, government regulators and economic leaders, who confirmed their interest in building on the success of the workshop with similar events in the future.
- Last year, CASCO launched an interactive online tool that introduces the basics of conformity assessment and the [CASCO toolbox](#), explaining why and how conformity assessment can be used by regulators, providing concrete examples from various fields. This tool is publicly available and proved to be a valuable source of information for anyone looking for practical information on conformity assessment. CASCO is in process of developing a similar deliverable addressing specifically the concept of Suppliers' Declaration of Conformity (SDoC).
- An educational brochure identifying what should be considered when developing personnel certification schemes is to be published in 2016.
- CASCO compiled a FAQ document to be published in 2016 on what should be considered when deciding between a management system standard and a conformity assessment standard.
- A project plan has been developed to organize a pilot Stakeholders Forum on conformity assessment towards the end of 2016. The Forum would allow CASCO to engage with a broad range of stakeholders on key conformity assessment matters.
- The results of the 2014 ISO Survey of Certifications have been published on www.iso.org in September 2015.

During 2015 CASCO published:

- ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015, *Conformity assessment — Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems — Part 1: Requirements*
- ISO/IEC TR 17026:2015, *Conformity Assessment — Example of a certification scheme for tangible products*

The technical work within CASCO has increased significantly with all the major CASCO standards undergoing revision simultaneously, among which ISO/IEC 17011, *General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies* (CD2 stage) and ISO/IEC 17025, *General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories* (CD2 stage). The demand for additional parts to ISO/IEC 17021-1 also continues to grow with Joint Working Groups established to develop the competence criteria for Occupational Health and Safety (OHAS) and Anti-Bribery management systems.

Members of CASCO/CPC agreed to survey the ISO landscape with regard to the terms "validation and verification" in the conformity assessment context in a view to evaluate the need to develop a generic CASCO document to cover those two activities. A full description of the technical work is available from the [CASCO Committee page](#).

External representations and liaisons

CASCO maintains category A liaison with 22 international organizations. Over 2015, CASCO has established D-liaison with PEFC, ISEAL Alliance and WADA, in the framework of the revisions of ISO/IEC 17011 and ISO/IEC 17025.

More information about the scope, the structure and the membership as well as a quick link to the work programme of ISO/CASCO is available on the [ISO website](#).

Using and referencing ISO and IEC standards to support public policy — Conference and Training

To learn about the many ways in which International Standards can support public policy goals, ISO, IEC and UNECE organized a full-day conference on 2 November 2015, at the Palais des Nations, Geneva. This was followed by a half-day training course at ISO Central Secretariat premises on 3 November.

ISO and IEC national standards bodies were invited together with their policymakers. UNECE also brought in regulators. This event was back to back with the WTO TBT meeting in Geneva. There was a good mix of standardizers and policymakers.

Focus was made on how to reference standards in regulations, how standards can help implement policy commitments taken at the global level (e.g. sustainability, resilience and development goals). The event was a good opportunity to connect national and international policymakers with standards developers, in order to share experience and best practices. To learn more on how standards can help you: '[Using ISO and IEC standards to support public policy](#)'.

Codex and ISO/TC 34, Food products

There is a long history of collaboration between the Codex Committees and ISO/TC 34, *Food products*. ISO/TC 34 supports the collaboration between Codex and ISO, in order to enhance the mutual coordination of work and the elimination of duplication and contradictions. This also includes interest to support any joint or collaborative communication on each others' work.

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 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.

Since its creation in 1947, ISO/TC 34 has published more than 800 ISO deliverables (International Standards, Technical Specifications and Technical Reports). 65 % of these documents are methods of analysis. See [Annex 1](#) for the structure of ISO/TC 34 and a list of projects/publications of interest to Codex:

- Publication of 8 methods of analysis for vitamins and nutrients on Infant Formula and Adult Nutritionals, in collaboration with AOAC (SPIFAN project: Stakeholder Panel on Infant Formula and Adult Nutritionals) and IDF
- Work on a definition for "Natural": ISO/CD 19657, *Definition of criteria for a food ingredient to be considered as 'natural'*
- Validation of 15 methods of analysis for food microbiology
- ISO/TS 34700, *Animal welfare management — General requirements and guidance for organizations in the food supply chain* (for food-producing animals), **in collaboration with the OIE** (under development)

ISO/TC 34 will held its next meeting in July 2016 in Paris, France, with a workshop for French-speaking countries. The Codex Alimentarius representative is invited to give presentations at both the workshop and plenary meeting.

At the Subcommittees' level, ISO/TC 34/SCs are working on the following main topics.

ISO/TC 34/SC 2, Oleaginous seeds and fruits and oilseed meals

ISO/TC 34/SC 2 covers standardisation in the field of oilseeds and oilseed residues in particular sampling, methods of test and analysis including physical, physical-chemical and biochemical methods.

The main project of interest for CAC is the current revision of ISO 542:1990, *Oilseeds — Sampling*. ISO/TC 34/SC 2 members plan to replace this standard by two projects:

- One project on *Oilseeds — Manual or automatic discontinuous sampling*
- One project on *Oilseeds — Automatic continuous sampling*

The following projects might also be of interest to CAC:

- Revision of ISO 749, *Oilseed residues — Determination of total ash*
- ISO 771, *Oilseed residues — Determination of moisture and volatile matter content* in order to update the methods and to add fidelity data.

ISO/TC 34/SC 4, Cereals and pulses

ISO/TC 34/SC 4 covers standardization in the field of Cereals and Pulses as well as their products, in particular terminology, sampling, methods of test and analysis, product specifications and requirements for packaging, storage and transportation. The following standards and projects might be of interest to CAC:

- ISO/NP 15141, *Cereals and cereal products — Determination of ochratoxin A — High performance liquid chromatographic method with immunoaffinity column cleanup and fluorescence detection*
- ISO/CD 19942, *Maize — Specification*
- ISO 11085:2015, *Cereals, cereals-based products and animal feeding stuffs — Determination of crude fat and total fat content by the Randall extraction method*
- ISO 16634-2:2016, *Food products — Determination of the total nitrogen content by combustion according to the Dumas principle and calculation of the crude protein content — Part 2: Cereals, pulses and milled cereal products*

ISO/TC 34/SC 5, Milk and milk products

The field of activity of ISO/TC 34/SC 5 covers standardization of methods of analysis and sampling for milk and milk products. ISO/TC 34/SC 5 has a close cooperation with the International Dairy Federation (IDF) since 1961 in preparing standards which are published jointly as ISO-IDF International Standards by ISO since 2001.

Where appropriate, input is provided for ISO/TC 34 and/or ISO/IDF comments to Codex documents:

- Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling – receiving documents and attending Inter Agency Meeting, Working Group meetings and CCMAS meetings, providing updates for CODEX STAN 234-1999 on Recommended Methods of Analysis and Sampling in the area of milk and dairy products
- Codex Committee on Milk and Milk Products (CCMMP)
- Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU)
- Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR)

Infant formulas need to provide essential nutrients (including vitamins and minerals) for the adequate growth and development of babies and young children. This is why the nutritional quality of infant formula is laid down in international Codex Alimentarius standards, such as *CODEX STAN 72-1981*, and national regulations. To verify that infant formulas contain all necessary nutrients, accurate analytical test methods are required. Although some methods are listed in *CODEX-STAN 234-1999* and are referenced in *CODEX STAN 72-1981*, part of these methods is outdated, not validated for infant formula specifically, or not globally harmonized. A cooperation between ISO/TC 34/WG 14 and SC 5, IDF and AOAC in the SPIFAN project is addressing these issues. The first eight standards were published in 2015 and are currently part of a Codex procedure for endorsement as international dispute resolution methods that involves CCNFSDU, CCMAS and finally CAC:

- ISO 16958 | IDF 231:2015 (fatty acids composition)
- ISO 20647 | IDF 234:2015 (total iodine)
- ISO 20649 | IDF 235:2015 (chromium, selenium and molybdenum)
- ISO 20633:2015 (vitamin A and E)
- ISO 20634:2015 (vitamin B12)
- ISO 20637:2015 (myo-inositol)
- ISO 20638:2015 (nucleotides)
- ISO 20639:2015 (pantothenic acid)

Method standards for other nutrients in infant formula are presently in preparation.

In an ongoing effort to keep the *CODEX STAN 234-1999* list of recommended methods up-to-date, IDF and ISO/TC 34/SC 5 have informed CCMAS that the standards IDF 136A and ISO 8197 are in the process of being withdrawn as the content is now covered by a revised version of the horizontal standard ISO 3951-1 (sampling procedures for inspection by variables). ISO and IDF have therefore recommended CCMAS to replace the reference to IDF 136A and ISO 8197 for milk and milk products with ISO 3951-1 in *CODEX-STAN 234-1999*.

ISO/TC 34/SC 7, Spices, culinary herbs and condiments

This subcommittee (held by India) is engaged in the formulation of International Standards in the field of spices, culinary herbs and condiments since 1961. As per WTO the Codex standards are regarded as the basis for International trade. However, in the absence of Codex standards in the area of spices, culinary herbs and condiments, the International Standards laid down by ISO/TC 34/SC 7 form the baseline for International trade.

ISO/TC 34/SC 7 had submitted an information paper on activities relevant to CCSCH. It was informed to CCSCH that ISO/TC 34/SC 7 has been developing 72 standards since more than 40 years and ISO standards for spices, condiments and culinary herbs have been widely used for trade also in absence of Codex Standards for these products.

Since, the field of activity of ISO and Codex is the same, to avoid overlap as much as possible, and to foster cooperation, it is suggested that the vast resources of ISO/TC 34/SC 7 can be used as references for Codex standards in this area.

CCSCH was also informed about the test method standards published by ISO/TC 34/SC 7 which may be referred in the Codex Standards for various parameters. This suggestion was agreed by the Committee and relevant ISO Standards were referred in the drafts being discussed during the CCSCH meeting also.

The collaboration and coordination between ISO/TC 34/SC 7 and CCSCH is easier since secretariats of both these committees are held by India.

ISO/TC 34/SC 8, Tea

The activity of ISO/TC 34/SC 8 is focused on tea (*Camellia sinensis*) and is developing standard specifications for products including green tea, black tea, white tea, oolong tea, decaffeinated and instant teas, sensory methods and the vocabulary, sampling, analytical methods and tests, and requirements for packaging, storage and transport. The objectives of ISO/TC 34/SC 8 are to:

- provide validated methods of analysis to support compositional specifications,
- provide guidance and the common understanding for the good manufacturing practices,
- facilitate the international trade in tea,
- ensure that quality expectations for consumers are met.

The current work programme is continuing to make progress and includes:

- developing a new analytical method for the determination of theanine in green and black tea using high performance liquid chromatography (ISO/DIS 19563),
- developing Good Manufacturing Practices in collaboration with ISO/TC 34/SC 17,
- reviewing the preliminary data for the development of the method for the determination of theaflavins in tea by high performance liquid chromatography and extending to the method trial,
- extending the work to broaden the analytical method for the determination of catechins tea by high performance liquid chromatography (ISO 14502-2:2005),
- continuing to build the understanding for further developing the sensory methodology for green tea and establish the sensory descriptors,
- continue to develop the understanding for the development of standard specifications for white and oolong teas and for updating the standards on hot and cold soluble tea infusions,
- investigate the understanding of matcha green tea, of classification of other special teas, and for the determination of polyphenols in bottled tea drinks.

ISO/TC 34/SC 9, Microbiology

The field of activity of ISO/TC 34/SC 9 covers standardization of microbiological analysis of the food chain: from primary production to animal feed and food as end products, including the environment of food production and handling.

The link between ISO/TC 34/SC 9 and Codex Alimentarius is made via Codex Committee on Food Hygiene. The secretary of CCFH is invited at each SC 9 plenary meeting (in 2016 : 9-11 May, Paris).

In 2015, the following standards of interest for CCFH were published:

- ISO 18743, *Microbiology of the food chain — Detection of Trichinella larvae in meat by artificial digestion method*
- ISO 17604, *Microbiology of the food chain — Carcass sampling for microbiological analysis*

and 2 other standards are about to be published:

- ISO 16140-1 & 2, *Microbiology of the food chain — Method validation — Part 1: Vocabulary and Part 2: Protocol for the validation of alternative (proprietary) methods against a reference method*

In 2016, the standardization process for reference methods, fully validated with performance characteristics derived from collaborative studies, will be completed and will conduct to the publication between mid 2016 and mid 2017 of several reference methods of interest for CCFH:

- detection of *Salmonella spp.*, of *E.coli* O157, of *Cronobacter spp.*, of enteropathogenic *Vibrio* and of *Yersinia enterocolitica*
- detection and enumeration of *Enterobacteriaceae*, of *Listeria spp/monocytogenes*, and of *Campylobacter*
- detection and quantification of noroviruses and hepatitis A viruses
- quantification of *Bacillus cereus cereulide* toxin, detection of staphylococcal enterotoxins, detection and quantification of histamine.

The works on whole-genome sequencing for food microbial typing and genomic characterization of foodborne microorganisms are progressing and a link will be ensured with the works from FAO (“Impact of WGS on food safety management within a One Health framework”).

Standardization works continue on a protocol for the validation of alternative methods for microbiological confirmation, for the validation of in-house methods and for the verification of validated methods.

New projects have started to detect *Anisakidae* larvae in fish.

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

This sub-committee is involved with standards concerning animal and vegetable fats and oils. Many members of SC 11 are very active within the Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (CCFO). The volume of edible oils and fats being shipped in bulk by sea from producing countries to consuming countries continues to increase and is now probably in excess of 80 million tonnes each year, and many SC 11 members are also active within this international trade.

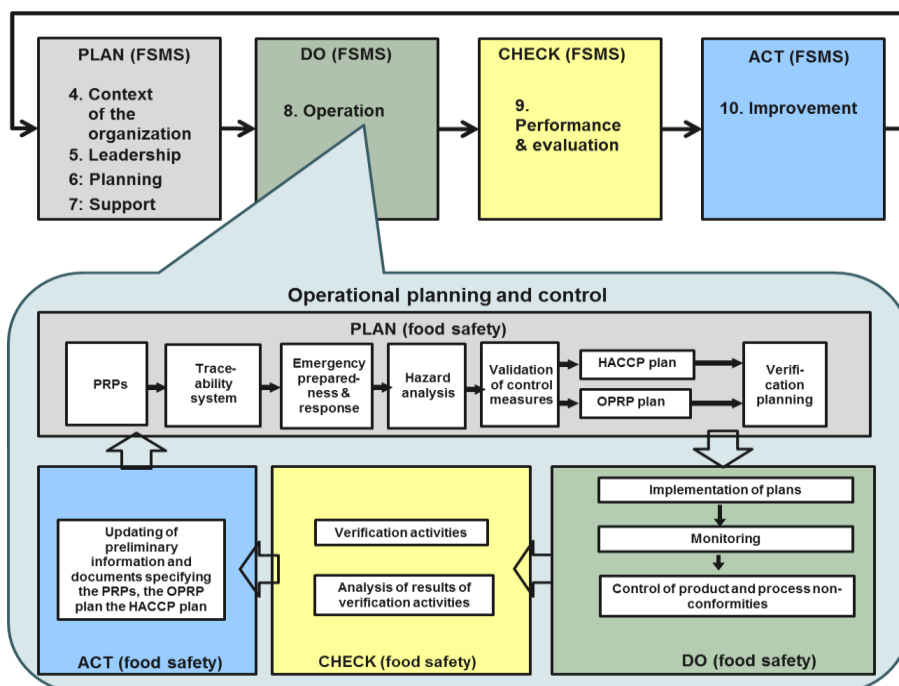
As Codex should also “contribute to the safety, quality, and fairness of the international food trade”, the CCFO has recently added a Code of Practice on the Storage and Transport of Fats and Oils in Bulk by Sea. This Code includes sections on storage conditions and quality and ISO/TC 34/SC 11 has recently confirmed or amended a number of standards which are used to measure these quality parameters. Examples are the standards for measuring anisidine values and the resistance to rancidity of refined oil.

The Codex Code also includes an important section on contamination, and SC 11 has issued some important standards in this area this year. Edible oil has been adulterated with mineral oil causing significant trade incidents over the past ten years and the publication of ISO 17780, *Determination of aliphatic hydrocarbons in vegetable oils* has been welcomed enthusiastically by the trade and the regulators. Similarly, the first of a trio of standards for measuring the concentration of a group of recently highlighted process contaminants, chloropropanediols, has been published, facilitating research on the mitigation steps to reduce the resulting levels.

ISO/TC 34/SC 17, Management systems for food safety

ISO/TC 34/SC 17 is in charge of standardization in the field of food safety management systems, covering the food supply chain from primary production to consumption (ISO 22000 series).

A key objective that governed the first drafting of ISO 22000 and which also governs the revision process is not to contradict, but to add value to Codex food safety control principles and guidelines. This includes the HACCP principles and the (public health) risk analysis principles. To achieve this objective, all requirements relating to food hygiene and hazard control is retained within one clause of the overall structure as shown in the figure below.



The revised ISO 22000 encompasses two Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) cycles⁵; one PDCA cycle for the overall food safety management system (FSMS) embracing clauses 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 and 10 of the standard, and another PDCA cycle within clause 8 for the planning, implementation and maintenance of food safety control.

⁵ The PDCA cycle can be briefly described as follows:

The food safety PDCA cycle enables an organization to establish, implement and maintain an updated food control program that consistently delivers safe end products.

The revised ISO 22000 standard will continue to integrate the HACCP principles and application steps developed by Codex and will attempt to adopt any changes that the CCFH may foresee during the revision of the General Principles for Food Hygiene and its HACCP annex, a specific challenge considering the different timeframes for the revision processes of ISO 22000 and the GPFH, respectively.

ISO/TC 34/SC 17 also developed a technical specification for Feed and animal food production (ISO/TS 22002-6). The feed and animal food production sector is by this publication given access to a PRP-program enabling them to implement ISO 22000.

ISO/TC 34/SC 18, Cocoa

The secretariat of SC 18 is held within a twinning arrangement between Ghana Standards Authority (GSA) and the Netherlands Standardization Institute (NEN). The chairmanship is shared between The Netherlands and Côte d'Ivoire. SC 18 is working on standards for sustainable and traceable cocoa (ISO 34101 series). This standard currently contains 4 parts (*Requirements for sustainability management systems, Requirements for performance, Requirements for traceability, and Requirements for certification schemes*). The first three parts will be balloted among ISO members as DIS in the course of 2016.

In addition SC 18 works on standards for the quality and sampling of cocoa beans:

- ISO/DIS 2292, *Cocoa beans — Sampling*
- ISO/CD 2451, *Cocoa beans — Specification and quality requirements*

ISO/TC 147, Water quality

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

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

In the investigations on the quality of food products, 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. On the other hand standards for water analysis have to reflect the very low occurrence of microbiological target organisms or chemical contaminants in the sample, especially with samples of drinking water. Therefore standards for water analysis differ from food standards mainly regarding sample preparation and concentration procedures.

It should be stressed as well that all methods from ISO/TC 147/SC 2 have been validated by interlaboratory trials according to ISO 5725-2 *Accuracy (trueness and precision) of measurement methods and results — Part 2: Basic method for the determination of repeatability and reproducibility of a standard measurement method* and are only accepted as standards if the results have been found satisfactory.

In addition, standards on analytical quality control are available.

In respect to microbiological methods (ISO/TC 147/SC 4), special importance is given to methods on the investigation of microorganisms by culture, e.g. existing standards on the determination of *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Coliforms* (*E. coli* and other organisms) and moreover on the determination of *Legionella*. Growing importance is observed concerning standards for quality assurance (e.g. joint work with ISO/TC 34/SC 9 on quality control of media and reagents) as well as adopting molecular methods e.g. quantitative RT-PCR.

Codex and ISO/TC 234, Fisheries and aquaculture

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.

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.

- **Plan:** establish the objectives of the system and its processes, and the resources needed to deliver intended results in accordance with customers' requirements and the organization's policies
- **Do:** implement what was planned;
- **Check:** Verify and (where applicable) measure processes and the implemented activities against policies, objectives, requirements and plans, and document the results;
- **Act:** take actions to update and improve performance, as necessary

ISO/TC 34/SC 17 and ISO/TC 234 work closely together on aquaculture food safety issues and on traceability issues in order to be efficient, use the knowledge available and not duplicate work.

ISO/TC 234 held its ninth plenary meeting in Silver Spring, USA in October 2015.

More information about the scope, structure, contact details as well as quick links to the work programme and business plan of [ISO/TC 234](#) is available on the ISO website. The following recent standards and projects could be of interest to CAC:

- ISO 18538:2015, *Traceability of molluscan products — Specifications on the information to be recorded in farmed molluscan distribution chains*
- ISO 18539:2015, *Traceability of molluscan products — Specifications on the information to be recorded in captured molluscan distribution chains*
- ISO 16741:2015, *Traceability of crustacean products — Specifications on the information to be recorded in farmed Crustacean distribution chains*
- ISO 18537:2015, *Traceability of crustacean products — Specifications on the information to be recorded in captured crustacean distribution chains*
- ISO 16541:2015, *Methods for sea lice surveillance on marine finfish farms*
- Project ISO/AWI 19565, *Fisheries — Minima requirements for fisheries labels: environmental aspects*

Conclusion

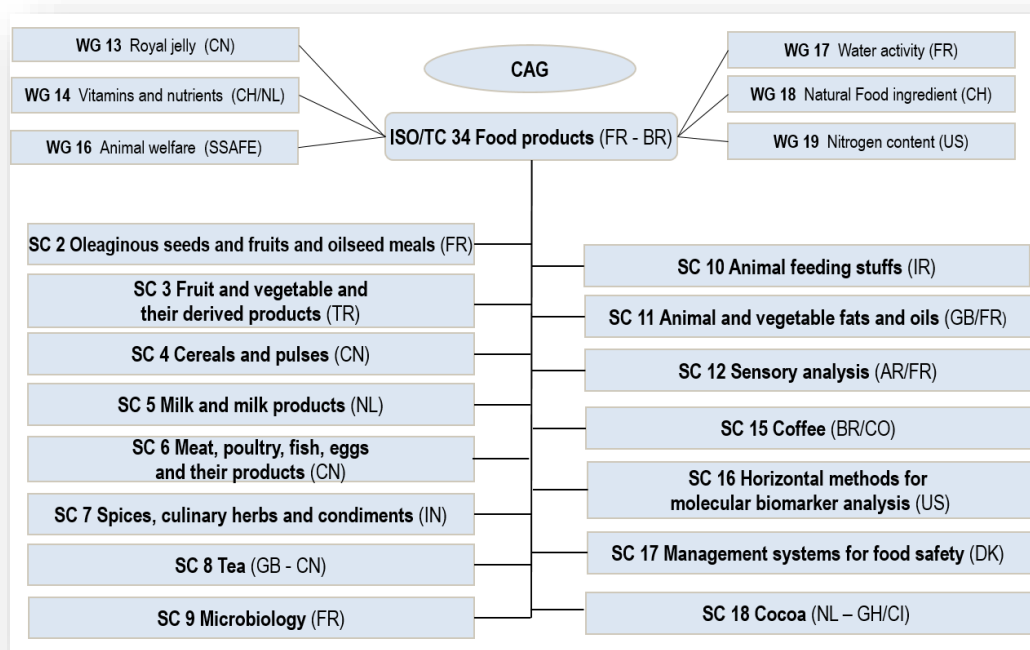
It is recognized that the Commission's members, as governments, have the authority to regulate at the national level and that ISO, as a producer of voluntary International Standards, does not. In the framework of good regulatory practice, as promoted at international and regional levels, International 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.

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.

For any further information on technical developments within ISO that have been reported in this paper, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Marie-Noëlle Bourquin at ISO Central Secretariat (bourquin@iso.org).

Structure of ISO/TC 34, Food products

ISO/TC 34 comprises 77 Participating countries and 57 Observing countries. ISO/TC 34 secretariat is held jointly by France and Brazil (twinning arrangement). ISO/TC 34 has established several substructures as follows:



Selected ISO/TC 34 projects having changed status during the past twelve months (as of April 2016)

Project number	Title	Status
ISO 20633	<i>Infant formula and adult nutritionals — Determination of vitamin E and vitamin A by normal phase high performance liquid chromatography</i>	Published in 2015
ISO 20634	<i>Infant formula and adult nutritionals — Determination of vitamin B12 by reversed phase HPLC (RP-HPLC)</i>	Published in 2015
ISO 20637	<i>Infant formula and adult nutritionals — Determination of myo-inositol by liquid chromatography and pulsed amperometry</i>	Published in 2015
ISO 20638	<i>Infant formula and adult nutritionals — Determination of nucleotides by liquid chromatography</i>	Published in 2015
ISO 20639	<i>Infant formula and adult nutritionals — Determination of pantothenic acid by UHPLC-MS/MS</i>	Published in 2015
ISO 16958 IDF 231	<i>Milk, milk products, infant formula and adult nutritionals — Determination of fatty acids composition -- Capillary gas chromatographic method</i>	Published in 2015
ISO 20647 IDF 234	<i>Infant formula and adult nutritionals — Determination of total iodine — ICP-MS Inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (ICP-MS)</i>	Published in 2015
ISO 20649 IDF 235	<i>Infant formula and adult nutritionals — Determination of chromium, selenium and molybdenum -- Inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (ICP-MS)</i>	Published in 2015
ISO 21415-2	<i>Wheat and wheat flour — Gluten content — Part 2: Determination of wet gluten and gluten index by mechanical means</i>	Published in 2015
ISO 11085	<i>Cereals, cereals-based products and animal feeding stuffs — Determination of crude fat and total fat content by the Randall extraction method</i>	Published in 2015
ISO 18743	<i>Microbiology of the food chain — Detection of Trichinella larvae in meat by artificial digestion method</i>	Published in 2015
ISO 17604	<i>Microbiology of the food chain — Carcass sampling for microbiological analysis</i>	Published in 2015
ISO 12966-4	<i>Animal and vegetable fats and oils — Gas chromatography of fatty acid methyl esters — Part 4: Determination by capillary gas chromatography</i>	Published in 2015
ISO 17780	<i>Animal and vegetable fats and oils — Determination of aliphatic hydrocarbons in vegetable oils</i>	Published in 2015
ISO/TS 22002-6	<i>Prerequisite programmes on food safety — Part 6: Feed production</i>	Published in 2016
ISO/CD 22000	<i>Food safety management systems — Requirements for any organization in the food chain</i>	Under revision

ISO/DIS 19657	<i>Definition of criteria for a food ingredient to be considered as natural</i>	Under development
ISO/CD 2451	<i>Cocoa beans — Specification and quality requirements</i>	Under revision
ISO/DIS 2292	<i>Cocoa beans — Sampling</i>	Under revision

2015-2016 UPDATE

ITEM 4 Strategy and policy matters – Report from the Vice-President (policy)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

The General Assembly is invited to comment on key issues associated with the report presented by the Vice-President (policy) on major areas of focus for the Strategy and Policy Committee (CSC/SPC) since the last General Assembly.

Under this agenda item, the **Vice-President (policy)** and Chair of the Strategy and Policy Committee (CSC/SPC) will make a presentation on the major areas of focus for CSC/SPC since the last General Assembly. The terms of reference of CSC/SPC are attached at Annex.

1 Implementation of the ISO Strategy 2016-2020

CSC/SPC has dedicated significant efforts to the development and submission to Council of the Strategy implementation plan.

More information, including an extract of the document approved by Council, is provided in Annex 1 to document General Assembly 03/2016 entitled “ISO Strategy 2016-2020 Implementation update”, as part of agenda item 3.

2 Key strategy and policy issues reviewed by CSC/SPC

a) ISO Regional Engagement Strategy

The ISO Strategy 2016-2020 makes extensive reference to regional cooperation and engagement as a means of supporting the ultimate objective of “ISO standards used everywhere” and the development of a new, comprehensive ISO Regional Engagement Strategy is considered a high priority by most ISO members.

At its meeting in September 2015, Council approved the continuation of an Asia-Pacific regional engagement initiative based out of Singapore for a period of three years and reviewed annually (Resolution 21/2015). Council also asked the Strategy and Policy Committee (CSC/SPC) to develop an overall (revised) regional engagement strategy for the organization, to support deployment of the ISO Strategy 2016-2020, building on the experience in Singapore.

The draft elements of a new ISO Regional Engagement Strategy were shared and discussed at the CSC/SPC meeting on 16 March 2016. In general terms, they were well received by CSC/SPC, but additional work needs to be undertaken, in particular in relation to:

- setting clear objectives and metrics for ISO's regional engagement initiatives,
- updating the description of ISO's relationship with the various regional and sub-regional organizations,
- obtaining more focused and structured input from the existing regional standards organizations,
- capitalizing on the experience of the Regional Engagement Initiative in Singapore.

Given the importance and complexity of the subject, CSC/SPC decided at its last meeting in June 2016 to organize a focused session to review the matter in detail, with a view to finalize the ISO Regional Engagement Strategy for submission to Council for its meeting in March 2017.

A General Assembly panel discussion on the regional engagement strategy will be held under agenda item 12.

b) ISO Academy Strategy

A Council Task Force was established by Council in 2015, under the chairmanship of the Vice-President (policy), to redraft the ISO Academy strategic directions. Given changes and developments in management at ISO/CS in 2015, efforts were dedicated to addressing urgent ISO Academy funding, staff and programming matters, impacting formal progress of the Task Force. However, the Vice-President (policy), the Vice-President (finance), and the Acting Secretary-General supported and followed closely the efforts of the ISO/CS management team in this area.

The new ISO Academy Strategy was developed on the basis of extensive input provided by ISO members through:

- The ISO strategy 2016-2020 consultation process
- The development of the Action Plan for developing countries 2016-2020
- Interactions in the framework of the 2015 General Assembly and DEVCO meeting
- Discussions with the Vice-President (policy) and the Vice-President (finance)

The ISO Academy Strategy was approved by Council through its Resolution 15/2016.

c) ISO Governance Review (Council AHGOV)

In 2012, the ISO General Assembly approved an updated version of the ISO Statutes and Rules of Procedure introducing important changes in the ISO Governance structure, its responsibilities and practices.

Sufficient time has passed to evaluate the results of those changes and, in consideration of concerns that were recently raised by ISO members, Council decided to establish an Ad-hoc task group on ISO Governance (AHGOV), chaired by the Vice-President (policy) with a view to:

- a. consider modifications to meet the evolving needs of the Organization,
- b. improve effectiveness and efficiency of the ISO governance, and
- c. align it with internationally-recognized good governance principles.

More information on the work of the AHGOV will be given in the framework of the General Assembly breakout sessions.

d) CSC/SPC-TMB Task Force on New Work

The Task Force is a high-level collaboration between two key policy and governance committees of ISO (TMB and CSC/SPC) to agree on priorities and key elements for identifying and developing new standards development work in ISO. The joint Chairs of the Task Force have noted and appreciated the efficient development of guidance on this subject.

The Task Force has developed six draft proposals:

- Two proposed actions to assist in the identification of new areas of work (one for ISO/CS and one for CSC/SPC-TMB).
- Four proposed actions to clarify next steps after a new subject area has been identified by CSC/SPC or TMB (these essentially constitute a procedure to be followed by CSC/SPC and TMB).

e) Future Standards Development Environment, including IT

In accordance with Council Resolution 7/2014, a multi-disciplined, Ad-hoc task group (AHG) was established to consider the Future Standards Development Environment from a holistic perspective.

The aim was to obtain a better understanding of the future needs of customers, stakeholders and standards developers, and the implications of meeting these needs.

The Council AHG, under the chairmanship of the Vice-President (policy), was charged with providing recommendations to Council for integration into the ISO Strategy 2016-2020 and the future ISO IT Strategy.

The report of the AHG, which will be presented to Council for approval at its September 2016 meeting, contains:

- a summary of recommendations with priority timelines,
- background and drivers for change,
- high level principles and features of the future environment,
- a SWOT analysis,
- detailed recommendations to be implemented by 2020 for the ISO standards development process and the use of ISO deliverables, and
- a roadmap for ISO in 2020.

f) Standardization in the area of services

The ISO strategy for service standardization was developed in 2015, in consultation with the CSC/SPC and the ISO/TMB. The two major parts of this strategy are communication and outreach, and understanding market interests (full text available online [here](#)).

In 2016, the focus has been on the implementation of the first part (communication and outreach). Two highlights of the many actions taken are given below:

- The workshop on services was held on 13-14 June and there were around 156 participants from 40 countries, including a mix of ISO member body representatives, experts from the committees developing service standards, COPOLCO members, WTO delegates, government representatives (mostly from the permanent missions in Geneva), CEN, and the European Commission. The feedback from the event was very positive and the workshop report (outcomes and next steps) will be circulated to participants for comment and then to ISO members. The workshop presentations and participant list can be found on the event website: <http://www.cvent.com/d/xfqx2k>.
- Publication of five case studies on individual ISO service standards and one introductory brochure explaining ISO's work in services. The case studies are in the sectors of water, health, tourism, event management, and financial services. These are all available on the website (http://www.iso.org/iso/home/store/services_publications.htm) and were also distributed at the June 2016 services workshop in Geneva.

As for the other major part of the strategy on 'understanding market interests', insights from the June services workshop into the needs and interests of ISO members will help us to determine the next steps for this part of the strategy. The ISO services strategy is designed to be a 'living' document that will be adapted as we learn more about member and market needs. The TMB receives an update on the strategy and its implementation at each TMB meeting, reviews the progress made and refines the direction, if necessary.

3 Ad-hoc task group (AHG) to address Registration Authorities

Under its Resolution 23/2015, Council approved the terms of reference of the ad-hoc task group (AHG) to address Registration Authorities (RAs). This AHG is co-chaired by the Vice-President (policy) and the Vice-President (technical management) and its purpose is to assess and develop options in relation to the risks and benefits, including financial, associated with RAs. The AHG has had two WebEx meetings (26 April 2016 and 22 June 2016) and the next one is planned for 20 September. It is anticipated that the AHG will submit its final report and recommendations to Council in time for its March 2017 meeting.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE STRATEGY AND POLICY COMMITTEE (CSC/SPC)

At the 2012 Governance review, Council established the Strategy and Policy Committee (CSC/SPC)

The responsibilities of CSC/SPC are to:

- Monitor current trends and emerging issues affecting the development and implementation of international standards
- Recommend action to Council regarding new areas of standardization
- Recommend to Council a medium term strategic direction for ISO and associated implementation plans
- Report regularly to Council.

To reflect these new responsibilities the CSC/STRAT has been renamed the Strategy and Policy Committee (CSC/SPC) to reflect its broader mandate, with membership continuing to be a minimum of seven and a maximum of ten Council members appointed for three years, to reflect the increase in the terms of Council members

CSC/SPC membership is:

- A minimum of two and maximum of three members would be appointed from Group 1 of the ranking for the election to Council. They would serve a maximum of two consecutive terms, to ensure rotation among Group 1 Council members
- A maximum of seven members would be appointed from among members elected from Groups 2, 3 and 4
- Ex Officio members - the Chairs of the Policy Development Committees and ISO Officers

The CSC/SPC is chaired by the Vice-President (policy) and should meet twice a year. CSC/SPC may create ad hoc Task Forces involving member bodies, outside parties and relevant experts to work on specific issues

An important relationship exists between CSC/SPC and the ISO Technical Management Board (TMB)

The TMB's main focus remains the organizational management of on-going technical activity, and it continues to report directly to Council. TMB assesses existing ISO and other work in relevant areas, conducts gap analyses on needed work, and determines how to introduce and/or integrate needed work into the ISO work program

In contrast, a key role of the CSC/SPC is to assess key issues and trends in the global community and identify broad subjects for potential new ISO standards work, with TMB having an important input to this work

To ensure effective coordination, the chair of the TMB is an ex officio member of the CSC/SPC, and the chair of the CSC/SPC is entitled to participate in TMB meetings.

2015-2016 UPDATE

ITEM 5 Financial Matters – Report from the Vice-President (finance)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

The General Assembly is invited to comment on key issues associated with the report presented by the Vice-President (finance) on the major areas of focus for the Council Standing Committee on Finance (CSC/FIN) since the last General Assembly.

Under this agenda item, the **Vice-President (finance)** and Chair of the Council Standing Committee on Finance (CSC/FIN) will make a presentation on the major areas of focus for CSC/FIN since the last General Assembly, and issues that CSC/FIN will consider over the coming year. The terms of reference of CSC/FIN are attached at Annex.

Under agenda item 13.1, the **Treasurer** will present the audited financial statements of the ISO Central Secretariat for the year ended 31 December 2015. The financial statements are submitted to the General Assembly for approval.

A. MAJOR AREAS OF FOCUS BY CSC/FIN SINCE THE LAST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. Closure of the books for 2015

The external auditors issued an unqualified and clean opinion on the financial statements of ISO Central Secretariat (ISO/CS) for the year ended 31 December 2015. The ISO/CS accounts are presented in accordance with Swiss GAAP RPC21, the accounting standard for non-profit organizations, to conform to best Swiss financial reporting practices. The audit report is free of non-conformities and concerns regarding the internal financial controls and financial statements.

The recommendations from the auditors made last year related to the performance and compensation review of the Secretary-General and his top-level managers, procurement and delegation of authority, compliance with Statutes in terms of signing contracts committing the Organization, have now been fully implemented as confirmed in the auditors' report. However, the auditors made recommendations related to the terms and conditions of the lease and service agreements for the move of ISO/CS to the new offices in Blandonnet signed in early 2015 as these may have future financial consequences. At Council's request (formulated in March 2016), the CSC/FIN is currently conducting an evaluation of the ISO/CS project on the move to the Blandonnet premises (project started in 2014). CSC/FIN has been requested to present its findings to Council for consideration at its September 2016 meeting ([Council Resolution 16/2016](#)).

2. Financial and management reporting

Over its various meetings held since the last General Assembly, CSC/FIN reviewed the financial and management reporting put in place by ISO/CS management team. These reports include the necessary financial, production, marketing, communication and human resources indicators that allow for the early detection of trends and to issue recommendations or to implement corrective measures as necessary.

These reports result from the efforts of the new management team at ISO/CS to provide CSC/FIN, Council and ISO members at large full transparency on all ISO/CS activities.

This initiative, in addition to the zero-based approach for the elaboration of the ISO/CS budget which will continue to be applied, must be noted as it allows extremely informed discussions at all governance levels. It also allows a close control of ISO/CS financial resources and a precise understanding of all expenditures. These approaches have resulted in substantial savings and an operating of kCHF 2 237 surplus at the closure of the 2015 books.

3. Financial sustainability of the ISO System

At its meeting in March 2015, Council took a number of decisions on ISO's commercial structure. Most of these measures have now been implemented. CSC/FIN is now regularly monitoring the impact of these measures, as well the discussions within the Ad-hoc task group on POCOSA and National Adoptions, on the funding of ISO/CS to ensure no unnecessary instability is being created in the system that could jeopardize the standards development efforts, as the core activity of the Organization.

4. IT projects

At its meeting in September 2015, Council took the decision to focus on a limited number of IT projects pending the elaboration of an IT Strategy for the ISO system that fully supports ISO's core activities and the implementation of ISO's Strategy 2016-2020, ensuring the resources available are utilized in the best possible manner and to achieve ISO's key priorities.

With this decision CSC/FIN focused especially on the ISOLutions program, which provides solutions for standards development as well as for marketing and sales (Webstore), to understand its possible medium- and long-term implications on the ISO/CS budget. The financial model is currently being reviewed as it appeared that the Webstore part of the ISOLutions program is run at loss. At the same time, CSC/FIN reviewed the risk assessment of the whole ISOLutions program made by ISO/CS and presented to the ISO Council in March 2016.

At its March 2016 meeting, Council decided to establish a Council ad-hoc task group (AHG) to proceed with a development of the ISO IT Strategy. Amongst other things, this AHG will develop an ISO IT strategy for 2016-2020, detailing specific priority to IT projects. This means that it will no longer be the role of CSC/FIN to develop such an IT strategy.

5. ISO Academy funding

CSC/FIN watched closely the ISO Academy funding especially as the new ISO/CS management team discovered mid-2015 a gap in the financing of the Academy due to a decrease in donor funds. Such a gap could have affected the deployment of the Action Plan for developing countries and the rest of the Academy Program in 2016 without the measure decided by Council to allocate a part of the 2015 operating surplus to the Academy and the priority given by the ISO/CS management team to negotiations with donors. I would like to extend my warmest thanks to the new ISO/CS management team for their untiring efforts in this respect.

B. ACTION POINTS FOR CSC/FIN IN 2017

ISO has another year ahead, full of opportunities and challenges. In addition to our normal work to fulfil our fiduciary duties regarding the finances of ISO/CS, CSC/FIN will also contribute strategically to the ISO system by making recommendations to Council in the following areas.

1. ISO strategy 2016 – 2020

CSC/FIN will be supporting CSC/SPC in the materialization of the 2016 -2020 Strategy, ensuring the necessary prioritization and allocation of funds is done for the different Strategic Programs to be deployed to achieve the Strategy. As approved by Council in March 2015, CSC/FIN will perform a yearly financial (and other resources) validation of strategic direction for these Strategic Programs as part of the review of the ISO/CS budget for 2017.

2. Financial sustainability of the ISO System

CSC/FIN will continue to study and discuss how new developments, in particular the recommendations made in the Ad-hoc task group on POCOSA and National Adoptions will affect our overall financial system, and will propose measures to ensure long-term financial sustainability of the ISO system.

3. Advice to ad-hoc task groups (AHG)

CSC/FIN will continue to provide the necessary input and support, to these groups.

4. Key strategic investments

CSC/FIN will continue to ensure oversight of key projects at ISO to ensure the proper allocation of funds is made and constant alignment with the ISO Strategy 2016-2020.

C. LAST REPORT AS VICE-PRESIDENT (FINANCE)

This is my last report as Vice-President (finance) and, I must say, it has been really challenging to be the first person in this new role in ISO and, in particular, during this very special period for the Organization. I will, of course, continue to serve ISO in a different capacity in 2017 and will liaise with my successor who will be appointed at this year's General Assembly, to ensure adequate continuity in the exercise of this important function.

Throughout these years as Vice-President (finance), I endeavoured to bring another perspective to that of the other ISO Officers, even if it meant bringing to their attention difficult issues that needed to be solved and that have, fortunately, resulted in significant improvements. In the light of my experience, I believe that the function of Vice-President (finance) is required for an Organization like ISO and quite complementary to the existing function of ISO Treasurer.

I finally wish to thank all ISO members for the trust they have put in me.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE (CSC/FIN)

At the 2012 governance review, Council concluded that CSC/FIN's terms of reference were too narrow, and that its focus should be broadened to cover issues such as audit, risk management and the financial aspects of the ISO business model. Given the enlarged scope of this activity, Council also recommended a new Officer position of Vice-President (finance) be created.

The responsibilities of the CSC/FIN are:

- Monitor the financial performance of the Organization and advise the Vice-President (finance), the Secretary-General and Council.
- Assess and recommend to Council policies to manage the commercial, legal and other risks faced by the organization.
- Review and advise Council on the business model and commercial policies of the organization.
- Review the value of ISO services provided to members and advise Council on means to promote the value of ISO standards.
- Review and advise Council on means to fund development and training programs
- Advise the Vice-President (finance) and Council on audit issues, and recommend annual financial statements to Council for submission to the General Assembly for approval.
- Advise the Secretary-General, the Vice-President (finance) and Council on internal audit issues, specifically in relation to planning internal audit programmes and receiving summary reports of the work.

The Vice-President (finance) chairs the CSC/FIN. The Vice-President (finance) ensures there is effective coordination between CSC/FIN and the Commercial Policy Steering Group (CPSG)¹.

The membership of the CSC/FIN is comprised of a minimum of seven and a maximum of ten Council member representatives.

- Members are appointed by Council for a three-year term coinciding with their term on Council. Appointments are based on potential contribution to the work of the committee.
- A minimum of two and maximum of three members are appointed from Group 1 of the ranking for the election to Council.
- A minimum of five and a maximum of seven members are appointed from among members in Groups 2, 3 and 4.
- The ISO Officers are Ex Officio members.

CSC/FIN meets at least twice annually. CSC/FIN is empowered to create ad hoc Task Forces involving member bodies, outside parties and relevant experts to work on specific issues.

¹ The terms of reference of CSC/FIN may evolve following the disbandment of the Commercial Policy Steering Group (CPSG) and the IT Advisory Group (ITAG).



TECHNICAL MATTERS

ITEM 6.1 Report from the Vice-President (technical management)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

The General Assembly is invited to comment on the trends in standards development and the key initiatives undertaken under the leadership of the TMB over the period 2012-2016.

Under this agenda item, the **Vice-President (technical management)** and Chair of the Technical Management Board (TMB), Dr Elisabeth Stampfl-Blaha, will provide a presentation on the major trends in standards development and the key initiatives undertaken under her leadership of the TMB from 2012-2016. This is the final year of Dr Stampfl-Blaha's mandate as ISO Vice-President (technical management) and TMB Chair. She will be succeeded in 2017 by Dr Piet-Hein Daverveldt.

Improvements (and lessons learned) often only become obvious over time, so this final report to the GA will look back at the major trends in the technical work - the achievements, lessons and challenges of the last 5 years.

Trends in standards development – towards improved processes, structures and performance

Over the last 5 years, the TMB has maintained a strong focus on improving the standards development process, ensuring the coherence of the TC structures (no overlaps or duplications), and enhancing the performance of committees and ISO member bodies.

What we have done

- Overseeing the Living Lab, including developing a “faster and simpler” standards development process which allows more flexibility in the ‘rules’ for committees (optional CD stage and FDIS skipped by default).
- Regularly reviewing the TMB Dashboard of ISO's performance statistics to identify problem areas and undertake projects to address these areas (such as number of late projects, average development times of standards, voting performance, etc.).
- Forming a Task Force on coordination and coherence to improve the effectiveness, coordination and consolidation of ISO's technical work (leading, for example, to the merging of some TCs in the security and energy sectors).

What have we learned

- Old habits die hard. It has not been sufficient to provide more flexibility in the rules, better communication and understanding of the options is necessary and also promotion of a culture change and project management culture. Project management is a current focus of the TMB's work and will be ongoing in 2017.
- With the proper stakeholder engagement and consultations, it is possible to effectively streamline committee structures.

Trends in cooperation and collaboration with partners

One of the main focuses of the TMB over the past 5 years has been to improve relations with other international organizations, and specifically, with the two other member organizations of the WSC: the IEC and ITU.

What we have done

- The two sister organizations are regularly invited to participate in the TMB meetings and in TMB groups such as Strategic Advisory Groups.
- There has been increasing collaboration on different initiatives and events of which the following are the most recent examples:
 - ISO/IEC/UNECE conference on standards and public policy, November 2015 in Geneva.
 - ISO/IEC workshop on project management, April 2016 in Geneva.
 - IEC/ISO/ITU Smart cities Forum, 13 July 2016 in Singapore.

What we have learned

- Regular cooperation and communication between the 3 WSC member organizations is really a necessity to avoid duplication of work in emerging areas such as smart cities and Internet of things (IoT). There is room to improve but many coordination mechanisms have been put in place and are already having positive effects.

Trends in stakeholder engagement

Even under the previous chair, stakeholder engagement was already a TMB priority and it has remained so over the last 5 years. Several initiatives were developed and rolled-out to improve stakeholder engagement from national standards bodies and individuals involved in the ISO standards development process.

What we have done

- E-learning platform on ISO Connect.
- Additional guidance from the TMB on stakeholder engagement – companion website to the 2011 guidance documents for NSBs and liaisons.
- Creation of stakeholder categories for experts in the ISO Global Directory.
- Holding February TMB meetings outside of Geneva and in conjunction with workshops to engage with stakeholders in other regions.
- Break-out sessions at the GA on stakeholder engagement.
- Remote participation pilot – WebEx- one-year pilot to allow greater participation in ISO plenary meetings by WebEx.

What we have learned

- Stakeholder engagement remains a topic of great importance and interest within the ISO membership and an area of continual improvement.
- More needs to be done with regard to stakeholder engagement. Engagement of SMEs, for example, was reported as a particular area of interest by members during the last workshop on service standards in June 2016.

Some figures on where we stand today

The ISO work programme is as busy as ever, with the number of new work items registered in 2015 reaching 1827 and the total number of active work items increasing in 2015 as compared to 2014 (+1.6% from 4696 to 4771). New committees are being created at a more or less steady rate of 8-10 per year (including TCs and PCs). 2015 was also a record year for ISO in

terms of number of published standards (1203 International Standards; 1505 deliverables in total). However, we have not seen any significant improvement regarding the average development time for International Standards (IS) over the last 5 years, which now stands at 33,4 months (c.f. 35,3 in 2012). This is why improving project management for standards development is now a major TMB focus.

Regarding the ISO Catalogue, the average age of ISO Publications (standards & others deliverables) is now 12 years and approximately 9% of the IS in the catalogue are more than 30 years old. Working on how to improve the quality and quantity of responses to systematic review ballots is part of the TMB's current action plan to make sure that ISO standards continue to represent the state of the art.

NOTE – An update on the work of the Ad-hoc task group (AHG) to address the Registration Authorities is provided in document General Assembly 04/2016 under agenda item 4 “Strategy and policy matters – Report from the Vice-President (policy).

Conclusion

The TMB has made many changes to processes over the last 5 years and conducted a number of large projects, for example on stakeholder engagement and on coordination and coherence of the technical work. Overall, we see positive trends in terms of member and committee performance, although in some areas change is occurring very slowly and it is evident that a further push is needed, particularly where project management for standards development is concerned.

Continual improvement is key to ensuring that the standards we develop are done in line with market needs in term of quality and timeliness, and the TMB remains committed to actively pursuing this goal.

TECHNICAL MATTERS

ITEM 6.2 Presentation of the Lawrence D. Eicher leadership award

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

The General Assembly is invited to express its congratulations to the 2016 recipient of the award.

Background

In 2002, Council established the Lawrence D. Eicher (LDE) award in remembrance of the late Secretary-General, Dr. Lawrence D. Eicher (who was in office for more than 15 years as Secretary-General). It is presented by the ISO President every year at the General Assembly

The LDE award is an important means of recognizing committees who have made significant contributions and have demonstrated excellence. There are many advantages to being selected to win the award:

- Success in the competition is a way to add to the profile of the committee's work both inside and outside of the ISO community.
- The winning committee gains visibility by being featured in ISO's communication activities, which has in the past led to a number of mentions in the wider media.
- Every year, ISO members are reminded of the past recipients of the award in the working papers to the ISO General Assembly and the minutes of the ISO General Assembly serve as a permanent record of the winner.
- When presenting the award, the ISO President describes the achievements and strengths which led to the selection of the committee for the award.

The TMB has defined a broad range of criteria against which committees may be considered for this award, including: effective leadership, use of innovative approaches, effective communication, promotion of the involvement of developing countries, and proactive project management.

A call for nominations was issued in March 2016 and the nominations received were reviewed by the TMB. The selection committee, composed of a subset of TMB members, selected the winner.

The award will be presented to representatives of the 2016 winning committee under this agenda item.

The following is a list of the committees that have received this prestigious award to date:

- 2015, ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 27 IT Security techniques
- 2014, ISO/TC45/SC 2, Rubber and rubber products – Testing and analysis
- 2013, ISO/TC 68, Financial services
- 2012, ISO/TC 242, Energy management
- 2011, ISO/TC 34, Food products
- 2010, ISO/TC 211, Geographic information/Geomatics
- 2009, ISO/TC 172 Optics and Photonics
- 2008, ISO/TC 127 Earth-moving machinery
- 2007, ISO/TC 184/SC 4 Industrial automation systems and integration/Industrial data
- 2006, ISO/TC 67 Materials, equipment and offshore structures for petroleum, petrochemical and natural gas industries
- 2005, ISO/TC 8 Ships and marine technology
- 2004, ISO/TC 176/SC 2 Quality management and quality assurance/Quality systems
- 2003, ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 29 Information technology/Coding of audio, picture, multimedia and hypermedia information

Further information on the LDE award and previous winners is available on ISO online:

<http://www.iso.org/iso/iso-awards.htm>



TECHNICAL MATTERS

ITEM 6.3 **Announcement of the winner of the 2016 ISO/DIN essay contest for young standardizers in developing countries**

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

The General Assembly is invited to congratulate the 2016 recipient of the award.

Background

The **ISO/DIN Essay contest** is held every two years within the framework of the *ISO Action Plan for developing countries*. It is sponsored by ISO and DIN (Germany).

The purpose of the contest is to encourage young professionals in developing countries and economies in transition to engage in international standardization and to raise awareness of the importance of standards in promoting sustainable development. The theme selected for the 2016 contest focuses on the role of international standards in improving **quality of life in urban areas**.

The contest is open to young standardizers below the age of 35, working in a national standards body in a developing country, member of ISO. The winning essay is selected by an independent jury of experts.

The winner receives a cash prize of CHF 1 000 and an invitation to the DIN head office in Berlin, Germany. The visit to DIN will help the winner to develop his or her skills and to learn about the various functions within an advanced and highly successful national standards body. The winner will also be invited for a short stay at the ISO Central Secretariat.

The winner will be announced under this agenda item at the General Assembly.

ITEM 7 Introduction of breakout sessions

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

General Assembly delegates are invited to actively participate in the four breakout sessions to be held in the afternoon of Monday 12 September.

Background

As it has been the case since 2012, a number of breakout sessions will be held to encourage information exchange and foster collaboration on issues of members' common interest. Four breakout sessions will be held simultaneously on Monday 12 September (after the lunch break). Please note that the sessions will be in English and no interpretation will be provided.

1 Registration for the sessions

Registration for the sessions needs to be made online at www.iso.org/ga2016 and seats in the sessions are available on a first-come first-served basis. So please ensure you register for the two breakout sessions you are interested in when you register for the General Assembly.

All the sessions will be repeated, the first one will be from 14:00 – 15:30 and again from 16:00 – 17:30. This will allow delegates to participate in two out of four sessions and ensure people have a better chance to participate in the sessions they are most interested in.

2 Objective of the breakout sessions

The breakout sessions are not intended to be formal sessions of the General Assembly. As a result, the sessions are not binding on any member or on ISO. Instead, sessions are to exchange ideas and information about areas that members have indicated are of interest. Reports from the breakout sessions will be presented under agenda item 11.

3 Topics for each breakout session

a) Engaging public authorities.

ISO standards are voluntary and do not seek to establish public policies. ISO standards are written international agreements on the use of technologies, methods or processes, adopted by consensus between parties concerned for consistent use in a given context (sector, market, horizontal field, etc.).

In many fields ISO standards are seen as complementary to public policies and have proven to be efficient and cost effective tools, to support the consistent technical implementation of regulatory-driven initiatives by market and society players.

This breakout session focuses on the what, when and how for national standards bodies (NSBs) to engage their public authorities in international standards development and implementation. We will hear from speakers on their experiences in this area, and then with all breakout participants consider ways that ISO members and the Central Secretariat can work together to achieve successful outcomes.

b) Services

Discover the potential of International Standards for services! As international trade in services becomes an ever greater driver of economic growth, both in developed and developing countries, market demand for standards to ensure the quality of service delivery is steadily increasing. What are ISO and its members doing to meet this demand? This session will be an opportunity to share expectations, experiences, and best practices related to services standardization.

c) Upcoming high-impact ISO standards.

The focus of this session will be on the benefit of the next high impact ISO standards (e.g. ISO 45001, ISO 37001, ISO 20400, ISO 50001, etc.) and how the experience of some developed members in contributing to the development of these standards and in promoting them can help other members. The session will also highlight the collaboration between ISO members and the ISO Central Secretariat at marketing and communication levels and the initiatives taken by ISO/CS to support members in the promotion of the use of these standards at key development stages as well as after publication. This session will be followed by Questions and Answers.

d) ISO governance review

Council has decided to undertake an ISO governance review in 2016 and has established an ad-hoc task group to deal with the subject (AHGOV). This session will highlight the key aspects of the work undertaken so far by the AHGOV, covering in particular: a) existing key principles and good practices of organizational governance relevant to ISO; b) main issues related to the current ISO governance structures and relationships among them; c) indications on how to improve effectiveness and efficiency of the ISO governance, in compliance with internationally-recognized good governance principles and practices. The session will be moderated by the AHGOV Chair and Vice-President (policy) and a number of AHGOV members will provide their views.

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

ITEM 9 Innovation, Sustainable Development Goals and Standardization

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

General Assembly delegates are invited to actively participate in the panel discussion on Innovation, Sustainable Development Goals and Standardization.

Introduction

On 25 September 2015, the 193 countries of the UN General Assembly adopted the 2030 Development Agenda titled *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, providing directions for the next 15 years, to end extreme poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and protect our planet.

At the heart of “Agenda 2030” are the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** which, with their associated 169 targets, address the most important economic, social, environmental and governance challenges of our time.

The new global goals result from an inclusive process, involving governments, business, civil society and citizens from the outset. Successful implementation will require all players to actively contribute to this agenda.

On 12 December 2015 another historic agreement was reached in Paris by the 195 nations which are members of the UN Framework on Climate Change (UNFCCC), to combat climate change and unleash actions and investment towards a low carbon, resilient and sustainable future. The Paris Agreement for the first time brings all nations into a common cause: the universal agreement’s main aim is “*to keep a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius and to drive efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1,5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.*”

The aspirations of these two international agreements will require fundamental transformations in the economic and social spheres, in government policies, in the models concerning the use of resources, in the interaction of human activities with the environment, in the behavior of businesses and citizens.

New technologies and more specifically, innovation, intended as the *implementation of new or significantly improved products, services or processes, new organizational methods (and much more)*, have a fundamental role to play, if their extraordinary potential is directed to address the global challenges outlined above.

How standards, and particularly International Standards, fit into this picture?

Standards are an indispensable element of the infrastructure of modern industrial societies. They ensure, among other, reliable measurement and testing, the interchangeability of parts, the interoperability of product and systems components, the codification of knowledge regarding characteristics and properties of materials and products, the structure and organization of

processes, objective criteria and methods to assess health and safety requirements and environmental impact.

In a similar way, standards, and particularly International Standards, should be an essential component of the emerging infrastructures of a sustainable world. Standards will increasingly help to codify knowledge and good practices for sustainable ways of using materials and developing products, of designing and managing product lifecycles, of organizing and managing complex systems requiring the coordination of a plurality of actors, technologies and services, preserving natural capital and increasing the value of human and social capital.

Voluntary International Standards can give a significant contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals and ISO can play a key role to foster collaboration with international organizations, representatives of public and private sectors and of civil society to this aim.

This General Assembly session is dedicated to provide food for thought on these matters, by sharing the opinions of leading international and national experts, and the perspectives of some international partners of ISO.

ITEM 9.1 Address on circular economy by an international expert

Few subjects can offer an ideal combination of the elements indicated in the introduction to this session as the **“Circular Economy”**.

Ellen MacArthur, founder of the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, has recently noted that the *‘take-make-dispose’ economy has long relied on inputs of cheap and available resources to create conditions for growth and stability.*” However, this is no longer the case. The *“unprecedented rise in demand for a finite supply of resources calls into question our current predominantly linear economic system.”*

“The concept of the circular economy is rapidly capturing attention as a way of decoupling growth from resource constraints. It opens up ways to reconcile the outlook for growth and economic participation with that of environmental prudence and equity. It is inspiring CEOs, politicians, engineers, designers and the next generation of leaders.”

Few people are in a better position to provide an inspiring perspective on this theme like Professor Braungart.

Prof. Michael Braungart is the founder and scientific CEO of EPEA Internationale Umweltforschung GmbH, an international environmental research, and consulting institute headquartered in Hamburg. He is also the co-founder and scientific director of McDonough Braungart Design Chemistry (MBDC) in Charlottesville, Virginia (USA), co-founder and scientific manager of Hamburger Umweltinstitut (HUI) (a non-profit research center) as well as Director of Braungart Consulting in Hamburg.

Prof. Braungart is co-author (with McDonough) of the international best sellers and seminal books *“Cradle to Cradle”* and *“Upcycle”*. In these books the authors propose a radically different philosophy of how to combine manufacturing and environmentalism. Learning from nature, all the activities regarding the development and use of products, the *technosphere*, should be organized in a way similar to the *biosphere*, where there is no waste: the output of any biological system is useful input for other biological systems, altogether forming a broad, sustainable chain.

Prof. Braungart has been involved with research and consultancy for eco-effective products i.e. products and production processes in a loop, not only harmless to man or nature, but beneficial.

In Prof. Braungart’s view, *design is key* – and standards are a key element for driving this transformation.

ITEM 9.2 Leading National Experience

John A. Mathews and Hao Tan (from Nature, March 2016) state that China is well known for being “*The country [that] consumes the most resources in the world and produces the most waste ... it also has the most advanced solutions ... For the past decade, China has led the world in promoting the recirculation of waste materials through setting targets and adopting policies, financial measures and legislation. The ultimate goal is a 'circular economy' — closing industrial loops to turn outputs from one manufacturer into inputs for another. This approach reduces the consumption of virgin materials and the generation of waste.*”

Starting in the mid-2000s, China has embraced the concept of “Circular economy” like few other countries. Industrial districts are being transformed in eco-industrial agglomerations (“eco-parks”), fiscal incentives and industrial policies have been introduced to promote reuse of materials. A circular economy promotion law was passed in 2008 and the subject has been extensively covered in the framework of the country’s five years plans, starting with the 11th Five-year Plan (for 2006–10) and with the definition of specific targets for a number of industries.

Dr. WANG Geng, Deputy Director of Resource and Environment Branch of China National Institute of Standardization (CNIS) will provide an overview of the Chinese experience with the Circular economy and of the role played by standards.

ITEM 9.3 Contribution of international partners

In this session international organizations, partners of ISO, will share their perspective and commitments for the Sustainable Development Goals, and how standards and collaboration with ISO can positively contribute.

ITEM 9.4 Panel discussion

All the speakers will be invited to join a panel discussion. This final session will be dedicated to and open discussion, including questions or contributions from the audience.

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

ITEM 10 Cooperation with IEC and ITU

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

The General Assembly is invited to note/comment on the following report.

1 World Standards Cooperation (WSC)

The tripartite cooperation between ISO, the IEC and the ITU takes place through the World Standards Cooperation (WSC), established in 2001. This also includes regular contacts between the CEOs and staff of the three organizations.

The WSC held its 15th meeting in Geneva on 24 February 2016. The membership list in 2016 and the terms of reference of the WSC are attached (Annex). Highlights of the main items discussed at the WSC meeting are given below:

- **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**
A brainstorming session was held to expose the three WSC member organizations to the challenges relating to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Mr Joakim Reiter, was the keynote speaker.
- **Promotion of the use of International Standards in trade agreements.**
The WSC agreed to hold in 2017 a workshop to promote the use of International Standards in trade agreements. A common statement between the three WSC member organizations is also being finalized.
- **World Standards Day**
The theme of the **2016** World Standards Day is “Standards build trust”. A video competition instead of the usual poster competition will be organized (as was the case in 2015). The WSC agreed that theme for World Standards Day in **2017** will be “Standards make cities smarter”.
- **Academia**
The Academic Day has been a regular annual appointment since 2010, when the first WSC Academic Week was organized. The **WSC Academic Day 2016** will take place on 12 October 2016 in Frankfurt (Germany) following the ICES¹ workshop on 10-11 October, and will be hosted by DKE-VDE, the German Commission for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies of DIN. Both events will take place in parallel to the 80th IEC General meeting.

The **2016 Academia Roundtable** will take place on 17 November 2016 in Bangkok (Thailand). The programme is currently being finalized.

¹ ICES: International Cooperation for Education about Standardization

2 Technical collaboration between ISO, IEC and ITU

The technical collaboration between ISO and IEC continues to be good. The chairs and secretaries of the ISO Technical Management Board (TMB) and IEC Standardization Management Board (SMB) regularly attend the meetings of the other management board to assure coordination and cooperation and cooperation is sought through mutual participation in the relevant ISO or IEC Strategic advisory groups.

Cooperation with ITU has also increased over the past few years. ITU is now regularly invited to participate in TMB meetings to further create opportunities for dialogue between the two organizations, and cooperation is sought through participation in the relevant ISO Strategic advisory groups (such as the one on Smart Cities). ISO's technical collaboration with ITU remains very strong in the area of ISO/IEC JTC 1 *Information technology*, where there is very good collaboration with the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T). ISO, IEC and ITU continue to exchange their new work item proposals on a monthly basis to increase cooperation at the earliest possible stage.

As an example of the good cooperation, a number of coordination workshops have been scheduled in order to foster information-sharing, coordination and cooperation at the international level. These include:

- **Smart Cities**

The World Smart Cities Forum will take place on 13-14 July 2016 in Singapore. This event was organized by the IEC, in partnership with ISO and the ITU.

Day-1 forum discussions will focus on listening to cities stakeholders and more specifically on the 'pain points' that hinder smart city development, as well as the tools - including International Standards - that can help accelerate progress towards smart city goals.

During day-2, ISO, IEC and ITU will work together with other SDOs reviewing work programmes and discussing actions to identify overlaps and gaps while addressing possible future alignment between organizations for smart city standards activities.

The organization of the next Smart Cities event will be led by ISO.

- **Internet of Things (IoT)**

ISO/IEC JTC 1 was asked by the TMB to take the lead in organizing a workshop on Internet of Things (IoT). The one-day ISO/IEC/ITU IoT workshop was hosted by DIN (Germany) and took place on 13 May 2016 in Berlin and led to positive results in terms of coordination in this sector.

3 Follow-up on PASC concerns as expressed in the PASC letter dated 30 August 2007

[TMB resolution 28/2015](#), from the 2015 February meeting, noted that studying the ways in which national organizations and agencies coordinate on the submission of project proposals to either ISO, IEC, ITU and that sharing best practice would contribute to avoiding or mitigating the problem of similar project proposals being submitted to multiple organizations, and subsequently supported the idea of distributing a survey to ISO members requesting input (both positive or otherwise) on coordination efforts at the national level. The survey was duly conducted and provided to all ISO members in early 2016.

Regarding coordination at the national level, member responses were as follows:

Between ISO and IEC	Between ISO and ITU	
60%	4%	alluded to full coordination at the national level between the two organizations
20%	19%	admitted that coordination could be improved
10%	69%	noted that any coordination that may actually occur is not systematic or doesn't occur at all
10%	8%	chose "other"

Regarding the perception of duplication of activities, 8% of respondents noted frequent duplication, 42% noted occasional duplication, 15% noted rare duplication but 35% of respondents indicated they never saw any duplication of activities. Of those members who observed duplication, none were of the opinion that the problems were critical, although 41% did consider them important. Fourteen percent thought the problems would be "worth fixing at some point" while 45% considered the problems either manageable or not an issue at all.

To close the survey, members were invited to share any additional comments they considered useful. Interesting insights provided in this section include the following:

- Lack of coordination and duplication in specific areas including: web accessibility, smart cities, IoT, Big data, Smart Manufacturing
- Lack of knowledge regarding ITU's stakeholders
- At least one member expressed the need for a one-stop proposal "counter" covering all three organizations. Others noted that coordination is key at the start of the new work item proposal processes of each organization.
- Convergence of technology is leading to an increase in the risk of overlap between organizations, and this will continue and get more pronounced.

As a response to the expressed concerns, ISO, IEC and ITU have jointly organized the above-mentioned workshops on Smart cities and IoT. The ISO/TMB has put a big focus on ensuring coordination at the earliest stage possible (starting at national level), as well as at development stages, with the creation of joint working groups and mutual representation in Strategic Advisory Groups between ISO, IEC and ITU when necessary.

The ISO/TMB will continue to focus on coordination issues between IEC and ITU in 2017, especially in those above-mentioned new areas.

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 2016

For IEC	For ISO	For ITU
President <i>Dr Junji Nomura</i>	President <i>Dr Zhang Xiaogang</i>	Director, Telecommunication Standardization Bureau <i>Mr Chaesub Lee</i>
President-Elect <i>Mr James M. Shannon</i>	Vice-President (policy) <i>Mr John Walter</i>	Deputy to the Director, Telecommunication Standardization Bureau <i>Mr Reinhard Scholl</i>
Vice-President and Standardization Management Board (SMB) Chairman <i>Mr James E. Matthews III</i>	Vice-President (technical management) and TMB Chair <i>Dr Elisabeth Stampfl-Blaha</i>	Chairman, Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group (TSAG) <i>Mr Bruce Gracie</i>
General Secretary and CEO <i>Mr Frans Vreeswijk</i>	Secretary-General <i>Mr Kevin McKinley²</i>	Chief of Study Group Department, Radiocommunication Bureau <i>Mr Colin Langtry</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;

² Acting Secretary-General as of 1 August 2015

- 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-T¹ 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.

¹ ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

ITEM 12 Panel Discussion on ISO regional engagement strategy

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

General Assembly delegates are invited to actively participate in the panel discussion on the ISO regional engagement strategy.

Introduction

Following a request from Council in 2015, the Strategy and Policy Committee (CSC/SPC) is developing a new Regional Engagement Strategy for ISO. The aim is to support deployment of the ISO Strategy 2016-2020.

Two CSC/SPC meetings have taken place – in March and June 2016¹ – to consider existing regional policy, agreed in 2008 and modified in 2011². The CSC/SPC also considered the experience of the Regional Engagement Initiative (REI) in Asia, launched in 2013. ISO member views on regional engagement, gathered during recent regional standards organization meetings, were also shared with CSC/SPC. These efforts have enabled the CSC/SPC to identify draft elements – set out below - for a new Regional Engagement Strategy as a basis for further discussion.

This General Assembly Panel Discussion provides a timely opportunity therefore to share these developments with a broader audience, and gather wider feedback on the regional experience as seen from regional and sub-regional standards organizations recognized by ISO, and from ISO members across all regions. The objective is to explore how ISO can best shape the new Regional Engagement Strategy to respond to ISO member current and future needs. The information, comments and ideas gathered will inform further CSC/SPC discussions in developing the new ISO Regional Engagement Strategy for Council approval.

The panel will be moderated by CSC/SPC Chair and Vice-President (policy), John Walter. Representatives from regional standards organizations, together with Acting ISO Secretary-General, Kevin McKinley, and Director of the Regional Engagement Initiative in Asia, Alan Morrell will make up the panel and discuss how a regional approach can strengthen ISO, its strategic directions, and the ultimate objective of ISO standards used everywhere.

Background

1. Current ISO regional policy

In 2008, Council established an ISO regional policy³ that focused on:

- a) Relations with broad regional standards organizations

¹ Documents CSC/SPC 03/2016 - Regional Engagement Strategy Functions and CSC/SPC 08/2016 - Update on ISO Regional Engagement Functions

² Council Resolution 7/2008, amended by Council Resolution 34/2011

³ Council Resolution 7/2008

- b) Informal collaboration with sub-regional organizations involved in standardization or standards-related activities
- c) Adoption of ISO standards through regional/sub regional cooperation
- d) ISO Regional Liaison Officers (RLOs)⁴.

In 2011, Council decided to enhance collaboration with some sub-regional organizations by establishing formal working relationships under certain conditions.⁵

2. CSC/SPC elements for a new Regional Engagement Strategy

At its March and June 2016 meetings, the CSC/SPC considered **drivers** for a new Regional Engagement Strategy:

- a) **New strategic context:** ISO Strategy 2016-2020 makes extensive reference to regional cooperation and engagement as a means of supporting the ultimate objective of “ISO standards used everywhere”.
- b) **Pluri-lateral trade agreements:** Bilateral and multilateral trade agreements continue to be developed on a regional basis. The use and promotion of International Standards can be a key trade-facilitating element of such agreements.
- c) **Need for new donor funding on the Action Plan for Developing Countries 2011-2016:** Important opportunities exist to broaden and increase support from potential new donors on capacity-building actions targeted at a regional or sub-regional level.
- d) **Experience from the Regional Engagement Initiative in Asia:** Given this initiative, ISO Council must consider what engagement efforts should be done with other ISO regions.

The CSC/SPC also considered **elements** of a New Regional Engagement Strategy to address the above drivers and build on effective aspects of previous policies. For example:

- a) **Setting clear objectives and metrics:** Each Regional Engagement Initiative should establish its own clear set of objectives and metrics. This should be accompanied by a detailed Business Plan for review and support by ISO Council.
- b) **Reinforce activities with Regional Standards Organizations (RSO):** ISO activities, especially related to institutional strengthening and the capabilities of ISO members, should better align with the strategies, plans and priorities of recognized RSOs.
- c) **Establish effective and transparent approaches with recognized sub-regional organizations:** The scope, effectiveness and visibility of relations with these sub-regional engagements needs to be improved.
- d) **Leverage regional leadership:** Consider member-appointed Regional Leaders, with adequate support and guidance from ISO/CS, and appropriate policy direction from ISO governance.
- e) **ISO/CS resources:** Consider allocation of additional ISO/CS resources for each of ISO’s regions, including a physical presence (office) of ISO/CS. Consider specifically assigned staff within the Central Secretariat (but not located in the region), programmed visits/advocacy by the ISO SG or ISO Officers, ISO/CS resources provided directly to the RSO, and ISO/CS-coordinated secondments from ISO members in the region.
- f) **Ensuring financial sustainability:** All Regional Engagement initiatives should be reviewed by ISO Council to ensure long-term viability of the effort, and consider the most appropriate level of local and regional support for its on-going operation.

⁴ This latter role was disbanded by Council in 2010 (Resolution 44/2010).

⁵ Council Resolution 34/2011.

3. Developments in Asia - Regional Engagement Initiative (REI) – Asia

Members in the Asia region first raised the idea that a physical presence of ISO in their region would serve as a useful catalyst in promoting and supporting member engagement in ISO.

In 2013, Council launched an initiative for an ISO presence in the Asia – Pacific region, located in Singapore and staffed by a project manager, as a two year pilot project during September 2013 to September 2015.⁶

This pilot project allowed Council to confirm Singapore as the recommended location for a Regional Engagement Initiative (REI) for the Asia – Pacific region and establish a more explicit presence during 2016-2018.⁷ The REI has a registered branch office in Singapore, covers 26 ISO members⁸ and is staffed by a Regional Director, a Project Manager, and rotating secondees from ISO members in the region.

A business plan for the REI was approved by Council in March 2016. A core objective is to support ISO Members in the region in their work and facilitate engagement with ISO over three key areas:

- **Expand communication, co-operation and collaboration:** between ISO/CS and members; among members in the region; and between members and their national stakeholders.
- **Advocacy:** support ISO members in their activities to advocate to political and business leaders the role and importance of international standardization, its benefits for the public and private sectors, and the fundamental role that National Standards Bodies (with their stakeholders) play in that framework.
- **Training and/or technical assistance:** support the organization and promotion of training and technical assistance activities undertaken by ISO, particularly through the Action Plan for Developing Countries 2016-2020.

REI Regional Director, Alan Morrell, will speak more about activities and achievements of the REI during the Panel discussion.

4. Feedback from ISO members at General Assembly meetings of Regional Organizations having a relationship with ISO

ISO currently cooperates with 8 regional standards organizations and 5 sub-regional organizations⁹, as per ISO Council decisions. Many of these Organizations have submitted a report to the ISO General Assembly on their current relations with ISO at Annex.

⁶ Council Resolution 2/2013

⁷ Council Resolution 21/2015

⁸ Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Fiji, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, DPR Korea, Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Macao, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam

⁹ **Regional Standards Organizations:** Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization (AIDMO); African Regional Organization for Standardization (ARSO); ASEAN Consultative Committee for Standards and Quality (ACCSQ); European Committee for Standardization (CEN); Euro-Asian Council for Standardization, Metrology and Certification (EASC); Pacific Area Standards Congress (PASC); Pan-American Standards Commission (COPANT); South Asian Regional Standards Organization (SARSO)

Sub-regional Standards Organizations: CROSQ (CARICOM Regional Organization for Standards and Quality); EAC (East African Community); ECOWAS (The Economic Community of West African States); GSO (GCC Standardization Organization); SADC (Southern African Development Community)

In addition, at the recent general assembly meetings of COPANT, PASC, EASC and ARSO, ISO members shared the following views:

COPANT: Discussions took place at the Pan American Standards Commission (COPANT) in April 2016. COPANT members are considering with interest the experience of REI in Singapore and are keen to evaluate the results and lessons learned. There is interest in a new ISO Regional Engagement Strategy and benefits it could bring to ISO members in the region. COPANT continues to gather feedback from its members.

PASC: ISO members at the Pacific Area Standards Congress (PASC) meeting in May 2016 expressed support for the REI. NSBs are eager to contribute with ideas and proposals, several countries are interested in sending secondees to Singapore, and all members expect a positive contribution by the REI to their activities. The importance of having clear objectives and metrics to evaluate performance of the REI was recognized. Opinions and recommendations vary about the specific indicators needed.

ARSO: At the African Regional Standards Organization (ARSO) meeting in June 2016, ISO members received an update from the ISO Acting Secretary-General, and reinforced their view of having ARSO as the primary contact and mechanism for regional engagement with ISO.

EASC: ISO members taking part in the June 2016 meeting of Euro-Asian Council for Standardization, Metrology and Certification (EASC) reported that they are interested and committed to strengthening cooperation between ISO and EASC. It was agreed that EASC as a group will write to the Central Secretariat about common ideas, needs, directions and priorities to do this.

Other regional and sub-regional organizations are invited to share their views during the panel discussion.

UPDATES FROM THE ASEAN CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDS AND QUALITY (ACCSQ)

The standards and conformance activities in ASEAN encompass the elimination of technical barriers to trade through the harmonisation of standards, mutual recognition arrangements (MRA) and harmonisation of regulatory regimes. The initiatives and measures on reducing TBT constitute the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community in December 2015.

Harmonisation of standards in ASEAN is governed by the ASEAN Guidelines on Standards, Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment Procedures (AG-STRACAP) which made reference to 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.

To further achieve free movement of goods and accept conformity assessment services in ASEAN, the ACCSQ has adopted the mutual recognition of conformity assessment results to avoid duplication of conformity assessment activities and facilitate approval procedures for regulated products thereby facilitating trade and reduce transaction costs, without compromising the quality of the product and the safety of the peoples of ASEAN. The MRA is guided by the ASEAN Framework Agreement on MRA, ASEAN Guidelines on Mutual Recognition Arrangements and ASEAN Guideline on Conformity Assessment.

Harmonisation of standards and technical requirements:

ASEAN has made significant stride on the harmonisation of standards and technical requirements:

- i. Harmonisation of safety and specification requirements covering electrical and electronic equipment, rubber gloves and condoms and rubber-based products with the relevant international standards such as ISO and IEC standards.
- ii. Harmonisation of standards/technical requirements for automotive based on United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN) Regulations under the 1958 Agreement.
- iii. Harmonisation of standards on prepared foodstuff products using Codex Alimentarius standards, with focus on food safety aspects, namely: food additives, food contaminants and food contact materials. Food Control requirements are also being harmonised based on Codex Guidelines.
- iv. Harmonisation of technical requirements and drug registration dossier through the implementation of ASEAN Common Technical Requirements (ACTR) and ASEAN Common Technical Dossier (ACTD).
- v. Harmonisation of standards for medical devices based on ISO standards as well as harmonisation of registration dossier through the adoption and use of ASEAN Common Submission Dossier Template.
- vi. Harmonisation of technical requirements for safety, quality and efficacy and product placement requirements of traditional medicines and health supplements (TMHS), including Good Manufacturing Practices Guidelines that also made reference to the Pharmaceutical Inspection Convention and Pharmaceutical Inspection Co-operation Scheme (PIC/S) GMP Guidelines.
- vii. Common procedures on legal metrology such as the ASEAN Common Requirements on Pre-packaged Products and Common Verification Procedures for Non-automatic Weighing Instruments in line with OIML recommendations. Inter-laboratory comparison programs have also been in place where ILC on mass and volume measurement standards had been conducted.

Mutual Recognition Arrangements:

The general guideline for the development of ASEAN sectoral Mutual Recognition Arrangements is provided for in the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Mutual Recognition Arrangements where the following MRAs have been established:

- i. ASEAN Sectoral Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Electrical and Electronic Equipment. As of 31 May 2016, there are 18 EE testing laboratories and 9 product certification bodies that are listed under the MRA. The listed CABs provide testing and certification services, respectively, to the ASEAN Member States (AMS) particularly on assuring compliance with their technical regulations.
- ii. ASEAN MRA for Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) Inspection of Manufacturers of Medicinal Products Inspection. Four Member States have adhered to the MRA providing GMP inspection services for pharmaceutical products that are recognised in ASEAN.

While the implementation of the ASEAN EE MRA and GMP inspection services are in place, MRAs in the following sectors are in various stages of development:

- i. ASEAN MRA on Bio-Equivalence Study Report (Pharmaceuticals). The MRA is in the final stages of nations approvals for its signing in August 2016.
- ii. The ASEAN MRA on Type Approval of Automotive Products. The MRA is anticipated to be finalised and signed in 2016.
- iii. ASEAN MRA for Inspection and Certification System on Food Hygiene for Prepared Foodstuff Product. The MRA is anticipated to be finalised and signed in 2016.
- iv. ASEAN MRA on Building and Construction Materials. The MRA is anticipated to be signed in 2017.

Harmonisation of Regulatory Regimes:

Going beyond harmonisation and MRAs, the ASEAN has also embarked on harmonising its regulatory regimes to establish a coherent and unified regulatory system in the region. Three product sectors have made progress on this initiative:

- i. Cosmetics through the Agreement on ASEAN Harmonised Cosmetic Regulatory Scheme signed in 2003.
- ii. Electrical and Electronics Equipment under the ASEAN Harmonised Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulatory Regime signed in 2005.
- iii. Medical Devices with the signing of the ASEAN Medical Device Directive in 2014.

The use of harmonised standards in ASEAN, common conformity assessment procedures following international practices and technical competence by conformity assessment bodies, made up the basic foundation for establishing common regulations.

Free Trade Area (FTA) Agreements on Standards and Conformance

Consistent with the aim of integrating ASEAN into global economy while maintaining centrality in the ASEAN region, the ACCSQ in coordination with respective trade ministries/departments is implementing the Standards, Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment Procedures (STRACAP) chapter of existing ASEAN plus 1 Free Trade Area (FTA) agreements. This is realised under the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand FTA (AANZFTA), ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership (AJCEP) and ASEAN China Free Trade Area (ACFTA). Negotiations are on-going on the ASEAN FTA with Hong Kong and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement comprise of the ASEAN member States and Australia, China, India, Japan, Korea, and New Zealand, where ASEAN has existing FTAs.

ACCSQ Cooperation with ISO

The ACCSQ and ISO had its inaugural dialogue Meeting on 7 April 2016 in the margins of the 45th ACCSQ Meeting in April 2016 in Singapore. The acting ISO Secretary General together with the Regional Director of the ISO Regional Office in Singapore and staff had the dialogue with the ACCSQ Leaders and its members to establish closer collaboration between ISO and ACCSQ on areas related to standards and conformance. The following are key areas of discussions and possible collaboration between ISO and ACCSQ:

- a. Exchange of information on the harmonisation work in ASEAN and proposals for new ISO standards including revisions to existing standards to better facilitate ASEAN's harmonisation efforts towards adopting international standards.
- b. Information on ISO member network, and its partner arrangements with globally-relevant standards development organizations.
- c. In the event there is no appropriate ISO standard available as basis for harmonisation in ASEAN (such as in rubber-based products), ISO could make reference to SAE standards or look to partner with SAE to co-publish standards. Alternatively, a new work item could be developed, through an existing member in ASEAN, for new standards to address ACCSQ's need.
- d. The possible areas of cooperation between ACCSQ and ISO include: Wood-based products; Medical devices; Rubber-based products; Pharma-related; Construction materials.
- e. Interest of few ASEAN Member States on a program on "*Learning the experience in developing the standardization guides and to develop the standardization guides*" as expressed by Brunei Darussalam, Lao PDR and Viet Nam.
- f. ACCSQ interest on ISO academy programme in connection with ASEAN's thrust on enhancing capacity building and human capital development of Member States related to STRACAP.
- g. ISO to be invited to the ACCSQ Product Working Groups (PWG) meetings such as the Rubber-based PWG, Task Force on Building and Construction, Task Force on Wood-based, and the ASEAN Medical Device Committee. ACCSQ and ISO could use Wood-based and Rubber-based areas as a starting point to help ACCSQ develop guidelines for harmonisation of standards where there is no existing international standard.
- h. The 2nd ACCSQ-ISO Meeting is scheduled on 22 September 2016 back-to-back with the 46th ACCSQ Meeting on 19-21 September 2016, in Nha Trang, Viet Nam.

ASEAN Standards and Conformance Strategic Plan 2016-2025

Vision: ACCSQ's vision is to have an integrated internationally recognised, people-oriented and sustainable regime in ASEAN for standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures to enable the free flow of goods and services, and ensure safety, health and protection of the environment throughout ASEAN.

Mission: ACCSQ shall establish comprehensive policies relating to standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures (STRACAP) , and support the development of associated quality infrastructure for the purpose of creating a highly integrated and cohesive ASEAN economy. ACCSQ, in collaboration with other relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies, shall establish sectoral and regulatory mechanisms in all priority sectors based on these policies to eliminate technical barriers to trade through measures such as harmonised standards and technical regulations, mutual recognition of conformity assessment results and acceptance of equivalence of technical regulations.

To realise the post 2015 vision, the ACCSQ has adopted six strategic thrusts as follows:

1. Enhance the standards and conformance infrastructure through development of policies and initiatives to meet the present and future needs of ASEAN.
2. Achieve a highly integrated and cohesive ASEAN economy through a comprehensive and progressive reduction of STRACAP related technical barriers to trade..
3. Strengthen joint ASEAN approaches on issues related to STRACAP for effective representation and participation in international and Asia-Pacific bodies and associated recognition arrangements.
4. Strengthen private sector participation in standards and conformity assessment to accelerate development and enhance availability of services to industry and businesses.
5. Enhance the effectiveness of ACCSQ, its Working Groups and its collaboration with other relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies.
6. Support the capacity building and human capital development of Member States for the implementation of ASEAN initiatives and policies related to STRACAP.

AIDMO's Report to ISO's General Assembly Meetings

Beijing/ the People's Republic of China (11-14/9/2016)

We really appreciate your kind invitation to take part in DEVCO's meetings and ISO's General Assembly, scheduled to be held in Beijing/ China through 11 - 14 September 2016. Kindly find here below a report on the organization's work in the standardization field during ISO General Assembly's intersessional period.

Please note that the Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization (AIDMO) is a specialized organization that operates under the umbrella of the league of Arab States (LAS) in the spheres of industry, energy and mining as well as standardization and quality. It works towards the preparation of Unified Arab Standards based on national ones whether adopted in Arabic or in their original language. The number of the Unified Arab Standards, adopted so far, is 9432 standards including 2671 adopted in Arabic, 6761 in their original language, 5518 of which are issued by ISO. AIDMO also endeavors to update the Unified Arab Standards based on international standards per the latest issuance.

In addition to what has been mentioned in last year report about the Arab Standardization and Quality Strategy for 2014-2018, including four main axes namely standards and technical regulations, conformity assessment systems and metrology and accreditation, which form the base countries build upon in the development of their quality infrastructure, AIDMO, through the permanent technical committee in charge of following up the implementation of the Arab Standardization and Quality Strategy (2014-2018) and the High Consultative Committee for Standardization, has followed up the realization of the most important projects of the strategy's executive plan, including:

First project: Implement standardization systems related to health and safety of products, particularly food products – energy conservation – social responsibility – new and renewable energy – water and carbon footprints – nanotechnology – all modern and advanced domains – insurance certificates - conformity assessment, in such a way as to achieve the requirements of stakeholders.

During 2016, technical committees, whose secretariats are chaired by the following countries, were formulated in five fields:

- State of Kuwait (Conformity Assessment).
- Saudi Arabia (energy conservation, new and renewable energy, and nanotechnology).
- Republic of Sudan (safety of food products).
- Arab Republic of Egypt (water and carbon footprints).

With view to preparing and adopting unified Arab standards in these areas.

Second project: Develop mechanisms to determine stakeholders for all parties forming the quality infrastructure in the Arab states, then identify their priorities which include (without limitation thereto, Arab Standardization ...) in compliance with market requirements and common goals for the Arab world and the quality activities

In this regard, AIDMO is preparing a questionnaire that classifies the stakeholders and demonstrates their needs in the Arab countries, fulfilling a set of requirements which determine the impact of such parties and their interaction with the national standardization institutions. More to this point, AIDMO will conduct an analytical study for the questionnaire's outputs and devise a mechanism to identify the stakeholders for all the parties formulating the quality infrastructure in the Arab countries.

Third project: Sign agreements with Arab and International Organizations, academic sectors and partners.

In this respect and at the invitation of AIDMO, ISO, IEC and GSO took part in the 46th meeting of the High Consultative Committee for Standardization, held at AIDMO's headquarters in Rabat during the period 21 - 22 April 2016. Preparation is currently underway to sign the Cooperation Charter with the international Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), as a prelude to concluding a cooperation agreement that serves the Arab Standardization and Quality Strategy.

Fourth project: Increase participation in international technical committees operating in quality infrastructure spheres, coordinate the Arab position during meetings, vote on decisions and recommendations in order to harmonize Arab standards with International standards and work towards the removal of the technical barriers to trade (TBT).

With regard to this project, AIDMO urges Member States, through the recommendations of the High Consultative Committee for Standardization and its boards, to join and participate effectively in the international technical committees and issue pertinent recommendations so that the members contribute to the harmonization of the Arab and international standards to remove (TBT). AIDMO has followed up a number of its electronic forums to coordinate the joint Arab action in this area and bring about a rapprochement of Arab countries' views in a number of stances that will enhance standardization activity at both national and regional levels.

In the same vein, AIDMO is following up the other executive plan's projects for achieving integration and interconnection of Arab laboratories, creating its own information network and unifying conformity assessment procedures in various

fields in line with international guides, including conformity certificates and badges and quality mark with a focus on priority products and goods.

In order to encourage Arab institutions in several sectors to enhance their performance, rationalize their expenditures and increase their products' quality, the second edition of the Arab Quality Award is presently in the preparatory stage in food and construction industries and building materials and petrochemical and electrical industries. The Arab Quality award standards are optimal means for evaluating the institutions' administrative, financial and operational systems and comparing their systems and performance with the outstanding global level.

For the record, an expert committee from various Arab countries has been put in place, as its first meeting will be convened in Mauritania in November 2016.

A workshop on the support of community partnership and society service and sustainable development of standardization activities will be held in collaboration with the Saudi Standards, Quality and Metrology organization (SASO).

In the field of metrology and accreditation, executive programs for the strategy's axes on metrology and accreditation have been set up and initiated through the Arab Program for Legal Metrology (ARAMEL), the Arab Program for Scientific and Industrial Metrology (ARAMET) and ARAC.

AIDMO proposes the following recommendations:

1. Invite ISO to cooperate with AIDMO in the implementation of some activities of the Arab Standardization and Quality strategy for 2014-2018 pertaining to standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment systems.
2. Increase coordination between the ISO and AIDMO in realizing the Arab region's projects.

3. ISO to collaborate with AIDMO in holding a workshop on water and carbon footprints, guided by an expert to explain the pros and cons of applying these international standards.
4. Provide AIDMO with the electronic texts of ISO international standards adopted as Arab unified standards.
5. Make further translations of international standards issued by ISO into Arabic language to be adopted as Arabic International Standards



African Organisation For Standardisation
Organisation Africaine De Normalisation
ARSO Central Secretariat
3rd Floor, International House
Mama Ngina Street.

P. O. Box 57363-00200
Nairobi, Kenya
Tel. +254-20-
2224561/311641/
311608

E-mail arso@arso-oran.org/
Web www.arso-oran.org

Introduction

This is a summary of the annual report of the ARSO's Secretary General that covers the implementation of ARSO Work Plan for inclusion in the set of ISO working document (ISO week in Beijing, China, 2016).

Key achievement ARSO within the Strategic Plan 2012 – 2017

The following are key considerations and achievements related to ARSO implementation of its activities for the period of October 2015 – June 2016 that focuses on four Strategic objectives:

1. Strategic Objective 1: Establish a standards harmonization system that supports a sound regulatory framework:

- 1.1. ARSO under the PAQI (Pan African Quality Infrastructure) forum and through consultative meetings within the Regional Economical Communities (RECs), is involved in the developing of the General Quality Policy for Africa targeted for publishing in 2017 which is the year of Quality Infrastructure for Africa, asper the recommendations of the African Union Ministers of Trade.
- 1.2. ARSO continued to have stronger cooperation with the African Union to strengthen the standardisation and the related subjects in Africa with a view to boosting the Intra-African Trade, and the implementation of Continental Free Trade Area by giving technical advice in different forum.
- 1.3. There has been increased cooperation with regional and International Organisations to implement ARSO programmes with a major focus on harmonisation of standards and standards implementation capacity building of ARSO members focusing on agriculture and food security; textiles and leather; chemical and chemical engineering; Building and Civil Engineering; environmental management; services and African Traditional Medicine.
- 1.4. ARSO is cooperating with the **Catholic** University of East Africa in Nairobi, Kenya to deliver master's programme on Education about Quality Infrastructure and ARSO members are contemplating inclusion of education on standards in formal education.

2. Strategic Objective 2: Disseminate harmonized standards and guidelines to support intra, inter African and international trade and industrialization.

- 2.1. ARSO, jointly with UNICE and KEBS organised workshop on 14th December 2015, Nairobi, Kenya on "Delivering on the Trade Facilitation Agreement: the role of standards and regulatory frameworks" as a side event to the " 10th WTO Ministerial Conference held in Nairobi on 15th – 18th December 2015.
- 2.2. ARSO continued to highlight on the role of standards in trade in different trade Fairs and in the celebrations of the, World Standards, Metrology, Accreditation days through publishing of relevant articles.
- 2.3. ARSO also highlighted on the role of the Service sector in the Africa's economies, through a published article on service standards in Africa - "Making a huge difference in Africa" in the ISO FOCUS May – June 2016 Edition. The ARSO Quarterly Newsletter continues to highlight ARSO activities and the role of standardisation in Africa.

3. Strategic Objective 3: Strengthening ARSO work-management capabilities for the sustainability of the Organisation.

- 3.1. ARSO is focusing on ARSO beyond 2017 with a review process to culminate on ARSO strategic plan 2017-2022, where standardisation and conformity assessment is expected to play a greater role in Africa's competitiveness and economic growth by fulfilling the objective of the Continental Free Trade Area.
- 3.2. There is continuous engagement with the NSBs to share experience and facilitate NSB to NSB cooperation through the ARSO-NSBs signed MoUs. ARSO and SAZ/Zimbabwe is scheduled to sign the MoU on 22nd June 2016 at the 22nd ARSO GA events.

4. Strategic Objective 4: Promoting maximum and effective participation of Members and other stakeholders

- 4.1. ARSO continued to engage members in identifying gaps survey questionnaires on Standardisation Training, THCs harmonisation meetings and activities and on conformity assessment within countries.
- 4.2. ARSO developed Training modules for ARSO Standardisation Training which already is being used in training by ARSO members.
- 4.3. ARSO held the 3rd African Standardisation Competition among the University Students in Africa under the theme ""The Role of Standardisation in Women's Empowerment with regard to the vision 2063".
- 4.4. ARSO organized the 4th African Day of Standardisation under the theme ""The Role of Standardisation in Women's Empowerment with regard to the vision 2063". This is a precursor to the celebrations of the World Standards Day and is being embraced by many African countries, including Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya, and Zimbabwe). Continental celebrations are scheduled for 22nd June 2016 in Arusha Tanzania.
- 4.5. Member countries held made-in-Africa Expos during the African Day of Standardisation, where the African entrepreneurs are being exposed to the role of standardisation in enhancing productivity, competitiveness in manufacturing and trade. There is a scheduled Made in Africa Expo in the ARSO – Arusha GA events from 20th – 24th June 2016.
- 4.6. ARSO recognises Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as building blocks for Africa's economic integration. For this ARSO developed a Guideline for its cooperation with RECs which was endorsed by the RECs (EAC, ECOWAS, COMESA and SADC) during the ARSO-RECs consultative meeting of 25th - 26th April 2016, Nairobi, Kenya where the RECs work plans were shared among the stakeholders.
- 4.7. For highlighting the role of African (RECs) Parliamentary Legislators in standardisation and promoting Quality Infrastructure in Africa, ARSO organised a one day mobilisation

workshop for the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) Members, Parliamentary Committee of Agriculture, Tourism and Natural on 16th October 2016. The Second meeting for all the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) Members was held on 3rd June 2016 at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha Tanzania.

5. ARSO - ISO cooperation focus 2015 - 2016

- (i) Participation of ARSO and ISO in each other's strategic events. The participation of the ISO Secretary General at the 22nd ARSO GA in Arusha Tanzania in June 2016. The ISO Secretary General is scheduled to share with ARSO members and African Stakeholders on the **ISO Regional Engagement Strategy, Africa's membership in international standardisation and on financing NSBs.**
- (ii)
- (iii) ARSO will be participating at the ISO General Assembly week in Beijing (China) on 12th – 14th September and focused discussions with ISO is expected with regard to facilitating ARSO (CACO) and ISO (CASCO) cooperation in the Conformity Assessment programmes; ARSO COCO and ISO (ISOCOPOLCO) cooperation in facilitating participation of Consumers in Standardisation; ISO (ISONET) and ARSO (DISNET) in the exchange of standardisation information among ARSO members and African stakeholders; joint Standards Education, Seminars and training programmes to ARSO-ISO members. (94% of ARSO members are ISO members; Participation in the ISO Committees by African Countries.

4. Conclusion

Since the last ISO Week in South Korea, 2015, the ARSO/ISO cooperation has continued to be strengthened and I take this opportunity to thank the ISO Management for the continuous collaboration.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Hermogene Nsengimana
Secretary General.



CEN's contribution to the ISO GA 2016

Dear Dr. Zhang, ISO President
Dear Mr. McKinley, (Acting) ISO Secretary General

It is with pleasure that I present CEN's yearly contribution to ISO, which illustrates the European commitment to collaborate with ISO in order to foster industry's global competitiveness and contribute to economic growth worldwide. This commitment is embedded in the CEN strategy, and is reflected at various levels of the organisation's activities.

The adoption of ISO standards in Europe continues to be greatly facilitated by the Vienna Agreement, which has also proven its value in easing a smooth and effective technical cooperation. CEN also believes this technical cooperation could be reinforced through more international cooperation and synergies in some key areas such as energy management, services, (cyber) security, and smart cities, and the digital economy in general, and encourages ISO to consider this invitation.

The primacy that CEN gives to the development of international standards is also reflected in the evolution and improvements of the CEN processes and of its IT tools and services, which are aligned with ISO developments or developed in close collaboration with ISO. This offers the European experts a seamless environment to work both, at European and international level, and thereby boosts the efficiency of the system.

The application of ISO and IEC standards in support of the European Single Market, fully supported by the new European Commission with its Communication on the [Single Market Strategy](#) and the "Joint Initiative on European Standardization", has been further facilitated with the completion of a process that involves ISO (and IEC) in the preparation of its input to the "Annual Union Work Programme" of the European Commission regarding standardization needs, or before accepting Standardization Requests submitted to CEN by the EC/EFTA.

Bilateral dialogues and dedicated partnerships that CEN has with its counterparts in key trading countries for Europe complete the activities outlined above, as they aim at strengthening the role of ISO and the global technical alignment in view of creating market access opportunities.

Finally, CEN as a regional organisation has faced a number of challenges and opportunities – in areas such as IPR, the support to SMEs, the integration of standardization and research – which have been addressed jointly with ISO, whenever possible. This report to the 39th ISO General Assembly briefly introduces some of the actions undertaken by CEN, its members and stakeholders, in this respect.

Technical Cooperation ISO-CEN

As in previous years, the Vienna Agreement has continued to be a valuable instrument for collaboration, as well as the promotion, diffusion and implementation of ISO Standards in Europe.

At the end of March 2016, the CEN collection included 5060 documents identical to ISO documents; 406 of these documents were published in 2015. The CEN programme of work included 1 369 work items which should result in CEN documents identical to ISO documents:

- o 1 286 of these work items are being developed in parallel (1 149 under ISO lead and 137 under CEN lead) and should be submitted to simultaneous adoption procedures and publication in ISO and CEN;
- o the other 83 work items correspond to the adoption as CEN documents of already finalised – available ISO documents;
- o 375 of these work items are associated with standardization mandates issued by the European Commission.

- 470 of the work items had been registered in 2015:
 - 435 of these work items are to be developed in parallel (412 under ISO lead and 23 under CEN lead);
 - the other 35 correspond to the adoption as CEN documents of already finalized and available ISO documents.

A full breakdown by domain can be found in annex, as well as some other statistics.

Amongst the areas of good collaboration between CEN and ISO, we can mention Energy Performance of Buildings (EPB), nanotechnologies, nuclear energy, alternative fuels and gas infrastructure, food, adaptation to climate change, machinery, lifts, additive manufacturing, Building Information Modeling (BIM) and medical devices.

Further collaboration between CEN and ISO would be valued in areas such as:

- Energy management: the Vienna agreement could be better exploited to align the standards developed by both organisations as much as possible and to develop common standards whenever possible taking into account the specific European legal environment;
- Services: both CEN and ISO are currently elaborating strategies on service standardization, the possibility of joint initiatives could be explored;
- Smart Cities: closer cooperation between ISO and CEN would be welcome, especially in the frame of the activities developed in the CEN-CENELEC-ETSI Smart and Sustainable Cities Coordination Group;
- Security: same remarks as for energy management on the VA application. Organizational resilience, risk management and business continuity are part of the daily life of an organization. It is necessary that cooperation between newly established ISO/TC 292 'Security and resilience' and CEN/TC 391 and CEN/ TC 439 is ensured and incremented in order to ensure the safety and resilience of society;
- Cyber-Security: given the increasing global relevance of ICT systems and technologies and the upcoming entry into force of the EU regulation on data protection which might impact the international standards setting, cooperation between the CEN-CENELEC Focus Group on Cyber-Security (CSCG) and ISO/IEC JTC 1 needs to be enforced to increase online trust for consumers and organisations alike.

Standardization Requests from the European Commission and EFTA

Standardization Requests (SReq), formerly called Mandates, are invitations from the European Commission (EC) and EFTA to the European Standardization Organizations (ESOs) to draw up and adopt European standards in support of European policies or legislation.

While the European Commission sets the content and deadlines included in Standardization Requests, these are developed in close consultation with the ESOs (and other relevant stakeholders), who can contribute all along the drafting phase. During the consultation phase close cooperation between CEN and ISO is crucial, so as to ensure that these organizations are able to plan properly the future work (both in terms of timeframe and in terms of content) and to identify whenever possible the need to develop International Standards.

Once CEN accepts a Standardization request, it also commits to its execution (irrespective of whether the Vienna Agreement applies) and we have to report on a regular basis on the implementation of the standardization work.

To ensure a prompt coordination and input by all relevant stakeholders at European and international level during the drafting of Standardization Requests, 'Ad-hoc groups' (SRAHG) are put in place. These will see the participation of relevant technical bodies, CEN-CENELEC Members as well as ISO representatives, whenever relevant (allowing a correct implementation of the VA).

Ad-hoc Groups advise the CEN Technical Board on any issue (including work to be carried out, resources, etc.) associated to the draft Standardization Requests and ultimately on their acceptance/rejection.

Processes

The adoption of best practices gives strength to our processes and has added confidence to the actors involved and to our customers. CEN is closely following the ISO and IEC project management approach in order to ensure coherence when improving the standards development process. This will contribute to a positive enhancement of the Vienna Agreement since it is essential that both organizations continue to collaborate on initiatives concerning rules and processes.

CEN has also investigated how the ISO simplified template for standard drafters could be implemented to help the drafting process for CEN Technical Bodies. A pilot phase is now in place to evaluate the European equivalent of the simplified template and should result in a tool, familiar to CEN experts already having worked on ISO projects, that facilitates the process of drafting.

In order to provide transparent and informative guidance on how the Vienna Agreement works in practice, ISO and CEN have collaborated together on the update of the VA Guidelines and VA operational Day-to-Day documentation. Technical Bodies and their experts, both experienced and new, on both sides will benefit from this reference material to effectively contribute to the success of the Vienna Agreement.

CEN-CENELEC Work Programme

The [CEN and CENELEC Work Programme 2016](#), released in December 2015, provides an overview of the most important standardization activities that CEN (and CENELEC) will be supporting in 2016. For each specific sector, it provides information about the technical bodies responsible in that sector, as well as the standardization requests from the European Commission and EFTA which have been accepted by CEN and CENELEC. The primary objective of this work programme is to provide stakeholders with a quick and easy overview of the areas in which new standards are being developed on a sector basis.

IT tools and IT cooperation

End 2015, a major step was made in the modernization and alignment of the collaborative platforms used by common CEN – ISO experts.

Indeed, the CEN collaborative platform 'eCommittee' used by technical bodies has undergone a significant lifting, offering a more modern interface and improved performance. The CEN eCommittee platform has also been harmonized with the ISO platform as well as across the various hosting servers, i.e. CEN eCommittee platforms hosted by CEN or NSBs holding the secretariat (AFNOR and DIN), and now offers a coherent look and feel, folder structure and visibility rules, bringing more transparency and resulting in more seamless CEN and ISO working environments.

By summer 2016, CEN will join the trusted community of users in the framework of the Sign-On project providing to authorized users a single entry point for CEN and ISO applications.

CEN thanks ISO/CS for their involvement in the CEN-CENELEC IT Strategy and technical groups and the responsiveness of their support.

Integrating standardization and research

The 'Bridge the Gap' (BRIDGIT) project launched in 2013 reinforced the links between the standardization, research and innovation communities and increased the capacities of national members to engage with research projects.

In 2015, CEN together with CENELEC addressed an action to engage European Technology Platforms with standardization as well as developing the cooperation on metrology research with EURAMET under the EMPIR programme of Horizon 2020.

Participation of SMEs and Societal Stakeholders

CEN and its members are strongly convinced of the advantages of more inclusive standardization processes, both at national, European and International level, which will for sure influence positively in the quality of our standards.

SMEs (businesses) and societal stakeholders are essentially different in their motivations and benefits obtained from participating in standardization. Still, it is of prime importance to identify and strive to remove as many barriers as possible inherent to our system that may prevent their effective participation.

In 2015 CEN and CENELEC launched an e-Learning tool for SMEs in 23 languages and developed a web-based application to allow Members to offer 'alert systems' to their stakeholders, providing tailored information based on individual requirements.

CEN is pleased to note that ISO together with IEC have published their Guide 17 'Guide for writing standards taking into account the needs of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, very closely based on CEN – CENELEC Guide 17.

Together with societal stakeholder organizations, CEN (and CENELEC) launched a project to explore ways of helping them to participate fully in standardization.

Cooperation on legal issues (Legal Platform)

During 2015, CCMC and ISO/CS have continued and enhanced their collaboration and exchanges on issues of common interest, notably regarding aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), such as copyright enforcement and essential patents in standards, as well as on competition policy in standardization activities.

Copyright enforcement and other challenges

CEN has actively supported ISO in promoting to its members the service of DIGIMARC, a company specialized in screening unlawful content in the web and acting against copyright infringements.

From recent information exchanges between CCMC and ISO/CS, we can conclude that this service has contributed to enhance satisfactorily the copyright protection for most of those members who have subscribed to the service. We believe that further coordinated actions will still be needed to ensure an effective enforcement of our rights and to raise awareness of standard users and regulators on how to benefit from standardization processes without jeopardizing the system. The latter aspect also becomes highly relevant in the light of recent court cases brought to the EU Court of Justice and new European legislative initiatives involving standards.

CCMC has shared information and coordinated actions with ISO/CS on these issues, which are currently being followed-up in the CEN-CENELEC Legal Platform, an informal network of legal advisors of the CEN-CENELEC communities to which ISO and IEC are also associated. CCMC will continue to share all relevant information with ISO/CS, so as to further define common actions to face these legal challenges whenever needed.

Essential patents in standards

Over the years, our respective patent policies have proven to be efficient and to serve our organizations and stakeholders well. In this context, CEN (and CENELEC) have always looked for a harmonised approach with the ISO-IEC-ITU-T common policy on patents.

With this in mind, two main activities in 2015 deserve to be mentioned. First, following the inclusion of some new rules in ISO-IEC-ITU-T common policy governing the transfer of "essential" Patents, and although our Guide 8 on CEN-CENELEC patent policy already covered this aspect, CEN (and CENELEC) have nonetheless engaged in the revision of the relevant text, so as to ensure full alignment with the ITU/ISO/IEC text and avoid ambiguous interpretation on such sensitive matter for companies.

Second, I would like to mention the joint CEN-CENELEC response to the European Commission's public consultation on "Patents and Standards", supported by ISO and IEC, where ISO/CS provided valuable support in defining common replies on the main topics of such legally complex issue. The CEN-CENELEC response was published in February 2015 and it was well appreciated by the European Commission and other stakeholders.

Considering the growing global relevance of the debate regarding the rules and practices on the use of "essential" patents in standards, the CEN-CENELEC Legal Platform has decided to follow up these discussions with an ad-hoc Working Group, in which ISO/CS has been active for some time. Please note that the participation to this WG remains open to ISO/CS, should ISO decide to actively contribute to the debate on this matter at European level.

Competition policy in standardization activities

2015 has also been a fruitful year regarding the coordination between CEN and ISO on the definition of a coherent sets of rules for experts and stakeholders to follow when participating in meetings in the CEN and ISO standardization environments.

This delicate matter has been the subject of intense discussions and exchanges of information and of legal advices. ISO/CS has been involved in this work by our Legal Platform from the start and its contribution has been instrumental to ensure a real coherent approach between the two organizations. The fruitful collaboration on this matter materialized with the approval of the new CEN-CENELEC Guide 30 on “Competition law for participants in CEN-CENELEC activities”. Please note CEN and CENELEC have deliberately postponed the approval process of this CEN-CENELEC Guide until the work at international level was finalized.

Strengthening global technical alignment and the role of ISO via bilateral partnerships and policy support

The support that CEN provides to ISO not only is at the heart of its technical work, it is also a cornerstone of its interactions with other regional and national standardization bodies worldwide.

In 2015, CEN received a study visit from the South Asian Regional Standards Organization (SARSO), a body that was recognized as a regional standards organization as per the ISO Council Resolution 24/2015. CEN and SARSO have started discussing a potential Memorandum of Understanding that would allow CEN to share its experience of a successful regional economic integration heavily committed to and relying on ISO standards.

CEN also facilitated the application of the ISO Member for Ukraine, namely the Ukrainian Scientific, Research and Training Center on Standardization, Certification and Quality Problems (UkrNDNC) as a CEN Affiliate (replacing the former Ukrainian National Standardization Body, DSSU). This Affiliation status will help the country strengthen its uptake of ISO standards, further integrating Ukraine in the European and global markets.

CEN is also proud of the work carried out over the year 2015 to renew its privileged cooperation framework with the Standards Council of Canada (SCC), resulting in the [signature of a revised agreement in January 2016](#). This agreement with SCC, whose CEO John Walter is the ISO Vice-President Policy, fosters the international harmonization of standards in the framework of ISO (and IEC).

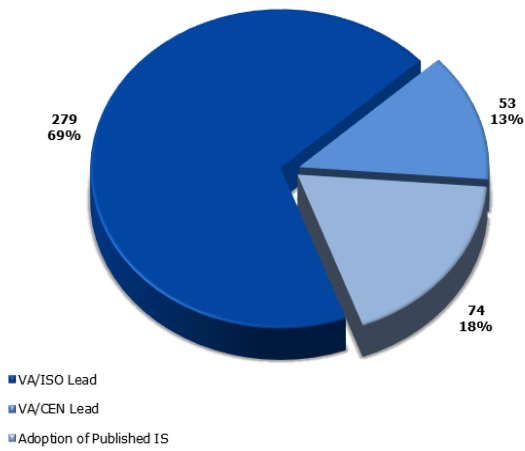
In June last year, [CEN and CENELEC signed a joint Letter of Intent with the ISO Member for China, SAC](#), confirming their commitment to renewing their longstanding cooperation. This letter highlights the strategic support that both sides provide to ISO and confirms their intention to articulate future bilateral cooperation activities with a view to further strengthen the role of ISO.

Eventually, it is worth mentioning the release in June 2015 of a [CEN and CENELEC contribution to the development of a new EU trade and investment strategy](#), that encourages the European Institutions to highlight in all relevant activities the role of ISO and IEC to foster a level-playing field in the global trade landscape.

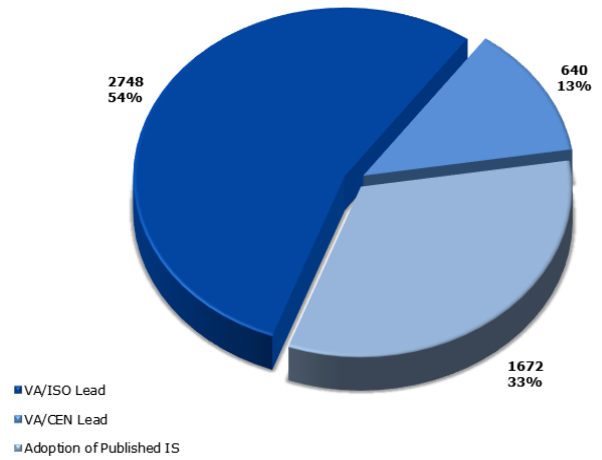
Elena SANTIAGO CID
CEN and CENELEC Director General

Annex

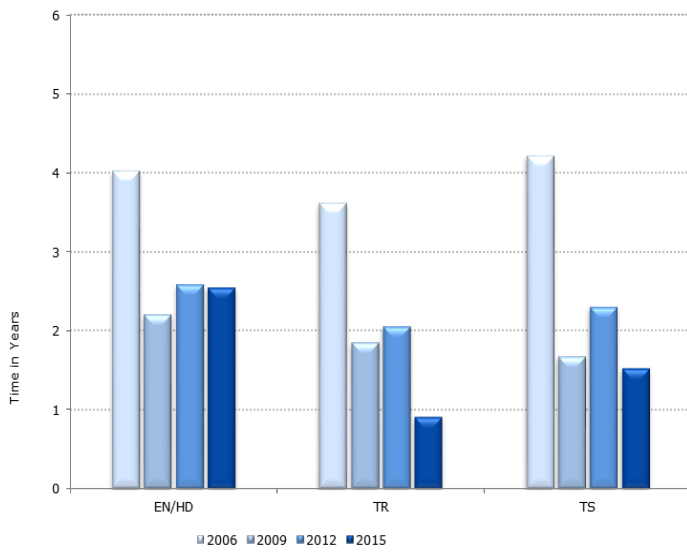
CEN-ISO Technical Cooperation - Publications in 2015



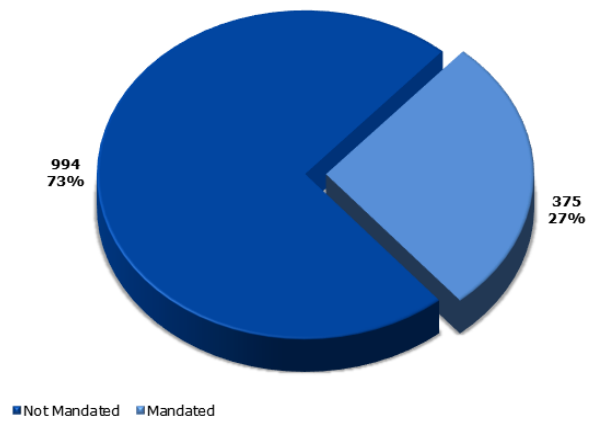
CEN-ISO Technical Cooperation - Available Documents



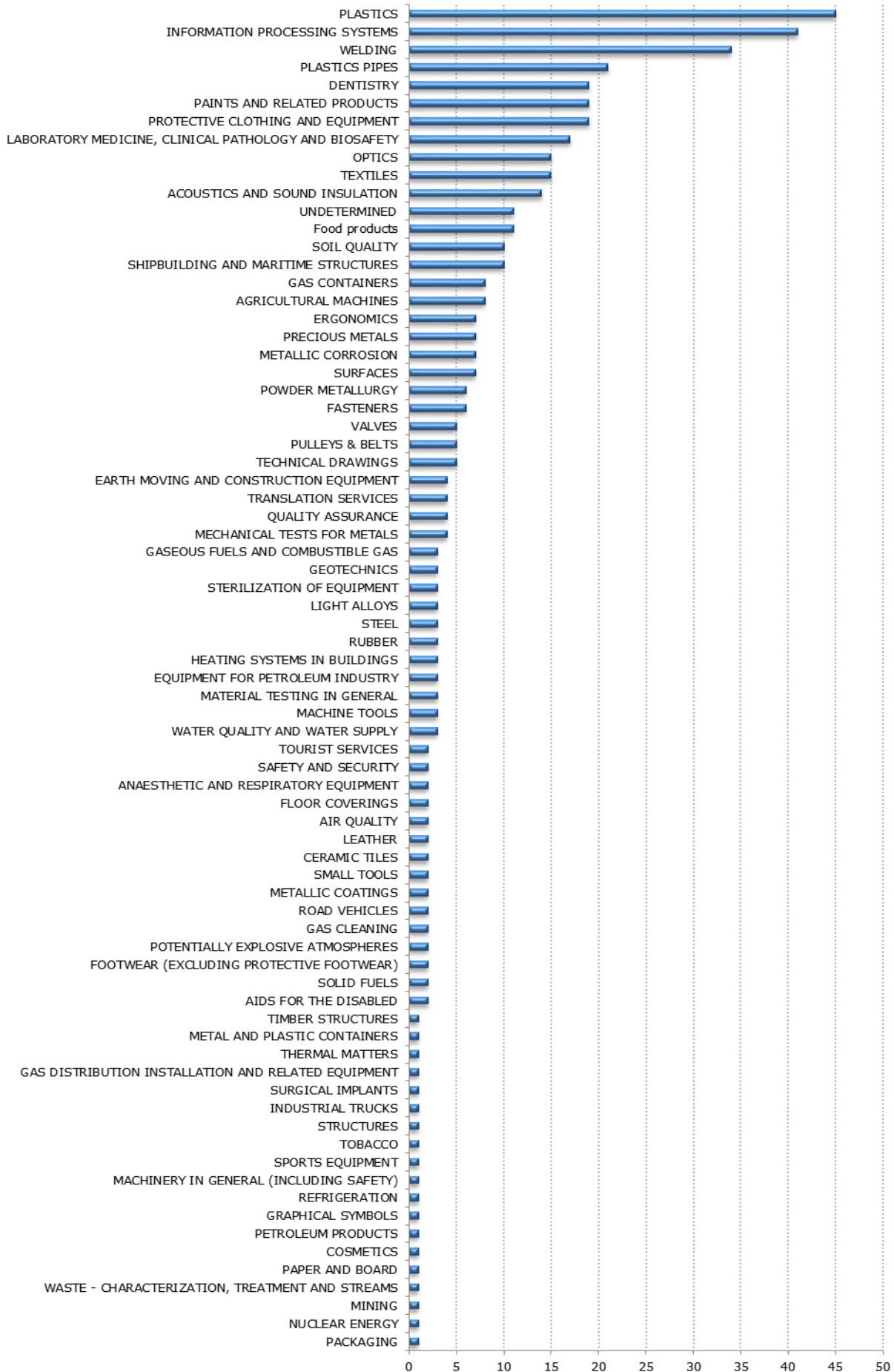
CEN - Time to Publication per Deliverable, per Year (only documents developed under the Vienna Agreement)



CEN Work Programme Related to ISO - Mandates



CEN - Work Items registered in 2015 related to ISO - Breakdown by Domain



PAN AMERICAN STANDARDS COMMISSION COPANT

The object of COPANT shall be 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

In its role as the reference body for the standardization and promoter of the conformity assessment with standards of the Americas for its members and its international partners, COPANT will contribute:

- to facilitate trade among the American countries and between them and other regions,
- to promote sustainable growth of its members, with an emphasis on those least developed,
- to disseminate best practices in technology, quality, environment, innovation and other related subjects, using standardization tools, and
- to improve the participation of its members in international standardization.

COPANT currently has 34 active members and 10 adherent members.

COPANT meetings from last year and future

General Assembly

- AG 2015: Hold in Mexico City (April 13 and 15, 2015)
- AG 2016: Hold in Guayaquil (April 19 and 20, 2016)
- AG 2017: Will take place in Vancouver (May 1 and 2, 2017) (Joint meeting with PASC)

Board of Directors

- N° 29 in Mexico City (April 15, 2015)
- N° 30 in Santiago (November 4, 2015)
- N° 31 in Guayaquil (April 20, 2016)
- N° 32 will take place in Sao Paulo (November 3, 2016)
- N° 33 will take place in Vancouver (May 2, 2017)

Highlights issues 2015-2016

- ✓ COPANT officers: Joe Bhatia (ANSI) President; Ricardo Fragoso (ABNT) Vice President; and Osvaldo Petroni (IRAM) Treasurer.
- ✓ Strategic Planning 2016-2020 ongoing, monitored by our 4 WG on the Strategic Priorities: Capacity Building, International Participation, Conformity Assessment and Regional Cooperation.
- ✓ During the week of the COPANT General Assembly 2016 two workshops were hold on “Trade Facilitation Through the Quality Infrastructure”, together with SIM and IAAC, and on “Automotive Standards and Regulations in the Americas” organized by ANSI.
- ✓ COPANT along with SIM and IAAC is participating in two regional projects on Quality Infrastructure for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy and on Biodiversity and Climate Change with PTB (*Physikalisch Technische Bundesanstalt*). Three exclusive COPANT pilot projects related to gain greater benefit from the IEC Affiliate Country Programme and establishment/strengthening of NECs; Establishment and strengthening of national mirror committees in ISO/CASCO and ISO/TC 207
- ✓ The three regional organizations on quality infrastructure of the Americas: SIM-IAAC-COPANT conform the Quality Infrastructure Council of the Americas.
- ✓ COPANT signed a MoU with CROSQ.
- ✓ COPANT had discussions sessions to send inputs to the IEC MasterPlan and to send suggestions to ISO regarding its regional approach.
- ✓ 2017 AGM will be held in conjunction with PASC in order to discuss topics of common interest.
- ✓ During the COPANT Week 2016 a Speed Networking between our members and special guests was organized, over 50 bilateral meetings took place, among which participants exchanged experiences, discussed possible mechanisms for cooperation and signed several memorandums of understanding.

Training 2015 – 2016

- Workshop on “Perspectives on Standardization and Conformity Assessment for NSBs Leaders”, in Mexico City, Mexico – April 16, 2015.
- Internship on “IT Tools for Standardization”, hold in Sao Paulo, Brazil on July 27-31, 2015
- Internship on Standards 9th version, hold in Bogota, October 26-30, 2015.
- Workshop on the revision of the standard ISO 17025 and its impact on the NQI (National Quality Infrastructure) that took place during the meeting of the SIM General Assembly (Inter American Metrology System) in November 2015 in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Organized by QICA (The Council of the Quality Infrastructure of the Americas).
- Workshop on “Trade Facilitation through the Quality Infrastructure”, hold in Guayaquil, Ecuador on April 21, 2016.
- Workshop on “Automotive Standards and Regulations in the Americas”, hold in Guayaquil, Ecuador on April 22, 2016.
- Internship on “Participation on International Standardization”, to be held in Santiago, Chile on July 26-28, 2016, for Spanish speaking members
- Internship on “Participation on International Standardization”, to be held in a country in the Caribbean on 2016, for English speaking members, sponsored by BSI (Adherent member of COPANT)
- Internship on “Conformity Assessment, Management Systems” second version, to be held in Mexico City, Mexico, November 2016.

Promotion and information

- Participation of COPANT in International Events:
 - CANENA annual meeting, February 2016, Mexico City, Mexico
 - ISO General Assembly, Seoul 2016 and 49 Plenary Session of ISO/DEVCO
 - IEC Annual Meeting Minsk 2015.
 - SIM General Assembly, November 2015, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic.
 - FINCA Annual meeting, September 2015, Cartagena, Colombia.
 - PASC General Assembly Meeting, May 2015, New Delhi, India.
 - Attendance of our members with the support of COPANT to technical meetings: Plenary of ISO/COPOLCO (Geneva 2015 and 2016), Plenary of ISO/TC 176 (Hong Kong 2015), Plenary of ISO/TC 207 (New Delhi 2015 and Seoul 2016), ISO/CASCO Plenary meeting (Dubai 2016), and Plenary meeting ISO/TC 228 (Cape Town 2015 and Kuala Lumpur 2016).
- COPANT supports ISO/DEVCO in the development of seminars and training courses in the region.
- Systematically translated into Spanish ISO Press Releases, articles from e-Tech News from IEC and the ISO Focus+ magazine (now printed in Spanish by ISO), with the permission of these organizations, articles available on the COPANT website.

For more information, visit our webpage. www.copant.org

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Copant/175547072500129>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/COPANTNormas>



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

After the 38th ISO General Assembly, the activities of the EASC were aimed at solving the issues related to improving the regional standardization work, streamlining the activities of interstate technical standardization committees, finding solutions for reforms based on regional standardization management, as well as other areas of EASC activities.

In 2015, the issues worked were related to reforming the EASC and its working bodies.

To reform the EASC, a Roadmap was made for the development of a long-term vision for the EASC, which involves the improvement of the regional standardization planning, changes to voting procedures when adopting regional standards, inventorying of the interstate technical standardization committees, development and adoption of a new EASC structure, and other events. The Roadmap activity planned for a period until 2020 shall ensure the development of the EASC while taking into consideration international and European practices.

In accordance with the Action Plan to implement an Economic Development Strategy for the Commonwealth of Independent States for a period until 2020, activities are being carried out to improve interstate standardization and to streamline activities related to the distribution and application of interstate standards, with consideration for the protection of EASC copyrights, using the principles of the ISO POCOSA 2012 Policy.

To form the methodological framework and to further develop works related to interstate standardization, the EASC basic standards, GOST 1.0-2015 — Interstate system for standardization. Basic principles, were revised in 2015. GOST 1.2-2015, Interstate system for standardization. Interstate standards, rules and recommendations on interstate standardization. Rules for development, taking over, renovation and cancellation, GOST 1.3-2014

Interstate System for Standardization. Standards Interstate. Rules of development on the basis of the international and regional standards, as well development of the new GOST 1.4-2015, Interstate system for standardization. Interstate technical committees for standardization. Rules of organization and function.

Proactive efforts are being made to develop and adopt interstate standards. In 2015, there were more than 1,300 interstate standards adopted, whose level of harmonization with international and European standards is more than 48%. As of June 1, 2016, the EASC has more than 24,700 interstate regulatory documents in effect, and the level of standard harmonization with international and European standards is more than 20%. The database of interstate standards is updated on an annual basis, as of the beginning of the year. The updated interstate standards database is sent to the national bodies on a CD and posted to the EASC website. Based on it, a catalog of the EASC regional standards is compiled in English and posted on the website.

In accordance with current provisions, in 2015 activities were carried out to create a Program for Interstate Standardization Work for 2016 – 2018, and a List of Priority Work Areas for Interstate Standardization in 2016 – 2020. The above documents shall provide for further development of the EASC.

Currently, the formation of the Program for Interstate Standardization Work, monitoring of its implementation, posting of regional draft standards, and voting on them are conducted within the framework of the EASC Automated Integrated System.

On the EASC website (www.easc.org.by), an electronic ITC (Interstate Technical Standardization Committees) website is being created, to be used for suggestions towards the Program for Interstate Standardization Work and work with regional draft standards at all development stages, including the involvement of the ITC members. The implementation of activities for the development of information technologies is discussed at the EASC sessions, the required adjustments and supplements are being adopted; at the same time, the need to improve the work of the ITC was recognized as one of the main components for the further development of the EASC.

In 2015, the EASC continued to work on systematization, identification of level of interest in ITC activities, and adjustment of information on the ITC.

In the EASC, the ITC Index was compiled and posted on the EASC website homepage, based on the database of the ITC software module. It is now operating in a real-time mode and includes 131 ITCs meeting the criteria of PMG 02-2008 Rules for Interstate Standardization. Model provision on the interstate technical standardization committee.

On 27 – 28 June 2016 in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, the 49th EASC Session will be held, where the results of the works will be summarized for the period between the 47th and 49th Sessions, and ways for the further development for regional standardization and EASC reforming will be charted, decisions will be made on all directions of the EASC activities – international and regional cooperation, technical regulation, standardization, metrology, compliance evaluation, accreditation; EASC leading officials will be elected, the dates and places of the next sessions will be determined. The representatives of the international, regional and foreign organizations for standardization, metrology, certification and accreditation, and business community representatives are invited as observers to the 49th EASC Session. The ISO representative's attendance and report are expected.

Today, ISO is the leading international standardization organization. To enhance its role in the future, according to the opinion of the EASC, as stated at the 38th General Assembly, it is reasonable to foster, in the period of 2016 – 2020, the ISO efforts for the coordination of the activities of organizations involved in the standardization at the international level, and the elaboration of the agreed principles and rules of their conduct.

A more proactive policy, aimed at expanding the application of ISO international standards on the national and regional levels, needs to be pursued and regional standardization organizations have to become more engaged in the creation of the development strategy for international standardization, in order to develop the interregional integration ties.

For that purpose, the work practices of the ISO technical committees should begin to include an analysis of regional standards and the development of international standards, based on the advanced regional standards, which provide the expansion of

the best practices and high technologies at the international level. Special attention should be paid to the expansion of technologies and ISO rules used in developing the ISO international standards and their application during the development of regional and national standards. The unification of these technologies and rules would allow to significantly reduce the costs of these works at all levels of the development, i.e. making the economic effect of standardization even greater. To implement the above suggestion, it is desirable to hold ISO workshops dedicated to the introduction of present-day standardization working practices within the EASC frontier.

All of this will contribute to the expansion of international trade.

In the best interests of the international trade expansion, it is advisable that the ISO should pay more attention to the development of the international standards that will enable use of the compliance presumption principle based on the international standards of technical regulatory processes at the national, regional, and international levels.

More attention shall be paid to the expansion of work in the area of the methodology and practice of compliance evaluation for the purposes of recognizing, at the international level, the testing (measurement) and certification results, in order to implement the principle of 'uniform requirements—the same tests recognized worldwide'.

Promotional events should be carried out that are dedicated to international standards, which are the most important for the development of international trade, saving energy resources, environmental protection (providing information in the ISO working languages to the regional organizations and posting on social networks, etc.).

To avoid ambiguity in understanding the ISO documents, it is advisable that provisions be made to simultaneously develop and issue the ISO standards in Russian.

The 51st EASC Session is set to be held from May to June 2017; it will be dedicated to the 25-year anniversary of the founding of the EASC.

We invite the ISO Chairman, the Heads of the Central Secretariat, the heads of other international and regional organizations, with whom the EASC maintains business relations, and the heads of the national standardization organizations, who are interested in cooperation with the EASC, to participate in the work of the 51st EASC Session.

Nikolay Sonets, EASC Executive Secretary.



Pacific Area Standards Congress (PASC) Report to the ISO GA

Overview of PASC

In recognition of the importance of international standardization to trade and commerce, countries on the Pacific Rim agree on the need for a forum to:

- a) strengthen international standardization programmes of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and to improve the ability of Pacific Rim standards organizations to participate in these programmes effectively;
- b) improve the quality and capacity of standardization in economies of the region;
- c) support free trade within the region and with economies in other regions;
- d) support improvement of economic efficiency and development of the region through the promotion of standardization; and
- e) interact with other bodies that represent elements of the standardization technical infrastructure, industry, consumers and government

2. In line with the above, PASC members have adopted by consensus a number of important resolutions concerning international standardization, the work of IEC and ISO, and communication and collaboration among the 23 PASC members.

Highlights of 2015/16

3. PASC was represented and participated in the ISO General Assembly 2015 from 16 to 18 September in Seoul (Korea) and also the IEC General Meeting from 12 to 16 November in Minsk (Belarus) respectively. A second PASC-COPANT reception, hosted by KATS (Korea) was held at the sidelines of the ISO GA.

4. PASC has identified IEC/ISO technical committees, subcommittees and working groups and international standardization subjects of greatest common interest to PASC members as PASC Pilot Projects. At the PASC 39 meeting, hosted by BSN (Indonesia) the meeting noted the following projects/NWIPs of interest,

- Early Warning Systems for Landslides led by BSN
- Audit Data Collection (ISO/PC 295), Brand Evaluation (ISO/TC 289) and Rare Earth (ISO/TC 298) led by SAC;
- Assistive Walking Devices such as Walking Trolleys (ISO/TC 173), Test methods for Fibrous Activated Carbon , Graphical Symbols for Natural Disaster Safety Evacuation Guidance Systems and Guidance on activities of ISO 50001 by a group led by JISC,
- Block chain standards led by SA; and
- Development of new standards on Healthcare Administration led by ANSI

PASC Strategic Plan 2016-2020

5. PASC finalised its Strategic Plan at the PASC 38 Annual General Meeting (AGM) hosted by BIS in New Delhi, India. The Plan seeks to present the strategic vision and desired outcomes of PASC by 2020, in order to guide its decisions and key initiatives to strengthen the region's capacity in responding to emerging challenges and opportunities in the global environment.

6. PASC’s vision by 2020 is “Enhanced regional development and competitiveness through effective and sustainable standardization activities”. PASC will focus on three priority areas to achieve its vision for 2020. These are (i) communication, (ii) partnerships & stakeholder engagement and (iii) capacity building & trade facilitation.

7. PASC’s initiatives under the priority areas will be incorporated into a PASC Action Plan which records agreed projects and are monitored by the PASC Executive Committee (EC). Updates to the Action Plan and progress made on the agreed projects are presented at each PASC Annual General Meeting and PASC EC Meeting.

8. At the PASC 39 AGM and PASC EC 54 meeting, members endorsed the list of priority activities to be undertaken. Updates on these activities will be provided at the next PASC 40 AGM in 2017:

Working Group	Priority Activities
WG 1 (Communication)	a. PASC website b. Standardisation promotional material – brochure, posters c. Template to summarise key messages, recommendations, and follow-ups from each workshop
WG 2 (Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagement)	a. Encouraging PASC members’ participation & contributions in the following meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. 13-14 Jun 2016 (Geneva): ISO Services Workshop ii. 13 Jul 2016 (Singapore): IEC/ISO/ITU World Smart City Forum; iii. 28-29 Jul 2016 (Singapore): ISO Marketing & Communication Workshop iv. Sept/Oct 2016 (Peru): APEC/SCSC Workshop on MSMEs b. Compiling a list of case studies/best practices for MSMEs, Services and Standards Education
WG 3 (Capacity Building & Trade Facilitation)	a. APEC project on the Role of Standards and Innovation for Driving APEC’s Silver Economy; b. APEC SMEWG Harmonisation of Standards Project (Phase Two) c. Organise a workshop to detail the methodology and processes involved in putting up an NWIP (with support from the ISO & IEC regional offices)

9. PASC members also strongly supported and were encouraged by the ISO Council decision to support the continued development of ISO’s regional engagement strategy. PASC members view this initiative as an excellent opportunity to develop ISO into a stronger global organisation.

PASC Meetings (2016)

10. **PASC Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

- 39th PASC AGM was held on 9 to 13 May in Bali, Indonesia

11. **PASC Executive Committee (EC) Meetings (3 times a year)**

- 53rd PASC EC meeting held by teleconference on 10th March 2016 (in Sydney/Australian time)

- 54th PASC EC meeting held on 12 May 2015 in conjunction with the 39th PASC AGM in Bali, Indonesia
- 55th PASC meeting to be held on 12 September 2016 at the sidelines of the ISO GA in Beijing, China

12. **Participation in International and Regional Initiatives**

PASC sent a representative and/or sent an activity report to the following meetings:

- Participation and report submission to APEC related meetings held in February 2016;
- Participation and report submission to the 45th ACCSQ meeting held from 4 to 8 April in Singapore;
- Participation and report submission in COPANT General Assembly held from 17 to 22 April in Guayaquil, Ecuador
- Report submission to the 3rd APLAC PAC Joint Annual Meeting incorporating the 22nd APLAC General Assembly from 11 to 18 June 2016 in Taipei

Upcoming Priorities for PASC

13. Following the completion of the PASC Strategic Plan 2016-2020, PASC will:

- Implement the identified priority activities from 2016 to 2020 through the work of three Working Groups viz. Group 1 (PASC 2020 & Communication); Group 2 (Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagement) and Group 3 (Capacity Building & Trade Facilitation);
- Strengthen links between international standardisation to trade and commerce, e.g. by stepping up engagement with the organisations such as the WTO
- Encourage deeper collaboration between the ISO/TMB, IEC/SMB and ITU-T/TSAG to avoid duplication in existing work areas, and reduce overlaps in new work items
- Leverage regional partners and ISO & IEC regional initiatives and offices to support capacity building and increased engagement within the region.

Conclusion

14. PASC appreciates the opportunity to report to the ISO GA and would appreciate any feedback you may have with respect to issues and ideas in this report.

15. PASC would also like to take this opportunity to wish ISO and its members every success at its meeting.

CHEONG Tak Leong
PASC Secretary
May 2016



REPORT TO ISO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SEPTEMBER 12-14, 2016

Submitted by:

Mr. Deryck Omar
Chief Executive Officer

31 May 2016

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
STRATEGIC DIRECTION.....	1
WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2016.....	2
CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD.....	11
APPENDICES.....	12
APPENDIX 1: Listing of CROSQ Council Members.....	11
APPENDIX 2: CROSQ Standards Development Work Plan.....	14
APPENDIX 3: List of Approved CARICOM Regional Standards as at 31 May 2016...16	

INTRODUCTION

The CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ) was established in 2002 by an Intergovernmental Agreement between the fifteen (15) Member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)¹.

CROSQ comprises a governing Council of the Directors/Executive Directors of the National Standards Bodies (NSBs) of CARICOM; of which twelve are currently members of ISO at different levels (see Appendix 1); Technical and Special Committees with stakeholders from private and public sector entities who participate in the work of the organisation; and a Secretariat which is headquartered in Barbados that implements the work programme of CROSQ.

CROSQ's main objectives are the development and harmonisation of standards, metrology, mutual recognition of accreditation and certification systems, and facilitation of the achievement of international competitiveness of regional goods and services produced and provided in the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

Strategic Plan 2016-2020 – *Making Regional Quality Infrastructure (RQI) Relevant for Competitiveness and Regional Development.*

Vision:

CROSQ - The leader for the development and promotion of the Regional Quality Infrastructure

Mission:

To facilitate trade and competitiveness of CARICOM products and services for sustainable development through implementation of RQI.

The focus for the next five years will be on strengthening the national and regional quality infrastructure in CARICOM Member States, specifically in the national standards bodies (NSBs), and also the development of regional processes and support systems in each of the main pillars of RQI, namely, - Standards, Metrology, Accreditation and Conformity Assessment.

The CROSQ Strategic Plan 2016-2020: *Making RQI Relevant for Competitiveness and Regional Development* is based on the Balanced Scorecard Methodology which is hinged on four (4) perspectives, namely, Client & User Perspective, Financial Perspective, Organisational Perspective and Learning Perspective. CROSQ is focusing on fifteen (15) Strategic Objectives that are aligned to each of the four perspectives of the Balanced Scorecard as follows:

¹ CROSQ Members - Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago. Associate Membership of the Organisation is also available to the Associate Members of the Community as well as to other States and political entities of the Association of Caribbean States.

Client and User Perspective

Strategic Objectives:

1. RQI Programmes respond to private/public sector priorities
2. Consumers value the quality of goods and services
3. QI responds to Member States needs
4. The Region recognises CROSQ's relevance to Regional Integration
5. Visibility of the CROSQ System and branding of the NSBs as trade facilitators

Financial Perspective

Strategic Objectives:

6. Financial resources for RQI development secured
7. Transparent and equitable distribution of resources ensured
8. Financial sustainability achieved

Organisational Perspective

Strategic Objectives:

9. Sound leadership, management, technical and communication capacities
10. Governance and organisational structure strengthened
11. International recognition of RQI increased

Learning Perspective

Strategic Objectives:

12. Responsiveness to emerging needs in health, safety, security, environment and trade (and trade related areas)
13. Human resource competencies enhanced
14. Effective communication of RQI message
15. Inclusion of QI in general education

WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2016

The work of CROSQ is guided by the Strategic Plan 2016-2020. Most of the initiatives are being implemented as part of regional programmes that are funded by CROSQ in collaboration with development partners, namely the European Union, German Government (through National Metrology Institute – Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt PTB), USA Centre for Disease Control (CDC) and the Caribbean Development Bank.

The following table provides a synopsis of the regional programmes.

Table 1: Summary of CROSQ Regional Programmes

PROGRAMME	DONOR	DESCRIPTION
10 th European Development Fund – Technical Barriers to Trade Programme (10 th EDF-TBT)	European Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five year programme (2012-2017). • The specific objective is to increase the use of services of internationally recognised Regional Quality Infrastructure Institutions in the CARIFORUM States. • Programme activities span standardisation, metrology, accreditation, conformity assessment, awareness and information and institutional strengthening for CROSQ Secretariat and NSBs.
Regional Quality Infrastructure – Cohort 4 (RQI - IV)	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development Germany (BMZ)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical cooperation project with PTB (2014-2017). • The specific objective of the project is to improve the Quality Infrastructure (QI) institutions in the Caribbean so as to increase the range of regionally available services”. • Programme activities include the development of value chains for priority sectors and capacity building of regional QI networks.
LQMS-SIP Project - Laboratory Quality Management Systems- Stepwise Improvement Process	Centre for Disease Control (CDC) and African Field Epidemiology Network (AFENET)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annually renewable programme – 3rd year of existence • The specific objective is to provide a framework to support countries in their efforts to strengthen national laboratory services through the stepwise quality improvement process towards fulfilment of the ISO 15189 requirements. • Programme activities include implementation of Quality Management Systems in medical laboratories in the Caribbean region through a 3 tiered certificate of recognition system.
R3E (RQI V) Quality Infrastructure to support Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development Germany (BMZ)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical cooperation with PTB (2016 – 2018) • The specific objective is to expand the available QI services in the Caribbean for the use of energy efficient electrical devices and renewable energies. • Programme activities include development of minimum energy performance and labelling standards for select domestic appliances – lighting, refrigerators and air condition units; development of industry standards for solar water heaters and photo voltaic systems; establishment of the conformity assessment mechanism in select countries to support these activities, including awareness campaigns.

The Regional Standards Development Work Programme for 2016, is driven by the needs of our stakeholders within the various Member States, and is included in Appendix 2. The NSBs are being encouraged to have this Work Programme reflected in their National Work Programmes.

A list of all the currently declared CARICOM Standards is included in Appendix 3, Table 1.

Four (4) Members of CROSQ are Member Bodies of ISO; Five (5) members are Correspondent members and three (3) are Subscriber members (See Appendix 3, Table 2). One other Member State of CROSQ is now applying to ISO for Correspondent membership whilst two others are reviewing the opportunity (see also Appendix 3, Table 2).

Some of the activities implemented in 2015 and also activities being implemented in 2016 are aligned with the ISO Action Plan for Developing Countries 2016 - 2020. The following Table 3, is an indication of the CROSQ initiatives that are aligned with ISO in this regard.

TABLE 3: SUMMARY OF ALIGNMENT OF CROSQ ACTIVITIES WITH ISO ACTION PLAN FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

ISO DEVCO ACTION PLAN		CROSQ STRATEGIC PRIORITY:	
OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS	ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS	STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES
<p>Outcome 1: Standardization has a recognized, effective role in support of public policies</p>	<p>1.1 Guidance materials developed, and support provided, to strengthen the relationship between standardization and public policies (tailored to the country's specific needs)</p> <p>1.2 Awareness raised among policy makers and public officers on general aspects and domain-specific aspects covering priority areas for the country (e.g. industry sectors or horizontal themes of public interest)</p> <p>1.3 Improvements in the application of the WTO/TBT Code of Good Practice (Code of Good Practice for the Preparation, Adoption and Application of Standards, Annex 3, WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a Regional Quality Policy (RQP) • Development of Marketing and Communication plans by NSBs • Training of NSBs staff on Good Standardisation Practices which includes the application of the WTO/TBT Code of Good practice for the Preparation, Adoption and Application of Standards. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The region recognises CROSQ's relevance to Regional Integration • Effective communication of RQI message • Consumers value the quality of goods and services • Human resources competencies enhanced

ISO DEVCO ACTION PLAN		CROSQ STRATEGIC PRIORITY:	
OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS	ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS	STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES
Outcome 2: National standards bodies' strategic capabilities strengthened	2.1 National standardization strategy published and updated (based on economic, social and environmental priorities of the country and considering the strategies of international and regional standards organizations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assistance to NSBs to develop 5 year National Standards Development Priority Plans based on ISO's methodology for using economic, social and environmental priorities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responsiveness to emerging needs in health, safety, security, environment and trade
	2.2 Benefits of standards (economic, social, environmental) in priority areas for the country analysed, demonstrated and promoted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a 5 year regional Standards Development Plan based on the national plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responsiveness to emerging needs in health, safety, security, environment and trade
	2.3 Long-term financial sustainability of the organization addressed, in compliance with national regulations and with the ISO Code of Ethics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a 10 year Organisation Structure, manpower planning and financial sustainability model, including review of Job Descriptions and Compensation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial sustainability achieved Financial resources for RQI secured
	2.4 Effective stakeholder engagement mechanisms implemented in national, regional and international standards development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of the work programme of the Regional Marketing, Information, Knowledge and Education (MIKE) Technical Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> QI responds to Member States needs

ISO DEVCO ACTION PLAN		CROSQ STRATEGIC PRIORITY:	
OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS	ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS	STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES
	2.5 Improved relationships with educational institutions, with education introduced or strengthened in school programmes and, particularly, in university curricula	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of stakeholder engagement plans at the national level with the MIKE Committee support • To be developed under the 11th EDF – TBT Programme 2017 - 2020 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QI responds to Member States needs • Inclusion of QI in general education
Outcome 3: National standards bodies' capacity strengthened at the operational and technical levels	<p>3.1 Fundamental principles and good practices for governance of technical work established and applied.</p> <p>3.2 Project management implemented for standards development and efficient and effective services provided to standards developers.</p> <p>3.3 Improved dissemination, use of, and compliance with, standards, and effective and efficient services provided to standards users (information, consultancy, training).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop held to Modernise the Regional standards development process. Amended manual and process to be approved, • E-learning platform with modular version of the regional standards development procedure developed and operational • Development and delivery of a customised project management programme for regional standards • Training is to be provided to information personnel of the various NSBs in the use of the new WTO information tool for information sharing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance and organisational structure strengthened • Sound leadership management, technical and communication capacities • Transparent and equitable distribution of resources ensured

ISO DEVCO ACTION PLAN		CROSQ STRATEGIC PRIORITY:	
OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS	ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS	STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES
	<p>3.4 Enhanced use of information and communication technologies in support of standards development and dissemination.</p> <p>3.5 Improved management of operations and increased knowledge and skills of NSB staff</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase of e-balloting software and development of IT platform within the knowledge management system Betrix 24 being implemented • The 15 NSBs of CARICOM are being outfitted with video conferencing solutions • Regional capacity development workshops in ISO Standards Development, Promotion and Application 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transparent and equitable distribution of resources ensured • Transparent and equitable distribution of resources ensured
<p>Outcome 4: Increased involvement of developing country members in international standardization</p>	<p>4.1 Increased participation in ISO technical committees addressing national priority areas – as identified in the national standardization strategy</p> <p>4.2 Increased quality of participation, which comprises effective representation of national stakeholders, the relevance of their contribution, and the ability to introduce and support national positions at the various stages of standards development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Strategic Plans developed by at least fourteen NSBs • Implementation of the work programme of the Regional Marketing, Information, Knowledge and Education (MIKE) Technical Committee • Development of stakeholder engagement plans at the national level with the MIKE Committee support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International recognition of RQI increased • QI responds to Member States needs

ISO DEVCO ACTION PLAN		CROSQ STRATEGIC PRIORITY:	
OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS	ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS	STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES
	<p>4.3 New standards projects of particular interest to developing countries identified and promoted, in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 2016-2030</p> <p>4.4 Increased ability to use mechanisms and services available within ISO to support participation in standards development (e.g. twinning and mentoring arrangements, partnerships, cooperation agreements with NSBs, etc.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standards being developed for energy efficiency and renewable energy. The development of mechanisms to facilitate regional positions in international standards development e.g. ISO PC 280 Management consulting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RQI Programmes respond to private/public sector priorities Visibility of the CROSQ System and branding of the NSBs as trade facilitators
Outcome 5: Coordination and synergies with other organizations and among projects implemented	<p>5.1 Strong cooperation mechanisms with regional standards organizations implemented (with respect to the identification of needs, including issues of particular relevance for the region, coordination of initiatives and non-duplication of efforts)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development and signing of an MOU with COPANT and CARICOM Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visibility of the CROSQ System and branding of the NSBs as trade facilitators

ISO DEVCO ACTION PLAN		CROSQ STRATEGIC PRIORITY:	
OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS	ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS	STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES
	<p>5.2 Partnerships developed or strengthened with a plurality of development aid organizations</p> <p>5.3 Partnerships significantly extended with ISO members providing development aid services</p> <p>5.4 Collaboration strengthened among developed and developing country members, increasing resource sharing, exchange of information and adoption of best practices.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting RIAs on the implementation of performance requirements for Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs) and Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) in Dominica and Antigua and Barbuda in collaboration with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) • MOU signed and being executed with INDOCAL under the 10th European Development Fund Economic Partnership Agreement Programme • Implementation of MOU with ASTM International 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visibility of the CROSQ System and branding of the NSBs as trade facilitators • Visibility of the CROSQ System and branding of the NSBs as trade facilitators • Visibility of the CROSQ System and branding of the NSBs as trade facilitators

CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD

CROSQ remains committed to supporting the work of ISO. To this end, CROSQ would like to explore the following possibilities:

1. CROSQ being afforded permission ISO standards development portal in an effort to access draft standards for comments.
2. CROSQ being invited to ISO developing countries training programmes as a separate entity.
3. Possibility of CROSQ representing the views of the non ISO members within CARICOM on standards development activities.
4. Enhancing participation of CARICOM MS in international standardization.
5. Adoption of international standards as a Regional Standard.
6. Affording CROSQ the status of Liaison organization.

APPENDIX 1: LISTING OF CROSQ COUNCIL MEMBERS

COUNTRY	BUREAU/ ORGANISATION	CONTACT PERSON	POSITION IN BUREAU/ ORGANISATION	CONTACT INFORMATION Email Telephone Number
Antigua and Barbuda	Antigua and Barbuda Bureau of Standards	Mrs. Dianne Lalla-Rodrigues	Director	dianne.rodriques@antigua.gov.ag abbs@antigua.gov.ag 268-562-4011
The Bahamas	Bahamas Bureau of Standards and Quality	Dr. Renae Ferguson-Bufford	Director	renaebufford@bahamas.gov.bs rffufford@gmail.com 242-397-9901 (direct) 242-328-5071- 6
Barbados	Barbados National Standards Institution	Mrs. Anthea Ishmael	Director (Ag)	aishmael@bnsi.com.bb 246-426-3870
Belize	Belize Bureau of Standards	Mr. Jose Trejo	Director – CROSQ Chair	josetrejo.bz@gmail.com director@bbs.gov.bz bbs@bti.net 501-822-0446/47
Dominica	Dominica Bureau of Standards	Dr. Steve John	Director	info@dominicastandards.org sjohn@dominicastandards.org 767-448-1685/ 440-0052
Grenada	Grenada Bureau of Standards	Mr. Robert Medford	Acting Director	robert_medford@spiceisle.com 473-440-5886/6783
Guyana	Guyana National Bureau of Standards	Mrs. Candelle Walcott-Bostwick	Officer in Charge	cbostwick@gnbsgy.org 592-219-0062/ 0064/0066
Haiti	Bureau Haïtien de Normalisation Ministère du Commerce et de l'Industrie	Ms. Jean Michele B. Paultre	Director	micheleb.paultre@mci.gouv.ht mbpaultre@yahoo.com bhn@mci.gouv.ht 509- 2228-9491/2230-5804
Jamaica	Bureau of Standards Jamaica	Ms. Yvonne Hall	Executive Director – Vice Chair	Yhall@bsj.org.jm KWBrown@bsj.org.jm SWard@bsj.org.jm 876-926-3140-5/619-1131
Montserrat	Ministry of Agriculture, Trade, Land, Housing and the Environment	Hon. Claude E.S. Hogan	Minister/Trade Economist	hoganc@gov.ms 664-492-1887

COUNTRY	BUREAU/ ORGANISATION	CONTACT PERSON	POSITION IN BUREAU/ ORGANISATION	CONTACT INFORMATION Email Telephone Number
St. Kitts and Nevis	St. Kitts and Nevis Bureau of Standards	Mr. Hiram Williams	Acting Executive Director	mplbos@thecable.net mplbos@gmail.com 869-465-5279/ 467-1499
Saint Lucia	Saint Lucia Bureau of Standards	Dr. Mkabi Walcott	Director	m.walcott@slbs.org director@slbs.org 758-453-0049/ 456-0546
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	St. Vincent and The Grenadines Bureau of Standards	Mr. Ezra D. Ledger	Executive Director	deledger@gov.vc deledger@hotmail.com office.svgbs@mail.gov.vc 784-457-8092
Suriname	Suriname Standards Bureau	Mrs. Ingrid De Bel-Simson	Executive Director	i.debel@ssb.sr exec.director@ssb.sr
Trinidad and Tobago	Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards	Mr. Theodore Reddock	Executive Director (Ag)	theodore.reddock@ttbs.org.tt 868-662-8827/4481/4835

APPENDIX 2: CROSQ STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT WORK PLAN

KEY:

CD – Committee Draft

CRS - CARICOM Regional Standard

DCRS – Draft CARICOM Standards (Enquiry Draft)

FDCRS – Final Draft CARICOM Standard (Approval Draft)

FDCRTS – Final Draft CARICOM Regional Technical Specification

WD – Working Draft

No	Title of the CROSQ Standard	Assigned Number	Stage as of May 31, 2016
1	Labelling of Goods – General requirements	FDCRS 55: Part 1	60 (being published)
2	Labelling of Pre - Packaged Goods	FDCRS 55: Part 2	60 (being published)
3	Specification for Ketchup	DCRS 42	40 (enquiry draft)
4	Specification for liquid Chlorine Bleaches	FDCRTS 43	60 (being published)
5	Specification for red kidney beans	On hold	30 (committee draft)
6	Specification for wheat flour revised	On hold	20 (working group stage)
7	Specification for toilet tissue - revision	DCRS 51	40 (enquiry draft)
8	Methods of analysis and test for paints	FDCRS	50 (approval draft)
9	Electrical Cables	On hold	20 (working group stage)
10	Management consultancy – guidelines including competency	withdrawn	Participating in international development
11	Advertising of Tobacco products	DCRS	Stage 40 (enquiry draft)
12	Specification for Carbonated beverages	DCRS 53	40 (enquiry draft)
13	Paints – Interior and exterior – Emulsion type – Flat	FDCRS 47	50 (approval draft)
14	Specification for Tourist Accommodation – Part 2 - specific requirements for hotels	DCRS 11 Part 2	40 (Enquiry draft)
15	Specification for Tourist Accommodation – Part 3 - specific requirements for Guest houses and inns	FDCRS 11 Part 3	50 (approval draft)
16	Specification for RUM - revision	WD	20 (working group stage)
17	Energy efficiency air conditioners - Performance	WD	20 (working group stage)
18	Energy efficiency labelling of domestic electrical appliances	WD	20 (working group stage)

No	Title of the CROSQ Standard	Assigned Number	Stage as of May 31, 2016
19	Self-ballasted compact fluorescent lamps for general lighting services- performance requirements	Recommended to NSBs for adoption nationally (IEC standard)	
20	Energy efficiency: refrigerators, freezers and combined household appliances - specification	CD	30 (committee draft)
21	Self-ballasted LED lamps for general lighting services- performance requirements	Recommended to NSBs for adoption nationally (IEC standard)	
22	Specification for brown sugar	CCS revision	30 (committee stage)
23	Specification for white sugar	CCS revision	30 (committee stage)
24	Specification for coconut oil	CCS 23 revision	30 (committee stage)
25	Specification for soap bars	CCS 16 revision	30 (committee stage)
26	Specification for pasta products	CCS 32 revision	30 (committee stage)
27	Biscuits - Specifications	CCS 17 revision	30 (committee stage)
28	Edible Fats and oils	revision	30 (committee stage)
29	Paper, board and pulps – Facial tissues, paper napkins and paper towels – specification	CCS 33 revision	30 (committee stage)
30	Specification for Brewery Products (Beer, Stout, Shandy, Malt)	DCRS 41 revision	40 (enquiry draft)
31	Requirements for Labelling of Brewery Products (Beer, Stout, Shandy, Malta)	DCRS 44 revision	40 (enquiry stage)
32	Specification for Margarine & Cooking Margarine	CCS 14 revision	30 (committee stage)
33	Specification for Paint- interior and exterior oil modified alkyd - revision	CD	30 (committee stage)
34	Specification for Grading of Fresh Agricultural Produce – Part 5 Mangoes – revision and equivalency	DCRS 24 - 5	40 (enquiry draft)
35	Specification for Grading of Fresh Agricultural Produce – Part 1 Bananas – revision and equivalency	DCRS 24 - 1	40 (enquiry draft)

APPENDIX 3: Table 1 - List of Approved CARICOM Regional Standards as at 31 May 2016

No	Title of the CARICOM Regional Standard	Assigned CRS Number	STATUS as of June 30, 2016
1	Specification for Grading of Fresh Agricultural Produce – Part 1 Bananas	CRS 24 -1:2010	Published
2	Specification for Grading of Fresh Agricultural Produce – Part 2 Cabbages	CRS 24 -2:2010	Published
3	Specification for Grading of Fresh Agricultural Produce – Part 3 Grape fruits	CRS 24 -3:2010	Published
4	Specification for Grading of Fresh Agricultural Produce – Part 4 Hot Peppers	CRS 24 -4:2010	Published
5	Specification for Grading of Fresh Agricultural Produce – Part 5 Mangoes	CRS 24 -5:2010	Published
6	Specification for Grading of Fresh Agricultural Produce – Part 6 Oranges	CRS 24 -6:2010	Published
7	Specification for Grading of Fresh Agricultural Produce – Part 7 Pineapples	CRS 24 -7:2010	Published
8	Specification for Grading of Fresh Agricultural Produce – Part 8 Pumpkins	CRS 24 -8:2010	Published
9	Specification for Grading of Fresh Agricultural Produce – Part 9 Sweet peppers	CRS 24 -9:2010	Published
10	Specification for Grading of Fresh Agricultural Produce – Part 10 Tomatoes	CRS 24 -10:2010	Published
11	Frozen Fruit Pulp & Purees – Code of Practice	CRCP 6 :2010	Published
12	Labelling Standard for Prepackaged Foods	CRS 5:2011	Published
13	Specification / Marking Requirements for Gold Jewelry	CRS 17:2010	Published
14	Good Management Practices for SMEs (9001, 14000, OSH)	CRS 14: 2010	Published
15	Specification for Cassava Bread	CRS 19: 2010	Published
16	Code of Practice – Food Hygiene General Principles	CRCP 5: 2010	Published
17	Tour Guides – Code of Practice	CRSCP 3: 2010	Published
18	Tour Operators – Code of Practice	CRCP 8: 2011	Published
19	Specification for Tourist Accommodation – part 1 General requirements	CRS 11 :2011	Published
20	Short Term Vehicle Rentals	CRS 12: 2010	Published
21	Handling of Fish and Fishery Products – COP	CRCP 4: 2010	Published
22	Specification for Packaged Water	CRS 1:2010	Published

23	Packaged Water - Code of Hygienic Practice	CRCP 1: 2010	Published
24	Specification for Packaged Natural Coconut Water	CRS 3:2010	Published
25	Wooden Craft Items – COP	CRCP 7: 2010	Published
26	Specification for Wooden Furniture	CRS 20:2011	Published
27	Specification for Indigenous Furniture (Bamboo, Rattan, Wicker, Nibbi)	CRS 21:2011	Published
28	Specification for Fruit and Vegetable Juices and Fruit Nectars	CRS 27: 2010	Published
29	Specification for Honey	CRS 18: 2011	FDCS Adopted
30	Specification for Botanical Cosmetics	CRS 16: 2010	Published
31	Packaged Natural Coconut Water – Code of Practice	CRCP 2: 2010	Published
32	Specification for Chutneys (Am char, Kuchela)	CRS 22:2011	Published
33	Specification for Spices and Sauces	CRS 35:2011	Published
34	Poultry Feed & Feed Ingredients	CRS 29:2011	Published
35	Poultry & Poultry Products	CRS 28: 200x	Published
36	Labelling of Tobacco Products (including cigarettes)	CRS 26: 200x	Published
37	Labelling of Retail Packages of Aerosol Insecticides	CRS 37: 2011	Published
38	Specification for Garbage Bags (HDPE)	CRS 33: 2010	Published
39	Specification for rice revised	CRS 44: 2013	Published
40	Recreational water quality - guidelines	CRS 36: 2013	Published
41	Specification for Cement	CRS 54: 2014	Published
42	Code of practice for organic production and practices	CRCP 9: 2014	Published
43	Labelling of goods – Part 1: General requirements	CRS 55-1 2016	Awaiting publishing
44	Labelling of goods – Part 2: Specific requirements for pre-packaged goods	CRS 55-2: 2016	Awaiting publishing
45	Sodium hypochlorite solutions (liquid chlorine bleaches) - specification	CRTS 1: 2016	Awaiting publishing

APPENDIX 3: TABLE 2 - ISO MEMBERSHIP OF CROSQ NSBs

NSB	ISO MEMBERSHIP
Barbados National Standards Institute	Member body
Bureau of Standards Jamaica	Member body
Saint Lucia Bureau of Standards	Member body
Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards	Member body
Bahamas Bureau of Standards and Quality	Correspondent member
Dominica Bureau of Standards	Correspondent member
Guyana National Bureau of Standards	Correspondent member
Bureau Haitien de Normalisation	Correspondent member
Suriname Standards Bureau	Correspondent member
Antigua & Barbuda Bureau of Standards	Subscriber member
Belize Bureau of Standards	Subscriber member
St. Vincent & the Grenadines Bureau of Standards	Subscriber member
St. Kitts & Nevis Bureau of Standards	Applied for Correspondent membership (awaiting approval)
Grenada Bureau of Standards	To be advised
Ministry of Agriculture, Trade, Land, Housing and the Environment (Montserrat)	To be advised

COMISSÃO DA CEDEAO

ECOWAS COMMISSION

101, YAKUBU CRESCENT,
ASOKORO DISTRICT,
P.M.B. 401,
ABUJA, NIGERIA;
E-MAIL: info@ecowas.int



COMMISSION DE LA CEDEAO

TEL: (234-9) 314 76 27-9
(234-9) 314 76 27-9
FAX: (234-9) 314 76 46
(234-9) 314 30 05

ECOWAS COMMISSION REPORT

TO THE 2016 ISO GENERAL ASSEMBLY (39th)

Beijing, 12 – 14 September 2016

INTRODUCTION

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) is one of the six African regional economic Communities. Founded in 1975, the ECOWAS is composed of fifteen countries. Its mission is to promote economic integration in "all fields of economic activity, particularly industry, transport, telecommunications, energy, agriculture, natural resources, commerce, monetary and financial questions, social and cultural matters"

The ECOWAS Commission is its main institution designed to implement policies, pursue a number of programs and carry out development projects in Member States.

STATUS OF STANDARDS HARMONIZATION IN ECOWAS REGION

In terms of the ECOWAS Standards Harmonization Model & Principle (ECOSHAM), adopted by the Statutory Council of Ministers in 2012, the fifteen National Standards Bodies and Agencies/Ministerial Departments have continued the harmonization of standards (ECOSTAND) in order to facilitate trade, support industrial sector, and protect environment. It is worth noting that ECOSHAM procedures are based on ISO/IEC Directives Part 1 & 2 and most of the harmonized/adopted standards were international standards.

Based on the ECOSHAM, the three first ECOSTANDs (ECOWAS Harmonized Standards) have been adopted in December 2013.

In December 2015, twenty-five (25) ECOSTANDs have been adopted; of which nine (09) on agricultural products and sixteen (16) on food products. As part of the nine ECOSTANDs on agricultural products, three were adoptions of African (ARSO) Standards (Dry beans - Specification, Brown rice - Specification and Code of Practice for Organic Products). These three standards were implemented in some of ECOWAS Member States, but their adoption as ECOSTANDs will enable them to be implemented across the whole of our fifteen countries with no exception; this based on the ECOSHAM

One of the sixteen ECOSTANDs on food products (Enriched Oil) results out of a New Work Item introduced by the Africa Branch of Helen Keller International (HKI) a couple of months ago. Helen Keller International in Africa is involved in food fortification and therefore has entered in July 2013 a MoU with ECOWAS Commission.

Recently in May 2016, eleven (11) ECOSTANDs were adopted; nine (09) on food products and two (02) on electro-technical material. In this batch two ECOSTANDs are on fortified food (Salt and Wheat flour) as a result of New Work Items introduced by HKI. The two ECOSTANDs on electro-technical products are results of New Work Items introduced by the ECOWAS Centre of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in Praia (Cap-Verde); these are on technical specifications for Off-grid lighting products and Technical specifications for mains-voltage general lighting service lamps /Technical specifications for lamps lighting fixtures network service.

Thirty (30) IEC Standards (on electrical cables) have also been considered by the Technical Harmonization Committee THC5 on electro-technic materials. Taken through all the ECOSHAM stages, the thirty (30) standards have finally been validated for adoption. But unfortunately these standards could not be adopted as no agreement was reached with IEC in that regard, for the motive that two of our Member States have no relation at all with IEC.

It should be noted that as a consequence to the health situation that prevailed in West Africa in 2014/2015 resulting in restriction of movements in the region, most activities slowed down including the standards harmonization. The impact of this is affecting the finalization of ECOSTANDs, mostly with the first works on Building materials, Chemical products and Tourism services.

ISO - ECOWAS COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

Based on ISO Council Resolution 34/2011, a working relation is established between ISO and the ECOWAS Commission since January 2012; this to assist the West Africa region in the harmonization of Standards and Technical Regulations within the region as to ensure free trade among member nations.

As part of that cooperation ISO Secretariat supported the ECOWAS Commission in the adoption of the ECOSHAM. There is currently need to reactivate the technical cooperation through capacity building actions.

COOPERATION WITH OTHER PARTNERS

In terms of the existing MoU, ECOWAS Commission and ARSO are maintaining close relationship in standardization, one of the results is the adoption of African Standards as ECOSTANDs (see here above). Also, ECOWAS Commission has been granted free access to ARSO African Standards.

Recently, it is projected a wider continental cooperation between all Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in Standards harmonization, this under the umbrella of ARSO; this aims at avoiding duplication in Standards harmonization.

The July 2013 MoU between ECOWAS Commission and Helen Keller International defines the cooperation framework between the two organizations in relation with food fortification. The first level of that cooperation refers to the harmonization of fortified foods. Both technical and financial supports are provided by HKI.

In June 2016, a joint ECOWAS-ARSO-SIS joint Program in Capacity Building for International Standards Setting is scheduled to be launched. This program aims at strengthening the participation of ECOWAS NSBs in the ISO, ARSO and ECOSHAM standards setting. This program is supported by the Swedish Cooperation.

In June 2015, the ECOSHAM Technical Harmonization Committee (TMC), composed of the Heads of National Standards Boards of the fifteen Member States have called the ECOWAS Commission to seek cooperation agreements with some regional and international standards bodies such as EN, ASTM and IEC amongst others, this in order to facilitate the adoption/adaptation of standards from these institutions.

Discussions are ongoing with the Africa Delegation of IEC in that regard, which need to be pursued further. The other institutions will also be approached in the next future.

CONCLUSION

Despite the current financial challenges, the Standards harmonization activities are progressing in the ECOWAS region. Of priority, are local products, services and imported products that could adversely impact our population. Through ECOSHAM programs, awareness on the importance and role of Standards as part of the Quality Infrastructure is being built across the region.

We hereby express our appreciation to all our partners (EU, UNIDO, HKI, ARSO, SIS, Sida, etc...) involved on our side in the Standardization activities. We remain confident in the development of our relationships with these institutions for the benefit of protection of our population and also of trade facilitation not only across ECOWAS, but also beyond.

May 2016

ECOWAS Commission

Directorate of Industry

Report of
GCC Standardization Organization (GSO)
ISO General Assembly, Beijing (China)
12-14 September 2016

ISO and GSO cooperation is witnessing growing development. This cooperation was culminated in a visit by ISO president Dr. Zhang Xiaogang in response to an invitation of H.E Mr. Nabil A. Molla, the Secretary General of the GCC Standardization Organization (GSO) to present a keynote speech in the Workshop titled " Building code fire safety requirements and Tests for materials and systems " dated on 17th May 2016, organized by the Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO), a Member State of GSO, and to hold a meeting with members of GSO Technical Council.

GSO strives to make its standardization and related activities in alignment with international best practices and in line with WTO TBT Agreement.

All GSO members are members of ISO and are signatory to the WTO TBT Annex III. GSO has successfully accomplished the main goals of its second strategy by the end of 2015, and currently GSO has started to implement its third strategic plan (2016-2020) which was developed in alignment with GSO members' strategic plans and also ISO strategy (2016-2020).

From Standards development perspective, GSO members participate in International Technical Committees and Sub-Committees. GSO members are considering the potential of hosting one or more International Technical Committees and in preparation for twining arrangements with potential technical committees that are of economic and technical interest.

GSO has so far issued more than 21000 GCC Standards and Technical Regulations covering different economic sectors, most of which are adoption of International Standards.

As far as ISO 26000, the International Standard on Social Responsibility, is concerned, GSO had established the Gulf Team for Social Responsibility in 2007, and it coordinates with the team, to follow development on the implementation of ISO 26000. GSO has taken part in the Fifth and final meeting of the Joint Coordination Committee on social responsibility, and also participated and presented a paper in the First meeting of the Joint Coordination Committee to inaugurate the MENA Star Project on strengthening national quality infrastructure, and promote good practice for sustainable development (Geneva, 31March – 01 April 2015), and participated also in the MENA Star second meeting (Amman, 05-06 April 2016).

GSO is coordinating preparation of a Draft GCC Building Code, including a code dedicated to green buildings. There is a GSO Subcommittee for green buildings whose chairmanship and technical secretariat is held by the GCC Organization for Research and Development (GORD). It is envisaged that this Subcommittee will play a distinguished role in this field.

In the field of conformity assessment, GSO has so far adopted two so called vertical technical regulations; one of them is on toys safety, and is fully implemented since July 2015. The second one is on low voltage equipment and appliances, it has been adopted in December 2014, and will be partially implemented for a reduced scope on certain electrical home appliances in July 2016. Other technical regulations in the pipeline are cosmetics, machinery, lifts and escalators, and construction materials.

These vertical regulations are supported by other horizontal ones, mainly: G -Mark, Notified Bodies, and General Safety Products Regulations. These horizontal regulations will be merged very shortly in a single law on General Product Safety.

Besides ongoing process of approving the conformity certificates for motor vehicles and tyres, GSO had started a similar scheme for motor cycles and motor cycle tyres.

GSO is sponsoring two regional bodies, namely the Gulf Accreditation Centre (GAC) and the GULFMET as the Gulf Association for Metrology (RMO). GULFMET will eventually gain independent status, while GAC is already enjoys independent status.

GAC has Associate membership with ILAC, accreditation body member of IAF, full member of APLAC, PAC, and ARAC.

GSO is also working to lay down the infrastructure for accreditation such as promoting the activities of proficiency testing. The third conference on proficiency testing was organized by GSO (Dubai, 24- 25 March 2015).

GCCLAB was launched on December 2013, and its General Assembly met three times; December 2013, March 2014 and March 2015. Its technical committees were constituted, and three are operational now. Furthermore, the formalities for licensing the GCCLAB have been completed and approved by Dubai Chambers on April 2016.

GULFMET is a New Regional Metrology Organization (RMO) established in June 2010, under the auspices of GSO, bringing together the National Metrology Institutes (NMIs) of member bodies. GULFMET has Associate members (NMIs') of Turkey (UME), Egypt (NIS), Bosnia (IMBIH), Korea (KRISS), and Standards and Calibration Laboratory of Hong Kong (SCL).

GULFMET has participated in the JCRP meeting in Paris on 18-19 March 2015. The Committee recommended that GULFMET is granted a provisional recognition as an RMO.

GSO, through its Standardization Training Center, works closely with ISO in conducting some programmes in its annual and parallel training plans. Some useful training courses and workshop were conducted and yet to be conducted this year. Training courses in all different fields of standardization are carried out in cooperation with national, international and other technical partners both on GCC and abroad. More than 7500 specialists from GSO members have been trained and benefited from these courses such as qualifying of trainers and assessors in the relevant fields, and awareness raising courses and seminars in standardization and related fields.

GSO emphasizes the good working relations between GSO and ISO in the field of awareness and capacity building workshops and forums, the latest of which was “The first GCC Standardization Education Forum (Doha, 08-09 December 2015) in which ISO had participated very actively.

GSO has also organized in cooperation with the Gulf Organization for Industrial Consultation (GOIC) the 1st Gulf Metrology Forum (Doha, 14-15 Dec. 2015).

GSO has started a project with UNIDO in the field of Role of Standardization Quality, Metrology and Accreditation in Trade Capacity Building which is underway.

GSO Training Center intends to cooperate with ISO to enhance the capabilities of personnel of GSO members through conducting on ongoing basis a course about “ the international standardization expert”.

The envisaged cooperation topics are those of capacity building that could enhance participation in ISO Technical Work, as follow:

- i- Train GSO members staff and GSO staff on chairing technical committees and providing technical secretariat, and twining arrangements for certain international committees of interest to GSO members.
- ii- Cooperation in the fields of energy conservation, global warming, green gases, and water.
- iii- Collaborative authoring.
- iv- Translation.

GSO coordinates with its member to assume more active role in the technical work of ISO, training and awareness, and the work of DEVCO, CASCO and COPOLCO.



SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY SECRETARIAT

Private Bag 0095
Gaborone
Botswana

E-mail: registry@sadc.int
Website: www.sadc.int

Telephone: (267) 3951863
Telefax: (267) 3972848
(267) 3181070

Report from SADC Secretariat

ISO Observer Member

ISO – COOPERATION WITH SUBREGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

General

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) is an Observer Member of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). The relationship that exists between SADC and ISO is underpinned by Article 24 of the SADC Treaty and is recognised as one of the tools by which SADC can further her objectives. International standards are applicable and relevant to most of the Protocols of SADC especially those for Trade, Energy, Health and Human and Social Development. It is for this reason that SADC will continue to follow and support the work of ISO through the SADC SQAM Unit of the SADC TIFI Directorate.

The main objectives of SADC as outlined in the SADC Regional Indicative and Strategic Plan of regional integration and economic development use standards and quality principles as a vehicle for the betterment of the lives of the people of the region and the protection of its environment. More recently, SADC has identified international standards as one of the key facilitators of the SADC Industrialisation Strategy as adopted by the SADC Summit in April 2015. Not only are international standards important as adopted texts to ease harmonization as espoused in Annex 3 (c) of the World Trade Organization's Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement, but they form a foundation of the measurements of the region and instruments by which the competence with which the region operates acquires credence.

In order to facilitate the recognition, adoption and implementation of international standards, SADC has annexed to the Protocol on Trade, a comprehensive text on Technical Barriers to Trade. The TBT Annex to the SADC Protocol on Trade encapsulates the existence of seven (7) cooperation structures on standards

implementation themed along the target end-user of the resultant service. The core cooperation structure that is the conduit for the standards into the region is the SADC Cooperation on Standardization (SADCSTAN). This structure ensures that the other structures namely SADC MET (Measurement Traceability), SADC MEL (Legal metrology) and SADC A (Accreditation) are cognizant of and using international standards that will enable the region to be adequately integrated as well as being interoperable with the globe. The further two structures, SADC CTRLC (Technical Regulations Liaison Committee) and SADC BTSC (Technical Barriers to Trade Stakeholder Committee) were added in 2009 for the specific goal of promoting dialogue between the regulators and the general standards stakeholders, regarding formulation of well-informed and user-friendly national and if necessary regional trade regulations. The dialogue would be based on the subject of the nature of standards as they would impact trade, either as they were structured or in the form of the traceability of measurements or the accreditation of competence used in the region. This underscores the importance therefore, of the level and nature of interest and participation of SADCSTAN as a SADC standards liaison structure in the development of standards at ISO.

The SADC Cooperation on Standardization (SADCSTAN)

The SADCSTAN structure, as currently chaired by Namibia, is responsible for coordinating all the standardization work of the region. Its membership consists mainly of the standardization bodies of the region. The strategy of the structure is driven by a Standardization Management Committee (SMC) which meets twice a year to track the progress of the annual plan of the structure and to consider new work items that have arisen in the region. Further information about this structure is elaborated on its website (www.sadcstan.org) which is hosted on the website of the SADC Secretariat. It shows the relationship that SADCSTAN has with other standardization bodies of the world such as ASTM, CEN and ARSO, with which SADCSTAN has memoranda of understanding. These relationships are meant to support the standardization strategy of the region mainly in terms of substrate texts for the Technical Committees that harmonize standards in the region. These standards span a wide variety of sectors such as Health, Conformity Assessment, Food and the Environment. In its 2016 Annual General Meeting, the structure added three new Technical Committees for Plastic, Textiles and Paper. This was in alignment with the Technical Committee Structure at ISO. The secretariats of these TCs were assigned to Namibia, Zimbabwe and Swaziland respectively. The structure will be going into its strategic planning session in July 2016 in order to chart the way forward for its emerging strategic period between 2017 and 2020. It is opportune that the strategy of the structure will coincide with the deployment of the action plan for the SADC Industrialization Strategy and action plan. The business plan of the structure will hence be guided for its relevance as a supporting function the industrial developments that will occur in the region.

Identification and harmonization of Technical Regulations hindering trade

The work of the SADCSTAN is recognized as important in informing the technical regulations that are to be used for trade, consumer protection and the environment in the region. The Technical Regulations Liaison Committee (TRLIC) works closely with the SADCSTAN to observe the quality of the database of the standards that will possibly inform technical regulations. For the harmonization of technical regulations hindering trade, representatives from the SADC Technical Regulation Liaison Committee (SADCTRLC) developed a questionnaire for use in gathering essential data needed for the identification of technical regulations (TR) that require harmonization. The questionnaire was administered in member states by national experts. In total, twenty-four (24) TRs were identified using this approach. The TRs included among others, biosafety regulations, second hand car regulations, importation of medicine, Standard Import Inspection Regulation, pre-packaged labeling regulations and Kimberly Process Regulations. While this list was not conclusive, texts of these regulations would be analyzed further to determine the degree to which they hinder trade.

Since harmonization does not mean the use of similar regulatory tools, it was necessary for the region to agree on the route of mutual recognition of differing technical regulations for general acceptance throughout the region. This route was reported for ratification at the Annual General Meeting of the SADCTRLC in March 2016 in Gaborone Botswana. Out of the 24 identified TRs that needed harmonization, it was resolved that 5 OF THE TRs would be prioritized for an initiation of the SADC TR harmonization program in the 2016/17 financial year. On the priority list are the biosafety regulations, second hand car regulations, importation of medicine, Standard Import Inspection Regulation for labelling of pre-packaged goods and Kimberly Process Regulations.

MoU between SADCSTAN and ARSO

The SQAM Unit of the SADC Secretariat continued to participate in the work of ARSO. At the invitation of ARSO, two officers from the SADC Secretariat attended an SPS/TBT Rules-Harmonisation meeting in Nairobi, Kenya in April 2016. This workshop was attended by SQAM officers from the EAC and COMESA. In view of the SADC/EAC/COMESA tripartite alliance in trade, it is important that the quality infrastructure of the three RECs operate on common rules. SADC will also contribute to the ARSO General Assembly Events under the topic **“The Implementation of African standards in agricultural and food products, the SADC Experience”** in June 2016 in Arusha, Tanzania.

Funding for Standardisation Work

Member states are responsible for funding their standardisation strategies at the national level. The harmonisation work of the region is coordinated through the SQAM Unit of the SADC Secretariat, which runs ICP-supported programs with a specific emphasis on the goals of SADC as a region. The programs avail support for

capacity building in the skill of the development and harmonisation of standards and technical regulations. The availability of the ISO New Rights Program targeting Correspondent and Subscriber members presents an opportunity for international participation knowledge for the benefit of the REC. This will become more essential for more SADC member states as the SADC desires to support the SADC Industrialisation Action plan with up to date standards and quality principles from the onset.

SADC Member State Participation at ISO (as at June 2016)

Member State	NSB	ISO Member Status	TC participation	PDC Participation
Angola	IANORQ	Correspondent Member	3	2
Botswana	BOBS	Member Body	35	3
Congo, The Democratic Republic of the	OCC	Member Body	30	1
Lesotho	LSQAS	Correspondent Member	8	3
Madagascar	BNM	Correspondent Member	1	1
Malawi	MBS	Member Body	3	1
Mauritius	MSB	Member Body	11	2
Mozambique	INNOQ	Correspondent Member	71	3
Namibia	NSI	Member Body	20	3
Seychelles	SBS	Correspondent Member	20	2
South Africa	SABS	Member Body	435	3
Swaziland	SWASA	Correspondent Member	13	3
Tanzania, United Republic of	TBS	Member Body	151	3
Zambia	ZABS	Correspondent Member	20	2
Zimbabwe	SAZ	Member Body	45	3

Submitted by:

SADC SQAM Unit
 SADC Secretariat, P/Bag 0095
 Gaborone
 Botswana

APPROVALS / ELECTIONS / APPOINTMENTS

ITEM 13.1 Approval of the audited financial statements of ISO Central Secretariat for the year ended 31 December 2015

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

Recommend the General Assembly approve the draft resolution below:

Draft General Assembly Resolution

(Audited financial statements for the 2015 financial year)

The General Assembly

approves the audited financial statements of ISO Central Secretariat for the year ended 31 December 2015, as included in the Report of the Auditors attached at Annex to document General Assembly 13/2016, noting that the audited financial statements were circulated to the ISO members on 30 March 2016 in accordance with Clause 5.1 of the *Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly*.

Background

Clause 5.1 of the *Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly* require the presentation of the audited accounts of ISO Central Secretariat for the 2015 financial year to the member bodies no later than 1 April 2016. This was done by the Secretary-General's communication posted on ISOTC server on 30 March 2016.

Article 17.7 of the *Statutes* requires that the accounts of ISO Central Secretariat shall be presented to the General Assembly for approval. The 2015 financial statements of the ISO Central Secretariat (balance sheet, revenue and expenditure accounts, cash flow statement and notes) are attached with the report of the Auditors (Annex).

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

***Report of the statutory auditor
to the General Assembly
on the financial statements 2015***

Report of the statutory auditor
to the General Assembly of the
International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
Geneva

Report of the statutory auditor on the financial statements

As statutory auditor, we have audited the accompanying financial statements of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), which comprise the balance sheet, statement of operations, cash flow statement, statement of changes in funds and notes, for the year ended 31 December 2015. As permitted by Swiss GAAP RPC 21 the information in the performance report is not required to be subject to audit.

ISO Central Secretariat's responsibility

The ISO Central Secretariat is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of Swiss GAAP RPC 21, Swiss law and the association's articles of incorporation. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining an internal control system relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. The ISO Central Secretariat is further responsible for selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Swiss law and Swiss Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers the internal control system relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control system. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 give a true and fair view of the financial position, the results of operations and the cash flows in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER 21 and comply with Swiss law and the association's articles of incorporation.

Report on other legal requirements

We confirm that we meet the legal requirements on licensing according to the Auditor Oversight Act (AOA) and independence (article 69b paragraph 3 CC in connection with article 728 CO) and that there are no circumstances incompatible with our independence.

In accordance with article 69b paragraph 3 CC in connection with article 728a paragraph 1 item 3 CO and Swiss Auditing Standard 890, we confirm that an internal control system exists which has been designed for the preparation of financial statements according to the instructions of the ISO Central Secretariat.

We recommend that the financial statements submitted to you be approved.

PricewaterhouseCoopers SA

Philippe Tzaud
Audit expert
Auditor in charge

Julien Ménoret
Audit expert

Geneva, 18 March 2016

Enclosures:

- Financial statements (balance sheet, statement of operations, cash flow statement, statement of changes in funds, notes and performance report)

Balance sheets as of 31 December 2015 and 2014

ASSETS in kCHF	Note	2015-12-31	2014-12-31
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	1	29 972	25 057
Receivables	2	1 529	1 850
Prepaid expenses and accrued income	3	1 253	934
Other receivables	4	592	751
Total current assets		33 346	28 592
Non - current assets			
Securities and investments		0	600
Rent guarantee for ISO Central Secretariat premises	14	2 167	2 167
Fixed assets	5	582	852
Total non - current assets		2 749	3 619
Total assets		36 095	32 211
LIABILITIES AND FUNDS			
Current liabilities			
Suppliers		1 145	1 014
Other creditors and accrued liabilities		1 183	840
Members' retrocessions		4 770	3 571
Subscriptions received in advance		1 816	1 689
Other revenue received in advance		11	4
Provisions	6	652	1 305
Total current liabilities		9 577	8 423
FUNDS			
Restricted funds			
Funds for Developing Countries	7	3 222	1 613
Funds for other specific projects		692	481
Total restricted funds		3 914	2 094
Unrestricted funds			
Reserves	8	4 410	3 500
General fund	8	18 194	18 194
Surplus after attribution of net result		-	-
Total unrestricted funds		22 604	21 694
Total funds		26 518	23 788
Total liabilities and funds		36 095	32 211



Statements of operations for the years ended 31 December 2015 and 2014

in kCHF	Note	2015	2014
REVENUE			
Membership fees		21 146	21 190
Royalties received from members selling ISO Standards		8 598	8 677
Revenue from members		29 744	29 867
Direct sales		8 542	7 326
Royalties from distributors selling ISO Standards		3 790	3 494
Cost of sales		(6 709)	(5 722)
Net sales revenues	9	5 623	5 098
Services	10	1 439	1 641
Projects funded for Developing Countries		1 551	1 892
Projects funded through ISO funding		39	210
Other revenue		3 029	3 743
Net financial income	11	54	201
TOTAL REVENUE		38 450	38 909
EXPENDITURE			
Personnel expenses	12	24 395	23 101
Office and facilities		2 555	3 768
Travels		613	709
IT costs		3 333	3 915
Events		664	669
Marketing and communications		835	724
Third party services		1 543	1 340
Depreciation		685	1 204
Operating expenditure		34 623	35 430
Projects funded for Developing Countries (3rd party expenses only)		1 551	1 892
Projects funded through ISO funding (3rd party expenses only)		39	210
Projects		1 590	2 102
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		36 213	37 532
Operating surplus		2 237	1 377
Allocation		(1 250)	
Use			
Changes in restricted funds		(1 250)	
Allocation		(1 187)	(1 377)
Use		200	
Changes in unrestricted funds		(987)	(1 377)
Net surplus/deficit after allocations		0	0

Cash flow statements for the years ended 31 December 2015 and 2014

in kCHF	2015	2014
Operating surplus	2 237	1 377
Depreciation of fixed assets	685	1 204
Use from membership subscription reserve	(77)	-
Use from restricted funds	(39)	(210)
Increase (Decrease) in provisions	(653)	612
Operating surplus net of non-cash movements	2 153	2 983
Decrease (Increase) in receivables	321	(534)
Decrease (Increase) in prepaid expenses and accrued income	(319)	527
Decrease (Increase) in other receivables	159	38
Decrease (Increase) in current and deferred assets:	161	31
Increase (Decrease) in suppliers	131	(193)
Increase (Decrease) in other creditors and accrued liabilities	343	340
Increase (Decrease) in members' retrocession	1 199	458
Increase (Decrease) in subscriptions received in advance	127	245
Increase (Decrease) in other revenue received in advance	7	-
Increase (Decrease) in current liabilities:	1 807	850
Net cash from operating activities	4 121	3 864
Specific projects for Developing Countries		
Expenditure	(1 555)	(1 916)
Funds received	2 164	407
Increase (Decrease) in funds for specific projects	609	(1 509)
Purchase of fixed assets	(415)	(494)
Sale of investments	600	785
Rent guarantee for ISO Central Secretariat premises	-	(2 167)
Net cash used in investing activities	185	(1 876)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	4 915	479
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	25 057	24 578
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	29 972	25 057
Increase	4 915	479

Statement of changes in funds for the year ended 31 December 2015

in kCHF	Opening balance 2015	Allocations to restricted funds (surplus)	Contributions to restricted funds	Use from restricted funds (external costs) Note 7	Use from restricted funds (publications)	Allocation to unrestricted funds	Closing balance 2015
Funds-in-Trust from members	276		253	(74)			455
Donors contracts	1 337		1 911	(1 477)	(4)		1 767
ISO Development & Training projects	-	1 000					1 000
Total restricted funds received for specific projects for Developing Countries	1 613	1 000	2 164	(1 551)	(4)	-	3 222

in kCHF	Opening balance 2015	Allocations to restricted funds (surplus)	Use from restricted funds (external costs)	Allocation to unrestricted funds	Closing balance 2015
Programme to encourage younger people to get engaged in ISO	46				46
Additional communication materials on the benefits of standards	21		(4)		17
Training and growth activities	260		(35)		225
IP exploitation and protection		250			250
Projects for the development and promotion of ISO System	327	250	(39)	-	538
Risk management	154				154
Total restricted funds received for other specific projects	481	250	(39)	-	692

in kCHF	Opening balance 2015	Allocations to unrestricted funds (surplus)	Allocations from restricted funds	Use from unrestricted funds (expenses)	Use from unrestricted funds	Closing balance 2015
General reserve fund	18 194					18 194
Governance reserve	75					75
Recruitment reserve	200	250		(200)		250
Litigation reserve	500					500
Loss on investments reserve	1 067					1 067
Membership subscription reserve	184	78			(77)	185
Fiscal agreement reserve	800					800
Reduction in sources of revenue reserve	374	126				500
Foreign currency exchange reserve for members	300					300
ISO/CS premises reserve	-	100				100
Rebate on 2017 subscription	-	633				633
Unrestricted reserves	3 500	1 187	-	(200)	(77)	4 410
Total unrestricted funds	21 694	1 187	-	(200)	(77)	22 604

Statement of changes in funds for the year ended 31 December 2014

in kCHF	Opening balance 2014	Allocations to restricted funds (surplus)	Contributions to restricted funds	Use from restricted funds (external costs) Note 7	Use from restricted funds (publications)	Allocation to unrestricted funds	Closing balance 2014
Funds-in-Trust from members	176		233	(133)			276
Donors contracts	2 906		174	(1 719)	(24)		1 337
ISO Development & Training projects	52			(40)		(12)	-
Total restricted funds received for specific projects for Developing Countries	3 134		407	(1 892)	(24)	(12)	1 613

in kCHF	Opening balance 2014	Allocations to restricted funds (surplus)	Use from restricted funds (external costs)	Allocation to unrestricted funds	Closing balance 2014
ISO XML external costs	88		(88)		-
Programme to encourage younger people to get engaged in ISO	46				46
Case study on the societal benefits of standards	9			(9)	-
Additional communication materials on the benefits of standards	45		(24)		21
International conference on the theme of standard benefits	50		(37)	(13)	-
Extension of the repository of teaching materials	9			(9)	-
Intellectual Property Right (IPR)	49		(49)		-
Training and growth activities	272		(12)		260
Projects for the development and promotion of ISO System	568	-	(210)	(31)	327
Risk management	154				154
Total restricted funds received for other specific projects	722	-	(210)	(31)	481

in kCHF	Opening balance 2014	Allocations to unrestricted funds (surplus)	Allocations from restricted funds	Use from unrestricted funds (expenses)	Use from unrestricted funds	Closing balance 2014
General reserve fund	17 971	223				18 194
Governance reserve	75					75
Recruitment reserve	200					200
Litigation reserve	500					500
Loss on investments reserve	1 067					1 067
Membership subscription reserve	184					184
Fiscal agreement reserve	277	523				800
Reduction in sources of revenue reserve	-	331	43			374
Foreign currency exchange reserve for members	-	300				300
Unrestricted reserves	2 303	1 154	43	-	-	3 500
Total unrestricted funds	20 274	1 377	43	-	-	21 694

Notes to financial statements as of 31 December 2015 and 2014

Organisation and activity

The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) is an organization constituted in accordance with Article 60 of the Swiss Civil Code and is a not-for-profit organization.

ISO is the world's largest developer of voluntary International Standards. International Standards give state of the art specifications for products, services and good practice, helping to make industry more efficient and effective. Developed through global consensus, they help to break down barriers to international trade. ISO is an independent, non-governmental organization made up of members from the national standards bodies of 162 countries. A Central Secretariat in Geneva, Switzerland, coordinates the system.

The funds of ISO come from the dues of the members, from the royalties and sales of publications, and from contributions to assist in the training of those who develop or use standards.

Authorization of annual financial statements

The financial statements have been recommended for approval by the Council at its meeting on 17-18 March 2016. ISO members will be asked to approve these financial statements at the General Assembly in September 2016.

Significant accounting policies

Financial statements preparation

These financial statements were prepared in accordance with Swiss Accounting and Reporting Recommendation - Swiss GAAP RPC - 21 - Accounting for charitable, social non-profit organisations as well as with Swiss GAAP FER as a whole. Furthermore, these financial statements were prepared in accordance with the provisions of commercial accounting as set out in the Swiss Code of Obligations (Art. 957 to 963b CO, effective since 1 January 2013).

The financial statements are presented in Swiss Francs, rounded to the nearest thousand.

Revenue recognition

All revenues are recorded when due and collection is confirmed, except royalties received from members, which are recognized in the period in which the royalties are received.

Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is recognized in the financial statements on an accrual basis. Contributions to third parties paid out of funds for specific projects for Developing Countries are recognized when the commitment to pay has been made.

Securities and investments

Securities and investments are recorded at market value except bonds which are recorded at their face value. Any unrealized gain or loss on the market value of securities and investments is recognized in the profit and loss account. A reserve against possible loss in the value of investments is maintained.

Fixed assets

Purchases of office equipment and IT Hardware that are greater than CHF 5 000 are capitalised and depreciated on a straight-line basis over 5 years and 3 years respectively. Purchases that are less than CHF 5 000 are expensed.

The cost of intangible assets, including information technology, software licences, data communication links, consulting, internal labour and external services directly related to the asset, are capitalised for any project with the overall cost exceeds CHF 500 000. The intangible asset is depreciated on a straight-line basis over 3 years once the project becomes operational.

Due to the relocation of ISO Central Secretariat within Geneva, an exceptional depreciation has been recorded in December 2014 for office furniture and fittings not fully depreciated.

Conversion of foreign currencies

Assets and liabilities that arise in currencies other than Swiss francs are translated at rates of exchange prevailing at year-end; revenues and expenses are translated at the rates of exchange prevailing on the transaction date.

Realized and unrealized profits and losses are included in financial revenue.

Receivables

Receivables are recorded at the amount originally billed. The provision for doubtful debts was built up on a specific basis, by reviewing a schedule of outstanding receivables as at the balance sheet date.

Prepaid expenses

This caption includes the prepaid expenses relating to the following accounting periods, as well as accrued income.

Provisions

Provisions are established when there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, or where it is probable that a payment will be required to settle an obligation, and the amount can be reliably estimated.

Pension plan (Provident Foundation)

ISO contributes to the costs for a pension plan for its employees. The pension obligations and plan assets are managed by a legally independent pension fund. The organization, the management and the financing of the pension plans are governed by the Swiss law (LPP) and ordinances, together with the regulations applicable to pensions in force.

Notes to the financial statements as of 31 December 2015 and 2014

1. Cash and cash equivalents

in kCHF	2015	2014
Cash in banks	14 952	10 041
Short-term deposits	15 020	15 016
Total cash and cash equivalents	29 972	25 057

As of 31 December 2015, there are two short term deposits of kCHF 10 006 and kCHF 5 014 with two different banks with an interest rate of 0,05% and 0,01% respectively. Both deposits can be withdrawn with 31 days' notice.

2. Receivables

in kCHF	2015	2014
Sales and copyright	894	952
Services	247	330
Sales, copyright and services	1 141	1 282
Provision for doubtful debt	(19)	(6)
Members' subscriptions	407	574
Total receivables	1 529	1 850

3. Prepaid expenses and accrued income

in kCHF	2015	2014
Prepaid maintenance	416	412
Building prepaid expenses	590	289
Other prepaid expenses	247	226
Accrued income	-	7
Total prepaid expenses and accrued income	1 253	934

4. Other receivables

in kCHF	2015	2014
Loans (to employees)	4	10
Withholding tax to be recovered	6	11
Social insurances	336	559
Credit card collections	137	124
Various advances	109	47
Total other debtors	592	751

5. Fixed Assets

The table below details the components of the fixed assets:

2015	Office Furniture Fittings	Vehicles	Sub-Total Office Furniture Fittings & Vehicles	HW Equipment	Capitalized SW costs	Sub-Total IT Fixed Assets	Grand Total
in kCHF							
Fixed assets at cost							
Opening balance at 1 January 2015	3 648	91	3 739	1 944	2 509	4 453	8 192
Additions	137		137	278		278	415
Write-offs	(3 601)		(3 601)	(1 106)	(676)	(1 782)	(5 383)
Disposals			-			-	-
Closing balance at 31 December 2015	184	91	275	1 116	1 833	2 949	3 224
Accumulated depreciation							
Opening balance at 1 January 2015	(3 648)	(4)	(3 652)	(1 571)	(2 117)	(3 688)	(7 340)
Current year depreciation	(4)	(19)	(23)	(270)	(317)	(587)	(610)
Write-offs	3 601	-	3 601	1 106	676	1 782	5 383
Disposals			-			-	-
Exceptional depreciation			-		(75)	(75)	(75)
Closing balance at 31 December 2015	(51)	(23)	(74)	(735)	(1 833)	(2 568)	(2 642)
Fixed assets - Net book amount at 31 December 2015	133	68	201	381	0	381	582
2014	Office Furniture Fittings	Vehicles	Sub-Total Office Furniture Fittings & Vehicles	HW Equipment	Capitalized SW costs	Sub-Total IT Fixed Assets	Grand Total
in kCHF							
Fixed assets at cost							
Opening balance at 1 January 2014	3 648	73	3 721	1 963	2 462	4 425	8 146
Additions	-	91	91	356	47	403	494
Write-offs			-	(101)	-	(101)	(101)
Disposals		(73)	(73)	(274)		(274)	(347)
Closing balance at 31 December 2014	3 648	91	3 739	1 944	2 509	4 453	8 192
Accumulated depreciation							
Opening balance at 1 January 2014	(3 236)	(72)	(3 308)	(1 729)	(1 547)	(3 276)	(6 584)
Current year depreciation	(164)	(5)	(169)	(217)	(570)	(787)	(956)
Write-offs			-	101		101	101
Disposals		73	73	274		274	347
Exceptional depreciation	(248)		(248)			-	(248)
Closing balance at 31 December 2014	(3 648)	(4)	(3 652)	(1 571)	(2 117)	(3 688)	(7 340)
Fixed assets - Net book amount at 31 December 2014	0	87	87	373	392	765	852

6. Provisions

The table below shows the changes in the provisions

in kCHF	Opening balance 2015	Increase (Decrease)	Closing balance 2015
For employees annual leave not taken	605	47	652
For early lease termination	700	(700)	-
Total Provisions	1 305	(653)	652

As of 31 December 2015, the provisions represent the amount owed to ISO employees for annual leave earned but not taken. The change in the provision is recorded under personnel expenses and amounted to kCHF47 (2014: kCHF 88) (See note 12).

A provision of kCHF 700 was recorded in 2014 for the indemnity due to the owner of the building in Voie-Creuse, in connection with the early termination of the lease. The indemnity was paid in January 2015.

7. Funds received for specific projects for Developing Countries

Third party expenditure related to specific projects is recorded as an expense. This is offset by recognizing an equivalent contribution from the Funds (i.e. kCHF 1 551 in 2015; kCHF 1 892 in 2014), as income from Donors contracts from SIDA, GIZ, SECO, MFA of Finland, Funds-in-Trust and from the ISO development & training projects fund. Costs incurred by ISO/CS for specific projects for developing countries are expensed as they are incurred.

8. Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are approved by Council and are not subject to externally imposed restrictions. These reserves are maintained in the interest of the long-term financial stability of the organisation. At 31 December, the reserves approved by Council include:

- Governance reserve: to be used in the event a future President of ISO is unable to obtain financial support for travel and expenses associated with his or her Presidency from elsewhere. It is not expected to be used in any particular year.
- Recruitment reserve: to be used in the recruitment of key employees in ISO Central Secretariat.
- Litigation reserve: to allow ISO to pursue or defend legal action related to protection of the ISO brand or intellectual property.
- Loss on financial investments reserve: to provide against potential reduction in the future in the market value of financial investments made from the General Fund.
- Membership subscription reserve: to cover loss against uncollectible membership fees.
- Fiscal agreement reserve: to provide for issues that might arise from the Fiscal Agreement (see Note 13).
- Reduction in sources of revenue reserve: to provide against possible future reduction in the sources of revenue available to ISO/CS

- Foreign currency exchange reserve for members: to provide an amount that could be used to assist smaller developing countries in the event of major adverse foreign currency movements
- ISO/CS premises reserve: to cover the cost of repairs liaised to landlord's requirements
- Rebate on 2017 subscription reserve: to grant to members a one-time rebate on 2017 ISO membership fees

The General Fund is an unrestricted fund allocated to cover at least six months of cash operating expenditures.

9. Sales revenues

The table below details the components of the net sales and copyright revenue including retrocessions to members and commissions:

in kCHF	2015	2014
Mail order sales	686	828
Sales via ISO/CS webstore	7 856	6 498
Direct sales	8 542	7 326
Royalties from distributors selling ISO Standards	3 790	3 494
Retrocessions to members re. direct sales	(4 825)	(3 931)
Retrocessions to members re. royalties from distributors	(1 592)	(1 541)
Commissions and other expenses	(292)	(250)
Costs of sales	(6 709)	(5 722)
Net sales revenues	5 623	5 098

10. Services

In addition to sales activity, some services are rendered as follows:

in kCHF	2015	2014
IT services to members and CEN	782	861
IT Central Procurement Agreement for members	448	510
Cooperation with international organizations	100	52
Training	109	185
Sponsorships	-	33
Total services	1 439	1 641

11. Net financial income

The table below details the components of the gain/loss on securities and investments and of financial revenue:

in kCHF	2015	2014
Gain / (Loss) on securities and investments		
Gain on securities and investments sale	-	65
less realized losses & expenditure	-	(16)
		49
Financial revenue		
Gross financial revenue	134	79
less fees & other expenses	(108)	(58)
less unrealized gain / (loss) on forex	13	(4)
	39	17
Other revenue		
Copyright infringement	-	97
Sales of fixed assets	15	38
	15	135
TOTAL	54	201

12. Personnel expenses

in kCHF	2015	2014
Wages	18 497	17 910
Changes in provision for annual leave	47	(88)
Social charges	5 077	4 391
Other expenses	774	888
Total personnel expenses	24 395	23 101

Social charges include the employer's contributions in respect of pension benefits. As of 31 December 2015, there was 132 full-time equivalent staff (2014: 131 FTE).

13. Fiscal agreement

A fiscal agreement was signed between ISO and the Swiss Confederation in July 2006. Under the agreement ISO is exempt from any taxes, including VAT for all goods purchased in Switzerland. The ISO/CS related income for non-Swiss staff employed by ISO/CS is exempt from Swiss income taxes during their period of service, provided they reside in Switzerland.

ISO requires non-Swiss staff resident in Switzerland to pay an amount equivalent to the income taxes for which they would otherwise be liable. ISO redistributes part of this amount for the benefit of all those currently employed by making contributions to the employee pension fund and partly as a benefit to the organization. All other savings from implementation of the agreement are for the benefit of ISO.

14. Rent guarantee for ISO Central Secretariat premises

The ISO Central Secretariat (ISO/CS) has established a restricted account of kCHF 2 167, representing one year's rent expense as a guarantee to the owner of ISO/CS new premises. Interest of 0.01% is paid on this account.

15. Guarantees not included in the balance sheet

As of 31 December 2015, there are two bank guarantees, representing three months rental expense, of kCHF 501 (2014: kCHF 501).

A court bond of BRL 120 000 was issued in 2008 (equivalent to kCHF 31) to support legal action by ISO in Brazil. The case is continuing.

16. In kind contributions (not included in the balance sheet)

As part of a pilot project, one of our members has provided physical office space and seconded a staff member to ISO/CS. We estimate this represents a contribution of kCHF 80.

17. Other commitments not included in the balance sheet

The future maturities of the operating lease and rent are as follows:

in kCHF	2015	2014
Within one year	2 224	1 671
In the second to fifth year inclusive	8 511	8 571
After the fifth year	18 900	20 926
Total	29 635	31 168

The above table summarises ISO's commitments concerning operating lease and rent. The operating leasing arrangement relate to rental of photocopiers (including the Print-on-Demand (POD) machine) on the one hand and to the office rent on the other. Commitments are calculated based on current contracts, for agreed contractual terms.

18. Audit fees

The total fees paid and accrued to the auditors for audit services and other services amount to kCHF 35 (2014: kCHF 35).

1. Purpose of the organisation

ISO (International Organization for Standardization) is, as per its Statutes updated in 2012, the world's largest developer of voluntary International Standards.

The object of the Organization is to promote the development of standardization and related activities in the world with the aim of facilitating international exchange of goods and services and developing cooperation in the spheres of intellectual, scientific, technological and economic activity.

ISO was founded in 1947 and since then has published more than 20 000 International Standards covering almost all aspects of technology and business.

2. Officers and their terms of office

The Officers of the Organization are a President (including when serving as President-elect), three Vice-Presidents (policy, finance and technical management), a Treasurer and a Secretary-General.

The President shall be elected by member bodies, either in the General Assembly or by letter ballot, and his term office of the President shall consist of one year as President-elect followed by a two-or three-year term as President.

The three Vice-Presidents shall be appointed by the General Assembly. The Vice-President, policy, is appointed for a two-year term office. The Vice-Presidents, technical management and finance, are appointed for a two-year term of office which will start in the alternate year to that of term of the Vice-President, policy.

The Treasurer shall be appointed by the Council for a three-year term and shall be eligible for a re-appointment for a second term.

The Secretary-General shall be appointed by the Council for a five-year term and shall be eligible for one further term.

On 31 December 2015, the ISO officers are:

Zhang Xiaogang	ISO President
John Walter	ISO Vice-President (policy)
Elisabeth Stampfl-Blaha	ISO Vice-President (technical management)
Olivier Peyrat	ISO Vice-President (finance)
Miguel Payró	ISO Treasurer
Kevin McKinley	Acting ISO Secretary-General

3. The individuals responsible for the management of the operations

The Secretary-General shall be the chief executive officer of the Organization and the head of Central Secretariat.

Composition of the Leadership Team on 31 December 2015:

Sophie Clivio	Director, Standardization and Technical Policy
Nicolas Fleury	Acting Deputy Secretary-General
Daniele Gerundino	Acting Director, ISO Academy
Sean MacCurtain	Director, Conformity Assessment
Kevin McKinley	Acting Secretary-General

4. Executive scoreboard 2013 – 2015



ISO EXECUTIVE SCOREBOARD 2013-2015

t = target

1 Customers/Stakeholders	2013	2014	2015	2015 t
Members	164	166	162	162
Members upgrading category	4	5	1	1
Customer satisfaction index				
Customer satisfaction index - ISO Members	85%	82%	n/a	88%
Customer satisfaction index - Standards users	81%	80%	n/a	84%
Customer satisfaction index - Standards developers	77%	78%	n/a	80%
Brand Awareness				
Positive opinion % vs. negative opinion %	n/a	53% vs 9%	Not available yet	45% vs 5%
# sessions on iso.org	12 810 222	15 087 060	17 997 821	14 832 000
Market penetration				
# of certificates as per ISO Survey of Certifications	1 559 622	1 609 294	Not available yet	1 622 631

2 Financial (kCHF)	2013	2014	2015	2015 t
Revenue from members				
Membership fees	21 104	21 190	21 146	21 076
Copyright revenue from members	8 175	8 677	8 598	8 800
Total revenue from members	29 279	29 867	29 744	29 876
Sales revenues				
ISO CS Gross sales	6 277	7 326	8 542	8 548
ISO CS Net sales	2 815	3 145	3 425	3 350
Transnational distributors gross sales	3 010	3 494	3 790	3 613
Transnational distributors net sales	1 658	1 953	2 198	2 000
Other revenues (services, project funded, financial revenue)	5 095	3 944	3 083	5 742
Total Net Revenue	38 847	38 909	38 450	40 968
Total Expenditures	38 322	37 532	36 213	40 360
Operating surplus	525	1 377	2 237	608
3 Process	2013	2014	2015	2015 t
Standards				
Pure new work items (approved), all deliverables	818	934	756	800
Average age of standard - years	12,3	12,6	12,6	12,5
Average time of development - months:				
All ISO standards only	32,4	33,2	33,4	28,0
All other ISO Deliverables	28,3	21,8	30,9	27,0
Standards developed measured against the originally set timeframes(standards only, includes revisions)	60%	63%	59%	60%
Standards with no errata (standards only, includes revisions)	98,6%	98,7%	99,5%	99%
Total number of errors			9	
System				
Shared services revenue	1 275	1371	1 230	1350
4 Learning and growth	2013	2014	2015	2015 t
Resources in the ISO System				
People involved in ISO System (Global Directory) excluding national committees	33 764	39 142	43 423	tbd
People involved in ISO System (Global Directory) including national committees	n/a	65 525	75 754	tbd
ISO Academy				
# of training/days	428	376	177	317
# of participants	5677	4 554	2266	2237
Investment in learning and growth				
funds from donors/members/ISO/CS investment	3 011	1892	1 551	2 500
Number of leadership positions in technical groups held by developing countries	n/a	440	461	TBD
Number of Participating Members in technical groups from developing countries	3 941	4211	4584	TBD

APPROVAL / ELECTIONS / APPOINTMENTS

ITEM 13.2 Approval of ISO membership fees for 2017 (unit value)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

Recommend the General Assembly approve the draft resolution below:

Draft General Assembly Resolution

(ISO membership fees – 2017 unit value)

The General Assembly,

recalling that the number of units allocated to each member body for the 2015-2017 period was decided under its Resolution 6/2014,

approves a monetary value of CHF 5 118 for the subscription unit in 2017.

Background

Under the Statutes, approval of the ISO membership fees fall under the responsibility of the General Assembly (Article 6.6).

ISO membership fees for member bodies are calculated using a unit value and allocation of the number of subscription units to each member body. The allocation of the number of subscription units is based on a formula which takes into account the economic size of the country the member represents.

The evolution of the value of the subscription unit in the 2003-2016 period is given below:

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
CHF	5 661	5 776	5 776	5 776	5 776	5 602	5 546
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
CHF	5 546	5 546	5 546	5 355	5 355	5 118	5 118

At its meeting in March 2016, Council recommended that the General Assembly approves a monetary value of **CHF 5 118** for the subscription unit in 2017, the same unit value as in 2016 (Council Resolution 18/2016). The number of subscription units for the 2015-2017 period was approved by the General Assembly in 2014 (see General Assembly Resolution 6/2014 and document General Assembly 10/2014).

In view of the ISO Central Secretariat positive financial results achieved in 2015, Council decided to allocate kCHF 633 as a one-time rebate on the 2017 ISO membership fees (Council Resolution 17/2016). In the framework of the 2017 subscription invoice, a deduction will be applied to all ISO members (with the exception of suspended member bodies) in proportion to the number of subscription units (as at 30 June 2016).

APPROVALS / ELECTIONS / APPOINTMENTS

ITEM 13.3 Election of Council members for the 2017-2019 term

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

The General Assembly is invited to elect three Council members for the 2017-2019 term.

Background

The terms of office of the following eleven Council members will end on 31 December 2016:

Group 1	BSI (United Kingdom) JISC (Japan) SAC (China)	Group 2	DGN (Mexico) GOST R (Russian Federation) KATS (Rep. of Korea) SN (Norway) UNI (Italy)
Group 3	DS (Denmark)	Group 4	BOBS (Botswana) SIST (Slovenia)

1 Automatically appointed members (Group 1)

Six member bodies are automatically appointed to consecutive terms on Council (Clause 2.1.1 of the *Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly*). These six member bodies – or Group 1 – are the largest contributors to the operations of the Organization. **BSI (United Kingdom), JISC (Japan) and SAC (China)** are, therefore, automatically appointed for a consecutive term on Council (2017-2019).

2 Members to be elected (Groups 2, 3 and 4)

Following these automatic appointments, eight seats remain to be filled on Council (five member bodies in Group 2, one member body in Group 3 and two member bodies in Group 4). Successful candidates will serve for three years (2017-2019).

In March 2016, member bodies were invited to provide nominations for candidates for these seats in ISO Council. Nominations closed on 14 June 2016.

The President's Committee reviewed in June 2016 the nominations received and agreed that all of them met the criteria provided in the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly. The table below provides an indication of the nominated member bodies and their proposed representatives on Council.

Group	Member body	Name and title of proposed representative
2	ABNT (Brazil)	Mr Ricardo Fragoso General Director
2	AENOR (Spain)	Mr Avelino Brito CEO
2	BIS (India)	Mrs Alka Panda Director General
2	SIS (Sweden)	Mr Thomas Idermark CEO
2	SNV (Switzerland)	Mr Markus Weber CEO
3	DSM (Malaysia)	Mrs Fadilah Baharin Director General
3	KAZMEMST (Kazakhstan)	Mr Birzhan Kaneshev Chairman
4	BNSI (Barbados)	Mrs Anthea Ishmael Director (CEO)
4	HZN (Croatia)	Mr Miran Škerl Director General
4	INEN (Ecuador)	Mr César Díaz Guevara CEO
4	MASM (Mongolia)	Mr Gantumur Galbadrakh Chairman

NOTE – Two member bodies from group 2 (NEN [Netherlands] and SA [Australia]) and one member body from group 3 (SASO [Saudi Arabia]) were nominated, but did not wish to run for Council election this year. They expressed their thanks to the ISO member bodies who nominated them.

Group 2

There are five seats to be filled in group 2 and five member bodies have been nominated. This means that **ABNT (Brazil), AENOR (Spain), BIS (India), SIS (Sweden) and SNV (Switzerland)** are duly accepted as Council members for the 2017-2019 term without need for an election.

Group 3

There is one seat to be filled in group 3 and two member bodies has been nominated. Member bodies are therefore asked to **elect one out of the two member bodies** indicated in the following table:

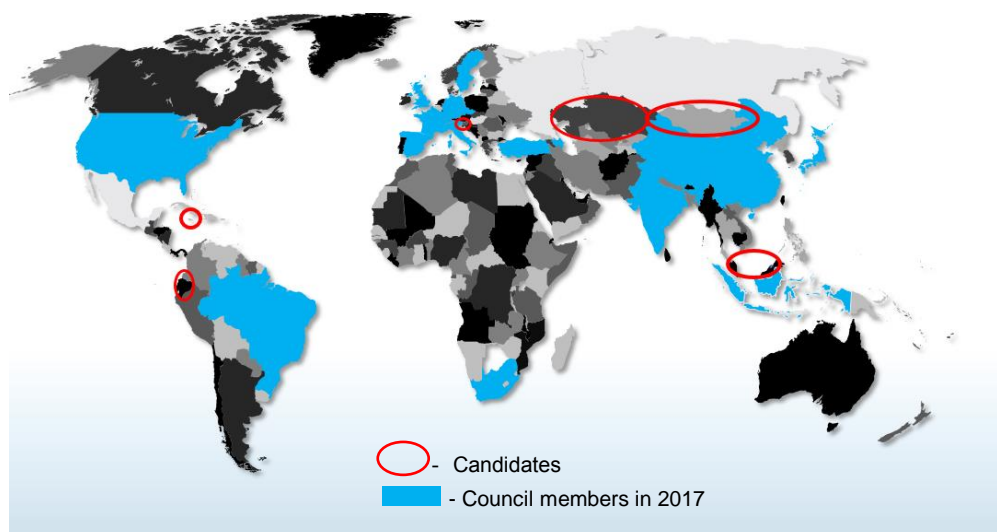
Group 3 member body	(If they wish, GA delegates can fill-in here the results announced under this agenda item)
DSM (Malaysia)	
KAZMEMST (Kazakhstan)	

Group 4

There are two seats to be filled in group 4 and four member bodies have been nominated (and have given their assent). Member bodies are therefore asked to **elect two out of the four member bodies** indicated in the following table:

Group 4 member body	(If they wish, GA delegates can fill-in here the results announced under this agenda item)
BNSI (Barbados)	
HZN (Croatia)	
INEN (Ecuador)	
MASM (Mongolia)	

The following graph shows the geographical distribution of the candidates for the Council election together with the Council members remaining in office in 2017:



➤ **IMPORTANT - VOTING PROCEDURE**

The election will take place during the General Assembly in Beijing according to the following voting procedure:

1. As indicated in the draft agenda of the 2016 General Assembly, the morning session on Tuesday 13 September 2016 will be preceded by a 90-minute networking time (09:00-10:30) allowing, amongst other things, bilateral meetings between members. After this networking time, there will be a 30-minute coffee break (10:30-11:00). The Council election will take place during this coffee break outside the plenary room for the General Assembly.
2. At the beginning of the morning coffee break on Tuesday 13 September, heads of each of the delegations are kindly requested to visit the voting table outside of the plenary

room for the General Assembly. An ISO Central Secretariat staff member will give them one ballot paper with which to cast their delegation's vote. Those member bodies holding a proxy will receive a voting paper for the member body for which they hold a proxy.

3. Heads of delegation will have until the end of the morning coffee break to cast their delegation's vote. They must place their ballot papers in the ballot box (at the same voting table) **before the end of the morning coffee break or the vote will not be counted.**
4. The results of the election will be announced to the General Assembly under this agenda item during the afternoon of Tuesday 13 September.

If you have any questions on the voting procedure please contact José Baltar, Team Leader Governance, at gov@iso.org or call +41 22 749 01 11.

Council strongly recommends that all member bodies 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).

3 Member bodies in office in 2017

The following member bodies are already appointed / elected to Council for 2017:

Group 1	AFNOR (France) ANSI (USA) BSI (United Kingdom) DIN (Germany) JISC (Japan) SAC (China)
Group 2	ABNT (Brazil) AENOR (Spain) BIS (India) SIS (Sweden) SNV (Switzerland)
Group 3	SABS (South Africa) SPRING SG (Singapore) TSE (Turkey) UNMZ (Czech Republic) <i>(i.e. one vacant seat)</i>
Group 4	ISRM (The FYR of Macedonia) SARM (Armenia) <i>(i.e. two vacant seats)</i>



APPROVALS / ELECTIONS / APPOINTMENTS

ITEM 13.4 Election of the next ISO President

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

The General Assembly is invited to elect an ISO President either for the 2018-2019 term or for the 2018-2020 term, who shall also serve as President-elect for 2017.

Background

The term of office of Dr Zhang Xiaogang, ISO President, will expire on 31 December 2017. According to the *Statutes*, the term of office of the President consists of one year as President-elect, followed by two or three years as President. The term of the future President shall start, as President-elect, on 1 January 2017.

On 19 February 2016, member bodies were invited to submit nominations by 19 April 2016 for the position of President (the personal profile and job description of the President are attached at Annex 1).

Two nominations were received¹:

- **Mr Edward Njoroge (Kenya)**, who would stand for a three-year term and has given assent to the presentation of his name. Mr Njoroge's biography is attached at Annex 2.
- **Mr John Walter (Canada)**, who would stand for a two-year term and has given assent to the presentation of his name. Mr Walter's biography is attached at Annex 3.

NOTE – In accordance with Clause 3.6 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, all the nominations shall be circulated to the member bodies, without stating the names of the proposers.

In accordance with Clause 3.6 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, the President's Committee shall nominate a candidate for the next President for election by the General Assembly on the basis of the nominations from the member bodies. The President's Committee considered the profiles of the above two candidates during in-camera sessions of the President's Committee held on 13 June 2016 and 29 June 2016, without the Vice-President (policy) because he is one of the two candidates for the ISO Presidency.

Given two different profiles, with varied but important background and experience, and the confirmation of both to proceed with their candidacies, the President's Committee recommends:

- a) on an exceptional basis, both candidates as nominees for the position of the ISO President, (possible 2018-2020 term for E. Njoroge; possible 2018-2019 term for J. Walter), and
- b) that the General Assembly elects one of the two candidates at its meeting in Beijing (China).

Both candidates will have the opportunity to provide a short presentation to the General Assembly before the election takes place (see election procedure on next page). This will allow each candidate to, amongst other things, state their ideas for the Presidency, and address how their background and experience is suited to the position of the ISO President (see Annex 1).

➤ **IMPORTANT - VOTING PROCEDURE**

The election will take place during the General Assembly in Beijing according to the following voting procedure:

1. As indicated in the draft agenda of the 2016 General Assembly, the morning session on Tuesday 13 September 2016 will be preceded by a 90-minute networking time (09:00-10:30) allowing, amongst other things, bilateral meetings between members. After this networking time, there will be a 30-minute coffee break (10:30-11:00). The election of the next ISO President will take place during this coffee break outside the plenary room for the General Assembly.
2. At the beginning of the morning coffee break on Tuesday 13 September, heads of each of the delegations are kindly requested to visit the voting table outside of the plenary room for the General Assembly. An ISO Central Secretariat staff member will give them one ballot paper with which to cast their delegation's vote. Those member bodies holding a proxy will receive a voting paper for the member body for which they hold a proxy.
3. Heads of delegation will have until the end of the morning coffee break to cast their delegation's vote. They must place their ballot papers in the ballot box (at the same voting table) **before the end of the morning coffee break or the vote will not be counted.**
4. The results of the election will be announced to the General Assembly under this agenda item during the afternoon of Tuesday 13 September.

If you have any questions on the voting procedure please contact José Baltar, Team Leader Governance, at gov@iso.org or call +41 22 749 01 11

PERSONAL PROFILE AND JOB DESCRIPTION FOR THE PRESIDENT²

Personal profile

The Personal Profile for the President should be the following:

Experience

- Senior leader in industry, business or science
- Extensive international exposure and contacts
- Strong high level governance experience e.g. Board Chairman or equivalent

Education and Personal characteristics

- University education
- Effective communicator
- Visionary, charismatic, actively promotes consensus
- Ideally multilingual. Fluent in one of the official ISO languages, preferably English. Communicates effectively in English

Resources

- In principle, financially supported by the relevant national ISO member. Candidates would be told an estimate of the time and financial support that would be required, as a minimum, to fulfil the statutory role of President.

Job description

The ISO President:

1. Provides leadership to the ISO membership, and chairs the General Assembly and any special meetings of members.
2. Provides leadership to the Council and is responsible for the efficient functioning of Council.
 - a. Chairs meetings of Council.
 - b. Sets the meeting schedule and agenda, in conjunction with the Secretary-General.
 - c. Consults with Council members and promotes open communication, constructive debate and effective decision-making.
 - d. Leads specific tasks/projects as mandated by Council.

² Personal profile and job description approved under Council Resolution 8/2012.

3. Promotes efficient collaboration among the Strategy and Policy Committee (CSC/SPC) and the Council Standing Committee on Finance (CSC/FIN) and the Technical Management Board (TMB) and between these bodies and Council.
4. Provides leadership to the ISO Officers and is responsible for the effective functioning of the President's Committee.
5. Works with the President-elect to ensure they are knowledgeable about issues and so that there is a smooth transition.
6. Provides effective communication between ISO, ISO members and stakeholders.
7. Represents the Organization with external organizations and promotes the interests of the ISO and standards.
8. Conducts and coordinates a periodic self-assessment and/or evaluation of the performance of Council and its subgroups.
9. Coordinates closely with Secretary-General and provides advice as necessary on ISO operations.
10. Oversees the development of appropriate objectives for the Secretary-General and regularly assesses performance.
11. Oversees ISO governance and ensures that ISO activity conforms to Statutes and Rules of procedure.

In the year as President-elect, the role of the future President is to:

- Improve the familiarity with the working of the ISO; in so doing the President-elect is entitled to attend all meetings of ISO bodies as an observer.
- Liaise with the President and the other Officers with regards to the issues facing Council.
- Liaise with the Secretary-General with regards to the operations of the Organization.
- Undertake specific projects or work at the request of, and in coordination with the President.
- Respect that the President retains the clear authority and responsibility for that role and that the President-elect should not diminish that authority.

BIOGRAPHY OF MR EDWARD (EDDY) NJOROGI



Nationality/Age

Kenyan, 63

Current Positions

Chairman, Telekom
(Orange) Kenya Limited

Chairman, Proctor & Allan
East Africa Ltd (Kenya)

Chairman, Corbetti
Geothermal Company
(Ethiopia)

Chairman, TANELEC
Limited (Zambia)

President, Upper Tana-
Nairobi Water Funds
(Kenya)

Education

B.Sc. (Hons) Chemistry
Biochemistry

Personal

Married with three sons

Mr. Edward Njoroge is a Biochemist by profession with a 40-year long professional experience in business and industry in Kenya. He has a very rounded experience in management, finance, investments and corporate governance in the Chemicals, Food, Energy, Financial and Telecommunications sectors.

Mr Njoroge is currently the Chairman of the Boards: Telkom Kenya Limited, a telecommunications operator offering integrated information and communications technology solutions; Proctor & Allan, a leading manufacturer of healthy food products in East Africa; Corbetti Geothermal Company (Ethiopia); TANALEC Ltd (Zambia); and the Chair of the Investment Committee of Aureos East Africa Fund (A US\$ 40 million Private Equity Fund) setup by International Finance Cooperation (IFC), European Investment Bank (EIB), British CDC, the Norwegian Investment Fund for Developing Countries (Norfund), the Dutch development bank (FMO), PTA Bank, and Swiss SECO for investment in SMEs in Eastern Africa.

Until June 2016, Mr Njoroge served as the Chairman of the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE), the leading securities exchange in East Africa for the last seven years during which time the bourse was transformed, demutualised, and listed. He also sits on various diverse Boards as a Director.

Mr Njoroge's industry experience includes Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Kenya Electricity Generating Company Ltd (KENGEN), a major power generating company where he served for 10 years transforming the company from a government owned parastatal to a publicly listed company. He was also the Chairman and co-Chief Executive Officer of Abcon Group, a chemicals and packaged foods trading company he established in 1977.

His involvement in the Chemicals, Food, Energy, Financial and Telecommunications sectors provides him with a cross-sectoral understanding standardization and regulatory matters relevant to all three members of the World Standards Cooperation (ISO, IEC and ITU). Moreover, he has been at the forefront of policy-making in the energy sector and an advocate of public-private partnership for which voluntary standards are often an important enabler.

Mr. Njoroge has been active in Pan-African initiatives taking on specific assignments such as: the President of the Union of Producers and Distributors of Electric Power in Africa (UPDEA) in 2008-2012; Chairman of the World Energy Council (2005-2013); and Member of the Eastern Africa Power Pool Steering Committee giving him a unique perspective on Africa and developing countries as a whole.

Other positions currently held

- Globeleq, a Pan-African power company with power plants across Africa (Chair of the Environmental, Social and Governance standards Committee).
- Britam General Insurance Company Ltd (Chair of the Human Resources Committee);
- CFC Stanbic Bank Kenya Ltd (Chair of Board Credit Committee); and
- Berkeley Energy, an African Renewable Energy Fund, Member of Investment Committee

Achievements

Mr. Njoroge is the recipient of several awards honouring his contribution to business and industry development in general and also specific recognition of his contribution to the transformation of the energy sector. Key among these:

- *Chief of the Burning Spear, CBS (2012), Kenya*
- *Ordre National du Merite (2009), France*
- *Africa Energy Forum Lifetime Award (2013)*
- *Elder of the Burning Spear, EBS (2006), Kenya*
- *ESI Africa Utility CEO of the Year 2011*
- *Africa Investor 100 CEO of the Year 2011*

Other interests

- Social Service leadership, joined Nairobi District Round Table No. 23 in 1978, held Chairmanship positions in Kenya (NDRT 23), Eastern Africa (ARTEA) and was the board member of the World Council (WOCO) in 1989
- Sports leadership, past Captain and Chairman in two Golf Clubs, past Chairman of Junior Golf Foundation of Kenya and past Director of Kenya Open Golf



BIOGRAPHY OF MR JOHN WALTER



John Walter is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Standards Council of Canada (SCC), a role to which he was appointed by Canada's Minister of Industry, Science and Economic Development, effective September 21, 2009.

During Mr. Walter's term, he has led the development of innovative solutions to achieve the standardization priorities of industry and government, including the accreditation of new standards development organizations to facilitate market access for industry, and the development of new standards to help Canadian businesses deploy leading-edge technologies.

Mr. Walter has also helped to strengthen international standardization by actively participating in SCC's international activities, including standardization-related capacity-building work with the national standards bodies of developing countries; participation in ISO's Technical Management Board (TMB); and assisting regional organizations such as the Pan American Standards Commission (COPANT) and the Pacific Area Standards Congress (PASC) to set and achieve strategic priorities.

In addition to his role in leading SCC, Mr. Walter has also served as the Vice-President (policy) of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) since January 1, 2014. His duties include leadership of ISO's Strategy and Policy Committee, supporting achievements of the ISO Strategic Plan, and ensuring effective communication on strategic issues within ISO and with its stakeholders. Mr. Walter was recently reappointed as Vice-President (policy) at the ISO General Assembly for another two-year term, effective January 1, 2016.

Prior to his appointment at SCC, Mr. Walter gained experience as both a user and a developer of standards. He was directly involved with industry and government leaders as Vice-President, Standards Development, for the Canadian Standards Association (CSA Group), Canada's largest standards development organization.

During his years as the founding President and CEO of the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA), a self-funded organization mandated to deliver public safety services in Ontario, Mr. Walter demonstrated great business foresight, along with a clear ability to integrate diverse perspectives. His understanding of the sector dynamics and industry trends allowed him to successfully implement an innovative organizational strategy.

Mr. Walter holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Guelph, Ontario.

APPROVALS / ELECTIONS / APPOINTMENTS

ITEM 13.5 Vice-President (finance) for the 2017-2018 term

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

Recommend the General Assembly approve the draft resolution below:

Draft General Assembly Resolution

(Vice-President [finance] for the 2017-2018 term)

The General Assembly appoints Dr Bronwyn Evans (Australia) as Vice-President (finance) for the 2017-2018 term.

Background

The term of office of the ISO Vice-President (finance), Mr Olivier Peyrat, will expire on 31 December 2016. He will be completing his second term of office as Vice-President (finance) and is not eligible for a further term (Clause 4.1.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly).

On 19 February 2016, Council members were invited to submit suggestions for nominees by 19 March 2016 for the position of Vice-President (finance). Council members proposed Dr Bronwyn Evans (Australia) as a candidate.

The President's Committee acts as a nomination committee for the Vice-Presidents (Clause 3 of the *Rules of Procedure of Council*). At its meeting on 13 June 2016, the President's Committee recommended that the General Assembly appoint Dr Bronwyn Evans as Vice-President (finance) for the 2017-2018 term. Her biography is attached at Annex.

BIOGRAPHY OF DR BRONWYN EVANS



Dr Bronwyn Evans is CEO of Standards Australia. She has a Bachelor of Engineering (Elec) and a PhD in Electrical Engineering in industrial automation.

Dr Evans has over 30 years' experience as a leading business executive in the fields of medical devices, engineering education, standards development and power generation.

In 2015, Dr Evans was appointed as the Chair of MTP Connect, an Australian Government program aimed at accelerating Australia's innovation and global competitiveness in Medical Technologies and Pharmaceuticals.

In the same year, Dr Evans was appointed by Australia's Foreign Affairs Minister as a Board Member of the Australia-Japan Foundation. The foundation was established by the Australian Government to expand and develop linkages between Australia and Japan.

In her executive roles, Dr Evans has led regional businesses across 12 countries; and had global leadership responsibility in a medical device company (AUD 5.9 bn) listed company in the medical technology sector. Dr Evans has also had extensive experience in engineering roles in both private and public sector organisations.

Dr Evans has previously held positions as a Deputy Chair of The Warren Centre for Advanced Engineering, University of Sydney, and as a member of the Centre's Finance and Risk Committee; independent Non-Executive Director of John Holland Limited (AUD 2 bn unlisted company in the Building and Construction sector); Chair of the Medical Technology Association of Australia Board (Industry Association); Chair of the National Board of the Centre for Engineering Leadership and Management (Professional Association); and a member of the Future Manufacturing Industry Innovation Council (Australian Government Think Tank).

Dr Evans is a Fellow of The Institution of Engineers Australia, a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering, an Honorary Fellow of the University of Wollongong and a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

In 2014, Dr Evans was awarded the Engineers Australia President's Award. In 2014 and 2015, she was acknowledged as one of Australia's 100 most influential engineers. In 2015 she was also recognized as one of Australia's Knowledge Nation 100.

APPROVALS / ELECTIONS / APPOINTMENTS

ITEM 13.6 Financial auditors for the 2017 financial year

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

Recommend the General Assembly approve the draft resolution below:

Draft General Assembly Resolution

(Auditors for the 2017 financial year)

The General Assembly appoints PricewaterhouseCoopers S.A. (PwC) as auditors for the 2017 financial year.

Background

The Statutes require that the financial auditors are appointed by the General Assembly (Article 6.6).

At its meeting in September 2014, Council recommended to the General Assembly the financial auditors to be appointed for the 2015-2018 financial years, subject to an annual reappointment ([Council Resolution 24/2014](#)).