

# Overview of Process for Participation in ISO

#### **Standards Alliance National Mirror Committee Training**

November 2, 2015, Accra, Ghana

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# AGENDA (09:15-10:00)

About ISO

Participation in ISO meetings

Twinning arrangements



#### **About us**



The ISO story began in **1946** when delegates from <u>25 countries</u> met at the Institute of Civil Engineers in London and decided to create a new international organization:

'to facilitate the international coordination and unification of industrial standards'.

In <u>February 1947</u> the new organization, ISO, officially began operations.





**ISO** is the world's largest developer and publisher of voluntary International Standards.

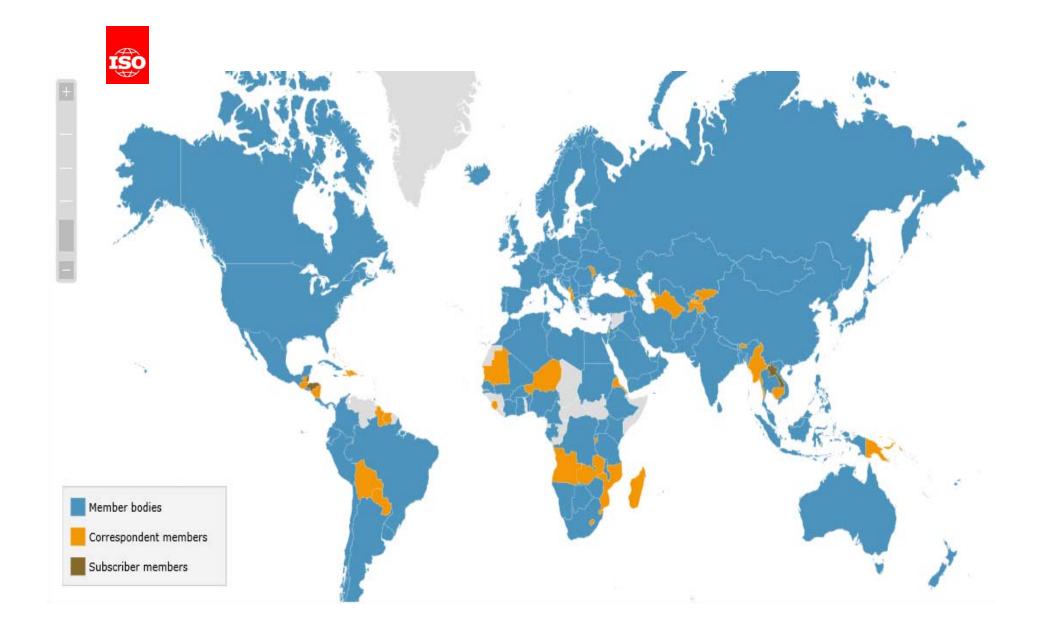


# ISO in figures

#### More than:

- 165 members,
- 100 000 experts
- 238 technical committees (521 SCs)
- 19 meetings everyday
- 4700 active projects (1852 new)
- 1468 publications in 2014
- 20 493 standards in catalogue







## Why are we unique?

**Our global network.** ISO members come from virtually every country in the world.

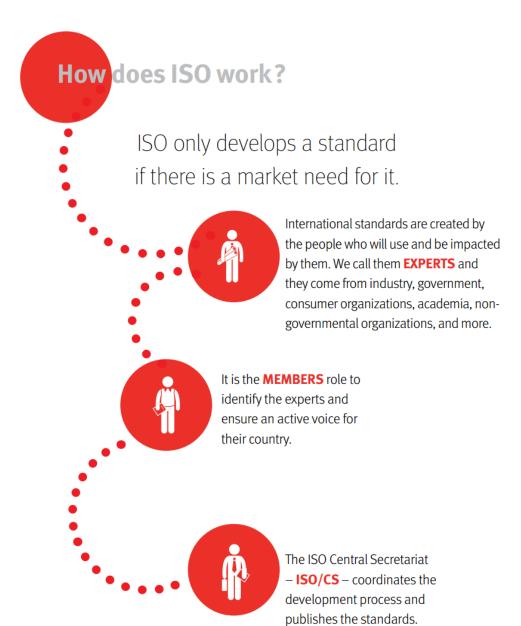
**Our brand.** ISO is recognized globally and associated with confidence.

**Our integrity.** We have been publishing the standards the world needs since our creation in 1947. Today the ISO brand is recognized globally.

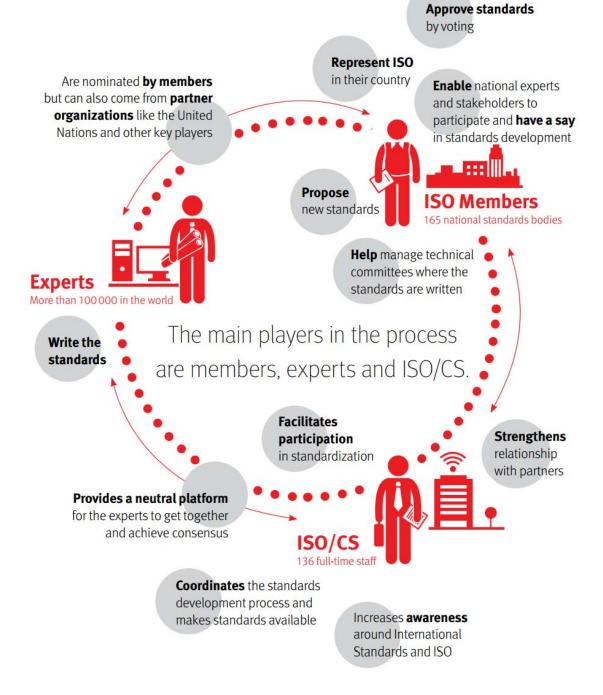
**Our commitment to consensus.** We work with more than 700 organizations and over 100 000 experts from different industries and sectors.

**Our partnerships.** We work closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). We also have a strategic partnership with the World Trade Organization (WTO) to promote free and fair trade.











# Participation in ISO meetings

#### **Selection criteria**

- Technical knowledge and expertise
- Member and active participant in work of NMC
- Awareness of national positions
- Time and resources (available for continuous participation)
- Sufficient language skills

Funding issues: is the process only open to those who can afford it?

- Funding mechanisms...
- Transparency





### Guidance to delegates and experts 1

The NSB/NMC can provide useful guidance to its delegates and experts:

Preparation

Meeting protocol

Communication

#### **Preparation:**

- Provide training on ISO rules and procedures
- Ensure they have access to all relevant documents
- Brief delegates on national positions including the degree of flexibility of the national position around which to negotiate (be clear about the mandate)
- If new/unexpected business is raised at the meeting, instruct delegates to defer the decision to allow for national consultation



### **Guidance to delegates and experts 2**

#### **Meeting protocol:**

 Each delegation must nominate a head to act as the spokesperson in each meeting. This person is formally recognised to speak

#### **Communication:**

- Instruct experts to give regular progress reports to their NSB or NMC
- Instruct delegates/experts to provide a de-briefing to NSB or NMC after the meeting



# **Twinning arrangements**



# **Twinning arrangements**

- Partnership between a developed country and a developing country
- The developed country provides training, guidance and assistance to build the capacity of the developing country partner

#### Aims:

- Improve participation of developing countries in ISO
- Improve standardization infrastructures and capacities of developing countries
- Promote exchanges of experience and strategic partnerships between ISO members



# 4 types of Twinning arrangements

P-members

Convenors & Co-Convenors

Chairs & Vice-Chairs

Secretaries & Co-Secretaries

#### The aim

- increase participation of developing countries in ISO
- improve standardization infrastructures & capacities
- **promote exchange** of experience
- develop long-term strategic partnerships



# 4 types of Twinning arrangements

Each type requires different resources and leads to the acquisition of different skills.

#### To learn more:

Guidance document on 'Twinning':

http://www.iso.org/iso/PUB100341.pdf





# Any questions?

Thank you....!!!