

US stakeholders' opportunities for international policy engagement

Breakout Session

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The graphic features the ANSI logo in a stylized, glowing blue font, set against a background of a network diagram with nodes and connecting lines. Below the logo, the text "Global Standardization Conference" is displayed in a large, bold, glowing blue font. The entire graphic is set against a dark blue background with a subtle grid pattern.

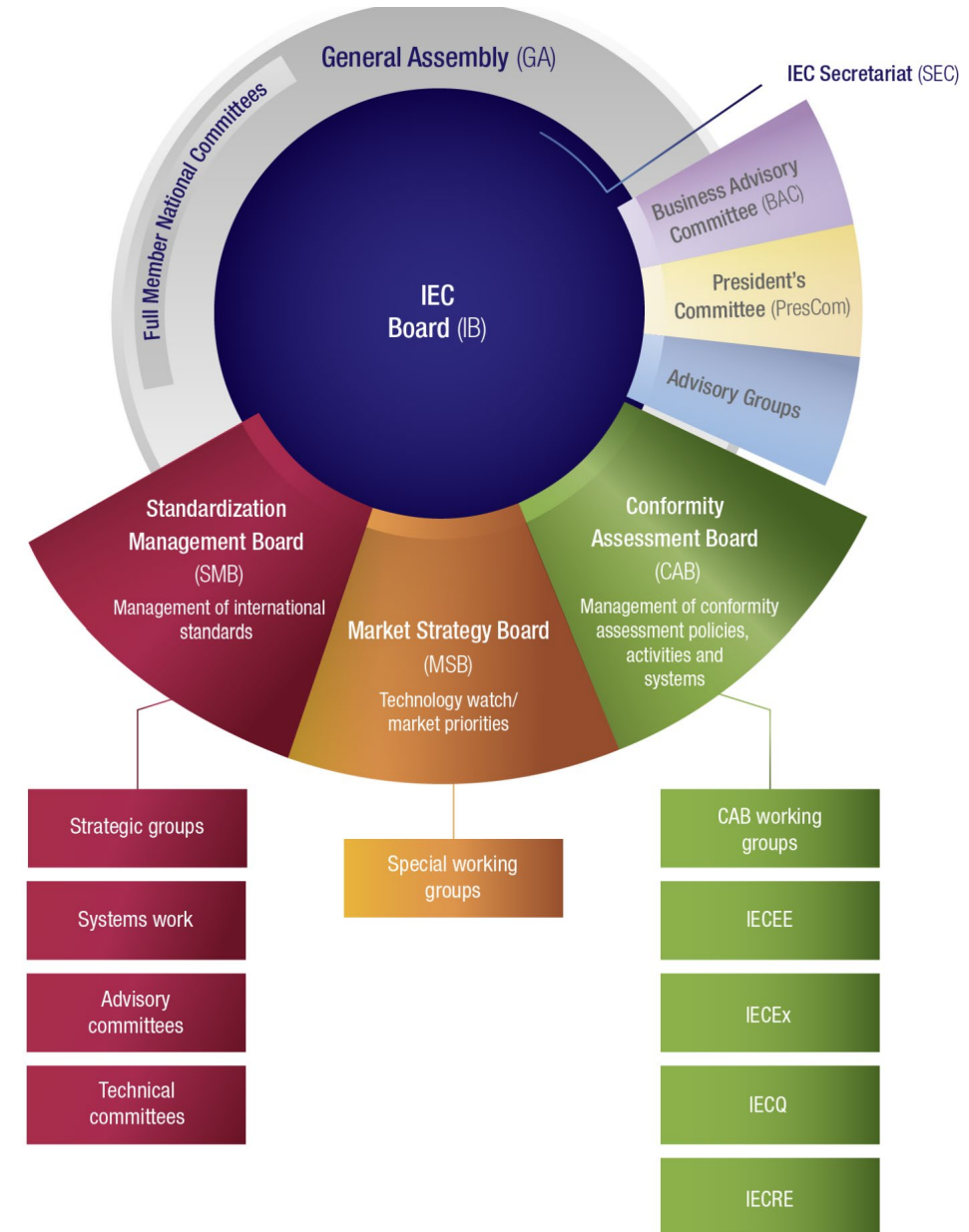
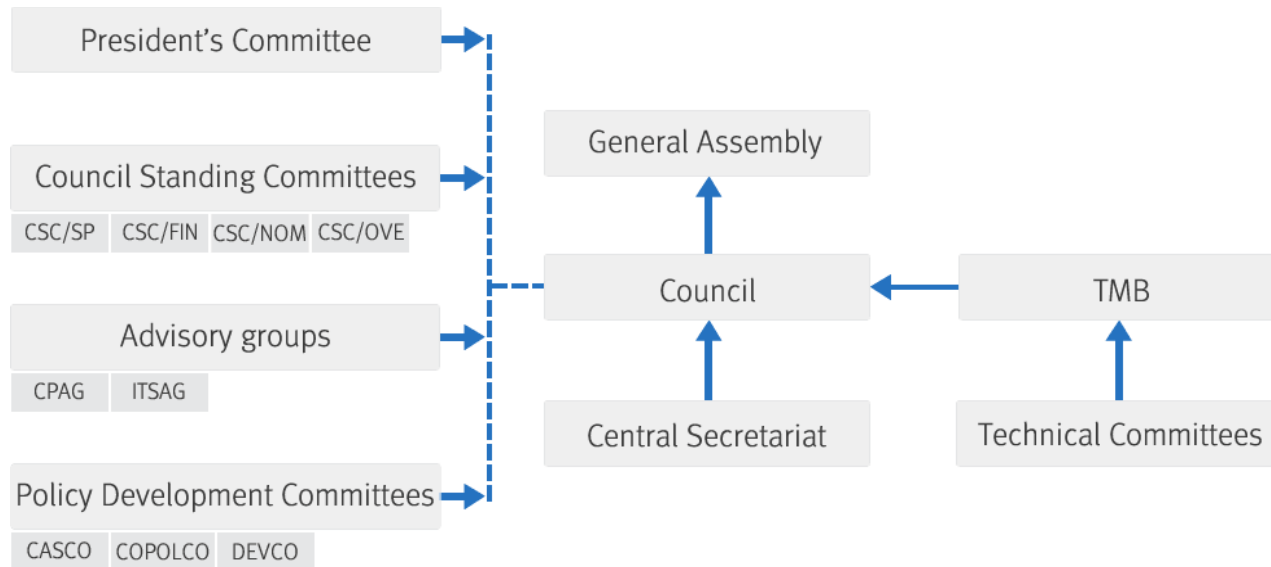
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**Global
Standardization
Conference**

International Engagement: Nationally & Regionally

- ANSI led bodies:
 - International Policy Advisory Group (IPAG)
 - ANSI ISO Council (AIC)
 - US National Committee (USNC) of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)
- Regional bodies:
 - Pan-American Standards Organization (COPANT)
 - Pacific Area Standards Congress (PASC)
 - Forum of IEC National Committees of the Americas (FINCA)
 - Asia-Pacific Cooperation Forum (APCF)



ISO & IEC Governance Structures



ANSI Led Bodies

The graphic features the ANSI logo in a large, bold, blue font, set against a dark blue background with a network of glowing nodes and lines. Below the logo, the text "Global Standardization Conference" is displayed in a smaller, bold, blue font. The overall design is modern and technical, with a focus on connectivity and global standards.

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The Scope of International Policy Advisory Group



An advisory forum for members to discuss policies and positions regarding regional and international standards with...

... a member driven agenda touching also on conformity assessment issues, including related public policy issues.

The IPAG responds to requests for input from the Board, Executive Committee, Committees of ANSI, Forums and other PAGs.

International Policy Advisory Group (IPAG) meetings

- IPAG meetings are held twice year, once in the spring and once in the fall
- ANSI Staff and IPAG member collaborate on the development of the agenda.
- Previous meetings have tended to consistently cover:
 - ANSI's participation in regional standardization bodies and long standing bilateral engagements with countries such as China, Korea, Canada and more
 - Work carried by IPAG Task Forces or Ad Hoc Groups, such as ones for Europe or China and their standardization priorities, helping with participation in the ANSI-ESO meetings for example.
 - Issues related to coordination between ISO, IEC and ITU
 - IPAG is the primary forum where ANSI solicits members inputs and participation in regional standardization bodies, [COPANT](#) and [PASC](#).
 - Informal trade policy updates from U.S. government representatives
 - ANSI International Development Capacity Building Programs such as the [Standards Alliance Phase 2](#) or the [Global ICT and CET Standards Program](#)



How to get involved in IPAG

- Membership in the IPAG is open to all interested ANSI members, and Participation in the IPAG is by voting and/or non-voting membership
- Voting members serve terms of three years, and need to be approved by the Executive Committee
- Both voting and non voting have the right to access IPAG documents, participate in all meetings, and join IPAG Task Forces
- Task Forces (TFs) are another opportunity for members to be more involved in between IPAG meetings. Active TF under IPAG have covered policy issues around China, and the EU.
- The China TF is currently looking to renew and expand its roster and is actively looking for new interested members



ANSI ISO Council

The ANSI ISO Council (AIC) is responsible for broad-based policy decisions and positions in relation to the policy governance groups of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO)



ISO's policy governance groups that are under the authority of the AIC are the:
ISO General Assembly, ISO Council, ISO Technical Management Board, ISO Committee on Consumer Policy (COPOLCO), ISO Committee on Developing Countries (DEVCO)



ANSI ISO Council meetings & how to get involved

- Meetings of the AIC are held at least two times a year. Meetings are scheduled one year in advance.
- The agenda is developed by the AIC Secretary
- ANSI members can join the AIC either as voting or non voting members
- Voting members serve terms of three years, and need to be approved by the ExCo
- The AIC also establishes Standing Committees and task groups that are considered necessary to accomplish its mission. The Chairs of such Standing Committees is appointed by the Chair of the AIC.
- Under the AIC the ANSI ISO Forum (AIF) is responsible for reviewing and providing input on ANSI draft positions on technical coordination and procedural issues of the ISO Technical Management Board (TMB), as AIF members must accept and implement the results of ISO/TMB decisions on those issues.



The US National Committee (USNC)

- USNC, as a committee of ANSI, serves as the official U.S. member of the IEC and represents and coordinates U.S. involvement in IEC governance groups, technical committees, and conformity assessment systems.
- USNC serves as the U.S. point of contact for stakeholders in the electrotechnical community.



USNC meetings & how to get involved

- USNC Management Meetings are held in person three times a year and are scheduled the year prior.
 - USNC Council, Technical Management Committee (TMC), Conformity Assessment Policy Coordination Committee (CAPCC)
- The agendas are developed by the policy committee chairs, vice chairs, and staff.
- USNC Premier Members, USNC TAG Administrators, USNC CA System Secretariats, & IEC TC/SC/SyC Administrative Secretariats can join the USNC policy committees
- USNC policy committee members serve terms of three years, and are approved by the USNC Council



Regional Bodies

The image features a stylized network graphic with glowing blue nodes and connecting lines. A large, glowing blue arc is positioned above the text. The text 'ANSI' is rendered in a bold, blue, sans-serif font, with a bright white glow around the letters. Below it, the words 'Global Standardization Conference' are stacked in a similar bold, blue, sans-serif font, also with a white glow.

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Background and Purpose



COPANT



- Established in 1949, COPANT is comprised of the national standards bodies (NSBs) of the countries in the Americas region. ANSI is the U.S. dues-paying representative
- COPANT consists of 32 active members and 9 adherent members that have interest in the region
- The primary goal of COPANT is to facilitate regional cooperation in international standards activities
- Other functions include the promotion of technical education, the harmonization of policies, and the financial sponsorship for NSBs with limited resources to participate in standards development at the international level; such as attending ISO and IEC meetings.

ANSI's Role & Member Involvement

ISO & IEC Focused



ANSI invites members to join its delegation for the yearly General Assemblies to engage NSBs from the Western Hemisphere

ANSI members may also co-fund workshops aimed at promoting harmonized standards, and generate interest and participation in relevant standards and conformity assessment processes.

The next COPANT general assembly will be held April 27-30, 2026 in Nassau Bahamas, ANSI will also be leading a half-day workshop with two (2) panel discussions on April 29, 2026 in collaboration with the Bahamas Standards body

Panel 1: Build Back Better: How Resilient and Sustainable Buildings coupled with Community Preparedness can reduce environmental impact

Panel 2: Cross-Border and International Harmonization: The importance of aligning standards for regional resilience, approaches and climate action



ANSI delegation at COPANT 2025, Havana, Cuba

Background and Purpose



- The Pacific Area Standards Congress (PASC) is an independent and voluntary organization of Pacific Rim national standards bodies with 25 member countries
- PASC primarily meets through five Working Groups that convene to share expertise and resources on separate strategic areas of standardization in the region:
- PASC's primary role is to support the region's engagement in the international standardization system for the advancement of economic, societal, and environmental well-being



ANSI delegation at PASC 2025, Tokyo, Japan

ANSI's Role & Member Involvement

ISO & IEC Focused



ANSI represents the U.S. to PASC and ensures that U.S. and ANSI member viewpoints are effectively communicated and considered. ANSI members benefit through:

- Regular briefings on PASC discussions.
- Coordination of U.S. positions and participation.
- Access to regional contacts and alternative channels to solicit regional support for U.S.-led initiatives and projects.

PASC AGM

The next General Assembly meeting will take place in Singapore June 11-13 2026 and interested members may also join the ANSI delegation.

Work Groups

Working Group 1 – Communication and Stakeholder Engagement
Working Group 2 – Capacity Building
Working Group 3 – Technical Collaboration
Working Group 4 – Policy and Governance (led by ANSI)
Working Group 5 – Digital Transformation

WG4

Members may contribute to the activities of PASC **“Working Group 4 – Policy and Governance”** which is led by ANSI.

Background and Purpose

IEC Focused



- This group was formed to establish a strategic collaboration between National Committees in the Americas, share information and best practices, and serve as a counterbalance to Europe.
- Nine members: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay, and the U.S.
- Representatives from these National Committees meet annually to discuss IEC governance items, candidates for elections, and other regional standards and conformity assessment issues in preparation for the IEC General Meeting.



USNC delegation at FINCA 2025, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Background and Purpose

IEC Focused

Asia-Pacific Cooperation Forum



- The APCF is a forum of IEC members from the Asia-Pacific Rim region.
- There are currently 28 countries that participate in this group.
- APCF's mission is to facilitate and strengthen regional involvement in the IEC, and while APCF is an IEC-focused forum, the group has started to actively coordinate with PASC to align regional standardization efforts, including digitalization.
- APCF typically meets twice a year, with at least one meeting being held in-person. Like FINCA, this group discusses IEC governance items, candidates for elections, and other regional standards and conformity assessment issues.



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