



ANSI Workshop:  
*Generating U.S. Input  
on the ISO Strategic Plan  
2011-2015*



## ***REPORT OF BREAKOUT SESSION 3(a)***

### **Partnerships**

### **June 25, 2009**

### **11:00 am to 12:30 pm**

ANSI Workshop: *Generating U.S. Input on the  
ISO Strategic Plan 2011–2015*  
June 25–26, 2009

# Key Discussion/Consensus Points

## □ Models of Cooperation/Liaison

- **ISO needs to review how it can better work, in partnership, with other inter-governmental organizations, which have areas of common scope, e.g., CODEX and food safety; avoid duplication of effort...both “partners” must agree to avoid forum shopping and duplicative standards**
- **Don’t assume that liaisons, either at the organizational ISO Central Secretariat level or at the TC/SC level, actually perform strategically, or that duplication of effort in the same standards sectors is being minimized via liaison arrangements. Needs to be a high level look at corresponding, similar work programs from organizations in liaison as a possible solution.**
- **ISO should look at best practices where an ISO/TC or SC works cooperatively with an intergovernmental regulatory body, e.g., ISO/TC 8 on Shipping and the International Maritime Organization, which avoids duplication of effort and is accepted by both the private and regulatory sectors**

# Key Discussion/Consensus Points

## □ Partnering

**In order to support the greatest possible efficiency and cost savings for the users of standards and the greatest possible cooperation with other relevant SDOs, ISO's governance groups must change their "attitude" about models of cooperation with those organizations. ISO needs to adapt its thinking and models to provide appropriate recognition of other standards that can work in concert with ISO standards , without forcing a situation where all standards must be converted into ISO standards to be seen as "valid."**

# Key Discussion/Consensus Points

## □ ISO-IEC-ITU Cooperation

- **ISO needs continue to find more effective and efficient means of cooperating with the IEC on specific standards development initiatives, especially in converging technology areas, and should also coordinate more with the ITU and the IEC on horizontal policy and cross-cutting issues that affect all three international organizations.**
- **It was noted that for the most part, Joint Working Groups between ISO and IEC work well in converging areas of work at the expert level, but that both the ISO and IEC staff and process, i.e., “turf issues,” need to get out of the way and let the work take place, and not focus on where it is done.**

# Key Discussion/Consensus Points

- **“International” recognition of partners’ work**
  - **Suggest that ISO find a way to “recognize” standards work from other organizations, private sector or inter-governmental and vice versa, so as to avoid work being duplicated or simply transposed from one organization to the other, thus risking two standards on the same subject, only slightly different from each other in content**
  - **Improve the New Work Item Proposal form/process to ask the question: Has the applicable intergovernmental body/regulator been contacted?**