



México and Latin America US influencing the Standards Related CBS & TS

Options for Action Summit

Gaithersburg, Maryland
July 18-19, 2006

Presented by

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□ Agenda

- The Standardization and Conformity Assessment procedures in México and Latin America
- US supporting and influencing activities
- How the US activities are perceived
- US opportunities to improve success influencing in the Region



Standardization and Conformity Assessment Procedures

□ Current Situation in the Region

- Very poor development of “National” Standards (Mandatory and Voluntary)
- Extensive use of International Standards and recommendations
- Those in WTO are afraid to “try” other standards from “new” international bodies
- Existing of Conformity Assessment Procedures according to International guides
- Lack of Test labs
- Lack of MRAs
- Lack of Standards-Related Capacity Building and Technical Support from international / regional agencies
- Countries “forced” to just follow what is done in developed countries without national infrastructure and know-how



US Supporting and Influencing activities

- **US Supporting and Influencing Activities**
 - **Largest investment in Trade Capacity Building (TCB) in Latin America**
 - **Total Funding: \$ 1.34 BILLION USD**
 - **LA & C = 39 %**
 - **Middle East and North Africa = 18.28 %**
 - **Sub-Saharan Africa = 14.81 %**
 - **Asia = 10.7 %**
 - **Former Soviet Republics = 5.97 %**
 - **Central & Eastern Europe = 5.46 %**
 - **US active role in efforts to provide TCB to LDCs and Free Trade Agreements implementation**
 - **BUT VERY LITTLE TO STANDARDS-RELATED CAPACITY BUILDING and TECHNICAL SUPPORT**



How the US activities are perceived

□ Current Situation in the Region

- Main interest on TCB but very little in Standards-Related
- Standards-Related capacity building mainly made by / or through private companies
- Perceived “suspicious” the interest from Private companies
- Perception of “imposing” technical standards instead to build capacity to develop and “technically understand” needs and benefits of standards



US opportunities to improve success influencing in the Region

- ❑ Closer cooperation with Standards development bodies and Authorities to train them to “develop their own National / Regional standards”
- ❑ Creation of permanent programs in coordination with local Universities, Technological Institutions, Chambers and Associations
- ❑ Adapt to local technical environment. Do not “force” introduction or adoption of new standards
- ❑ Further use of WTO and other international institutions (ISO, IEC, Codex Alimentarius, COPANT, etc) to “indirect” influence in the region
- ❑ Closer and better use of Regional and Sub regional Trade and Standardization bodies (i.e: CITEL, MERCOSUR, NAFTA, Andean Pact, COMTELCA, etc) Government to Government





THANK YOU / GRACIAS

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