INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

STANDARDIZATION MANAGEMENT BOARD

SUBJECT
Decisions and report from SMB meeting 180 held on 2024-06-14 in Geneva (CH)

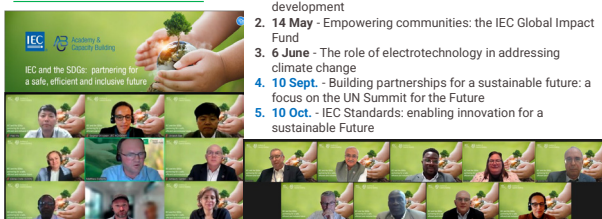# 1   Opening of the meeting

1.1 Welcome by the Chair

SMB Chair Vimal Mahendru opened the meeting

Vimal Mahendru welcomed the new SMB alternate from Japan: Tetsuyuki Ikeda, replacing Itaru Ishiguro. The SMB Chair thanked the outgoing SMB alternate for his service in the SMB and his involvement in the IEC. The following guests were introduced and attended the meeting: Javier Garcia Diaz (ISO/TMB Chair), Antoine Morin (ISO/TMB Secretariat). Philippe Metzger (Secretary-General and CEO) also attended part of the meeting.
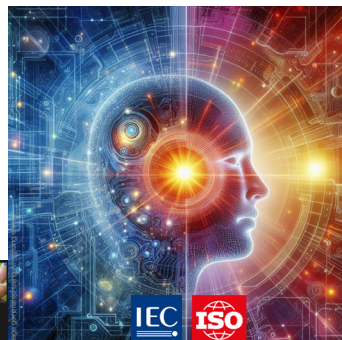
Vimal Mahendru updated SMB on major developments and activities since the last SMB meeting in Sydney in February 2024.

New series of webinars:
SDGs and electrotechnology: driving sustainable development

For more information

1. **25 April** - SDGs and electrotechnology: driving sustainable development
2. **14 May** - Empowering communities: the IEC Global Impact Fund
3. **6 June** - The role of electrotechnology in addressing climate change
4. **10 Sept.** - Building partnerships for a sustainable future: a focus on the UN Summit for the Future
5. **10 Oct.** - IEC Standards: enabling innovation for a sustainable Future

Biodigital Convergence

- SMB set up SyC Biodigital Convergence (SyC BDC) in 2023
- SMB invited TMB to consider this a Joint Systems Committee
- March 2024 – TMB has decided to join this Committee and thus it becomes a pilot **Joint Systems Committee**

Congratulations CA NC!

Key points from other meetings: IB, BAC and SMB online CAG

- **BAC**: SMB proposal to have BAC address consortia – delegated to NRG (SMB Decision 179/8)
- **BAC**: Focus on AI and SMART and effective collaboration between IEC and ISO (discussed in joint SMB/TMB meeting)
- **SMB Online CAG**: IEC Risk Register and SMB consultations are taking pace
- **ISO IEC IB JTF on JTC1**: for strategic review of JTC1, SMB represented

WSIS+20 FORUM HIGH-LEVEL EVENT 2024

AI for Good

Geneva, May 2024

Observations and outcomes:

- Wheel, Printing Press, Steam Engine, Electricity, PC, Internet, AI
- AI-washing is happening; we must be careful
- LVDC has much wider applications than we realize (from energy access to AI to ICT).
- Collaboration on deepfake detection between IEC, ISO and ITU
- IEC, ISO, ITU reiterated their commitment to collaborate on *AI for Good*

1.2 Adoption of the agenda

SMB Decision 180/1 – Revised SMB agenda

SMB approved the revised agenda as amended and given in document SMB/8160B/DA.

SMB Decision 180/2 – TC/SC/SyC reports and SBPs

SMB, by consent:

- approved 21 reports, including SBPs, from TC/SC/SyCs, listed in Annex A of the decision list; and

- expressed appreciation to the Chairs and Secretaries of all the TC/SC/SyCs for the reports submitted.

Comments made by SMB members during the comment/approval process have been submitted directly to the TC/SC/SyCs concerned.

1.3 Actions from previous SMB meetings

The list of actions in (SMB Actions (monday.com)) allows the SMB Secretariat and SMB members to follow them up in real time. SMB members are encouraged to review the progress regularly and provide feedback to the IEC Secretariat. To facilitate interactive discussions, the SMB Secretariat has enabled the online commenting function for all SMB members. The Standardization Division has also been requested to update their relevant action items on a regular basis.

2 Strategic work

2.1 SMB Chair's Advisory Group (CAG)

CAGs sessions were held on 2024-06-11 and 12 and addressed the following topics:

- Follow up on joint SMB/TMB meeting

- Resubmission of proposal from JTC 1 to establish a new SC on IT for Smart Cities

- Recommendations from ISO/IEC JAG on Inclusive Terminology

- Engagement with Affiliates

- Review of ahG 96 progress to date

- Presentation on MVDC Technology

- Discussion with ACEA and TC 111 Chairs on Sustainability

- Review of draft SMB decisions

- Future CAG and Deep Dive topics

Action items agreed at the CAG meeting will be added to monday.com for review by SMB members.

SMB Decision 180/3 – IEC Standards in developing economies

SMB thanked Aristea Kyriakati for reporting on the exploratory work done by a subgroup of SMB members (Domingo Avila Jimenez, Thomas Korssell, Clare McGrath, Bernhard Spalt, Tony Zertuche) assessing the engagement of developing economies with IEC technical work.

SMB welcomed the recommendations formulated by the subgroup and asked the IEC Secretariat to involve the IEC Affiliates Leader and follow up on their implementation, with the assistance and support of the subgroup as needed.

The IEC Secretariat is requested to report back on progress by SMB meeting 181 in October 2024.

A Deep Dive session on IT/Digitalization including OSD and SMART was organized on 2024-06-12 and facilitated by David Nix, IEC Digital Transformation Officer.

SMB Decision 180/4 – Adoption of Online Standards Development (OSD) platform as default tool across IEC Committees

SMB congratulated the OSD team for the great improvements on the OSD platform and for the many onboarding sessions organized for IEC Committees and NCs (https://www.iec.ch/osd/sessions).

Following the discussion held during the joint SMB/TMB meeting, SMB decided that from 1 January 2025, the OSD platform shall be the default tool for all new IEC projects and revisions, subject to the IEC Secretariat addressing the additional NC functionalities requested by SMB members to be reviewed in SMB meeting 181 in October 2024.

A second Deep Dive session on SMB Advisory Committees was organized on 2024-06-13 and facilitated by Beatriz Novel, SMB member for Spain, Bettina Funk, SMB member for Sweden, and Andrew Evans, SMB alternate for the UK.

The discussion on sustainability with the Chairs of ACEA and TC 111 led to the following decision.

SMB Decision 180/5 – ACEA Guide 109

SMB reiterated the importance of completing the revision of Guide 109 *Environmental aspects – Inclusion in electrotechnical product standards* as soon as possible and decided to make its application mandatory for all IEC Committees no later than January 2026.

Furthermore, SMB asked the Business Advisory Committee (BAC) to approve the public availability of Guide 109 at no charge.

2.2 SMB Operational Plan

SMB recalled that it was decided to include three new actions in the SMB Operational Plan. Following the practice adopted so far, one or several "champions" (either SMB members or staff from the IEC Secretariat) were assigned to each action as follows:

- Explore the potential of artificial intelligence for standardization (champions: Ian Verhappen and Mike Wood)

- Further engagement with regulators and legislators (champion: Boris Inderbitzin, IEC External Relations Officer)

- Increase collaboration with other IEC management boards (champions: SMB Chair and Secretary)

2.3 ahG 96 *Governance of Artificial Intelligence*

SMB Decision 180/6 – ahG 96 *Governance of Artificial Intelligence* – Usage guide for IEC Committees

SMB thanked Mike Wood and Ian Verhappen for their update on the work done by ahG 96.

SMB welcomed the availability of a first draft usage guide on how IEC Committees may use AI in their work and requested the IEC Secretariat to undertake the following steps:

- Help finalize the usage guide as a 'working draft' and make it available to the IEC Committees through the IEC Committees Resources and Tools portal by the end of June 2024 and after a consultation period of SMB ending 25 June 2024.

- Publish the first version of the usage guide by October 2024 General Meeting taking on feedback from IEC Committees and stakeholders.

- Gather feedback from CAB so that the usage guide would be used by CA Systems as well.

- Discuss with ISO on how the usage guide can become a joint IEC/ISO usage guide.

Once ready for adoption across the whole IEC community, the final usage guide shall be made available to all IEC Committees and standards writers. Technical Officers are asked to gather feedback from IEC Committees and raise any concern or issue to the SMB Secretariat so that the usage guide can be regularly updated and improved.

SMB will review the usage guide by its meeting 183 in June 2025.

SMB Decision 180/7 – ahG 96 *Governance of Artificial Intelligence* – SMB/TMB JTF on *Governance of Artificial Intelligence*

Following the discussion held during the joint SMB/TMB meeting, SMB decided to establish a Joint Task Force (JTF) with ISO/TMB on *Governance of Artificial Intelligence* to coordinate activities impacting the technical community in this area between the two organizations.

The scope of the JTF will be as follows:

- Maintain the content of the AI usage guide for IEC and ISO Committees and monitor its implementation.

- Gather feedback from IEC and ISO Committees on the use of AI for technical activities.

- Coordinate AI piloting activities and share lessons learned.

SMB asked the IEC Secretariat to coordinate with the ISO Central Secretariat a call for maximum 5 members from each technical board.

IEC Co-convenor: Mike Wood (AU)

IEC Members: Ian Verhappen (CA), Ivano Visintainer (IT), Domingo Avila Jimenez (MX), Andrew Evans (UK), Hae Choe (US)

The JTF is requested to report to SMB and ISO/TMB at each joint SMB/TMB meeting.

2.4 SG 11 *Hot Topic Radar*

SMB Decision 180/8 – SG 11 *Hot Topic Radar*

SMB thanked Pascal Terrien for his update on the work of SG 11 and agreed to postpone its report to SMB on Critical infrastructure and cyber threats (SMB Decision 178/7) to SMB meeting 181 in October 2024.

2.5 SG 12 *Digital Transformation and Systems Approach*

SMB Decision 180/9 – SG 12 *Digital Transformation and Systems Approach* – Advisory Committee on *Digital Content Management* (ACDC)

SMB thanked Ralph Sporer for reporting on the work done by SG 12.

SMB decided to set up a new Advisory Committee on *Digital Content Management* (ACDC) to deal with digital content management which is not specific to one single IEC Committee. The role of ACDC will be to coordinate activities related to digital content management and provide advice to SMB on those subjects. ACDC will provide guidance to IEC Committees for the development of digital content to be hosted as Standards in Database Format (SDBs) in a broad perspective and for specific sectors. ACDC will also provide a venue for exchanging information between the IEC and other standards development organizations relevant to its scope. Eventually, ACDC will follow closely research activities and trends in consortia and academia in its area of interest.

Upon recommendation of SG 12, SMB requested ACDC to include the deliverables listed in part A.2 of document SMB/8167/R.

For the composition of ACDC, SMB asked the IEC Secretariat to reach out to relevant IEC Committees as candidates for membership in ACDC, including:

- Committees with ownership of SDBs: TC 1, TC 3, SC 3C, SC 3D, SC 34B, SC 47D, TC 111.
- Committees with content to SDBs: TC 2, TC 8, TC 17, TC 23, SC 32B, TC 46, TC 62, TC 65, TC 85, TC 94, TC 121, SyC Smart Cities.

Once established, ACDC will also issue a call for NC experts following the general membership rules of Advisory Committees as explained in the SMB Handbook.

SMB <u>appointed</u> Philippe Juhel (FR) as Chair of ACDC.

2.6 SG 13 *Working with consortia*

The work of SG 13 was not discussed at the meeting.

2.7 SG 14 *All Electric and Connected Society (AECS)*

The first report from SG 14 was noted.

2.8 SEG 16 *Standardization of Sustainability Technologies*

SMB Decision 180/10 – SEG 16 *Standardization of Sustainability Technologies*

SMB <u>thanked</u> Pascal Terrien for his update on the work done by SEG 16.

Given the amount of work remaining in SEG 16, SMB <u>agreed</u> to delay the final report of SEG 16 to SMB meeting 182 in February 2025.

3   Management of technical work

3.1 Proposal from the Chinese NC for a new TC on *Sensing technologies for power systems*

SMB Decision 180/11 – Proposal from the Chinese NC for a new TC on *Sensing technologies for power systems*

SMB <u>thanked</u> the Chinese NC for submitting the proposal for a new TC on *Sensing technologies for power systems*.

After reviewing the proposal, SMB <u>highlighted</u> significant overlaps with existing IEC Committees (including TC 38, TC 57, TC 65, TC 85, TC 95, and others) and therefore <u>recommended</u> to the Chinese NC to reach out to these IEC Committees for further review and possible way forward.

3.2 Proposal from the US NC for a new PC on *Consistent and effective electronic labelling across industries*

SMB Decision 180/12 – Proposal from the US NC for a new PC on *Consistent and effective electronic labelling across industries*

SMB <u>thanked</u> the US NC for submitting the proposal for a new PC on *Consistent and effective electronic labelling across industries*.

After reviewing the proposal, SMB <u>acknowledged</u> the importance of horizontal electronic labelling and the need for harmonization of standards across different regions and alignment with existing regulations.

SMB <u>requested</u> the IEC Secretariat to send the proposal for review by the SPCG and to organize as soon as possible a webinar to gather feedback from relevant IEC Committees (e.g. TC 21, TC 35, TC 61, TC 62, TC 65, JTC 1/SC 31).

The proposer is asked to subsequently consider inputs from document SMB/8185A/CC, from the SPCG and from interested IEC Committees before the IEC Secretariat circulates the final proposal for approval by the IEC NCs.

3.3 Proposal from ISO/IEC JTC 1 for a new SC on *Information Technology for Smart Cities*

SMB Decision 180/13 – Proposal from ISO/IEC JTC 1 for a new SC on *Information Technology for Smart Cities*

Following the resubmission from ISO/IEC JTC 1 of the proposal to set up a new SC on Information Technology for Smart Cities (SMB/8171/QP), SMB recalled the need to ensure overall coherence in the area of Smart Cities by ensuring a holistic approach to standardization in this field and optimize the involvement of experts.

Therefore, after considerable deliberations, SMB decided to create a Joint SMB/TMB ahG to propose a more holistic structure for Smart Cities (such as a JTC) including a transition plan from existing IEC and ISO activities in this field.

The membership of the Joint SMB/TMB ahG will be 4 SMB members (CN, MX, UK, US) and 4 ISO/TMB members. Chairs or Convenors from groups involved in Smart Cities activities (ISO/IEC JTC 1/WG 11, ISO/TC 268 and SyC Smart Cities) should be invited as necessary.

SMB appointed Pascal Terrien (FR) as IEC Co-convenor.

SMB disapproved the establishment of a new SC on IT for Smart Cities under ISO/IEC JTC 1.

SMB noted that ISO/TMB concurred and requested the Joint SMB/TMB ahG to report back to SMB meeting 181 by October 2024. In the meantime, no change will be enacted to the IEC and ISO Committees involved in Smart Cities activities.

3.4 Standardization Division

Sophie Clivio reported on production statistics from the Standardization Division. The statistics showed an upwards trend in the number of forecasted publications for 2024 and a proportion of publications developed in less than three years stagnating around 65%. SMB members noted that subsequent to SMB Decision 176/8, the number of late projects has decreased considerably. The requests for extension keep being closely monitored by the IEC Secretariat.

SMB Decision 180/14 – Overlap in standardization of air cleaner appliances between SC 59N and ISO/TC 146/SC 6

Following the concern expressed by SC 59N in document SMB/8182/R, SMB recommended to set up a joint SMB/TMB meeting with the following objectives and participants:

Objectives:

* Decide on the allocation of work items between SC 59N and ISO/TC 146/SC 6.
* Prepare a plan for transition and revision as needed with target dates.

Participants:

* SC 59N Officers
* ISO/TC 146/SC 6 Officers
* ISO/TC 142 Officers
* SMB and ISO/TMB representatives from the 3 Committee Secretariats (DE, IT and US)
* IEC Secretariat Director of Standardization and Technical Officer
* ISO Central Secretariat Director of Technical Policy and Technical Programme Manager

SMB asked ISO/TMB to concur and requested the IEC Secretariat to report back by SMB meeting 181 in October 2024.

3.5 TCs not submitting reports within 4 weeks of their meetings

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SMB Decision 180/15 – TCs not submitting reports within 4 weeks of their meeting

SMB noted that TC 14 (UK) had failed to submit its report (RSMB) on time and invited the National Committee holding the Secretariat to investigate.

3.6 ISO/IEC Joint Advisory Group (JAG) on Inclusive Terminology

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SMB Decision 180/16 – ISO/IEC Joint Advisory Group (JAG) on Inclusive Terminology

SMB thanked the JAG on Inclusive Terminology for its work and approves the publication and distribution of the JAG guidance and list of curated non-inclusive terms to the IEC technical community.

SMB agreed to extend the mandate of the JAG on Inclusive Terminology for another year with a renewed mandate to:

- Maintain and revise as needed the guidance and list of non-inclusive terms.

- Prepare a series of webinars as needed to increase the awareness and understanding of the guidance and curated terms within the IEC and ISO communities.

- Propose a change request to clause 8.6 per the recommendations of the JAG for inclusion in the next update to the Directives.

SMB asked the JAG to present its conclusive report for the June 2025 joint SMB/TMB meeting.

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4   Directives

4.1 Directives Maintenance Team (DMT)

There was no DMT topic discussed at this SMB meeting.

4.2 Joint Directives Maintenance Team (JDMT)

There was no JDMT topic discussed at this SMB meeting.

5   Relations with other bodies

5.1 IEC Secretariat (SEC)

Philippe Metzger updated SMB members on his latest and upcoming meetings with members, including Chile, China, Finland, Japan, Kenya, Peru, Poland, Singapore, USA, and Vietnam. He also mentioned recent opportunities to engage with partners and other organizations, including the UN Advisory Body on AI where the IEC has been providing inputs, ITU's World Summit on Information Society, as well as ITU's AI for Good, where the IEC took an active involvement in an international standardization panel and in a workshop on AI watermarking to help in deepfake detection and multimedia authentication. More recently, along with ISO, the IEC participated to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change meeting in Bonn as a ramp up to the COP 29.

The Secretary-General provided an overview of recent governance related meetings and discussions, including budget considerations in the BAC and alignment on OSD and SMART during the latest BAC/ITSAG meeting. He reminded SMB members that the IEC Board would review budgetary requests for digitalization at its upcoming June 2024 meeting in Singapore and that a Long Term Sustainability (LTS) consultation of management boards on possible new participation and financial models would be organized after the IEC Board meeting.

Eventually, Philippe Metzger briefed SMB on the latest developments related to the European Court of Justice case and what the expected next steps are.

5.2 IEC Board (IB)

There was no specific IEC Board report discussed at this SMB meeting.

5.3 Conformity Assessment Board (CAB)

There was no CAB topic discussed at this SMB meeting.

5.4 Market Strategy Board (MSB)

There was no MSB topic discussed at this SMB meeting.

5.5 Standardization Programme Coordination Group (SPCG)

The SPCG report was noted.

5.6 ISO Technical Management Board (TMB)

Javier Garcia Diaz provided an update on ISO activities and recalled the resolutions taken by ISO/TMB the day before, in full alignment with SMB on topics of common interest (smart cities, inclusive terminology). He mentioned that the two Secretariats would be working together to coordinate SMB/TMB inputs to the joint SMART programme.

ISO/TMB acknowledged that SMB needed additional time to analyse the recommendations and provide feedback on the outcome of the Optimized Deliverables Task Force and reiterated the invitation to SMB for further collaboration on this topic.

Javier Garcia Diaz confirmed that ISO/TMB clarified that the recommendations from the JSAG on Gender Responsive Standards (GRS) were fully approved on the ISO side. ISO/TMB also decided to confirm Guide 2, taking into consideration current priorities and workload and recommending to review this decision in one year from now. He also updated SMB on ongoing actions related to the London Declaration as well as on ISO and UNDP partnering in SDGs.

It was agreed to hold the next virtual SMB/TMB meeting in November 2024.

6   Other business

6.1 Next SMB meetings dates and locations

Meeting	Date	Location	Status
2024			
CAG	2024-09-02	Online	Confirmed
SMB/CAG & DDs	2024-10-18 pm/19	Edinburgh, UK	Confirmed
SMB	2024-10-21	Edinburgh, UK	Confirmed
CAB/MSB/SMB	2024-10-22 pm	Edinburgh, UK	Confirmed
2025			
SMB/CAG & DDs	2025-02-24/25	Mexico City, MX	Confirmed
SMB	2025-02-26	Mexico City, MX	Confirmed
SMB/TMB	2025-06-10	Geneva, CH	Confirmed
SMB/CAG & DDs	2025-06-11/12	Geneva, CH	Confirmed
SMB	2025-06-13	Geneva, CH	Confirmed
SMB/CAG & DDs	2025-09-12/13	New Delhi, IN	Confirmed
SMB	2025-09-15	New Delhi, IN	Confirmed
CAB/MSB/SMB	2025-09-16 pm	New Delhi, IN	Confirmed
2026			
SMB/CAG & DDs	2026-02-23/24	Milan, IT	Confirmed
SMB	2026-02-25	Milan, IT	Confirmed
SMB/TMB	2026-06-16	Geneva, CH	tbc
SMB/CAG & DDs	2026-06-17/18	Geneva, CH	tbc

SMB	2026-06-19	Geneva, CH	tbc
SMB/CAG & DDs	2026-11-13/14	Hamburg, DE	tbc
SMB	2026-11-16	Hamburg, DE	tbc
CAB/MSB/SMB	2026-11-17 pm	Hamburg, DE	tbc

6.2 Any other business

There was no other business raised during the meeting.

7   Close of meeting

The Chair adjourned the meeting and thanked all participants for their active contribution.

Annex A to SMB Decision 180/2

SMB approved the reports listed below:

Document	Committee
SMB/8113/R	TC 76
SMB/8116/R	TC 47 & SCs 47A, 47D, 47E, 47F
SMB/8118/R	TC 89
SMB/8119/R	TC 81
SMB/8121/R	TC 17 & SCs 17A, 17C
SMB/8127/R	TC 46 & SCs 46A, 46C, 46F
SMB/8128/SBP	TC 14
SMB/8129/R	TC 56
SMB/8133/SBP	TC 56
SMB/8141/SBP	TC 120
SMB/8149/R	TC 69
SMB/8153/R	TC 48
SMB/8154/R	TC 95
SMB/8155/SBP	TC 77
SMB/8161/R	TC 109
SMB/8164/R	PC 131
SMB/8177/R	TC 26
SMB/8179/R	TC 29
SMB/8181/R	TC 87
SMB/8182/R	SC 59N
SMB/8183/R	TC 72