



devco

51st **DEVCO Meeting**

Working documents



19 September 2017, Berlin, Germany

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INTRODUCTION

ITEM 01 Opening of the meeting

The DEVCO Chair will call the meeting to order and invite the ISO President to give his opening address.



INTRODUCTION

ITEM 02 Welcome by the ISO President

The ISO President, Dr Zhang Xiaogang (China), will welcome the participants at the 51st DEVCO meeting.

He will introduce the newly appointed ISO Secretary-General, Mr Sergio Mujica, attending his first DEVCO meeting.



ITEM 03 **Fifty-first meeting of the ISO Committee on developing country matters (DEVCO), Tuesday 19 September 2017, Berlin, Germany**

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13. International standards in response to challenges faced by developing countries. Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prof. Dwikorita Karnawati, Project Leader ISO/TC 292 on Security and resilience and Rector of Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia• Dr. Doulaye Koné, Chair of ISO/PC 305 on Sustainable non-sewered sanitation systems and Deputy Director, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation• Dr. Dilip Kulkanri, President, Agri-Food Division, Jain Irrigation Systems Limited, India	13/2017	53
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INTRODUCTION

ITEM 04 Tabling of the minutes of the 50th meeting held in Beijing (China) on 11 September 2016

The text of the minutes of the 50th DEVCO meeting held in Beijing (China) on 11 September 2016, was circulated to the members on 25 October 2016.

The Secretariat did not receive any requests to amend to the minutes included in **Annex**.

DEVCO ACTION

It is proposed to table the minutes of the 50th DEVCO meeting as presented



UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE FIFTIETH MEETING OF THE ISO COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPING COUNTRY MATTERS (DEVCO)

Beijing, China, 11 September 2016

INTRODUCTION

Mrs Léna Dargham, Acting DEVCO Chair¹, welcomed delegates to Beijing and thanked the hosts, the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China (AQSIQ) and the Standardization Administration of the People's Republic of China (SAC), for the warm welcome and excellent arrangements for the meeting. She then invited the ISO President to deliver his welcome address.

ITEM 1 Welcome by the ISO President

1. Dr Zhang Xiaogang, ISO President, officially opened the 50th DEVCO meeting at 09:00, on Sunday 11 September 2016, at the China National Convention Center (CNCC) in Beijing, China.
2. Dr Zhang was pleased to report that since addressing the DEVCO meeting in September last year, funding had been secured for the implementation of the ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2016-2020, and as a result, the support to developing countries is expected to increase noticeably in the coming years.
3. Dr Zhang thanked the donors, in particular the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), and expressed confidence in further strengthening partnerships with international organizations such as UNIDO, World Bank Group, WTO and PTB to help developing countries build capacity and participate more fully in international standardization work.
4. The Chair thanked Dr Zhang Xiaogang.

ITEM 2 Opening remarks by the DEVCO Chair

5. Noting the clear direction set in the ISO Strategy 2016-2020 and the ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2016-2020, the Chair invited members to reflect on how developing countries can make their presence in ISO more effective, and how they can actively contribute to achieving the objectives formulated in these two documents.
6. The Chair highlighted the importance for developing countries to take ownership of the Action Plan, express their needs, and take initiatives in order to build capacity and increase developing country participation in international standardization.
7. The Chair also invited members to also make full use of the DEVCO forum to exchange experiences, build partnerships and better engage in ISO.

¹ Further to the retirement from service of Dr Lalith Senaweera in July 2016, Council appointed Mrs Léna Dargham as DEVCO Chair with immediate effect and for the term 2017-2018 at its meeting held on 11 September 2016.

ITEM 3 Adoption of the agenda

8. The Chair proposed the agenda, asked delegates if there were any requested additions – none were submitted.
9. She informed members that item 6 would be rescheduled to the end of the morning as the Acting Secretary-General could not leave the Council meeting to give his update. She commented on the inconvenience to have the Council meeting run in parallel with DEVCO.
10. The agenda was adopted as proposed by the Chair.

ITEM 4 Tabling of the minutes of the 49th meeting held in Seoul, Republic of Korea

11. The Chair proposed to table the minutes, asked delegates if there were any objections – none were proposed.
12. [The minutes of the 49th meeting were tabled.](#)

ITEM 5 Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

13. The Chair reported on the follow-up on the matters arising dealt by the Chair's Advisory Group (CAG). She confirmed that the additional feedback for the formulation of the ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2016-2020, provided by members at the 49th DEVCO meeting in Seoul, had been taken into account (DEVCO Resolution 08/2015).
14. None of the other DEVCO resolutions required any follow-up action.

ITEM 6 Update by the Acting ISO Secretary-General

15. The Chair gave the floor to Mr Kevin McKinley, Acting ISO Secretary-General.
16. Mr McKinley was pleased to address the DEVCO audience and to confirm that the implementation of ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2016-2020 was well underway.
17. He was also pleased to report that funding had been secured thanks to the five-year agreement signed with Sida (Sweden), the funding allocated by Council, voluntary member contributions to the Funds-in-trust, and the support by key partners such as UNIDO, World Bank Group and PTB, participating at this 50th DEVCO meeting.
18. Mr McKinley stressed the complementarity of the ISO Strategy 2016-2020 and the ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2016-2020, and explained how both documents highlight ISO's commitment to good standardization practices and the recognized principles of international standardization and take into account the development dimension.
19. Mr McKinley invited members to take full advantage of the capacity building opportunities under the Action Plan, and to integrate the strategic and technical learnings into their organizations, so that the objectives of the Action Plan can be achieved.
20. The Chair thanked Kevin McKinley.

ITEM 7 DEVCO Keynote Address

21. The Chair introduced the keynote speaker, Mrs Cecile Fruman, Director, Trade and Competitiveness, World Bank Group.

22. Mrs Fruman's presentation on *Sustainable Development Goals, Standards and Developing Countries* can be found on the [ISOTC server](#).
23. Some key points:
 - The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide international, regional and national development institutions with a clear mandate to address sustainable development by 2030.
 - Standards help trade make the greatest positive contribution to achieving the SDGs.
 - Standards have a direct role in enabling greater developing country participation in trade – and greater participation in higher value segments of trade.
 - Standards can be used in a targeted way to support the implementation of specific SDGs, with trade playing a key role in supporting the dissemination and adoption of standards internationally.
 - The World Bank Group looks forward to strengthening its relationship with ISO.
24. The Chair thanked Mrs Fruman for her inspiring presentation and opened the floor for questions.
25. Delegates from [ECOWAS](#) (Economic Community of West African States), [DNPQ](#) (Mauritania), [INACAL](#) (Peru), [MSB](#) (Mauritius) and [NC](#) (Cuba) were interested in current and potential WBG projects to be carried out in their countries or regions.
26. Mrs Fruman looked forward to having many one-to-one exchanges with delegates interested in the WBG activities during the General Assembly week.

ITEM 8 Lessons learned and results from the implementation of the ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2011-2015

27. The Chair shared highlights from the implementation of the ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2011-2015 noting an increase of 61% in the number of activities conducted, and an increase of 47% in the participation by members and stakeholders in these activities, compared to the previous Action Plan.
28. The Chair explained how the recommendations and lessons learned identified through an independent evaluation of the Action Plan 2011-2015 are addressed in the context of the implementation of the new Action Plan (2016-2020).
29. The Chair's presentation can be found on [the ISOTC server](#).
30. The delegate from [SAC](#) (China) expressed interest in knowing more about the Institutional Strengthening (INS) project; the delegate from [KEBS](#) (Kenya) wished to understand how the level of satisfaction was calculated in the evaluation report; the delegate from [INEN](#) (Ecuador) suggested that ISO develop more virtual platforms and e-learning tools to enable members to build capacity at a lower cost and to also use these tools to promote standardization to stakeholders and the general public in their countries; the delegate from [SAZ](#) (Zimbabwe) suggested that a regional approach be taken for the INS project for it to gain in sustainability; the delegate from [SA](#) (Australia) stressed the importance of twinning in building capacity; the delegate from [DNPQ](#) (Mauritania) thanked ISO and other agencies that are providing high quality development support in his country.
31. The Chair took note of the comments by the members.

ITEM 9 Guidance for the monitoring and evaluation of the ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2016-2020

32. Dr Daniele Gerundino, Acting Director, ISO Academy, presented the monitoring and evaluation framework of the ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2016-2020.
33. Stressing the need for a sound process and good indicators, Dr Gerundino noted that currently monitoring and evaluation is being successfully carried out at the activity/output level, and that this work needs to be complemented by developing a framework for the monitoring and evaluation of the Action Plan at the outcome level.
34. Dr Gerundino gave an overview of the tools used for the monitoring and evaluation at the activity/output level that members benefiting from assistance under the Action Plan are familiar with. He urged all members to continue providing feedback through the pre-event, event and post-event surveys circulated by ISO.
35. Regarding the monitoring and evaluation at the outcome level, Dr Gerundino presented the indicator, approach, based line and tool to be used for the monitoring and evaluation of the Action Plan's key outcome and each of its five outcomes.
36. Dr Gerundino's presentation can be found on the ISOTC server.
37. The delegate from ISIRI (Iran) proposed to establish working groups for DEVCO members to work on technical assistance activities, including monitoring and evaluation and to report back at the DEVCO meeting next year.
38. The Chair took note of the proposal by ISIRI and thanked Dr Gerundino for his presentation.

ITEM 10 Panel session on leveraging partnerships in the delivery of development programmes

39. The Chair welcomed the panelists and gave the floor to Dr Gerundino to facilitate the panel discussion.
40. The following panelists were present:
 - Dr Bernardo Calzadilla-Sarmiento, Director, Department of Trade, Investment and Innovation, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
 - Mrs Cecile Fruman, Director, Trade and Competitiveness, World Bank Group
 - Dr Marion Stoldt, Head of Technical Cooperation Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt PTB
41. The aim of the panel discussion was to hear from key international players delivering technical assistance in developing countries and to explore possible synergies in the context of the implementation of the ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2016-2020.
42. The presentations by the panelists are available on the ISOTC server.
43. Some key points:
 - UNIDO is essentially addressing SDG 9 "*Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure - Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation*" and works in close collaboration with ISO, IEC and ITU.
 - Trade, investment, innovation and country partnership programmes are the main focus areas for UNIDO, with an emphasis on sustainable quality

infrastructure development in collaboration with the private sector, economic operators and consumers.

- The World Bank Group focus is around global value chains and support to countries through analytical work, financing and partnerships to build robust trading systems; the role of standards is key in achieving this.
- External partnerships play a major role for the World Bank Group in the design and delivery of development programmes.
- For PTB cooperation and partnerships are also key for providing technical assistance in quality infrastructure development in view of the importance and complexity of this work.
- The objectives of the ISO Action Plan 2016-2020 are in line with the guiding principles for the work carried out by PTB.

44. Dr Gerundino gave an example of a small joint project between ISO and the WTO involving the development of a database to replace the current WTO Directory listing all standardizing bodies that had notified acceptance of the WTO TBT Code of Good Practice for the Preparation Adoption and Application of Standards. The information will be shortly accessible through a website. The database will be presented at the WTO/TBT meeting in November 2016.
45. In response to a comment from the delegate from SASO (Saudi Arabia), UNIDO confirmed that there is no common definition of a NQI. As to measuring the efficiency of NQIs, this is still work in progress. PTB supported the views expressed by UNIDO.
46. The delegate from INACAL (Peru) requested ISO to consider developing a common methodology for establishing indicators to monitor NQI systems to measure performance at the national and regional levels.
47. To the question from the delegate from IMANOR (Morocco), the panelists from the World Bank Group and UNIDO confirmed that efforts will be made to further involve the NSBs in the NQI projects that their organizations are involved in the region.
48. The Chair thanked the panelists and Dr Gerundino for the facilitation.

ITEM 11 Presentation of the afternoon's break-out groups

49. The Secretary² presented the three break-out groups scheduled to take place in the afternoon. She noted that the themes had been selected by the DEVCO CAG, based on the feedback from the members collected through the DEVCO survey questionnaire circulated at last year's meeting in Seoul.
50. The three breakout sessions scheduled in the afternoon were:
- Group 1 – Financial sustainability of national standards bodies in developing countries – adopting the right business model to succeed
 - Group 2 – How to develop and implement a national standardization strategy
 - Group 3 – Enhancing developing country participation in international standardization through twinning, partnerships and other means

² Mrs Sari Rajakoski, Programme Manager, Development and Training, ISO Academy, was appointed DEVCO Secretary by the Acting ISO Secretary-General

ITEM 12 Reporting back from the break-out groups

51. The Chair invited the break-out group chairs to present the outcome of the discussions in their respective groups:
52. Group 1 – Mrs Eve Gadzikwa, Director General, SAZ (Zimbabwe) and DEVCO CAG member reported on the discussions on the *“Financial sustainability of national standards bodies in developing countries”*. She noted that the discussions had been interactive and thought-provoking, NSBs in developing countries operating in a complex and volatile environment.
53. One of the main outcomes of the discussion is a request to ISO to revise the publication entitled *“Financing NSBs”*, enriching it with case studies from developing countries. Group 1 also recommended that ISO undertake research activities to formulate best practices in financing NSBs.
54. [The report on Group 1](#) is available on the ISOTC server.
55. Group 2 – Mr Gevorg Nazaryan, Deputy Director, SARM (Armenia) and DEVCO CAG member presented the outcome of the discussions on *“How to develop and implement a national standardization strategy”*. He highlighted the following:
 - A significant number of members in developing countries do not have a national standardization strategy and do not always understand the benefits of having one;
 - For those that are developing one, engaging stakeholders, and finding the right balance between national priorities and stakeholder needs is a critical success factor;
 - ISO is requested to continue its support in promoting the benefits of a national standardization strategy, and to provide further assistance to members on how to develop and implement such a strategy.
56. [The presentation by Group 2](#) is available on the ISOTC server.
57. Group 3 – Mr Damian Fisher, Senior International Development Manager, SA (Australia) and DEVCO CAG member presented the outcome of the discussion on *“Enhancing developing country participation in international standardization through twinning, partnerships and other means”*.
58. The group considered to what extent members are making use of available mechanisms and opportunities to enhance participation in technical work. Excellent case studies were presented by [AFNOR](#) (France), [ANSI](#) (USA), [IRAM](#) (Argentina), [JISC](#) (Japan) and [RSB](#) (Rwanda).
59. The need to further promote the ISO sponsorship programme to attend TC/SC and WG meetings was identified. Equality, the twinning concept and the “New member rights” pilot project would deserve to receive more visibility with the members.
60. [The presentation by Group 3](#) is available on the ISOTC server.
61. The Chair thanked the break-out group chairs and confirmed that the CAG would further examine the outcome of the discussions and take action as appropriate.

ITEM 13 Date and place of the next meeting

62. The Secretary informed the members that the 51st DEVCO meeting will be held on 19 September 2017, in Berlin, Germany, followed by the 40th ISO General Assembly, scheduled from 20 to 22 September 2017.

ITEM 14 Any other business and resolutions

63. The Chair gave the floor to the Secretary to read out the resolutions.

64. The Secretary read out the resolutions, which can be found on [the ISOTC server](#).

ITEM 15 Closure

65. The Chair thanked the members for their active participation, and the Secretariat for a meeting well prepared.

66. The meeting was closed at 17:20

[The list of participants attending the 50th DEVCO meeting can be found on the ISOTC server.](#)

INTRODUCTION

ITEM 5 Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

The 50th DEVCO meeting resolutions were reviewed by the DEVCO Chair's Advisory Group (CAG) in September 2016. The resolutions did not require any specific follow-up action.

No	DEVCO resolution 2016	Agenda item
1	<p>DEVCO,</p> <p><i><u>thanks</u> Dr Zhang Xiaogang, ISO President, for his inspiring presentation and for stressing the need for ISO to support its developing country members in order to strengthen the value and relevance of international standards for the global community.</i></p>	Welcome by the ISO President
2	<p>DEVCO,</p> <p><i><u>thanks</u> Kevin McKinley, Acting Secretary-General, for sharing his thoughts on the latest developments at ISO, and for confirming ISO's continued support to members in developing countries.</i></p>	Update by the Acting Secretary-General
3	<p>DEVCO,</p> <p><i><u>thanks</u> Cecile Fruman, Director, Trade & Competitiveness, World Bank Group, for an informative presentation highlighting the contribution of standards towards achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).</i></p>	Keynote address
4	<p>DEVCO,</p> <p><i><u>thanks</u> the Acting Chair for her report on the lessons learned and results from the implementation of the ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2011-2015,</i></p> <p><i><u>notes</u> that the recommendations from the independent evaluation were taken into account for the formulation of the ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2016-2020,</i></p> <p><i><u>thanks</u> the donors, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, and the Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) for their support in the implementation of the ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2011-2015,</i></p> <p><i><u>thanks</u> the members for their contributions to the Funds-in-trust,</i></p>	Lessons learned and results from the implementation of the Action Plan 2011-2015

No	DEVCO resolution 2016	Agenda item
	<i><u>also thanks</u> the members for hosting the activities organized under the ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2011-2015, for providing expertise and in kind support for the successful implementation of the ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2011-2015.</i>	
5	<i>DEVCO, <u>welcomes</u> the monitoring and evaluation framework developed for the ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2016-2020, <u>thanks</u> the Chair's Advisory Group for its contribution to the formulation of the framework, <u>stresses</u> the need for members to actively collaborate in the monitoring and evaluation effort by measuring performance and openly sharing data with ISO.</i>	Monitoring and Evaluation of the Action Plan 2016-2020
6	<i>DEVCO, <u>thanks</u> Bernardo Calzadilla-Sarmiento (UNIDO), Cecile Fruman (World Bank Group) and Marion Stoldt (PTB) for presenting their approaches to development assistance, <u>encourages</u> the three organizations to strengthen their collaboration with ISO to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the assistance to developing countries, <u>invites</u> the members to share information on assistance projects implemented in their countries in order to avoid duplication of effort.</i>	Panel session on leveraging partnerships in the delivery of development programmes
7	<i>DEVCO, <u>thanks</u> the break-out group chairs, Eve Gadzikwa, SAZ (Zimbabwe), Gevorg Nazaryan, SARM (Armenia) and Damian Fisher, SA (Australia) for reporting on the outcome of the discussions in the break-out groups, <u>also thanks</u> the speakers, Elizabeth Adetola, GSA (Ghana), Rula Madanat, JSMO (Jordan), Fulgence St. Prix (CROSQ), Masego Marobela, BOBS (Botswana), Jai Hun Park, KATS (Republic of Korea), Otgonayar Zagdragchaa, MASM (Mongolia), Mark Bagabe, RSB (Rwanda), Joseph Tretler Jr., ANSI (USA), Osvaldo Petroni, IRAM (Argentina), Pascale Mienville, AFNOR (France) and Naotake Fujishiro, JISC (Japan) for contributing their insights and experience, <u>requests</u> the DEVCO CAG to note the recommendations made in the break-out groups and to take appropriate follow-up action.</i>	Break-out group reports
	<i>DEVCO,</i>	Special DEVCO resolution

No	DEVCO resolution 2016	Agenda item
	<p><i><u>thanks</u> Lalith Senaweera, SLSI (Sri Lanka) for chairing DEVCO during the period 2013-2016,</i></p> <p><i><u>expresses appreciation</u> for his leadership and commitment to advancing the developing country agenda in ISO,</i></p> <p><i>and <u>wishes</u> him success in his future endeavours.</i></p>	



ISO ACTION PLAN FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

ITEM 06 Progress report by the Chair

The Chair will report on matters of interest to DEVCO members since its last meeting held in Beijing (China) in September 2016.

DEVCO ACTION

DEVCO members are invited to note/comment the information presented



ISO ACTION PLAN FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

ITEM 07 Update on the implementation of the ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2016-2020

The Chair will provide highlights of the implementation of the ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2016-2020. She will report on activities carried out under each of the Outputs (objectives) and give an overview of the financial situation.

Her presentation will be made available to the members after the meeting.

DEVCO ACTION

DEVCO members are invited to note/comment the information presented



ISO ACTION PLAN FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

ITEM 08 Monitoring and evaluation of the ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2016-2020

ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2016-2020

The Action Plan 2016-2020, developed through an inclusive process (including dedicated sessions at the DEVCO meetings in 2014 and 2015) and the active contribution of a large number of ISO members from developing countries, was approved by DEVCO and endorsed by Council at the end of 2015.

The Action Plan 2016-2020 sets new and ambitious targets to be achieved by ISO and its developing country members. The Plan also has a high-level, aspirational goal, aligned with current trends and notably the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals which set the scene for the Post-2015 Development Agenda that reads *Contribute to economic development, social progress and the protection of the environment in developing countries.*

However, as clearly reflected in the structure of the new Action Plan, we need to focus our attention on the outcomes defined in the Plan, and understand well how achieving these can contribute to the overall impact of the programme. Also, identifying a suitable set of indicators that can support effective and relevant monitoring and evaluation is key to this effort.

Monitoring and evaluation of the ISO Action Plan 2016-2020

ISO has in place an established and reliable system (in terms of inputs, project management, and monitoring) to support the implementation of the programme and to evaluate *activities and their immediate results.*

However, the reason for the existence of the programme has to do with its *outcomes and impact* i.e. the changes and improvement in performances or conditions of the organizations and communities targeted by the programme.

Being able to monitor and evaluate performance at this level is probably the key challenge concerning all development programmes. Therefore a significant effort has been made to address these aspects in the formulation of the new version of the Action Plan and the management of its implementation.

In a nutshell, the directions followed by ISO in this area are outlined below:

- The elements of the existing monitoring system, which cover primarily the activity and output levels, have been maintained and refined. They provide valuable information about the target groups covered, participation at activities and customer satisfaction. Actions are underway (e.g. through notifications, refinement of the IT tools and personal contacts) to ensure high-level response rates from the participants in Action Plan-related activities and to allow the possibility of capturing extended qualitative feed-back
- A new set of indicators, focused on the evaluation of outcomes, has been developed and compiled in the Log frame matrix of the Action Plan 2016-2020
- The monitoring and evaluation system for the new indicators is being implemented: it comprises a combination of tools (templates and checklists; and associated IT tools

supporting data capturing) and organizational measures, associated to the execution of a certain set of activities as well as to regular interactions with the NSBs of the beneficiary countries of the Action Plan 2016-2020.

This session

The presentation by the Director, ISO Academy will cover:

- the approach followed for monitoring and evaluation of the Action Plan 2016-2020
- the tools developed by ISO/CS to support the process
- initial results and first trends observed since implementation started in January 2016

DEVCO ACTION

DEVCO members are invited to
note/comment the information presented



BREAK-OUT GROUPS

ITEM 09 Presentation of the break-out groups

Since first organized at the 38th DEVCO meeting held in September 2004, the DEVCO break-out sessions have been instrumental in fulfilling DEVCO's mission to provide a forum for the exchange of information and best practice on issue faced by developing countries. Over the years, these interactive sessions have significantly helped identify needs and requirements of ISO members in developing countries and provided valuable guidance for the design and implementation of the ISO Action Plan for developing countries.

The themes from the break-out groups were selected by the DEVCO Chair's Advisory Group, based on suggestions formulated by DEVCO members through the survey questionnaire circulated at the 50th DEVCO meeting held in Beijing (China). These are the following:

- Break-out 1 - Standards, regulations and public policy
- Break-out 2 - The role of the NSB in building the national quality infrastructure (NQI) – focus on conformity assessment
- Break-out 3 - ISO governance and policy issues of interest to developing countries

The sessions will run in parallel from 11:00 to 12:30 and feature presentations by members and international organizations. CAG members will chair the sessions and report back to DEVCO at the afternoon plenary session.

A preliminary programme is included in **Annex 1**.

To give focus to the discussions and help members prepare their active participation a background paper for each of the break-outs is included in **Annexes 2, 3 and 4**.

DEVCO ACTION

DEVCO members are invited to attend the break-out group of their choice and to participate actively in the discussions



**51ST MEETING OF DEVCO, TUESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2017, BERLIN, GERMANY
 BREAK-OUT SESSIONS FROM 11:00 TO 12:30**

<p>Break-out 1 Bellevue (starting at 11:00)</p>	<p>Break-out 2 Charlottenburg (starting at 11:00)</p>	<p>Break-out 3 Tiergarten (starting at 11:00)</p>
<p><i>Standards, regulations and public policy</i></p>	<p><i>The role of the NSB in building the national quality infrastructure (NQI) – focus on conformity assessment</i></p>	<p><i>ISO governance and policy issues of interest to developing countries</i></p>
<p><u>Chair</u> César Díaz Guevara Executive Director INEN (Ecuador) and DEVCO CAG member</p> <p><u>Expert/Facilitator</u> Alex Inklaar Independent consultant</p> <p><u>ISO/CS support</u> Noelia Garcia Nebra Project Manager, ISO Academy</p>	<p><u>Chair</u> Abderrahim Taibi Director General IMANOR (Morocco) and DEVCO CAG member</p> <p><u>Expert/Facilitator</u> Martin Chesire Programme Manager, ISO Academy</p> <p><u>ISO/CS support</u> Caroline LeSerre Project manager, ISO Academy</p>	<p><u>Chair</u> Tatiana Bojanic Acting Director ISS (Serbia) and DEVCO CAG member</p> <p><u>Expert/Facilitator</u> Daniele Gerundino Director, ISO Academy</p> <p><u>ISO/CS support</u> Sari Rajakoski DEVCO Secretary</p>
<p><u>Speakers</u></p> <p>Pablo Benia General Director, UNIT (Uruguay)</p> <p>Lorenza Jachia Secretary of the UNECE Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies</p> <p>Tran Van Vinh General Director, STAMEC (Viet Nam)</p>	<p><u>Speakers</u></p> <p>Wafa M. Aranki Senior Private Sector Specialist, Business Environment, Trade & Competitiveness, World Bank Group</p> <p>Fadilah Baharin Director General, DSM (Malaysia) and DEVCO CAG member</p> <p>Sean MacCurtain Head, Conformity Assessment, ISO Central Secretariat</p> <p>Oswaldo Petroni Director Standardization, IRAM (Argentina)</p>	<p><u>Speakers</u></p> <p>Lena Dargham Director General, LIBNOR (Lebanon) and DEVCO Chair</p> <p>Eve Gadzikwa Director General, SAZ (Zimbabwe), ARSO President and DEVCO CAG member</p>



Background paper for DEVCO break-out session on Standards, Regulations and Public Policy by Alex Inklaar

Core issues and key challenges for national standards bodies in developing countries

Defining public policy

The Merriam Webster dictionary defines public policy as “Government policies that affect the whole population”.

Cochran and others¹ define it as “An intentional course of action followed by a government institution or official for resolving an issue of public concern”.

Thomas Birkland² provides the following, pragmatic definition: “What government does or does not do about a problem that comes before them for consideration or possible action”.

A basic understanding of public policy may thus start from the following:

- Public policy is determined and implemented by government, through its institutions
- Public policies address real problems of public concern
- In the context of public policy, government may choose to
 - o take legislative action
 - o take non-legislative action
 - o take no action.

When discussing the role of standards and technical regulations in support of public policy, a lot of attention will inevitably be given to governments' options with regard to “regulatory policy” as part of that public policy. Regulatory policy is about achieving government's objectives through the use of regulations, laws, and other instruments to deliver better economic and social outcomes and thus enhance the life of citizens and business.

The objective of regulatory policy is to ensure that regulations are in the public interest. It addresses the permanent need to ensure that regulations and regulatory frameworks are justified, of good quality and fit for purpose.³

Standards in support of public policy are especially useful in the following areas: Product safety, consumer protection, food safety, building and construction, occupational safety and health, environmental protection, innovation, and sustainability.

¹ Cochran, Mayer, Carr, Cayer, American public policy: An introduction (2006)

² Thomas A. Birkland, An introduction to the policy process (2011)

³ Based on different OECD definitions

Standards and technical regulations

A technical regulation is a document “which lays down product characteristics (shape, labelling, design, performance, etc.) or their related processes and production methods with which compliance is mandatory”. A standard is a document which “*provides, for common and repeated use, rules, guidelines or characteristics for products or related processes and production methods, with which compliance is not mandatory*”⁴. Standards are *developed* by consensus of all interested parties and *approved* by a recognized – national, regional or international - standards body. The responsibility for the elaboration and approval and issue of technical regulations always lies with the competent authorities, which are very often line ministries. The infrastructure for the enforcement of technical regulations can be quite complex and enforcement is often decentralized, but, as with their preparations, the responsibility lies with specifically mandated authorities.

Thus, standards and technical regulations are distinctly different instruments, but they can work together well in support of public policy. However, in order for policy makers to be able to make the best possible use of both instruments, alone and in combination, they need to be aware of their respective strengths and limitations.

Good Regulatory Practice (GRP)

Decision making in regulatory policy ideally starts from the following questions:

- What exactly is the issue or problem we want to address?
- Do we really need a regulation?
- Would a regulation be the most adequate and (cost) effective measure to address the issue?

Feasible alternatives to regulations can be systematically identified and assessed in the context of a Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA). The RIA document, which is published with regulatory proposals and new legislation, describes the issue that has given rise to a need for regulation, compares various possible options for dealing with that issue and identifies the costs and benefits of each option. Alternatives to regulation include the following:

- Recommendations and info campaigns coupled with incentives (e.g., tax incentives)
- Promotion of self-regulation (e.g., by industry in an environmental protection context)
- Different forms of regulation: “Co-regulation”, which integrates regulation with other instruments (e.g. standards) developed on the basis of multi-stakeholder cooperation
- No government action.

In its work on “voluntary mechanisms” in a GRP context, the WTO’s TBT Committee has identified RIA as a useful tool “to guide Members in the efficient and effective implementation of the TBT Agreement across the regulatory lifecycle”⁵.

Standards in support of public policy

Policies typically start from sets of policy objectives. Standards can contribute to the achievement of these objectives in two major ways:

- In a non-legislative manner, as voluntary standards, by supporting non-legislative actions by government

⁴ Annex 3 to the TBT Agreement

⁵ JOB/TBT/119/Rev1: Good Regulatory Practice, Voluntary mechanisms and related principles (December 2014)

- in a legislative manner, when they are referenced in legislation, typically in technical regulations.

Non-legislative actions by government include public procurement programmes, tax exemptions, funding priority schemes and other financial incentives, awareness campaigns and codes of conduct. The use of standards for public procurement purposes is an example of a tried and tested and potentially very effective mechanism that can help government achieve important policy objectives without recourse to new laws or regulations. After all, governments are major buyers of goods and services, including large infrastructure projects. By requiring compliance to (national adoptions of) relevant International Standards, governmental agencies may ensure that safety and quality requirements are met and examples of excellence in performance for a given sector are set.

Some examples of ISO and IEC standards supporting non-legislative actions:

- Implementation of ISO 50001 on Energy Management Systems as an eligibility criterion for receiving government grants for improvement of industry's energy performance
- Government's basic policy for the "Promotion of Procurement of Eco-Friendly Goods and Services" defines items as "eco-friendly" through reference to International Standards

Legislative actions include laws or Acts of Parliament, technical regulations issued by ministries and specialized authorities, as well as Ministerial Decrees on technical matters and lower order rules and warrants issued for instance by non-central authorities. In this legislative context, standards are – and should be – typically used in support of technical regulations. "Using" standards can basically mean two things:

- *incorporating* the relevant parts of the text of the standard into the regulation (the standard becomes part of the regulation and thus *mandatory*)
- *referencing* the relevant parts of the standard in the regulation (depending on the technique used, the standard either becomes mandatory or remains voluntary)

Incorporation, or including the text of a standard in a regulation has a number of disadvantages and is not considered best practice:

- Practices may change, new technical solutions may be found. To reflect these changes, standards are regularly reviewed and updated. Legislation does not offer the same degree of flexibility of standards, however.
- When (part of) a standard is incorporated in a regulation and cooperation between the authorities and the standards body is weak, there is a risk that the regulation is disconnected from the future development of the standard. The standard may be reviewed and revised, while the regulation is not. Users will want to adhere to the standard, in whose preparation and revision they may have been involved, but if they do so, they will not be in compliance with existing legislation.

Referencing standards is the recommended practice for using standards in support of legislation. Policy and lawmakers who wish to do so need to be aware of the following options:

- *Direct reference* to a specific standard, the number and title of which are mentioned in the legal text
- *Indirect reference* to a controlled list of standards that are approved or recognised for a given purpose and policy objective
- *Exclusive reference* to a specific standard, excluding the option of using other standards to demonstrate that the legal requirements are met

- *Indicative reference* under which the referenced standard retains its voluntary character and other options for demonstrating compliance to the requirements stipulated in the legal text are also accepted
- *Dated or undated reference*.

Exclusive, direct reference to standards is probably the most common type of reference to standards in legislation which is used by regulators all over the world. It is certainly the most common method in developing countries, where regulators are often not aware of any alternative methods, which may however in some cases better serve the purpose of achieving the given policy objectives.

Exclusive, direct reference is sometimes done without mentioning the date or edition of the standard. In practice, such an undated reference may constitute a problematic delegation of legislative competencies to a standards developing organisation, which has no official mandate for the issuance of technical regulations.

Indirect reference to a controlled list of approved standards is often an excellent alternative to referencing individual standards. The list can be managed by a Ministry (e.g. the Ministry of Health or Building and Construction) or a regulatory authority in support of sector specific legislation. They can also be managed by regional authorities or bodies for regional harmonization purposes.

The ASEAN regional harmonization regime for electrical and electronic equipment (AHEEERR) provides a good example of efficient indirect reference to standards. The AHEEERR stipulates that “an EEE placed in the market or put into service must comply with [...] the ASEAN Essential Requirements” and “**relevant international standards** shall be used to demonstrate the compliance of an EEE to the ASEAN Essential Requirements.” The list of approved standards is drawn up by delegates of the national standards bodies of the ASEAN Member States.

The technique of indirect reference to standards may be combined with the *indicative* (as opposed to the exclusive) mode. In this case the reference is made to a controlled list of approved standards as described above, but the standards in the list remain voluntary and other options for demonstration of compliance will be accepted. This is the approach taken by the European Union with regard to a significant number of harmonized sector directives (technical regulations) on product safety⁶. In practice, the recommendation to use the standards in the list is very strong, as the added conformity assessment expenses for not using a recommended standard are extremely discouraging. The approach was designed for application in mature economies with a very well-developed quality infrastructure, especially with regard to recognised conformity assessment bodies and effective market surveillance. However, as the approach avoids unnecessary burdens on industry in a harmonization context and allows for “smart” technical regulatory solutions, in terms of efficiency and flexibility, several emerging sub-regional economic communities are exploring the possibility of using the model in selected strong sectors of their economy.

Cooperation between regulators and NSBs

Any cooperation between regulators and NSBs should be based on a clear delineation of responsibilities:

- In regulatory matters, the regulator decides, retains regulatory control by assessing the appropriateness of relevant standards, and in general maintains clear and transparent procedures for endorsement and use of standards to support legislative actions

⁶ Known as the “New Approach to Technical Harmonization” which was introduced in 1985

- NSBs inform regulators about relevant standards projects (new work items), draft and publish standards, give appropriate consideration to regulators' needs, and observe good standardization practices.

These and other conditions for effective cooperation may be the subject of a MoU or similar agreement between Government/regulators and the NSB which will support the building of a long-term relationship and the alignment of technical structures where possible and useful.

Experience has shown that regulators are often insufficiently aware of the potential role of standards in support of public policy, either by their use in legislation, or as voluntary standards in their own right, supporting non-legislative measures. This lack of familiarity may pose serious challenges, as high-level policy and lawmakers are seldom keen to participate in seminars or other training activities. The publication of attractive guides and other knowledge products has however proven useful. Obviously, these publications should give convincing answers to the central question: Why should competent authorities make use of standards in support of their public policies? Here are some aspects to be considered:

- The sets of criteria for good policy making and good standardization practice go together very well and even reinforce each other.
- The policy making process relies on transparency, efficiency and effectiveness in much the same way the standardization process does. The outcomes of the policy process need to be clear, relevant, and fair. In addition, by making use of appropriate and well-made standards, policy makers can get access to the best available expertise on the subject matter, a high degree of acceptance through the consensus mechanism, and the full flexibility of the standardization process.

Some discussion points for the way forward

- How can the potential of (international) standards in support of public policy be highlighted, illustrated and made more visible to policy makers and regulators?
- What can be done to improve cooperation between regulators and NSBs in general?
- Should standards be perceived (and promoted) as an "alternative to regulation"?
- What needs to be done to promote the use of Regulatory Impact Assessments (RIA)? Should NSBs have a role in such promotion activities – and in the execution of RIA?
- Does promotion of the use of standards in support of legislation pose a risk that regulators (and other parties) will perceive standards only as a tool to support legislation?
- For which sectors and under which circumstances should opportunities for the method of *indirect reference* (to a controlled list of approved standards) be explored?

Background paper for DEVCO break-out session on “The role of the NSB in building the national quality infrastructure (NQI) - focus on conformity assessment”

This paper is meant as background information and guidance for the discussions in DEVCO break-out group 3 on the role of the NSB in building the national quality infrastructure (NQI).

1. Quality Infrastructure – a common definition from BIPM, IAF, ILAC, ISO, IEC, ITU, ITC, OIML, UNIDO and UN/ECE

The term “Quality Infrastructure” (QI) was introduced in the early 2000s by the PTB (Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt) international development cooperation unit. The term was then used by the German government and gradually spread through the international community, and notably among development assistance organizations.

The original reference reads: “*QI refers here to all aspects of metrology, standardization, testing, and quality management including certification and accreditation. This includes both public and private institutions and the regulatory framework within which they operate*”

The term QI gradually replaced the various acronyms previously in use, such as MSTQ or SQMT and SQAM¹, and become commonplace. However, this early “definition” was not fully precise, it was often used in different ways by different organizations and tended to be used, in most cases, in relation to quality requirements to be met by developing countries to be able to export.

For this reason, the organizations belonging to the *Network on Metrology, Accreditation and Standardization for Developing Countries (DCMAS Network* – including BIPM, IAF, ILAC, ISO, IEC, ITU, ITC, OIML, UNIDO and UN/ECE) have worked to develop a common definition – has been agreed at the last DCMAS meeting in Vienna (Austria), on 28 June 2017.

The definition is presented below.

QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE

“The system comprising the organizations (public and private) together with the policies, relevant legal and regulatory framework, and practices needed to support and enhance the quality, safety and environmental soundness of goods, services and processes.

The quality infrastructure is required for the effective operation of domestic markets, and its international recognition is important to enable access to foreign markets. It is a critical element in promoting and sustaining economic development, as well as environmental and social wellbeing.

It relies on

- *metrology,*
- *standardisation,*
- *accreditation,*
- *conformity assessment, and*
- *market surveillance.”*

(DCMAS, June 2017)

¹ Different countries and regions referred to the quality infrastructure collectively using the acronyms: MSTQ and SMTQ for “standards, metrology, testing and quality management” or SQAM for “standards, quality, accreditation and metrology”.

This definition clearly highlights the fundamental role of the quality infrastructure at the domestic level – to ensure the efficient and effective functioning of the market (quality, health, safety and environmental protection), to access export markets (meeting quality, health and safety and environmental requirement of purchasers) and as a driver of economic development.

From the ISO perspective we wish to underline that metrology and standardization represent the *scientific and technological basis* of the whole infrastructure, supporting the legal frameworks professional practices comprising accreditation and conformity assessment.

2. Importance of the Quality Infrastructure

The fundamental role of the QI can be highlighted considering, very shortly, three key contexts – related with market access and with consumer and environmental protection.

They are summarized in the table below.

Context	Contribution of the Quality Infrastructure
Market access: access to export markets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure comparability of results (traceability of measurement units and calibration of instruments; availability of test labs at reasonable distance and affordable costs) - Support the continual improvement of exporters' products and processes - Provide up-to-date and reliable information to exporters re: target markets - Enable exporters to achieve compliance with regulations (mandatory requirements) of target markets - Help exporters to meet expectations (quality requirements) of target markets
Market access: participation in global supply chains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure comparability of results (same as in previous slide) - Support domestic participants to integrate in more complex production systems, requiring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>harmonization of processes, materials and instruments; as well as of tools and methods used in R&D and production, with those of the other participants in the chain (and notably the buyers)</i> - Help domestic participants to build trust with the other participants in the chain, concerning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>reliability of the legal and technical system within which they operate</i> - <i>demonstration of compliance with international standards and other standards or proprietary requirements set by buyers</i>
Domestic market: consumer and environment protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ability to measure properties and impact of materials and products, concerning in particular health and safety aspects - Ability to measure environmental impact of production processes, products and services

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ability to set suitable technical regulations (and/or to support the adoption and use of voluntary standards, whenever appropriate) - Support the enforcement of technical regulations in a cost-effective way (for all parties) - Protect consumers and domestic producers (especially SMEs) from illegal or unethical practices adopted by foreign companies entering the market
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These aspects are increasingly recognized by the international community and many institutions focused on promoting economic development are actively engaged in technical assistance and capacity building activities, targeting national quality infrastructures.

Among them figure traditional partners of ISO such as PTB and UNIDO, as well as other important organizations, such as the World Bank and particularly the World Bank's Trade & Competitiveness Global Practice, with which ISO has established a cooperation framework through an MoU signed in 2016.

3. The role of the National Standards Body (NSB)

The NSB has a fundamental role in relation to the NQI: not only for the importance of the standardization "pillar" of the NQI, but also because in many developing countries the NSB is often the first quality Infrastructure **institution** to be formally established by Government.

Other QI activities such as legal metrology or accreditation (and sometimes institutions dealing with those matters), are often established *within the NSB* before being spun-off and in several cases remain within the NSB.

Expectations from Government, industry, consumers, and generally other stakeholders are often very high (sometimes *too high*) and the NSB's success depends significantly on the legal and institutional framework, as well as the governance, under which it operates.

There is no single model specifying how a NSB should be constituted. It depends on what other QI institutions and services already exist in the country, and what roles are conferred to them by the policy-maker. Decision need to be made whether the NSB will cover standardization activities, conformity assessment services (testing certification or inspection), metrology functions, accreditation functions: noting that certain functions are incompatible according to recognized international good practice.

Irrespective of the institutional model, role and type of activities undertaken, all NSBs must be aware that they have to cover two fundamental aspects of NQIs:

- On the one hand, **understand, promote and take advantage of the voluntary nature of standardization**; recognizing and communicating to policy makers, market and society forces, that using standards and participating in standards development brings value to organizations and society – even when compliance is not required;
- On the other hand, use and promote standards and related practices (such as conformity assessment) **to implement measures supporting and ensuring compliance**, following recognized international good practices, ensuring separation of functions and avoiding conflict of interest.

In this respect, increasing knowledge and awareness of international standards and good practices for conformity assessment is a priority for many ISO members.

All these issues are well understood by the ISO community and the ISO Action Plan for developing countries 2016-2020 has been designed targeting, as **key outcome**, the support to *“the development or strengthening of the national quality infrastructure, with a specific focus on the standardization pillar”*. The five outcomes and the various forms of intervention described in the Action Plan all concur to this primary goal.

4. Organization of the session

An opening of the Chair will provide a short description of the scope and objectives of the session.

This will be followed by an introduction to the concept of the NQI (including the specific role of conformity assessment) given by ISO and by presentations of two NSBs sharing their experiences and challenges regarding the establishment and operation of the NQI in their respective countries.

These presentations will be followed by the intervention of a representative of the World Bank's Trade & Competitiveness Global Practice, who will highlight the interest of the World Bank on the subject and will present the first version of a QI toolkit, including diagnostic tools, developed by them (with the support of PTB) with the aim of collecting information and supporting their line of activities in this area.

DEVCO members will be invited to provide initial feedback on the tool and to look forward to a more detailed analysis on the matter, supporting the dialogue between ISO and the World Bank on the subject.

The set-up for the break-out room will be in round tables and the 90 min timeslot should be divided as follows:

- opening of the Chair (about 5 min)
- three presentations of max. 10 min. to provide an introduction to the theme and specific experiences of two ISO members
- presentation of the toolkit by the World Bank representative (about 30 min.)
- open discussion (about 20 min.)
- summary of the Chair (about 5 min.)

5. Expected outcomes

Participants are expected to share a common view on the theme of the NQI and identify key issues to be addressed by NSBs and capacity building activities, in particular in relation to conformity assessment.

Participants are also expected to provide preliminary feed-back on the tool presented by the World Bank, to consider and plan further activities to evaluate the tool in more detail, to consider its applicability and to provide suggestions on future possible cooperation between ISO and the World Bank in this area.



Background paper for DEVCO break-out session on ISO Governance and policy issues of interest to developing countries

Background

At the Council meeting held in March 2016, the DEVCO Chair explained that her Advisory Group (CAG) had recently assessed the current situation and looked at ways of making DEVCO more efficient for its members. As a result, it was envisaged:

- to strengthen DEVCO's policy development role by adjusting DEVCO's terms of reference and defining a structured way for the CAG to advise on governance and policy issues relevant for developing countries, and;
- to strengthen DEVCO's role in promoting and facilitating the engagement of developing countries in ISO by creating two working groups within DEVCO to monitor relevant activities for them at the technical committee level and the regional level, and to share resources among NSBs (for example, translated materials).

Council members welcomed the report and supported the idea of bringing more effectiveness to DEVCO, by addressing policy development aspects relevant to developing countries and by creating working groups aiming to bring continuity and focus to the effort of engaging developing countries in ISO's work.

As a result, Council approved the new DEVCO terms of reference, reported below.

Council Resolution 18/2017

(DEVCO)

Council approves the following revised terms of reference of the ISO committee on developing country matters (DEVCO):

1. Identifies the needs and requirements of members in developing countries in all fields of standardization and matters related to the national quality infrastructure (NQI), and assists in defining the priorities for technical assistance and capacity building in these areas.
2. Provides a forum for members to discuss standardization and related matters of interest to developing countries, and for the exchange of information, experience and best practice between developing countries as well as among developed and developing countries.
3. Recommends the ISO Action Plan for developing countries to Council for approval, and monitors its implementation.
4. Advises the ISO Council on matters affecting members in developing countries relative to ISO governance and policy decisions, and provides guidance on issues of specific interest to developing countries.

This resolution supersedes Council Resolution 46/2003.

Objectives and scope of the session

This break-out session is designed to address the matters described under items 4 and 2 of the new DEVCO terms of reference, with a view to define specific action items and timeframes to make progress in these areas.

Regarding “...matters affecting members in developing countries relative to ISO governance and policy decisions...” some important issues identified by the Chair and by the secretariat (also on the basis of input received from other ISO members) are outlined below:

- Criteria used to identify members of ISO as “developing countries”, their eligibility to receive technical assistance in the framework of the Action Plan for developing countries (and related or complementary ISO programmes), possible reclassification of developing country members (based on their level of development), identification of type of services targeting the different groups that might be created (including, potentially, common services and differentiated services) and considerations on priorities for the allocation of resources
- Participation of developing country members in governance groups (such as the ISO Council) and in advisory groups to the ISO governance (such as ITSAG). Currently, participation in those groups is fairly to severely limited, and this factor may have a negative impact on ISO’s ability to take fully on board the needs and perspectives of its developing country members. Recognizing that participation in the governance of the Organization has to be connected to the level of engagement and contribution the members are able to provide, which mechanisms may be considered and supported by ISO and its members to increase participation of developing countries in these positions? Financial support has been indicated as a possible instrument – although there are serious counterarguments concerning the real effectiveness and sustainability of that approach and the subject should be carefully investigated. However, are there other approaches that could be considered and/or experimented? Are there examples from other international organizations that could be examined?
- Are there procedural or policy aspects that could be introduced or modified in order to facilitate developing countries’ engagement in ISO’s technical work?
- There are groups of developing countries that often raise the issue of translation in other languages, at least for certain types of activities and deliverables. Should ISO revise its current language policy?

Regarding the “...forum for members to discuss standardization and related matters of interest to developing countries, and for the exchange of information, experience ...” the DEVCO CAG, at its meeting in March 2017, has identified two priority subject matters:

- Identification of standardization areas of primary interest to developing countries, and
- Sharing resources to enhance NSBs’ capabilities in standards development and use.

DEVCO CAG considers important to address these matters in a structured and continued way. This could be done through the set-up of two DEVCO working groups, as indicated below:

WG 1 – Identification of standardization areas of primary interest to developing countries

- Identification of on-going standardization work
- Submitting NWIPs
- Collaboration mechanisms to channel the technical work (twinning)
- Other aspects

WG 2 – Sharing resources to enhance NSBs’ capabilities in standards development and use

- Repository of ISO and NSB training materials, translations in national languages
- Creation of a database of experts
- Feedback and guidance to ISO on needs for tools (in particular IT tools) that will build the capacity of NSBs to perform its role and facilitate its participation in standardization work
- Development and sharing of communication materials to promote the use of standards
- Other aspects

Organization of the session

An opening by the Chair, and presentations by members, will provide background information on key aspects concerning the themes covered by the session.

Most of the time will be dedicated to an open discussion, giving the participants the opportunity to express their views and to agree on the priority aspects to be addressed by DEVCO in these areas.

The set-up for the break-out room will be in round tables and the 90 min timeslot should be divided as follows:

- introduction by the Chair (about 5 min)
- two presentations of max. 15 min. to highlight the two themes of the session
- open discussion among the participants (about 45 min.)
- summary by the Chair (about 10 min.)

Expected outcomes

In relation to the theme “...*matters affecting members in developing countries relative to ISO governance and policy decisions...*” participants are expected to identify a set of priority issues that DEVCO should address, along with recommended timeframes and, if possible, key points of consensus already identified. It would be particularly important to outline proposals re: mechanisms to increase the participation of developing countries in ISO’s governance and advisory groups.

In relation to the theme “...*forum for members to discuss standardization and related matters of interest to developing countries, and for the exchange of information, experience ...*”, participants are expected to discuss the DEVCO CAG proposal, with a view to validate (or amend it) and recommend it to DEVCO for approval.



KEYNOTE ADDRESS

ITEM 10 Standards and the global refugee crisis

The 2017 DEVCO keynote address will be delivered by Elias N. Bou Saab, Advisor to the President for International Cooperation and Former Minister of Education and Higher Education of Lebanon.

Elias N. Bou Saab was named Minister of Education and Higher Education in Lebanon in February 2014. Minister Bou Saab, a native of Dhour El Choueir, co-founded the American University in Dubai, the first US accredited university in the Gulf region and has overseen its development into one of the premier institutions higher education in the region.

As Minister of Education, Mr Bou Saab was charged with overseeing the Lebanese education system and addressing and managing the pressing challenges created by the influx of Syrian refugees that has nearly double the school-going population in Lebanon. Fueled by his belief that every child has the right to access quality education, Minister Bou Saab worked relentlessly with the international community to develop a plan for the education system to manage the over 300,000 Syrian children now in Lebanon.

Mr Bou Saab earned his Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing (Magna Cum Laude) from The American College in London - where he was twice elected President of the Student Government Association, and his Masters of Arts in International Relations from Boston University.

DEVCO ACTION

DEVCO members are invited to
note/comment the information presented



GUEST SPEAKER

ITEM 11 Standards in the humanitarian field

The 2017 DEVCO guest speaker address will be delivered by Prof. Dr. Jürg Kesselring (Switzerland), member of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

Jürg Kesselring, born in 1951, is head of the Department of Neurology and Neurorehabilitation at Valens Rehabilitation Centre in Switzerland, as well as professor of clinical neurology and neurorehabilitation at Bern University Hospital and lecturer in the Department of Health Sciences and Technology at ETH Zürich (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology).

Dr. Kesselring is a former chairman of both the International Medical and Scientific Board of the Multiple Sclerosis International Federation (MSIF) and the World Health Organization Working Group on Multiple Sclerosis.

He is also the first honorary president of the Swiss Multiple Sclerosis Society.

A former ICRC medical delegate in Lebanon, Pakistan and Zaire (now the Democratic Republic of the Congo), Dr. Kesselring was elected to the ICRC Assembly in 2010.

He is also chairman of the Board of the ICRC Special Fund for the Disabled and is a member of the organization's Recruitment and Remuneration Commission.

DEVCO ACTION

DEVCO members are invited to note/comment the information presented



REPORTING FROM BREAK-OUT GROUPS

ITEM 12 Presentations by break-out group Chairs

The Chair of each of the break-out groups will make a short presentation on the outcomes of the discussions in their respective groups:

1. César Díaz Guevara, Executive Director INEN (Ecuador) and DEVCO CAG member for Group 1 on ***Standards, regulations and public policy***
2. Abderrahim Taibi, Director General IMANOR (Morocco) and DEVCO CAG member for Group 2 on ***The role of the NSB in building the national quality infrastructure (NQI) – focus on conformity assessment***
3. Tatiana Bojanic, Acting Director ISS (Serbia) and DEVCO CAG member for Group 3 on ***ISO governance and policy issues of interest to developing countries***

The DEVCO CAG will further review the outcome of the discussions at its meeting on 20 September 2017 and decide on any follow-up action.

DEVCO ACTION

DEVCO members are invited to note/comment the information presented



PANEL SESSION

ITEM 13 International standards in response to challenges faced by developing countries

The panel session will focus on current technical work addressing standardization needs of developing countries and consider innovative solutions in the area of sustainable agriculture. The invited panelists are:

- [Prof Dwikorita Karnawati](#), Project Leader ISO/TC 292 on Security and resilience and Rector of Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia
- [Dr Doulaye Koné](#), Chair of ISO/PC 305 on Sustainable non-sewered sanitation systems and Deputy Director, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- [Dr Dilip Kulkanri](#), President, Agri-Food Division, Jain Irrigation Systems Limited, India

The presentations will be followed by a facilitated discussion with the audience. The panelists will respond to questions and members will have the opportunity to reflect on how developing country standardization needs are addressed in ISO.

DEVCO ACTION

DEVCO members are invited to note the information presented and to participate in the discussions



CLOSURE

ITEM 14 DEVCO resolutions

The draft resolutions from the 51st DEVCO meeting will be submitted to the members for consideration and approval.

The approved resolutions will be circulated to the members after the meeting.



CLOSURE

ITEM 15 Date and place of the next meeting

The 52nd DEVCO meeting will be held on Tuesday 25 September 2018, in Geneva (Switzerland), followed by the 41st ISO General Assembly, taking place from 26 to 28 September 2018.

DEVCO ACTION

DEVCO members are invited to note the information presented



REPORTING BACK AND CLOSURE

ITEM 16 Any other business



CLOSURE

ITEM 17 Closing remarks by the ISO Secretary-General

Sergio Mujica, ISO Secretary-General, will offer his closing remarks to the participants at the 51st DEVCO meeting.