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Organisation internationale de normalisation  
International Organization for Standardization  
Международная Организация по Стандартизации



Our ref. TS/P 216

**TO THE ISO MEMBER BODIES**

Date 2010-10-01

**ISO/TS/P 216 *Domestic and communal wastewater sanitation***

Dear Sir or Madam,

Please find attached a proposal for a new field of technical activity on *Domestic and communal wastewater sanitation* submitted by KEBS (Kenya).

According to subclause 1.5.6 of Part 1 of the ISO/IEC Directives, you are kindly invited to complete the ballot form ([Form 02](#)) which can be downloaded at [www.iso.org/forms](http://www.iso.org/forms) and send it (preferably in Word format) to the Secretariat of the ISO Technical Management Board at [tmb@iso.org](mailto:tmb@iso.org) before **3 January 2011**.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M.A. Smith', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michael A. Smith  
Secretary of the Technical Management Board

Encl:  
TS/P 216



PROPOSAL FOR A NEW FIELD OF TECHNICAL ACTIVITY	
Date of proposal 20/09/2010	Reference number (to be given by Central Secretariat) <b>ISO/TS/P 216</b>
Proposer Kenya Bureau of Standards- KEBS	

A proposal for a new field of technical activity shall be submitted to the Central Secretariat, which will assign it a reference number and process the proposal in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives (part 1, subclause 1.5). The proposer may be a member body of ISO, a technical committee or subcommittee, the Technical Management Board or a General Assembly committee, the Secretary-General, a body responsible for managing a certification system operating under the auspices of ISO, or another international organization with national body membership. Guidelines for proposing and justifying a new field of technical activity are given in the ISO/IEC Directives (part 1, annex Q).

**The proposal** (to be completed by the proposer)

<p><b>Subject</b> (the subject shall be described unambiguously and as concisely as possible)</p> <p>Domestic and communal wastewater sanitation</p>
<p><b>Scope</b> (the scope shall define precisely the limits of the proposed new field of activity and shall begin with "Standardization of ..." or "Standardization in the field of ...")</p> <p>Standardization in the field of domestic and communal wastewater sanitation. Areas of standardization include but are not limited to amenities for the safe disposal of human wastes and grey water (e.g. septic tanks, ecological sanitation facilities, dry toilets etc), environmentally sound transportation and reuse of the human waste. This will also include appropriate technological methods of treatment of the wastes, and, sanitation during emergency situation caused by natural disasters e.g. floods, war, etc. However, this excludes municipal and industrial wastewater which is not currently under any Technical committee.</p>
<p><b>Purpose and justification</b> (the justification shall endeavour to assess the economic and social advantages which would result from the adoption of International Standards in the proposed new field)</p> <p>Sanitation is essential for human health, creates economic benefits, contributes to dignity and social development, and helps the environment. Improved disposal of human waste protects the quality of drinking water sources. Re-use of composted waste and waste water for agriculture is an environmental, as well as economic, gain. Improved sanitation has positive impacts on economic growth and poverty reduction. A recent WHO study shows that for every dollar spent on improving sanitation an average economic benefit of \$7 is attained. The economic cost of inaction is astronomical. Without improving sanitation, none of the other Millennium Development Goals, to which the world has committed itself, will be achieved.</p> <p>In 2000, through the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the international community committed to halving the proportion of people without access to clean water and basic sanitation by 2015. According to World bank, overall, the world is on track to meet the water MDG, but there are major gaps in many regions and countries, on current trends, the world will miss the sanitation target by a staggering 700 million people.</p> <p>It is estimated that 2,4 billion people have no access to adequate hygienic sanitation facilities while 1,2 billion people lack access to any sanitation facilities at all. Poor sanitation and hygiene, contributes to disease transmission, ill health, misery, death and leads to impoverishment and diminished opportunities for large populations especially in developing nations. Furthermore, poor sanitation contaminates drinking water sources like ground water and surface water in addition to creating environmental degradation. The absence of these facilities has also been identified as a fundamental element of poverty; it contributes to two million child deaths a year, reduces school turnout, and is an elemental denial of human dignity. Without WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene), sustainable development is impossible. The lack of basic sanitation is undermining efforts to end extreme poverty and disease in the world's poorest countries.</p> <p>Standardization of aspects of the design, construction, operation and maintenance of the major types of on-site wastewater sanitation facility, from simple pit latrines to aqua privies and septic tanks, could assist engineers and sanitarians to health personnel, administrators, planners and others concerned with improving sanitation in developing countries. Wastewater sanitation in emergency response for instance, also needs to be standardized at national and international level to ensure that governments have a reference document when developing regulation.</p>

**Programme of work** (list of principal questions which the proposer wishes to be included within the limits given in the proposed scope, indicating what aspects of the subject should be dealt with, e.g. terminology, test methods, dimensions and tolerances, performance requirements, technical specifications, etc.) It is also possible to attach a detailed programme of work showing proposed work item titles.

1. Glossary of terminology in wastewater sanitation
2. Code of practice for siting, design, construction, operation and maintenance of wastewater sanitation facilities.
3. Environmental, health and safety requirements related to:
  - design and construction wastewater sanitation facilities
  - operation and maintenance wastewater sanitation facilities
  - disposal and reuse of treated wastewater, grey water and sludge
  - Emergency sanitation
4. Test methods
5. Technical specification for domestic and communal wastewater sanitation facilities
6. Terminology used in appropriate technology
7. Technical specification in appropriate technology
8. Performance requirements of appropriate technology

**Survey of similar work undertaken in other bodies** (relevant documents to be considered: national standards or other normative documents)

1. Humanitarian charter and minimum standards in disaster response (SPHERE standards)
2. A Guide to the Development of on-Site Sanitation, © WHO, 1992
3. Linking technology choice with operation and maintenance in the context of community water supply and sanitation for planners and project staff François Brikké and Maarten Bredero World Health Organization and IRC Water and Sanitation Centre Geneva, Switzerland 2003
4. Water Sanitation and Hygiene Standards for Schools in Low-cost Settings Adams, J., Sims, J., Chartier, Y., Bartram, J
5. Mercy Corps Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Guidelines 2008-2009
6. WHO guidelines for safe use of wastewater, excreta and greywater
7. Others to be established

**Liaison organizations** list of organizations or external or internal bodies with which cooperation and liaison should be established)

1. WHO
2. UN HABITAT
3. UNICEF
4. FAO
5. UNEP
6. World water council
7. Others to be established

**Other comments** (if any)

Jane Wachuka Maina



Signature of the proposer

**Comments of the Secretary-General** (to be completed by the Central Secretariat)

Signature