INCLUSIVENESS/EXCLUSIVENESS  
- ISO/TMB INITIATIVES  

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INCLUSIVENESS/EXCLUSIVENESS

Three elements:

- Working cooperatively and effectively with existing standards and their developers;

- Enhancing the effective participation of developing countries; and

- Engaging a broad range of stakeholders in standards development.
Working cooperatively and effectively with existing standards and their developers

Excerpt from the ISO Strategies 2002-2004, Clause 3.1.1

- Flexibility is a key element in strengthening the ISO value proposition and in providing optimal service for different groups of stakeholders. ISO is committed to enhancing its ability to meet different interests and needs in a flexible way, focusing its efforts on . . .
  - collaboration with other standards developing organizations, industry associations and consortia, to get closer to the specific needs and approaches expressed by particular communities or sectors (see item 3.2.2 and Annex);

Excerpt from the ISO Strategies 2002-2004, Clause 3.2.2

- In line with its strategic goal of meeting different interests and needs in a flexible way, the ISO community is open to the possibility of providing alternative paths to different interest groups and standards developing organizations – through the new ISO deliverables or through other specific collaborative frameworks in partnership with ISO – to achieve a higher level of influence and institutional recognition. The guiding principles for ISO's relationship with other standards developing organizations are set out in the Annex (Council Resolution 14/2001).
Working cooperatively and effectively with existing standards and their developers

Excerpts from ISO Council Resolution 14/2001

ISO Council . . .

- decides that ISO should position itself to be inclusive and flexible rather than exclusive in its relationships with other standards developing organizations,

- expresses the view that ISO can only gain from such cooperative relationships as long as ISO's fundamental values are protected and when such partnerships increase the speed, scope and market relevance of ISO standards . . .

- decides that ISO should become more proactive with other standards developing organizations that are having a significant impact on the global economy
Working cooperatively and effectively with existing standards and their developers

Current Approaches:
- Recognized standardizing bodies [International Commission on Illumination (CIE); the International Union of Leather Technologists and Chemists Societies (IULTCS); and the International Institute of Welding (IIW)].
- ISO/IEC JTC1 & ITU common text standards.
- ISO/IEC JTC1 & ECMA.
- ISO/IEC JTC1 & Consortia.
- ISO/TC 20 adoption/ recognition of existing standards.
- ISO/TC 34/SC 5, the International Dairy Federation (IDF) and the Association of Official Analytical Chemists (AOAC).
- ISO/TC 154 & the UN/ECE Trade Data Elements Directory (TDED).
Working cooperatively and effectively with existing standards and their developers

Options:

- ISO 9000 & the Automotive Industry Action Group (AIAG).
- ISO/CEN Vienna Agreement.
- ISO Publicly Available Specifications.
- Normative references to non-ISO/IEC standards.
- Source document recognition in ISO standards.
  - Bibliographies
  - Fast-track foreword notices
  - Dual logos and designations
Enhancing the effective participation of developing countries

Excerpt from Annex 4 of the report of the Second WTO/TBT Triennial Review:

". . . Constraints on developing countries, in particular, to effectively participate in standards development, should be taken into consideration in the standards development process. Tangible ways of facilitating developing country participation in international standards development should be sought. The impartiality and openness of any international standardization process requires that developing countries are not excluded de facto from the process . . ."

ISO Strategies 2002-2004, Key Objective 2.4:

“In its capacity as the world's largest standardization body, ISO will make an active effort to counteract the tendency towards greater inequality between the developing countries and the rest of the world.”
Enhancing the effective participation of developing countries

Some important statistics (results of a 2002 ISO/DEVCO/TMB Survey):

- 75% of ISO’s 146 members are developing countries. Of this 75%:
  - 86% are governmental agencies rather than private sector organizations.
  - In 61%, 50% or more of their mandatory technical regulations are not based on international standards.
  - 52% have not attended any ISO TC or SC meetings in the last two years.
  - 42% are not registered as members of any ISO TC or SC.
Enhancing the effective participation of developing countries

Relevant Recommendations of the ISO Council DCTF:

- Establish models and criteria for self-assessment of capacity.

- Take immediate action to promote the concept of partnership arrangements as a means of building capacity.

- Establish Directives and guidance that support TMB twinning arrangements.

- Establish a program for regular review of secretariat performance and appropriateness of secretariat allocation to provide opportunities for developing countries to assume more leadership roles.
Enhancing the effective participation of developing countries

Relevant Recommendations of the ISO Council DCTF:

- Establish Directives and guidance to support the appointment of ISO committee chairs, co-chairs and vice-chairs from developing countries.

- Develop Directives and guidance for ISO committee chairs and secretariats to allow standards development to progress using electronic working methods rather than through physical meetings.

- Develop directives and guidance to support more hosting of ISO meetings by developing countries, including rotation of meetings, hosting such meetings in conjunction with relevant seminars, etc.

- Survey developing countries concerning ISO committees and/or secretariats of interest to them and identify potential candidates for TMB twinning arrangements.
Engaging a broad range of stakeholders in standards development

ISO Strategies 2002-2004, Key Objective 2.3
- ISO shall be organized in a democratic manner and attempt to accommodate the views and wishes of all its members with governance values respecting the need for balanced representation and consensus-based decision-making.

ISO Strategies 2002-2004, Key Objective 2.10
- In addition to serving the traditional stakeholders, ISO will make a special effort to satisfy specific needs that arise from the emergence of transnational companies.

Excerpt from the ISO Strategies 2002-2004, Clause 3.1.1
- Flexibility is a key element in... providing optimal service for different groups of stakeholders. ISO is committed to enhancing its ability to meet different interests and needs in a flexible way.

Excerpt from the ISO Strategies 2002-2004, Clause 3.1.2
- ISO will strive to strengthen cooperation with international, regional and national consumer organizations wishing to support ISO's objectives, so that international standardization may benefit from greater consumer awareness and confidence, as well as from increased consumer-interest input to national delegations to ISO technical committees.
Engaging a broad range of stakeholders in standards development

ISO Directives, Part 1, Foreword, Item c) Discipline:

- “. . . National bodies have the responsibility of ensuring that their technical standpoint is established taking account of all interests concerned at national level . . .”

Fundamental Principles of the ISO System, Responsibility 4a:

- “For the ISO work in which they choose to participate, ISO members are expected to organize national consultation mechanisms, according to their national needs and possibilities, which prepare national positions that reflect a balance of their country’s national interests and are presented by their national delegations for consideration by relevant ISO TC/SCs (or other technical bodies established by the TMB).”
Engaging a broad range of stakeholders in standards development

A Critical Mass of Relevant Efforts?

- ISO Council Standing Committee on Strategies (CSC/STRAT) examining ethics in the ISO system, including stakeholder engagement.
- ISO Committee on Consumer Policy (COPOLCO)
  - ISO/IEC statement on consumer participation in standardization work.
  - Guidance and principles for consumer participation in standards development.
  - WG on consumer protection in the global market paper on ethics and standardization.
- ISO/TC 207 NGO Task Force recommendations on increasing the effectiveness of NGO participation in ISO/TC 207.
- ISO/TMB Strategic Advisory Group on Social Responsibility to examine ISO processes with respect to involvement of stakeholders.
- The ISEAL Alliance, a collaboration of NGOs, is developing a paper on best practices/procedures for setting voluntary social and environmental standards.
Engaging a broad range of stakeholders in standards development

Possible Future Scenarios?

- A code of ethics for national standards bodies.

- Direct participation of stakeholders - A proposal previously debated in JTC1.

- Tri-partite balance of interested parties - UN agency and ILO models.

- A future role of value for national standards bodies in new paradigms.
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THANK YOU.