Contents

- IEC Structure and Figures
- IEC Deliverables
- Development of standards
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## Rights of IEC Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full Members (NC) (60)</th>
<th>Associate Members (21)</th>
<th>Affiliates (82)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Authorized to participate and submit votes on <em>all</em> TC/SC and Council documents</td>
<td>Authorized to participate and submit votes / comments on documents of <strong>4</strong> selected TC/SCs</td>
<td>May not vote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authorized to submit comments on all TC/SC and Council documents</td>
<td>Authorized to submit comments only on TC/SC documents but not on Council documents</td>
<td>Authorized to submit comments on the documents of <strong>10</strong> selected TC/SCs</td>
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**FULLY PARTICIPATE IN INTERNATIONAL STANDARDIZATION ACTIVITIES**  
**LIMITED PARTICIPATION OF COUNTRIES**  
**RESTRICTED TYPE OF PARTICIPATION**
Structure of the IEC

IEC Council

Council Board (CB)

Executive Committee (EXCO)

Central Office

Management Advisory Committees

Standardization Management Board (SMB)

Market Strategy Board (MSB)

Conformity Assessment Board (CAB)

IECQ
IECEE
IECEx

Strategic Groups (SG)

Advisory Committees (AC)

Technical Committees (TC)

SC PT MT WG
Technical work

Standardization Management Board (SMB)

Advisory Committees

Technical Committees

SC  PT  MT  WG
IEC functioning

Inputs – proposals, manpower – experts, comments and votes

Outputs – projects, publications

Market – industry, government, users, academia etc.

IEC National Committees

IEC TC/SCs
IEC in numbers

- Number of TC/SCs: 175
- Number of WG/PT/MTs: 1168
- Number of experts: ~11 500
- Active projects: 1 413
- Publications: 6 271
- Publications in 2010: 523
- Average time to develop publication: 31 months

AFSEC - Standards Development
Deliverables

- International Standards
- Technical Specifications
- Publicly Available Specifications (PAS)
- Technical Reports
- Guides
- ITAs
Stages in standards development

<table>
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<th>Code</th>
<th>Stage</th>
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<td>NP</td>
<td>Proposal stage</td>
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<td>WD</td>
<td>Preparatory stage</td>
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<tr>
<td>CD</td>
<td>Committee stage</td>
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<td>CDV</td>
<td>Enquiry stage</td>
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<td>FDIS</td>
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<tr>
<td>IS</td>
<td>Publication stage</td>
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Preliminary stage (PWI)

- Elaborate market need for a standard
- Preliminary technical study
Proposal stage (NP)

- Proposal submitted for 3-months ballot to P-members of TC/SC concerned

**Requirement**
- Majority of P-members voting support addition
  - For TC/SCs with ≤16 P-members, 4 must nominate expert to participate in work
  - For TC/SCs with > 16 P-members, 5 must nominate expert to participate in work

- Experts constitute project team with project leader nominated by proposer

- Work plan with target dates
Working draft (WD)

- Draft documents developed by project team / working group
- Project teams work independently
- Encourage use of electronic tools
  - Collaboration Tools (CTS)
  - E-mail
  - Conferencing
Committee draft (CD)

- Draft distributed to National Committees for comments
- 2, 3 or 4 months
- Stage at which substantive technical comments to be made
Enquiry stage (CDV)

- Draft submitted for 5 (3) months ballot to National Committees
- Last stage at which comments can be submitted
- Approved if
  - 2/3 majority of P-members voting approve
  - less than 25% of all votes submitted are negative
Approval stage (FDIS)

- Formal approval ballot for 2 months
- No comments allowed with positive vote
- Approved if
  - 2/3 majority of P-members voting approve
  - less than 25% of all votes submitted are negative
Publication stage (IS)

- Document prepared for publication
- 1.5 months maximum
## Paths to publication

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<tr>
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A Model of a Technical Regulatory System

Government

Legislation

Regulator

Technical Regulations / Standards

Conformity Assessment

Sanctions
Governments / legislation

- Applies to all levels of government
- National, provincial (state), municipal
- Covers products, services and actions …
- For which compulsory provisions are needed …
- Over and above the free market system
- Private contracts are not regulations
- National government is the supreme regulator in its territory …
- Although it has to respect its commitments under international agreements
The Regulator

- Must be established by law
- Must be a legal persona “juristic person” in the country
- Powers must be made known (and their limitations)
- Should not have conflicts of interest with standards or conformity assessment bodies
- Implications for governance structure
Technical Regulations / Standards

- Regulator sets the regulations
- Public enquiry
- Impact assessment
- Backed by government
- Need to include
  - Specific purpose, scope, who is affected
  - Technical provisions that are to be complied with
  - Administrative provisions: Rules for provision of samples, conformity assessment, costs, sanctions
WTO recommends

The use of relevant international standards as a basis for their technical regulations, except

- when such international standards would be ineffective or inappropriate,
- for instance because of fundamental climatic or geographical factors or fundamental technological problems.
Conformity Assessment

- Obligations of WTO members:
  - Use a standards and regulatory development process that is open, transparent, and includes participants from all interested parties
  - Have a conformity assessment system that upholds the principles of most-favoured nation treatment and national treatment
  - Publish proposed technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures
Conformity Assessment

- Base on International Standards (CASCO)
- Use accredited service providers
- Mutual Recognition Agreements
- Define market surveillance regime
- There is a role for 3rd party CA and SDOCs
- Respect WTO rules
  - Non-discrimination
  - Transparency
  - No more trade restrictive than necessary
Sanctions

- Regulator’s powers are defined
- Entry of premises, samples, confiscation, disposal
- Fines
- Suspension, prohibition of trading
- ... but necessary to avoid protectionism
- Regional context (harmonization, FTAs reduce the need for unnecessary regulation)
Regulatory Best Practice

- No perfect solution for all countries
- Different levels of governmental control, consumer pressure, conformity assessment
- WTO Compliance - OECD Recommendations:
  - Transparent
  - Accountable
  - Proportional to risk
  - Consistent
  - Targeted only where action is needed
Thank you