

International Update

International and regional items of interest for March 2017 are as follows:

1. Standards Australia: Refresh of international net benefit cases [More>>](#)
2. WTO Members review further proposals to ease Global Trade in Services [More>>](#)
3. WTO Marks International Women's Day with a focus on Gender Parity In the Organization [More>>](#)

ISO items of interest for March 2017 are as follows:

1. An international workshop on *Community-scale resource-oriented sanitation treatment systems* will be held on 28 to 30 June 2017 in South Africa [More>>](#)
2. Calls for interest of Secretariat of ISO/TC 171 *Document management applications* [More>>](#)
3. A new Technical Committee ISO/TC 286 *Collaborative business relationship management* is established [More>>](#)
4. Outcomes from ISO Technical Management Board Meeting, February 2017, now available [More>>](#)

IEC items of interest for March 2017 are as follows:

1. Outcomes from the Standardization Management Board meeting held in February 2017 in Mexico are available [More>>](#)
2. IEC role in international water management celebrated on World Water Day, Wednesday 22 March [More>>](#)
3. Setup of new ISO/IEC JTC 1 Subcommittee on *Internet of Things and related technologies* [More>>](#)

**** For further information about any article please email: mail@standards.org.au**

International

1. Standards Australia: Refresh of international net benefit cases

Participation in international standards development is increasingly important for our stakeholders in this globally connected world. In order to ensure that Australia is participating in areas of greatest net benefit to the Australian community, Standards Australia has now started a review on international technical committee participation. A current Net Benefit Case, developed and supported by the committee, is essential as it identifies the value/benefit to Australia and justifies the current international work.

National committees will be contacted and asked to review their Net Benefit case submitted several years ago. As a part of this exercise, we will ask committees to review their current membership and refresh the Net Benefit case if they wish to continue with Participating membership.

Approximately 20 national committees will be contacted on a quarterly basis and asked to refresh their International Participation case on at least a three yearly basis to ensure the cases are kept up to date and relevant. As well as contacting the national committee directly, notification will also be made in the monthly Sector Updates published by Standards Australia, to inform the wider stakeholder community.

For more information please contact the relevant National Sector Manager - http://www.standards.org.au/StandardsDevelopment/Developing_Standards/Pages/National-Sector-Managers.aspx

2. WTO members review further proposals to ease global trade in services

WTO members discussed five new or enhanced proposals to advance services negotiations at meetings of the Working Party on Domestic Regulation and the Services Council on 14-17 March 2017. Four of these proposals aim to ensure that domestic licensing procedures and technical standards do not constitute unnecessary barriers to trade while one proposal relates to the establishment of a trade facilitation agreement for services.

The Chairperson of the Working Party on Domestic Regulation Ms Katarzyna Stecz of Poland welcomed WTO members' "hard work" and "substantial engagement" and encouraged delegations to deepen conversations, including at the informal level.

Proposed domestic regulation disciplines

Increasing the transparency of regulatory measures affecting services trade was the aim of a proposal put forward by eight co-sponsors (Australia, Colombia, European Union, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, New Zealand and Chinese Taipei). They are proposing enhanced transparency provisions requiring WTO members to make relevant information available to services providers and to publish draft regulation so as to allow interested parties to comment. Some developing countries highlighted their limited resources for publishing information and for setting up a system for responding to comments.

Two proposals — one submitted by Australia, Canada, Colombia, EU, Israel, Japan and Mexico and the other put forward by Hong Kong (China), Chile, Switzerland and New Zealand — concerned how WTO members should develop their regulatory measures, ensuring that they are reasonable and impartial, and are based on objective and transparent criteria. Members disagreed on whether a necessity test (ensuring that measures are not more burdensome than necessary) should feature in future disciplines on domestic regulation. Several said it was unrealistic to seek consensus on this issue.

A further proposal related to how WTO members should administer processes for the authorization of services suppliers and builds upon comments members shared during previous discussions. It has ten co-sponsors: Australia, Chile, Colombia, EU, Japan, Mexico, Norway, Peru, Korea, and Chinese Taipei. Some

members reiterated concerns about the proposal of a “single window” for streamlining the licensing of service businesses. The co-sponsors said they are happy to discuss this further.

Future work on e-commerce

Members discussed four papers intended to revive negotiations on e-commerce. The debate focused on the moratorium concerning customs duties on e-commerce transmissions. WTO members have renewed their commitment not to impose customs duties on these transmissions at each Ministerial Conference. Ministers last extended the moratorium at the Nairobi Ministerial Conference in December 2015.

Members discussed making the moratorium permanent, allowing e-signatures as a means of determining the digital identity of users, electronic authentication, increasing transparency and promoting the participation of small and medium-sized businesses in services trade.

Seminars on e-commerce and mode 4

Members agreed to hold a workshop on the services-related aspects of e-commerce and a seminar on barriers that restrict access of members' services suppliers to foreign markets through mode 4 of the GATS.

Discussions among WTO members on the various proposals will continue in various settings. The next regular cluster of services meetings will take place in June.

Source: https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news17_e/serv_14mar17_e.htm

3. WTO marks International Women's Day with a focus on Gender Parity

The WTO marked International Women's Day on 8 March 2017 with a programme of events and discussions looking at women's economic empowerment and how more can be done to promote gender equality within the organization itself. Contributions were heard from staff and from WTO members. Director-General Roberto Azevêdo took part in the debate and said:

“International Women's Day is about honoring the positive impact that women and girls have in all areas of our lives — and, of course, the huge contribution they make to this organization. It is also an opportunity to raise awareness on gender issues, take stock of the progress made, identify remaining challenges, and promote further inclusiveness”.

The Director-General also launched a new report, prepared by WTO staff, which looks at gender statistics in the WTO between 1995 and 2016. The report provides an overview of the representation of women among WTO Secretariat staff, as well as looking at the representation of women in chairing WTO bodies, sitting as members of the Appellate Body, working as panellists in disputes, and acting as discussants in Trade Policy Reviews.

The report shows that the participation of women in the WTO Secretariat has increased steadily over the years. In the professional staff category, female representation went from 31 percent in 1995 (when the WTO was founded) to nearly 45 percent in 2016. At the same time, the report highlights a range of areas where more progress can be made to improve female participation, including in chairing WTO bodies. Commenting on the report, the Director-General said:

“This report provides a retrospective look at gender parity in the WTO over the past 20 years, and provides a solid basis for identifying gaps and raising awareness on gender equality. This is an ongoing effort, and I am also pleased to note an increasing interest among WTO Members in making gender equality in the WTO an ever bigger focus of our work”.

Source: https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news17_e/dgra_08mar17_e.htm.

ISO

1. An IWA on Community-scale resource-oriented sanitation treatment systems

ISO will hold an International Workshop Agreement (IWA) meeting to develop an IWA on Community-scale resource-oriented sanitation treatment systems on 28-30 June 2017 in Durban, South Africa.

As part of a multi-phased initiative to facilitate the development of a globally recognized consensus standard for safer, cleaner reinvented toilets, ANSI – with support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation – will hold an International Workshop Agreement (IWA) workshop on community-scale resource-oriented sanitation treatment systems in the last week of June.

The IWA will serve as the first step toward the goal of developing an international standard that will contain the commonly accepted criteria by which to measure the performance of community scaled resource oriented sanitation treatment systems in total. Such an international standard would enhance efforts to widely manufacture, market and deploy the technology where it is needed most.

After the first meeting of the workshop, two further meetings will be organized. The second meeting will take place in the week of September 4-8, 2017 in Singapore. The third meeting will be announced in the near future.

For more information, please visit:

https://www.ansi.org/meetings_events/events/2017/sanitation-systems?menuid=8

2. Re-allocation of the Secretariat of ISO/TC 171 *Document management applications*

In December 2016, ANSI (USA) informed the ISO Central Secretariat that it wishes to relinquish the Secretariat of ISO/TC 171 *Document management applications*.

Therefore, the participating members of ISO/TC 171 *Document management applications* are therefore kindly requested to advise the ISO Central Secretariat (tmb@iso.org) by 22 March 2017 if they wish to assume the secretariat of the technical committee and/or subcommittee.

Australia is currently a Participating on this committee. Standards Australia will be consulting with stakeholders on this item.

3. ISO/TC 286 Collaborative business relationship management

Following approval by the ISO member bodies the Project Committee ISO/PC 286 *Collaborative business relationship management* will be transformed into a new Technical Committee ISO/TC 286.

The scope of this new Technical Committee is Standardization in the field of collaborative business relationship management. One of its working program, ISO 44001:2017, *Collaborative business relationship management systems -- Requirements and framework* has just been completed and published.

ISO 44001:2017 specifies requirements for the effective identification, development and management of collaborative business relationships within or between organizations. It is applicable to private and public organizations of all sizes, from large multinational corporations and government organizations, to non-profit organizations and micro/small businesses.

The secretariat of this Technical Committee (ISO/TC 286) has been allocated to United Kingdom (BSI). Please contact Jonathan.avery@standards.org.au if you are interested in the work of this committee.

4. Outcomes from ISO Technical Management Board Meeting, February 2017

The ISO Technical Management Board met in February 2017, some highlights from the meeting are as follows.

New Chair of the TMB, Mr. Piet-Hein Daverveldt

2016 was the final year of Dr. Elisabeth Stampfl-Blaha's term as TMB Chair. In 2017, ISO welcomed a new Vice-President of Technical Management, Mr. Piet-Hein Daverveldt as TMB Chair. Piet-Hein is the Managing Director of NEN, ISO's member from the Netherlands. His term as ISO VP Technical Management/TMB Chair is from 2017-2019.

2017 TMB Action Plan – focus on project management

Every year, the TMB develops an 'action plan' where it defines its priorities and selects projects to focus on that will support the overall ISO strategy. Some of the TMB's priorities for 2017 include: implementation of project management in ISO standards development, continued implementation of the ISO strategy for services, and increased cooperation with the IEC.

Regarding project management, the TMB will be investigating on a number of different angles – for example, reviewing and clarifying the roles and responsibilities of committee leaders as set out in the Directives; developing recommendations for methodologies and tools for project management; and looking at how to improve training courses and learning strategies.

New set of policies regulating Registration Authorities

The Ad Hoc Group on Registration Authorities (AHG RA) was established under Council Resolution 23/2015 with the mandate to address the risk and benefits of Registration Authorities (RAs). The AHG RA will provide its final report to the March 2017 Council meeting. The final report includes conclusions and recommendations for addressing RAs going forward. One of the key recommendations is for the adoption of a RA Policy which would replace the existing Guidelines on Registration Authorities. A draft of the RA Policy was discussed at the February TMB meeting. It is expected that the RA Policy will be approved at the March Council meeting.

Framework for use of URNs

Since 2008, some ISO committees have been using a process where they post content online on the ISO Standards Maintenance Portal (<http://standards.iso.org>) and link to it from their standards using web addresses (URLs). These URLs are linked to ISO's URN namespace (ISO's Uniform Resource Name

namespace, RFC 5141 – these links are known as RFC 5141-compliant URLs). This process has been used, for example, when the content posted online was in a format that meant it could not be included in the PDF version of the standard, or when the content posted online was subject to frequent updates. Up until now, there has been no framework regulating the use of ISO's URN namespace, and this raised concerns at the TMB because of cases where the online content constituted a normative part of the standard, and cases where this content was modified with no oversight.

New option: Addition of an 18-month track for standards development

The TMB approved the addition of a new 18-month development track (in addition to the existing 24, 36, and 48-month tracks). The 18-month track will not replace the fast track procedure. It is intended for projects where the committee is confident it can prepare a draft in only 18 months, and also for revisions. Projects that use the 18-month track will be eligible to use a new 'direct publication process', where the editing, proofing and publication processes are completed more rapidly.

A full copy of the TMB Communiqué Edition 55 is available at:

<http://isotc.iso.org/livelink/livelink/fetch/->

[15620806/15620808/15623592/15788626/TMB_Communicu%C3%A9_Issue_Nr_55_%28February_2017%29.pdf?nodeid=18791216&vernum=-2](http://isotc.iso.org/livelink/livelink/fetch/-15620806/15620808/15623592/15788626/TMB_Communicu%C3%A9_Issue_Nr_55_%28February_2017%29.pdf?nodeid=18791216&vernum=-2)

1. Outcomes from the Standardization Management Board, February 2017

The IEC TC news are published after every SMB meeting and addresses the specific items likely to affect the IEC technical work in TCs, SCs and SyCs. The February 2017 edition is now available, and here are some highlights.

SMB/CAG proposal on IEC and IEEE referencing

SMB decided to set up an ahG 74, *Dual referencing and profiles*, to make proposals on the issue of dual referencing. This occurs when normative referencing to multiple alternative documents is made. The ahG is requested to provide the SMB with a list of possible options to deal with technological and/or regional profiles and to report back by SMB meeting 160 in Vladivostok in October 2017.

SEG 8, Communications Technologies and Architectures of Electrotechnical Systems

In accordance with the recommendations given in the report, SMB/6032/R, of SG 9, *Communication technologies*, SMB agreed to set up SEG 8, *Communication Technologies and Architectures of Electrotechnical Systems*, with the tasks:

- Assess, provide an overview and prioritization of the evolution of technical development and standardization in the field of communication technologies and architectures.
- Develop a sustainable process for incorporating communication technologies into relevant IEC committees.

SEG 9, Smart Home/Office Building Systems

In accordance with the recommendations in SMB/6030/R, given by ahG 66, SMB agreed to set up SEG 9, *Smart Home/Office Building Systems*, with the tasks:

- Evaluate technology trends and market evolution trends.
- Review the inventory of existing standards and standardization projects within the IEC and external to the IEC, and advise the SMB where duplication of activity and potential dilution of technical resources is occurring.
- Evaluate and prioritize gaps in standardization.
- Recommend to the SMB the structure most appropriate for standardization of Smart Home/Office Building Systems.

SMB appointed Mr Kim Craig (AU) as Convenor of SEG 9.

MSB White Paper on the Internet of Things (IoT)

SMB, noting the proliferation of groups dealing with the subject of IoT, and in particular the setting-up of JTC 1/SC 41, decided to refer the MSB White Paper on IoT to SEG 8, *Communication Technologies and Architectures of Electrotechnical Systems*, in the first instance, to consider the recommendations in the MSB White Paper.

MSB White Paper on Global Energy Interconnection (GEI)

SMB noted that ACTAD, Advisory Committee on Transmission and Distribution, had proposed taking over the recommendations made in the MSB White Paper on GEI. SMB agreed that ACTAD be tasked with reviewing the MSB White Paper on GEI and making recommendations to SMB on what work is needed and whether the current scope of ACTAD needs to be revised. SMB charged ACTAD with thoroughly reviewing the contents and recommendations of the MSB White Paper.

Conformity Assessment/Standards Guidance

SMB agreed that the content of the document SMB/6062/R prepared by the joint SMB/CAB ahG be placed in the Resource Area for TC/SCs on the IEC website, where it could be consulted as needed by the TC/SCs.

Translations of CDV and FDIS

SMB decided to leave the existing process unchanged, allowing 6 weeks for translation at the CDV stage and no time for translation at the FDIS stage. In 3 years' time, at SMB meeting 167, SMB will remove all

times for translations, and publish translations of both drafts and final publications if, and when, these become available, on condition that the translation technology permits this action of removal of translation times. Central Office, in consultation with relevant NCs, will continuously review and report the status of translation technologies.

Novel ways of working with consortia

SMB agreed to set up ahG 75, Working with consortia, with the objective of taking the findings made in the report, SMB/6037/INF, prepared by staff from Central Office and further develop them as recommendations for SMB, with an emphasis on practical steps for dealing with consortia. The ahG should also address options for the mid- to long-term activities of the IEC. The ahG is invited to report back at SMB meeting 160 in Vladivostok in October 2017. Convenor: Mr Thomas Korsell (SE).

New SyC on LVDC and LVDC for Electricity Access

SMB noted that the proposal for a new SyC on LVDC and LVDC for Electricity Access had been approved (C/2008/RV). SMB, noting that a single proposal for the Chair of the SyC had been received, appointed Mr Vimal Mahendru (IN) as Chair of the SyC for an initial 3-year period.

New TC on Wearable Electronic Devices and Technologies

SMB noted that the proposal, C/1998/DV, for a new TC 124, Wearable Electronic Devices and Technologies, had been approved, with the following provisional scope: Standardization in the field of wearable electronic devices and technologies which include patchable materials and devices, implantable materials and devices, edible materials and devices, and electronic textile materials and devices. Excluded: Standardization for specific items in the field of the following IEC TCs: TC 47, TC 62, TC 100, TC 108, TC 110, TC 119, SyC AAL and relevant areas of JTC 1. SMB assigned the secretariat of TC 124 to Korea.

For more details, please visit:

<http://iec.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=210ef24650c46b6884c25d194&id=bf791fc2ea&e=34b8d6a6b4>

2. 2. IEC role in international water management celebrated on World Water Day, Wednesday 22 March

To mark World Water Day on Wednesday 22 March, the IEC released a publication on the vital role they play in water management. The IEC celebrate and acknowledge the leading contribution that their hundreds of experts and Technical Committees have contributed to international water management. Through the development of quality international standards, the IEC are providing economic, energy and health benefits to the international community.

To read this IEC publication, please visit:

http://www.iec.ch/about/brochures/pdf/technology/IEC_Role%20in%20water_A5_En_LR.pdf

3. Setup of new ISO/IEC JTC 1 Subcommittee *Internet of Things and related technologies*

At its last Plenary Meeting in November 2016, the ISO/IEC Joint Technical Committee on Information Technology (JTC 1) decided to establish a new Subcommittee on “Internet of Things (IoT) and related technologies” (SC 41), with an initial scope and structure described in the resolution that can be seen below. The IEC Central Office and the ISO Central Secretariat have jointly agreed that the administrative support of the new Subcommittee (SC 41) will be carried out by the IEC. This means that SC 41 will make use of the tools offered by the IEC for standards development, documents, experts and meeting management. In accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 – JTC 1 Supplement, only one National Body per country (either Member Body of ISO or National Committee of IEC) is permitted to be a member of JTC 1 or a member of a JTC 1 subcommittee (clause 1.7.1). This means that, depending on your country, your organization may or may not be the National Body of JTC 1. Since only IEC National Committees have access to the IEC tools, your help may be requested to coordinate participation in the newly created SC 41 with the JTC 1 National Body in your country. A call for participation will be issued shortly by the JTC 1 Secretariat, and JTC 1 National Bodies will be instructed to contact the IEC National Committees in their country to confirm their participation in SC 41 and register their experts in the IEC Expert Management System.

The IEC takes this opportunity to encourage your organization to propose experts for this strategically important topic for the IEC, and thank you in advance for your support in setting up SC 41.

Resolution 12 – Establishment of JTC 1 Subcommittee SC 41, Internet of Things and related Technologies

JTC 1 establishes a Systems Integration entity (see SD 24, Systems Integration Standardization Guidelines) in the form of a new Subcommittee 41 on Internet of Things and related technologies initially comprising the work of JTC 1/WG 7 and JTC 1/WG 10.

Title: Internet of Things and related technologies

Scope: Standardization in the area of Internet of Things and related technologies.

1. Serve as the focus and proponent for JTC 1's standardization programme on the Internet of Things and related technologies, including Sensor Networks and Wearables technologies.
2. Provide guidance to JTC 1, IEC, ISO and other entities developing Internet of Things related applications.

For more information please contact the relevant National Sector Manager – Mr Varant Meguerditchian
Varant.meguerditchian@standards.org.au

A full copy of the Administrative Circular is available at: <http://www.iec.ch/dyn/www/f?p=103:96:0>