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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**COMMITTEE ON TRADE**

Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and  
Standardization Policies

Nineteenth session  
Geneva, 24-26 November 2009

**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE NINETEENTH SESSION \***

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva  
Starting at 10 a.m. on 24 November 2009

Note by the secretariat

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. The eighteenth session of the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6) will take place at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on 24 and 25 and 26 November 2009. Back to back with the annual session of the Working Party, an International Conference on “Risk Assessment and Management” will be held on 24 and 25 November.. The provisional agenda of the Conference is provided in document ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/2.

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\* Delegates are requested to complete the registration form, which is available from the website of the UNECE Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies <http://www.unece.org/trade/wp6> and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat no later than two weeks prior to the meeting either by e-mail ([regulatory.cooperation@unece.org](mailto:regulatory.cooperation@unece.org)) or by fax (+41 22 917 0037). On their way to the meeting, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see map at <http://www.unece.org/meetings/map.pdf>). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 30962481.

## **II. PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Election of officers
3. International Conference on Risk Assessment and Management
4. Matters arising from the International Conference on Risk Assessment and Management and the meetings of the Committee on Trade and the UNECE Executive Committee
5. Standardization and regulatory practice
  - (a) Review of developments
  - (b) Revision of UNECE recommendations
6. Regulatory cooperation
  - (a) Regional projects
  - (b) Sectoral projects
7. Review of recent developments in conformity assessment and accreditation
8. Market surveillance
  - (a) Updates from regional groupings and the Advisory Group on Market Surveillance (“MARS” Group)
  - (b) Update on the General Market Surveillance Procedure
  - (c) Common definitions and terminology in Market Surveillance
  - (d) Update on the negotiations on an Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA)
9. Metrology
10. Programme of Work and priorities of the Working Party
11. Capacity-building
12. Other business
13. Adoption of the report

### **III. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

#### **Item 1. Adoption of the agenda**

Documentation: ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/1 - Annotated provisional agenda

2. The proposed provisional agenda and timetable were agreed upon by the Bureau of the Working Party and are presented here for approval.

#### **Item 2. Election of officers**

3. In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure and established practice, the Working Party is expected to elect a Chairperson and two vice-chairpersons. At the eighteenth session, Mr. C. Arvius (Sweden) was elected Chairperson, and Mr. V. Koreshkov (Belarus) and Mr. P. Lukac (Slovakia) were elected Vice-chairpersons (see the organizational chart in annex to this document).

#### **Item 3. International Conference on Risk Assessment and Management**

Documentation: ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/2 – Draft programme  
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/3 - Background document by the Secretariat  
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/4 – Background document by the Bureau

5. Delegates at the last annual session expressed interest in exploring the issue of risk assessment and management in the context of standards and technical regulations.

6. The International Conference will aim at:

- promoting an exchange of experience on the use of risk assessment and management techniques in the areas of technical regulations, standards, conformity assessment, accreditation, metrology, and market surveillance;
- seeking a mandate for a recommendation on issues related to the assessment and management of risk for the different bodies and authorities involved in technical regulation and standardization matters.

#### **Item 3. Matters arising from the International Conference on Risk Assessment and Management and the meetings of the Committee on Trade and the UNECE Executive Committee**

4. The secretariat will report on matters arising from recent meetings of the Committee on Trade and of the UNECE Executive Committee of relevance to the Working Party.

5. The Working Party will discuss if and how its programme of work should be adapted to respond to the outcome of the Conference and at the decisions by the UNECE Executive Committee.

## **Item 5. Standardization and regulatory practice**

### **(a) Review of developments**

11. National delegations and international and regional organizations will be invited to report on their standardization and regulatory activities, as well as on technical cooperation programmes with other countries or regions. In particular, as a follow-up to the discussions held in the previous session, the European Commission will provide information on the recently adopted Common Framework for the marketing of products as well as a brief update on the implementation of the REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals) Regulation.

12. The Working Party will receive an oral report from the secretariat on the Seminar on “The role of international standards in Economic Development”, organized by the World Trade Organization in March 2009.

### **(b) Revision of UNECE recommendations**

Documentation: ECE/STAND/17/Rev.4 – UNECE Recommendations on Standardization Policies  
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2008/6/Rev.1 – Revised Recommendation “K”

12. At its seventeenth session, the Working Party revised Recommendation “K” on Assurance of Conformity Assessment and Testing, which is now submitted to delegates in its final version for information.

13. At its last session, the Working Party also discussed the possible revision of Recommendation D “Reference to standards”. Delegations are hereby invited to send to the secretariat any proposals for its amendment that they would like to table for discussion.

## **Item 6. Regulatory cooperation**

Documentation: ECE/STAND/17/Rev.5 – UNECE Recommendations on Standardization Policies

14. The Working Party will receive an update on the activities developed on the basis of the UNECE Recommendation “L”, International Model for Technical Harmonization based on good regulatory practice for the preparation, adoption and application of technical regulations via the use of international standards.

15. The Working Party will be informed about the activities of its Team of Specialists on STandardization And Regulatory Techniques (“START” Team), which met in Stockholm in May 2009.

### **(a) Regional projects**

17. The Working Party will be informed about the status of regional projects to reinforce regulatory cooperation in the context of regional or bilateral trade agreements, especially in

Southeast Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and the Eurasian Economic Community (EurAsEC).

**(b) Sectoral projects**

Documentation: ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/5 – Progress report on the Sectoral Initiative on Explosive Environments Equipment  
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/6 – Progress report on the Sectoral Initiative on Telecom  
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/7 – Progress report on the Sectoral Initiative on Earth-Moving Machinery  
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/8 – Progress report on the Sectoral Initiative on Pipeline Safety

18. The Conveners of the ongoing sectoral initiatives will report on current activities and recent achievements, in particular, on the Explosive Environments Equipment Initiative; the Telecom Initiative; the Earth-Moving Machinery Initiative and the Initiative on the Safety of pipelines.

20. Any proposals for regulatory convergence dialogues will be considered. The Working Party will also consider what it can do to identify new sectors where similar projects could be established.

**Item 7. Review of recent developments in conformity assessment and accreditation**

21. National delegations and international and regional organizations are invited to report on trade related aspects of conformity assessment and accreditation.

**Item 8. Market surveillance**

**(a) Updates from regional groupings and the Advisory Group on Market Surveillance (“MARS” Group)**

Documentation: ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/9 – Report of the Advisory Group on Market Surveillance, its activities and its meeting  
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/10 – Information from the CIS on market surveillance  
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/11 – Market surveillance: general concept and how it relates to the activities of the Working Party

22. The Advisory Group on Market Surveillance (“MARS” Group) will report to the Working Party on the activities of the Group and on its meeting. Delegations will be updated on market surveillance activities under the auspices of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). The European Commission will present an update on the implementation of the EU common framework for market surveillance.

**(b) Update on the Market Surveillance Model Initiative**

Documentation: ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/12 - Guide to the use of the General Market Surveillance Model

24. The convener will present a guide to the use of the General Market Surveillance Model.

**(c) Common definitions and terminology in Market Surveillance**

Documentation: ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/13 - Common definitions and terminology in market surveillance

24. The convener will present a first draft of the text on common definitions and terminology in market surveillance.

**(d) Update on the negotiations on an Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA)**

25. A short presentation will be made on these unfolding negotiations and delegations will have an opportunity to discuss the role of Recommendation "M" in this context.

**Item 9. Metrology**

Documentation: ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2008/6/Rev.1 – Final version of Recommendation "K"

26. National delegations and international and regional organizations will be invited to report on relevant developments in metrology.

**Item 10. Programme of work and priorities of the Working Party**

Documentation: ECE/TRADE/C/2007/14 – Report of the second session of the Committee on Trade  
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/15 – Revised table of priorities  
ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/16 – Evaluation of the Working Party

28. The Working Party will review its priorities for its future work, based on the updated table of priorities.

29. The Working Party will be invited to discuss the evaluation document prepared by the secretariat and elaborate on methodologies for the evaluation of its future work.

**Item 11. Capacity-building**

30. The Working Party will receive an update on plans to launch a capacity-building initiative to promote the application of Model "M".

**Item 12. Other business**

32. The Working Party will review recent outreach activities: in particular, the recent publications and brochures and the revamping of the WP. 6 website. It will give directions to the Secretariat for continuing this work.

32. The Working Party will consider the work of its coordinators and rapporteurs, and will discuss a possible reorganization of the Working Party that is more closely aligned to current priorities.

33. The Working Party will decide the tentative dates for its meeting in 2009.

### **Item 13. Adoption of the report**

34. According to agreed practice, during its session, the Working Party will approve a list of main decisions. The secretariat will subsequently draft the descriptive part of the report, in consultation with the office bearers, taking into account the contributions made during the session.

## **IV. TENTATIVE TIMETABLE**

Tuesday, 24 November	10.00 – 10.30	Items 1-2
	10.30 – 18.00	Item 3 (Conference on Risk Assessment)
Wednesday, 25 November	10.00 – 13.00	Item 3 (continued)
	15.00 – 18.00	Items 4-6
Thursday, 26 November	10.00 – 13.00	Item 7 -8
	15.00 – 18.00	Items 8-13