Economic Commission for Europe
Committee on Trade
Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation
and Standardization policies
Twentieth session
Geneva, 1-3 November 2010

Annotated provisional agenda for the twentieth session

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m. on 1 November 2010

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Election of officers
3. Matters arising from previous sessions of the Working Party, from meetings of the Committee on Trade and the UNECE Executive Committee
4. Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory and Standardization policies
5. Standardization and regulatory practice
   (a) Review of developments
   (b) Development and update of recommendations on regulatory cooperation and standardization policies
6. Regulatory cooperation
   (a) Regional projects
   (b) Sectoral projects

1 Delegates are requested to complete the registration form, which is available from the website 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) 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 UNOFG Secretary 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 2774, 7281/3433).
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 Market Surveillance Model Initiative
   (c) Common definitions and terminology in Market Surveillance.
9. Metrology
10. Programme of work and priorities of the Working Party
11. Capacity-building
12. Other business
13. Adoption of the report

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

**Item 1**
Adoption of the agenda

*Documentation:* Annotated provisional agenda (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/1)

1. 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

2. 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 Messrs. V. Koreshkov (Belarus) and P. Lukac (Slovakia) were elected vice-chairpersons.

**Item 3**
Matters arising from previous sessions of the Working Party, from meetings of the Committee on Trade and its Bureau and of the UNECE Executive Committee


3. The Bureau will introduce the report of the nineteenth session of the Working Party and review any outstanding items for discussion or for action.

4. The Secretariat will then report on matters arising from recent meetings of the Committee on Trade and of its Bureau and of the UNECE Executive Committee of relevance to the Working Party. In particular, the Secretary of the Committee on Trade will report on progress made on the technical cooperation project on “Needs Assessments in Countries with Economies in Transition: Trade Facilitation and Regulatory Cooperation”. Delegations will be invited to comment on the project.
Item 4
Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory and Standardization Policies

Documentation:
- Risk Management and Management in the activities of the Working Party (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/2)
- Panel session: information note (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/5)

5. The Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory and Standardization policies will present the report of the Conference on Risk Assessment and Management held in conjunction with the 19th Session of the Working Party.

6. The Group of Experts will then present a methodology for assessing the use of risk management tools in regulatory systems and a proposed survey to document actual use and outstanding needs.

7. A panel discussion will be organized to discuss the further work of the Group of Experts, with interventions from representatives of governmental authorities, standardization organizations, the business community and the civil society.

Item 5
Standardization and regulatory practice

Documentation:
- Compilation of Regulatory Developments (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/6)
- Modalities for improving information sharing on technical regulations (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/7)
- Experience in the implementation of REACH among non-EU member States (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/8)

(a) Review of developments

8. As decided at the nineteenth session the Rapporteur for developments in EU countries, the Rapporteur for developments in the CIS countries, and the Rapporteur for developments in African countries will report on standardization and regulatory activities in their respective regions. Other delegations and international and regional organizations will then be invited to report on their standardization and regulatory activities, as well as on technical cooperation programmes with other countries or regions.

9. As a follow-up to the discussions held at the previous session, the European Commission will provide a brief update on the Common Regulatory Framework for the Marketing of Products (REACH) while Russian Federation will report on experience in the implementation of REACH among non-EU member States.

(b) Development and update of recommendations on regulatory cooperation and standardization policies

**Documentation:** UNECE Recommendations on Standardization Policies (ECE/TRADE/378) Proposed revision of Recommendation “D” on Reference to Standards (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/8/Rev.1)

11. At its last session, the Working Party discussed the possible revision of Recommendation D “Reference to standards”, and of Recommendation L. Delegations is 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:** Report of the Meeting of WP.6 Bureau, Rapporteurs and Coordinators, “START” Team and “MARS” Group (Stockholm, 7-11 June 2010) (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/9)

12. The Working Party will receive an update on the activities developed on the basis of Recommendation “L”, the 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.

13. The Team of Specialists on STandardization And Regulatory Techniques (“START” Team), will report on its activities and on its meeting, which took place in Stockholm in June 2010.

(a) Regional projects

14. 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


15. 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.

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

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

Item 8
Market surveillance

18. National delegations and international and regional organizations will be invited to report on relevant developments regarding market surveillance, including the implementation of Recommendation “M”.

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

List of market surveillance authorities in UNECE Member States with their respective competences (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/16)


20. The Secretariat will introduce the document on market surveillance authorities in UNECE Member States.

(b) Update on the Market Surveillance Model Initiative

Documentation: Market surveillance general concept and how it relates to the activities of the Working Party (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/11)

21. Delegations will be invited to discuss the documents on the General Market Surveillance Model prepared for the previous session of the Working Party.

(c) Common definitions and terminology in Market Surveillance

Documentation: Second draft of the common definitions and terminology in market surveillance (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/17)

22. The convener will present an updated draft of the text on common definitions and terminology in market surveillance.
Item 9
Metrology

Documentation: Proposed Memorandum of Understanding between UNECE and OIML (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/18)

23. National delegations and international and regional organizations will be invited to report on relevant developments in metrology. The Working Party will be invited to consider a proposed Memorandum of Understanding between UNECE and OIML.

Item 10
Programme of work and priorities of the Working Party

Documentation: Programme of Work (org. chart) (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/19)
Revised table of priorities (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/20)

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

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

Item 11
Capacity-building

26. The Working Party will receive an update on planned capacity-building activities. Delegations will be invited to present their priorities for capacity-building in regulatory cooperation and standardization policies.

Item 12
Other business

27. The Working Party will consider the organizational chart annexed to this document and discuss the responsibilities of its coordinators and rapporteurs in the light of its programme of work.


Item 13
Adoption of the report

29. 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.

II. Tentative Timetable

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