Education on standards-related issues⁹

The Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies,

Recognizing the role and place of standards and of quality infrastructure in accompanying or controlling products during their life cycle,

Underlining the important contribution of standards and regulatory framework (technical regulations, metrology, conformity assessment, accreditation, market surveillance) in the attainment of national and international development goals (including the United Nations Millennium Development Goals) and in promoting sustainable development,

Recommends that—in collaboration with appropriate intergovernmental and other organizations and academia, and taking into account the activities of global, regional and national standards bodies—Governments should encourage, wherever feasible and where the national legal framework permits:

(a) the introduction by educational establishments of the subject of standardization into the curricula of educational establishments and particularly of universities for students majoring in technical and scientific subjects, as well as in legal, economic and management studies;

(b) the vocational education and training of specialists in standardization;

(c) the enhancement of awareness-raising activities targeted to the business community and regulatory authorities (in particular, trade and customs officials);

(d) the further study of standardization issues in order to identify best practices in ensuring that standardization and regulatory regimes contribute to meeting the legitimate concerns of society (e.g. human safety, environment) without creating unnecessary technical barriers to trade."