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Working Party on Technical Harmonization and
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Item 6 of the provisional agenda

**NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF ISO STANDARDS IN THE AREA OF
ENVIRONMENT AND GOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPATION IN THE
STANDARDIZATION WORK**

It is recalled that at the tenth session (November 2000), the Working party agreed on the proposal of the Rapporteur on Coordination to select one sub-area from the List, namely “environmental protection: environmental management”, and to conduct an in-depth study of government participation in the standardization work and also of national adoption/implementation of the resulting standards.

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SUBMISSION BY SWEDENISO-standards

ISO/TC	Number of published ISO standards	Number of published ISO-standards implemented as Swedish standards	Number of European Standards/ISO Standards (EN ISO) out of number of implemented Swedish standards
43	133	133	28
146	58	29	1
147	179	60	59
190	43	36	-
207	19 ¹⁾	19 ¹⁾	11

Note: This table was prepared as a result of compilation of submissions from national organizations which participate in the work of particular TCs. Certain discrepancy in cumulative data on the number of ISO standards might be possible due to differences in assessing the actual statute of particular ISO standards.

Governmental representation**ISO/TC 43 Acoustics**

The government, i.e. the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), is not represented in ISO/TC 43.

ISO/TC 146 Air Quality

In ISO/TC 146 the Swedish EPA takes an active part in the work through a representative appointed from Stockholm University. During the last two years the EPA was represented in 1 Technical Committee (TC) meeting (out of 1 meeting) and 4 Sub-Committee (SC) meetings (out of 10 meetings).

ISO/TC 147 Water Quality

In this TC the Swedish EPA takes an active part in the work through a representative appointed from Stockholm University and the University of Gothenburg. During the last two years EPA was represented in 1 TC meeting (out of 1 meeting) and 2 SC meetings (out of 5 meetings). Furthermore, the National Food Administration took part in 1 TC meeting (out of 1 meeting) and 1 SC meeting (out of 5 meetings) during the last two years.

1) Including 3 Technical Reports

ISO/TC 190 Soil Quality

In this TC the Swedish EPA takes an active part in the work through a representative appointed from the Swedish University of Agriculture Sciences (SLU). SLU took part in 2 TC meetings (out of 2 meetings) and 4 SC meetings (out of 12 meetings) during the last two years.

ISO/TC 207 Environmental Management

TC 207 has met twice and the 6 subcommittees have met 14 times during the last two years with the following Swedish governmental representation:

Swedish EPA: 1 TC meeting and 2 SC meetings
Swedish National Road Administration: 2 TC meetings and 4 SC meetings
Swedish Rescue Service Agency: 2 TC meetings and 4 SC meetings
Swedish Business Development Agency: 1 TC meeting and 2 SC meetings

SUBMISSION BY THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Prepared in cooperation with the Czech Standards Institute (CSN)

Table: ISO-standards

ISO/TC	Number of approved ISOs	Number of approved CSN ISOs (EN ISOs)	Number of approved EN ISOs out of the number of approved CSN ISOs
43	133	121	28
146	58	16	0
147	179	130	50
190	43	10	0
207	19 ¹⁾	17	14

Note: This table was prepared as a result of compilation of submissions from national organizations which participate in the work of particular TCs. Certain discrepancy in cumulative data on the number of ISO standards might be possible due to differences in assessing the actual statute of particular ISO standards.

1) Including 3 Technical Reports

General

Participation of the Czech Republic in the development of international ISO standards generally and in the environmental area as well is closely linked to the priority given to the development of European standards, and to the Czech Standards Institute's (CSN) obligation to incorporate European standards into the system of Czech standards. Therefore, the links between technical bodies in the ISO and CEN (fulfilment of the Vienna Agreement) may be crucial.

All five ISO Technical Committees (TC) operating in the environmental area belong to inter-sectoral disciplines. Their work relates particularly to the Ministry of Environment (MoE) of the Czech Republic (MoE).

For the time being MoE staff do not take part directly in the ISO's work and they do not attend ISO meetings. No MoE expert is member of any ISO/TC. They have been, however, represented in Technical Standardisation Committees organised and established by CSN (TSC) discussing important comments and opinions of the Czech Republic on ISO documents. The MoE was consulted in the frame of preparation of this submission. The Ministry is prepared in the near future to more closely cooperate in the international standardisation process and to ask for the nomination of several experts into relevant TC's.

It should be noted that, according to the ISO Rules, membership in a working group is individual, i.e. the expert is appointed based on his/her competence and his/her proposed appointment is to be approved by a national standardisation body, which guarantees professional competency and language skills of the expert. During the last 5-6 years such a request has not been received from any ministry. CSN feels a lack of support from ministries and other state authorities and of demand for the participation of their experts in ISO working groups or participation in inter-laboratory tests, which are important with respect to the application of a standard as a base for technical regulation. In some cases this situation may be caused by frequent changes of staff in the MoE and other ministries.

ISO/TC 43 Acoustics

The current list of ISO/TC 43 projects and standards shows that 121 out of 135 issued ISO standards have been adopted into the national standardisation system of the CR, i.e. approximately 89%. ISO standards on vehicle noise have not been implemented because UN/ ECE regulations or/and EU Directives have been applied in the Czech Republic; parts of some ISO standards however have been implemented into the Czech technical regulations.

The Czech Republic plays an active part in the work of 13 out of the total number of 34 working groups, sub-committees of ISO/TC 43/SC 1 and SC 2 when top experts from Czech companies, organisations and universities who participate are counted.

ISO/TC 146 Air Quality

In the CEN, there is a similar technical committee, TC 264. There is a feeling of lack of cooperation between these two TC's. A representative of the Czech Standards Institute attends meetings of the TC, but no expert from the Czech Republic is a member of the working groups. The relevant TSC (117) is in contact with MoE aimed, in particular, at the use of ISO and CEN standards in the reviewing and development of new legislation in the air quality area.

ISO standards were implemented by translating. The ISO standards have been currently revised and CSN ISO will have to be revised as well or abolished when replaced by CSN EN.

ISO/TC 147 Water Quality

There is an analogy with the CEN/TC 230 Water analyses. It seems that no problems occur with respect to meeting the Vienna Agreement in this area.

Experts of the Hydroprojekt, a.s. Prague and the Water Research Institute Prague have usually attended the meetings of the TC and SC during the last 3 years. Co-operation with various ministries (Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Agriculture) has been carried out via the Hydroprojekt. The representatives of the said ministries are members of the relevant TSC (14) which prepares written comments to ISO working documents (in particular in the case of chemical and physical testing of water quality) and to all documents at the CD and TC level.

So far, approximately 130 ISO standards have been implemented, of which 50 are EN ISO.

ISO/TC 190 Soil Quality

During the last 5 years, the CR has been represented at the TC meetings by representatives of the Central Institute for Supervising and Testing in Agriculture.

No technical committee for the above mentioned area exists under the CEN no TSC has been established for this area, either. So far, 10 ISO standards out of the total number 45 have been implemented into the system of Czech technical standards. Concern and support to this area by the Ministry of Environment is very low.

ISO/TC 207 Environmental Management

This area seems to be exceptional because of the enormous interest to participate in the work shown by members and co-operating organisations both governmental and non-governmental etc. There is no similar committee in the CEN and 85 % of ISO standards have been adopted by the CEN.

Since 1995, the Czech Republic has been represented by 3 to 6 delegates at the TC and SC or WG meetings depending on the meeting location. Working groups subordinated directly to the TC have been attended by 2 experts from non-governmental organisations.

The relevant TSC (106) includes the most important departments, i.e. the Ministry of Environment, and Ministry of Industry and Trade. The Ministry of Environment pays special attention to how the Environmental Management Audit System (EMAS) is implemented in the EU member states. All ISO 14000 standards were implemented into the Czech technical standards system. There are 17 standards, of which 14 have been adopted as EN ISO standards.

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