

**FINAL DECISIONS OF THE WORKING PARTY ON REGULATORY  
COOPERATION AND STANDARDIZATION POLICIES  
AT ITS TWENTIETH SESSION**

Geneva, 1-2 November 2010

**Item 1: Adoption of the agenda**

Decision 1: The Working Party approved the provisional agenda (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/1 and Corr.1).

**Item 2: Election of officers**

Decision 2: Mr. C. Arvius (Sweden) was elected Chair, M. Mihok (Slovakia) and Mr. V. N. Koreshkov (Belarus) were elected vice-chairs.

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

Decision 3: The Working Party adopted the report of its previous session (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/19) and the report of the Conference on Risk Assessment and Management (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/2) and endorsed the report of the meeting of its Bureau, the Rapporteurs and Coordinators, “START” Team and “MARS” Group in Stockholm on 7-9 June 2010 (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/9).

Decision 4: The Working Party requested the Bureau of the Working Party and the secretariat to help the UNECE OES in preparing the annual session by providing its expertise in the area of risk management provided the theme is chosen for the March 2010 event.

**Item 4: Risk management in regulatory systems**

Decision 5: The Working Party adopted the terms of reference of the Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems (GRM) contained in the annex of document ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/2 and decided to establish this new Group of experts.

Decision 6: The Working Party elected Mr. D. Macrae and Mr. V. Nikonov as first Convenors of the Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems.

Decision 7: The Working Party noted the proposed reference model for risk management in regulatory systems (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/3), as well as the proposed survey based on this approach (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/4). It asked the secretariat to pursue its efforts in order to map risk management needs of relevant stakeholders.

**Item 5: Standardization and regulatory practice developments**

**(a) Review of**

Decision 8: The Working Party considered the proposal by the Russian Federation to find modalities for improving information sharing on technical regulations and standards (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/7) and asked the Bureau and the rapporteurs to prepare appropriate proposals on the matter.

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

Decision 9: The Working Party considered the set of recommendations (ECE/TRADE/378) and supported the proposal made by the Chair to establish a subgroup for revising Recommendation D “Reference to Standards” as well as the proposal of the MARS Group to amend or supplement Recommendation M “Use of Market Surveillance Infrastructure as a Complementary Means to Protect Consumers and Users against Counterfeit Good”.

Decision 10: The Working Party took note of the proposal made by Russian Federation to start an exchange of information on ways to assess the impact of new regulations on trade in UNECE member States, and considered the possibility to develop guidelines with a view to prevent technical barriers to trade.

Decision 11: The Working Party took note of the proposal of the Russian Federation to follow up on the work on regulatory developments in the chemical industry and their impact on trade (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/8)

## **Item 6: Regulatory cooperation**

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

Decision 12: The Working Party invited countries and regional organizations to provide updated information on their regulatory cooperation activities and projects by the next session. It requested the secretariat to include any such reports in the documentation for the next session.

### **(b) Sectoral projects**

Decision 13: The Working Party invited the secretariat, the Rapporteurs and the three task forces to continue to promote the Common Regulatory Objectives (CROs) and to encourage countries to implement them at national level and in transnational cooperation.

Decision 14: The Working Party asked the representative of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs to pursue her efforts to find a Convenor for the Sectoral Initiative on Pipeline Safety.

Decision 15: The Working Party requested the secretariat to continue providing an update on the work of all the sectoral initiatives on an annual basis.

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

Decision 16: Following the discussions that took place during the panel session dedicated to promoting regulatory cooperation in conformity assessment, the Working Party invited delegations as well as regional and international organizations to continue an exchange of information and experiences on conformity assessment and accreditation with the view to facilitating international trade, also with regard to the conformity assessment in Recommendation L.

## **Item 8: Market surveillance**

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

Decision 17: The Working Party endorsed the report of the meeting of the MARS Group, which was held in Bratislava on 6-8 October 2010 (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/14).

Decision 18: The Working Party considered the list of market surveillance authorities in UNECE member States with their respective competences (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/16) and the project of creating a database. The Working Party encouraged the MARS Group to continue its work.

Decision 19: The Working Party asked the MARS Group to prepare proposals regarding the revision of Recommendation M, as well as to propose ideas for the preparation of a recommendation on the cooperation among market surveillance authorities to improve the traceability of counterfeit products.

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

Decision 20: The Working Party encouraged member States to find donors to support the development of the draft guide for the General Market Surveillance Model as a training document and invited the MARS Group to continue its improvement and promotion.

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

Decision 21: The Working Party thanked the representative of the International Organization of Legal Metrology for the document he prepared on common definitions and terminology in market surveillance (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/13), and requested the secretariat to incorporate contributions from member countries and international and regional organizations.

#### **Item 9: Metrology**

#### **Item 10: Programme of work and priorities of the Working Party**

Decision 22: The Working Party reviewed the table of priorities (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/19) and requested the secretariat to prepare a new version of this document for the next meeting of the WP. 6 bureau, including new and revised items as discussed at the session.. It also approved the programme of work for 2011-2013 that was proposed in the same document.

#### **Item 11: Capacity-building**

#### **Item 12: Other business**

Decision 23: The Bureau in consultation with the Secretariat will decide the dates of the twenty-first session of the Working Party.

#### **Item 12: Adoption of the report**

Decision 24: WP.6 reviewed the decisions list and asked the secretariat in cooperation with the Bureau to prepare the formal report of the session.