Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies

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Report on past session – highlights of intersessional – plans for next year
Overview of presentation

• Highlights of 2014 report for review

• Intersessional activities

• Highlights of the intersessional period
  • Engagement with UNISDR on «Standards and DRR» – Sendai Conference
  • MARS Meeting
  • Field activities of GRM
  • ISO/IEC event on «Using international standards»

• Planned activities
Highlights of 24th session of WP.6

• High-Level Segment on "Regulatory Cooperation" on 24 November which gave the Bureau a mandate for the revision of Recommendation L

• Conference on "Safer products and workplaces, safer communities" on 25 November: discussion on proliferation of non-compliant, dangerous and counterfeit goods and equipment → input x MARS group

• Discussion and adoption of a solid plan of work for the MARS Group
• Endorsed the proposal by the World Standards Cooperation (WSC) for a Conformity Assessment Workshop to be held back to back to the next WP.6

• Discussion on future plans for cooperation on education for standards-related issues -> continued to deliver on its activities this year
Intersessional activities

- Field activities in Malawi and in Nigeria: December 2014 – March 2015
- 14 – 18 March: Sendai Conference
  - 17 March: WCDRR session 31 - Standards for Disaster Risk Reduction Including Building Codes
- 16-19 June: 47th EASC meeting in Minsk, Belarus
- 24 –25 June: 13th MARS Group meeting, Prague
- Participation in the activities of the E15 task force (February – April and July 2015): publication of a thinkpiece in August 2015 on “Regulatory Cooperation: a Wikihow”
16 June: **START Team meeting** discussing Recommendation L revision
- Updating the Recommendation text to be more clear and help users in better understanding the principles behind Common Regulatory Objectives (CROs) and their setup

**18-19 March / 17-18 June / 3-6 November:** WTO/TBT sessions, Geneva
- Regular meetings of the WTO TBT Committee discussing a list of specific trade concerns of member countries and exchanging experiences
- **TBT@20 Anniversary Event** on 6 November 2015

**2-3 November:** **ISO-IEC-UNECE event on "Using and referencing ISO and IEC standards to support public policy,** Palais des Nations, Geneva
Field work by the GRM

Recent activities:

• Implemented the GRM methodology in the food sector in Malawi and Nigeria (December 2014 - March 2015) in cooperation with UNIDO

• Work of Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems continues to draw new partners

• Translation of the RM publication into Russian
MARS meeting in June 2015, Prague

Practical tasks decided on last Plenary:

• Mapping of all other market surveillance networks (global and regional);
• Developing a template for the request of data or assistance to other authorities or to other stakeholders outside of the jurisdiction;
• Updating the MARS global database of market surveillance authorities;
• Connecting to other WP.6 groups and service in order to get advice from them.
Engagement with UNISDR preparations for Sendai and follow up

- Contributions to the GAR background research by ISO, IEC and PwC: dialogue is continuing, in view of contributing to the preparatory process to the WCDRR
- Organisation of a session on “Standards for Disaster Risk Reduction Including Building Code” during the Sendai Conference in March 2015
- Following up the decision of establishing a Task Force at ISO/TC 292 level
Engagement with OECD on its project on how IO contribute to better rules of globalization

- Contributed to finalize OECD survey to IOs
- Answered OECD questionnaire
- Accepted to be a case study for OECD (for entire UNECE)
Recommendation L revision

March to September: START Team meetings discussing Recommendation L revision

- Updating the Recommendation text
- Planning next meetings and requesting input from WTO/TBT agreement delegations

Second gathering of the UNECE-START Team for the revision of the «International Model» in Geneva on 16 June 2015
Participation in WTO work

WTO/TBT sessions, Geneva (17 - 18 June/3-6 November Geneva)

- Participated actively in meetings of the WTO TBT Committee
- TBT@20 Anniversary Event took place on 6 November 2015
Engagement with E15 initiative

- Publication of a «thinkpiece» on Regulatory cooperation
- Participation in 3 meetings of the task force (February, April and July 2015)
- Forthcoming: Participation to the ICTSD side event for the WTO Ministerial in Nairobi (December 2015)
“International Standards can provide much of the technical detail and safety requirements required to make a good policy work”
Plans for next year: Regulatory cooperation

• Organization of a side event in Nairobi back to back to the WTO Ministerial on 14 December 2015: «Contribution of standards and regulatory frameworks to the implementation of the TFA»

• Continue to participate as observers and give updates to the WTO TBT Committee

• Follow up to the 2 recent events on «Reference to standards» and «Conformity assessment»

• Further develop the sectoral initiatives

• Participation in the OECD initiative on «Fostering the contribution of International Organization to better rules of globalization»

• Your inputs?
Plans for next year: MARS Group

- Organization of a meeting: venue still to be confirmed
- Continue to implement the mandate to the Group agreed at the session last year:
  - Mapping other market surveillance networks
  - Further develop a template for the request of data or assistance to other authorities or to other stakeholders outside of the jurisdiction;
  - Updating the MARS global database of market surveillance authorities;
  - Connecting to other WP.6 groups and service in order to get advice from them
- Your inputs?
Plans for next year: GRM Group

- Organization of a meeting: venue still to be confirmed
- Identify and involve regulators in the work of the Group
- Finalize a recommendation on consistency of risk management legislation
- Field activities in new countries if resources can be made available
- Bi-monthly webinars will continue
- Continue to work closely with UNISDR to further the use of standards in the implementation of the Sendai Framework for DRR
  - Taskforce under TC 292
  - New working group under 262 «Disruption related risk»
- Your inputs?
Plans for next year: education on standards and standards-related issues

• Looking for resources to further develop a wiki based resource on standards and standards-related issues
• Request for field activities in the EASC region
• Further develop and support the STARTed Group
• Your inputs?