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NEWSLETTERS

First quarter - 2011

Second quarter - 2010

First quarter - 2010

NEWS ARCHIVES

25-27 September 2013: The MARS Group held its 11th meeting in Prague, Czech Republic, at the invitation of Czech Office for Standards, Metrology and Testing hosted by Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic.

18 September 2013: Meeting of policy-makers responsible for the sector of equipment used in environments with an explosive atmosphere from BRICs countries and countries of Latin America.

9 June 2013: UNECE is pleased to associate itself with ILAC and IAF in celebrating World Accreditation Day on 9 June 2013. This year the focus is on the important role accreditation plays in facilitating trade around the world, both within and across national borders. To learn more, please read the Joint ILAC-IAF statement, or download the informative brochure the two organizations prepared to mark this event.

23 May 2013: The WP.6 will contribute to the Fourth Session of the Global Platform by co-organizing a Featured Event on standards and regulatory frameworks for disaster risk reduction. For more details visit http://www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform/2013/programme/featuredevents/view/490

19 March 2013: At the International conference on the "Role of Industry in the system of technical regulations", held in Moscow, the UNECE and the Eurasian Economic Commission called for increased international cooperation in technical regulations and standards. Read Press Release. The conference was organized by the RSSP-TF8 - a business platform composed of leaders of companies from the EU and Russia, with participation by authorities and standards bodies of the two regions. RSPP-TF8 has prepared specific recommendations for the approximation of the Regulatory Systems of Russia and the European Union, which were also officially presented at the Conference.

4-8 March 2013: The ISO Technical Committee 262 "Risk Management" decided to establish a Working Group to develop guidance on applying the ISO 31000 Standard "Risk Management" to legislative and regulatory activity. A representative of UNECE will actively participate in this Working Group, building on best practice developed by the UNECE GRM and contained in the recent publication Risk Management in Regulatory Systems. Additionally, another working group under TC 262 will consider the harmonisation of risk management standards. These decisions were among the most important outcomes of the meeting of the ISO TC 262 held in Toulouse last week

28 February 2013: More than fifty international risk professionals and organizations will compete for glory at Global Risk Awards Ceremony of the Institute of Risk Management in London on 28 February 2013. The UNECE Group on Risk Management on Regulatory System has the honour of having being shortlisted as one of the five candidates for the best partnership of the year in the field of risk management. Read more: http://www.irmawards.org/shortlist-unveiled-for-1st-global-risk-awards/

21 January 2013: The Secretary of the WP.6 attended a Workshop meeting on Future Programme on Approximation of Regulatory Systems in the Sphere of Technical Regulation between the Customs Union and the European Union held in Berlin, Germany. Participants at the meetings included representatives of the Customs Union of Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia, as well as the Russian and German Standards bodies, as well as of the business sector. Participants welcomed the proposal to hold a Conference on Regulatory Approximation in Geneva, from 14 to 15 November 2013.

30 November 2012: Risk Management in Regulatory Frameworks - This publication guides policymakers in the design of regulatory systems that result in an efficient, effective and transparent management of risks.

7-9 November 2012: Twenty-second session of the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6), took place from 7 November 2012 at 15:00hrs. to 9 November 2012 at 18:00hrs.

14 October 2012: The UNECE Regulatory Cooperation Unit wishes all WP. 6 delegates a very happy World Standards Day! World Standards day is organized every year, as a means of paying tribute to the collaborative efforts of the thousands of experts worldwide who develop the voluntary technical agreements that are published as international standards. The theme of this year's event is "Less waste, better results—Standards increase efficiency" Events are held all around the world to celebrate this event! ISO, IEC, and ITU have issued a joint message and published a beautiful poster. In the US, a whole week of celebration is organized by ANSI, while in Canada, a webcast is hosted by Standards Council Canada.

3 September 2012: Sectoral Initiative on Equipment for Explosive Environments meeting in Calgary, in conjunction with the meetings of the IECEx scheme, regulatory authorities will discuss progress made in regulatory convergence in the sector of equipment used in high risks facilities, such as mines, offshore and onshore energy plants, industrial facilities.

13-15 September: 10th Anniversary Meeting of the MARS Group in Bratislava, at the kind invitation of the Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing. Among other topics, the experts will discuss recent regulatory developments at national and regional level in market surveillance policies and practices, how to apply traceability tools in the context of post-market surveillance, and will work on revising UNECE recommendation I on "Education for Standards-related issues".

21-22 May 2012: At the ISO 31000 Conference in Paris, both Mr. Kevin Knight, chairperson of the GRM and the UNECE secretariat will make presentations on how risk management tools can be used as the basis for the design of regulatory systems.

18 May 2012: WP.6 2012 First Quarterly Newsletter is now available for download.

15 May 2012: UNECE will give a presentation of its activities at the Workshop on "How do consumers know what they're getting" organized by the ISO Committee on Consumer Policies (ISO/COPOLCO) in Fiji 26 April 2012: UNECE will take part in the Conference on approximation of regulatory systems of Russia and the EU in Moscow on 27 April 2012. Many of the WP. 6 experts are involved in this important initiative, in particular, the vice-chair of WP. 6 Mr. Valeriy Koreshkov, Minister for technical regulation of the Eurasian Economic Commission, will open the workshop.

23 April 2012: The report of the 21st Annual Session of the Working Party is available. A report of the Workshop on "Traceability: a tool for managing risks" or a report on the Panel Session "Standards and regulations as a tool for promoting sustainable development: Preparing for Rio + 20".

20 April 2012: UNECE will make an update on its activities on market surveillance and risk management at the OECD Workshop on Risk Assessment in Tel-Aviv, Israel, organized by the Working Party on Consumer Product Safety.

18 April 2012: The Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems (UNECE GRM) held a webinar to discuss the results of the application of the UNECE Recommendation on risk management (Recommendation R) to two existing legal frameworks regulating the sector of electrical and electronic appliances. The comparative analysis proposed by the GRM members who carried out the application of Recommendation R did not contain any value judgment and was aimed at showing similarities and differences in the way the two legal frameworks at issue identified and treated risks connected to electrical and electronic products.

17 April 2012: The Network on Metrology, Accreditation and Standardization for Developing Countries (DCMAS Network) held its annual session at the Palais des Nations, Geneva. The meeting was attended by representatives of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), the International Laboratory Accreditation Co-operation (ILAC), the International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML), the Internatinoal Telecommunication Union (ITU), the International Trade Centre (ITC) and the International Accreditation Forum (IAF). The DCMAS serves as a forum for exchanging experiences and updates on technical cooperation projects carried out by the participating organizations. The UNECE secretariat acted as the secretariat of the DCMAS and organized the 2012 annual meeting.

26 March 2012: At the invitation of Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and

Development, the secretary of UNECE WP. 6 delivered an intervention at the event "A Quantum of QI" to celebrate the Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt or PTB's 125th anniversary in Braunschweig, Germany.

20-22 March 2012: The UNECE Secretariat attended the WTO TBT Committee in its capacity as permanent observer. The UNECE representative delivered a speech reporting to the WTO TBT Committee the latest developments in the UNECE activities related to regulatory cooperation and standardization policies. Download the report to the TBT Committee.

20-21 March 2012: An International Conference on Equipment and Services in Explosive Atmospheres was jointly organized in Dubai by UNECE, the IECEx and the Emirates Authority for Standardization and Metrology (ESMA). It brought together more than 200 experts from all over the world, with the objective of making the industries in which explosions may occur safer and facilitating trade in related products and equipment. For more details see the UNECE weekly.

13-17 February 2012: The Secretary of the WP.6 attended a meeting of the ISO Project Committee on Risk Management in Dublin in her capacity as member of the Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems (GRM). This meeting was aimed at discussing comments on the draft-standard ISO/IEC 31004, containing guidelines for the implementation of ISO 31000.

6 February 2012: The Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Frameworks holds a webinar aimed at advancing its current work and discussing its priorities for the year 2012. Download the report of the webinar.

14 November 2011: At its 21st Annual session , the Working Party approved three new recommendations.

"Risk Management in Regulatory Frameworks".
"Crisis Management within a Regulatory Framework" developed by the Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems (GRM), and provide insight on how risk management can be consistently implemented into a regulatory framework.
"Good Practices in Market Surveillance Policies" was developed by the MARS Group and presents the best practice related to integrated market surveillance into regulatory practice.

8-9 November 2011: The Chairperson of the WP. 6 makes a presentation at the Workshop on Regulatory Cooperation between Members. For more information, including the specific contribution of UNECE to good regulatory practice.

4 November 2011: Download the list of decision adopted during the Twenty-first session of the Working Party.

31 October - 2 November 2011: Annual Session of Working Party and a Workshop on "Traceability: a tool for managing risks" was held. The Workshop showed how traceability may contribute to managing risks in supply chains and help policy-makers achieve their regulatory goals.
Additionally, a panel discussion on "Standards and regulations as a tool for promoting sustainable development: Preparing for Rio + 20" discussed how standards contribute to promote sustainable development in all of its three spheres: economic growth, environmental integrity, and societal equity.

20 October 2011: The UNECE WP. 6 has just published a trilingual glossary of Market Surveillance Terms. The Glossary will be a working tool for regulators and authorities worldwide, making it easier to understand different systems and working together for safer goods, safer markets and safer communities

13 -15 September 2011: The MARS Group will meet hold its 9th meeting in Bratislava, Slovakia, at the kind invitation of the Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing.

12 September 2011: The UNECE Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems has become a liaison member of the Project Committee 262 “Risk Management” of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). The ISO Project Committee 262 is currently developing guidelines for the implementation of the ISO 31000 standard. The liaison membership will allow the UNECE GRM to participate in the standards development process, and will provide ISO/PC 262 with information on the most relevant needs of regulators and policy-makers.

7 September 2011: At a meeting of the UNECE Sectoral Initiative on Equipment for Explosive Environments held in Split, Croatia, regulators of products used in mines, oil platforms and chemical plants from Australia, Brazil, the European Union, the Russian Federation, and the United States agreed that products used in these dangerous facilities need a globally harmonized

regulatory framework and that countries can reach this objective in the medium term. See press release.

30 June 2011: The UNECE Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems (UNECE GRM) discussed and approved its comments regarding the OECD Draft Recommendation on Regulatory Policy and Governance. In preparing its comments, which were sent to OECD on 30 June 2011, the GRM extensively referred to the draft of the UNECE WP.6 Recommendation "Risk Management in Regulatory Systems". Read more on the highlights of the GRM.

13 May 2011: Please download and complete our survey on the market surveillance authorities in your country and help us establish a worldwide database of market surveillance authorities worldwide. Already available data collected through an earlier survey, are available here.

4 - 6 May 2011: Annual Planning Meeting of UNECE WP.6 Activities was held on 4, 5 and 6 May 2011, Stockholm, Sweden. This meeting will be hosted by the Swedish National Board of Trade.

22 March 2011: WP. 6 issues a publication aimed at "Helping smaller countries protect their populations from danger in explosive environments"

10 -11 March 2011: WP.6 and GRM at the International Regulatory Reform Conference The Secretary of the WP.6 will give a presentation at the International Regulatory Reform Conference. The motto of the Conference 'looking at the whole elephant', an 'elephant' being a regulatory system, mirrors the work undergoing within the WP.6.

8 March 2011: Start of the work of the Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems. The first webinar of the GRM (Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems) - held on 8 March 2011 - marked an official start of the UNECE work on developing recommendations on applying risk management tools in regulatory systems.

5 March 2011: WP.6 issues the report of the 20th Session

3-14 December 2010: The Secretary of WP. 6 will deliver a presentation on work undertaken by the UNECE in the field of risk management in Regulatory Systems at the IV International Workshop on Conformity Assessment organized by INMETRO in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

7 November 2010: The Secretary of the Working Party made a presentation about the "Regulatory use of risk assessment" at the ISO/CASCO workshop on "Risk based approaches to designing conformity assessment strategies" in Paris.

11 November 2010: The Working Party participated in the CEFTA week in Belgrade. WP6 Experts discussed the role of market surveillance for international trade. They introduced participants to the achievement and priorities of the MARS Group.

3 November 2010: At the 20th Session the Working Party established a new Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems (GRM).

1-2 November 2010: 20th Session of the Working Party. Celebrating 40 years of standardization work in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.

14 October 2010: World Standards Day - To mark the event, this year the Secretary of Working Party 6 will participate in the "World Standards Day Conference" (Brussels 12 October) and will give a presentation on "Managing Risks in Regulatory Systems" at the event: "Innovation And The Dissemination Of New Technologies" organized by the European Risk Forum (Brussels 12 October) Events are being organized around the globe: see the poster by IEC-ISO-ITU and the Symposium organized by ANSI in Washington.

6-8 October 2010: Meeting of the MARS Group in Bratislava, Slovakia
The MARS Group will meet in Bratislava, Slovakia, at the kind invitation of the Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing. Participants will exchange information as regards market surveillance in their respective countries, and review ongoing projects on a General Market Surveillance Procedure, on Common Terminology for Market Surveillance as well as the proposal for a market surveillance database.

1 September 2010: 6th meeting of the Sectoral Initiative on Equipment for Explosive Environments, Berlin. This meeting was organized as part of the annual meeting of the International Electrotechnical Scheme for Certification to Standards relating to Equipment for Use in Explosive Atmospheres (IECEx Scheme).

1-2 July 2010: The WP. 6 Secretariat participates in the 15th Conference of the Academy of

Standardization (EURAS) with a featured paper on "Application of Risk-based Management System Standards to the Design of Regulatory Systems".

21 June 2010: Second edition of the WP.6 Newsletter - Regulatory Developments around the World

9-11 June 2010: Meeting of the WP. 6 Bureau, Rapporteurs & Co-ordinators, START Team, and MARS Group Stockholm, Sweden, on 9, 10 and 11 June 2010.
The meeting will be hosted by the Swedish National Board of Trade to discuss the establishment of the Group of Experts on Risk Assessment and Management, advance initiatives underway in the Working Party and prepare for the November 2010 Annual Session.

21 April and 27 April 2010: First UNECE webinar on Risk Assessment and Management in the Regulatory System. The webinar will present how Risk Management tools can be used to enhance the effectiveness of the regulatory system - in particular the design and implementation of technical regulations, standards , conformity assessment and market surveillance.

19 April 2010: Please visit the new section of our website on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems

7 April 2010: UNECE secretariat releases Report of the 19th Session and the Report of the Conference on Risk Assessment and Management

31 March 2010: First edition of the WP.6 Newsletter - Regulatory Developments around the World

19 February 2010: A Common Regulatory language for Trade development (ECE/TRADE/375)

8 January 2010: WP. 6 publishes the final outcome of the Conference on Risk Assessment and Management held from 24 to 25 November 2009.

26 November 2009: the Common Regulatory Objectives of the Sectoral Initiative on Equipment for Explosive Environments (SIEEE) were approved by the Working Party. See the press release...

24, 25 and 26 November 2009: Annual Session and Conference on Risk Assessment and Management, **Geneva, Swizterland**
Together with its annual session, the Working Party organized a Conference on Risk Assessment and Management on 24 and 25 November 2009. The Conference discussed issues related to the assessment and management of risk for the different bodies and authorities involved in technical regulation and standardization matters. See press release.

23 November 2009: Workshop on "Practical Application of Risk Assessment and Management Tools", **Geneva, Swizterland**
The training focused on how market surveillance authorities of CIS countries can use risk assessment and management tools in cooperation with business to remove dangerous, non-compliant and counterfeit goods from the market.

14 October 2009: Happy world standards day! The Chairperson and the Secretariat of WP. 6 take part in the "World Standards Day 2009"and in the presentation of the Issues Paper of the Expert Panel for the Review of the European Standardiation System (EXPRESS)

8-9 October 2009: Meeting of the MARS Group in Bratislava, Slovakia
The MARS Group will meet in Bratislava, Slovakia, at the kind invitation of the Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing. Participants will exchange information as regards market surveillance in their respective countries, and review the General Market Surveillance Procedure , and the document on Common Terminology for Market Surveillance

6 October 2009: Donwload an informative Brochure on regulatory cooperation at UNECE (ENG FRE RUS)

2 Septmber 2009: 5th meeting of the Sectoral initiative on Equipment for Explosive Environments in Melbourne, Australia
On 2 September 2009, the SIEEE held its 5th meeting in Melbourne, Australia. The meeting took place as part of the meetings of the International Electrotechnical Scheme for Certification to Standards relating to Equipment for Use in Explosive Atmospheres (IECEx Scheme).

20 July 2009: Common Terminology for Market Surveillance
A small working group is developing a Common Terminology for Market Surveillance. An early draft has been made available. Comments are welcome until end September 209 on this draft.

19 June 2009: Sectoral initiative on Earthmoving machinery
The initiative has proposed a revision of the Common Regulatory Objectives (CRO) Applicable to Earth-Moving Machinery Safety. Comments are welcome on the document until end September 2009.

27 May 2009: New version of the General Market Surveillance Model Procedure now available
A new version of the General Market Surveillance Model has been made available. Comments are welcome until end September 2009 on this draft.

27-29 May 2009: Meeting of WP.6 Bureau, Rapporteurs & Coordinators, START Team and MARS Group, Stockholm
A meeting of the WP. 6 Bureau, Rapporteurs & Co-ordinators, START Team, and MARS Group was hosted by the Swedish National Board of Trade to advance on the initiatives underway in the Working Party and prepare for the November 2009 Annual Session.

25 May 2009: Sectoral initiative on the Safety of Pipelines
The sectoral initiative on the Safety of Pipelines has developed a questionnaire to document the regulatory practices in this sector on a global basis. The questionnaire was answered by Belarus, Brazil, Canada, Kazakhstan, the Republic of Moldova and Turkey.
Answers on the questionnaire are welcome, if you wish your answer to be included in the document that will be made available at the Working Party Session in November 2009, please reply by end September 2009.