

**Economic and Social Council**

Distr.: General
1 September 2010

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe**Committee on Trade****Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation
And Standardization Policies****Twentieth session**

Geneva, 1-3 November 2010

Annotated provisional agenda for the twentieth session*

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m. on 1 November 2010. There will also be two panel sessions. The first, on risk management in regulatory systems will take place on Monday, 1 November, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.. The second, on promoting regulatory cooperation in conformity assessment will take place on Tuesday, 2 November from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Election of officers
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
4. Risk management in regulatory systems
5. Standardization and regulatory practice
 - (a) Review of developments

* Delegates are requested to complete the registration form, which is available from the website http://www-dev.unece.org/trade/wp6/documents/2010/2010_DocsList.html and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat no later than two weeks before the meeting either by e-mail (regulatory.cooperation@unece.org) or by fax (+41 22 917 0037). On their way to the meeting, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the Pass and Identification Unit of the Security office located at the Pregny Gate, 14 Avenue de la Paix (see map at <http://www.unece.org/meetings/map.pdf>). In case of difficulty, please telephone the secretariat at: +41 22 917 2774, 7281/3433).

- (b) Development and update of recommendations on regulatory cooperation and standardization policies
- 6. Regulatory cooperation
 - (a) Regional projects
 - (b) Sectoral projects
- 7. Review of recent developments in conformity assessment and accreditation
- 8. Market surveillance
 - (a) Updates from regional groupings and the Advisory Group on Market Surveillance (“MARS” Group)
 - (b) Update on the Market Surveillance Model Initiative
 - (c) Common definitions and terminology in Market Surveillance.
- 9. Metrology
- 10. Programme of work and priorities of the Working Party
- 11. Capacity-building
- 12. Other business
- 13. Adoption of the report

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda

Documentation: Annotated provisional agenda (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/1 and Corr.1)

The proposed provisional agenda and timetable were agreed upon by the Bureau of the Working Party and are presented here for approval.

2. Election of officers

In accordance with the Commission’s rules of procedure and established practice, the Working Party will elect a Chairperson and two vice-chairpersons. At the nineteenth session, Mr. C. Arvius (Sweden) was elected Chairperson, and Mr. V. Koreshkov (Belarus) and Mr. P. Lukac (Slovakia) were elected vice-chairpersons.

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

Documentation: Report of the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies on its nineteenth session (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/19)

Report of the Meeting of the Bureau, the Rapporteurs and Coordinators, “START” Team and “MARS” Group (Stockholm, 7-11 June 2010) (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/9)

The Bureau will introduce the report of the nineteenth session of the Working Party and review any outstanding items for discussion or for action.

The secretariat will then report on matters arising from recent meetings of the Committee on Trade and of its Bureau and of the Executive Committee of relevance to the Working Party. In particular, the Secretary of the Committee on Trade will report on progress made on the technical cooperation project on “Needs Assessments in Countries with Economies in Transition: Trade Facilitation and Regulatory Cooperation”. Delegations will be invited to comment on the project.

4. Risk management in regulatory systems

Documentation: Risk Assessment and management in the activities of the Working Party (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/2)

Risk management in regulatory systems: a proposed reference model (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/3)

Risk management in regulatory systems: a proposed survey (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/4)

Panel session: information note (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/5)

The ad interim coordinators for the work on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems will present the report of the Conference on Risk Assessment and Management held in conjunction with the nineteenth session of the Working Party.

A methodology for assessing the use of risk management tools in regulatory systems and a proposed survey to document actual use and outstanding needs will then be presented.

A panel discussion will be organized to discuss the further work of the Group of Experts, with interventions from representatives of governmental authorities, standardization organizations, the business community and civil society.

The Working Party will be then requested to take a decision on the formal establishment of the Group of Experts, and discuss its proposed mandate, as contained in ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/2 annex 1.

5. Standardization and regulatory practice

Documentation: Compilation of regulatory developments (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/6)

Modalities for improving information sharing on technical regulations and standards (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/7)

Report on regulatory developments in the chemical industry and its influence on trade (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/8)

(a) Review of developments

As decided at the nineteenth session, the rapporteurs for developments in EU countries, the CIS countries and African countries will each report on standardization and regulatory activities in their respective region. Other delegations and international and regional organizations will then be invited to report on their standardization and regulatory activities, as well as on technical cooperation programmes with other countries or regions.

Following discussions held at previous sessions on the European Union's REACH regulation, the secretariat invites contributions from other delegations on their own regulatory framework regarding chemicals.

The Chair of the Working Party will report on the work of a special Expert Panel for the Review of the European Standardisation System (EXPRESS). The European Union representative will then report on the adoption of the “Standardization Package”.

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

Documentation: UNECE Recommendations on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (ECE/TRADE/378)

Proposed revision of Recommendation D, “Reference to Standards” (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/8)

At its last session, the Working Party discussed the possible revision of Recommendation D, “Reference to standards”, and Recommendation L, “International model for technical harmonization based on good regulatory practice for the preparation, adoption and application of technical regulations via the use of international standards”. Delegations are hereby invited to send to the secretariat any proposals for amendments that they would like to table for discussion.

6. Regulatory cooperation

Documentation: Report of the meeting of the Bureau, the Rapporteurs and Coordinators, “START” Team and “MARS” Group (Stockholm, 7-11 June 2010) (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/9)

The Working Party will receive an update on activities based on Recommendation L.

The Team of Specialists on STandardization And Regulatory Techniques (“START” Team), will report on its activities and on its meeting that took place in Stockholm in June 2010.

(a) Regional projects

The Working Party will be informed about the status of regional projects to reinforce regulatory cooperation within regional or bilateral trade agreements, especially in south-east Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Eurasian Economic Community (EurAsEC).

(b) Sectoral projects

Documentation: Progress report on the sectoral initiative on Telecom (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/10)

Progress report on the sectoral initiative on Earth-Moving Machinery (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/11)

Progress report on the sectoral initiative on Explosive Environments (Equipment (Berlin, 1 September 2010) (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/12)

Progress report on the sectoral initiative on the Safety of pipeline (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/13)

The conveners of the ongoing sectoral initiatives will report on activities and recent achievements in the Explosive Environments Equipment initiative; the Telecom initiative; the Earth-Moving Machinery initiative and the Safety of Pipelines initiative.

Any proposals for regulatory convergence dialogues will be considered. The Working Party will also consider how it could identify new sectors for similar projects.

7. Review of recent developments in conformity assessment and accreditation

National delegations and international and regional organizations are invited to report on trade-related aspects of conformity assessment and accreditation.

A panel session will be held to consider options for regulatory cooperation in conformity assessment. The secretariat will invite contributions from the coordinators of ongoing sectoral initiatives, international schemes for the assessment of conformity, and international organizations.

8. Market surveillance

National delegations and international and regional organizations will be invited to report on relevant developments in market surveillance, including the implementation of Recommendation M, "Use of market surveillance infrastructure as a complementary means to protect consumers and users against counterfeit goods".

(a) Updates from regional groupings and the Advisory Group on Market Surveillance ("MARS" Group)

Documentation: Report of the Advisory Group on Market Surveillance, its activities and its meeting in Bratislava (6-7 October 2010)
(ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/14)

List of market surveillance authorities in UNECE member States with their respective competences (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/16)

The Advisory Group on Market Surveillance ("MARS" Group) will report to the Working Party on its activities and on its recent meeting in Bratislava. The Coordinator for Liaison with Market Surveillance Bodies of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS Liaison Coordinator) will present recent activities of the CIS Working Group on Market Surveillance. The European Commission will present an update on the implementation of the EU Common Regulatory Framework for Market Surveillance.

The secretariat will introduce the document on market surveillance authorities in UNECE member States.

(b) Update on the Market Surveillance Model Initiative

Documentation: Market surveillance: general concept and how it relates to the activities of the Working Party (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/11)

Draft guide to the use of the General Market Surveillance Model
(ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2009/12)

Delegations will be invited to discuss the documents on the General Market Surveillance Model prepared for the previous session of the Working Party.

(c) Common definitions and terminology in Market Surveillance

Documentation: Common definitions and terminology in market surveillance
(ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/17)

The convener will present an updated draft of the text on common definitions and terminology in market surveillance.

9. Metrology

National delegations and international and regional organizations will be invited to report on relevant developments in metrology. The Working Party will be invited to consider a proposed Memorandum of Understanding between UNECE and the International Organization of Legal Metrology.

10. Programme of work and priorities of the Working Party

Documentation: Programme of Work for 2011-2013 and Table of priorities (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/19)

Evaluation of the Working Party (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/21)

The Working Party will discuss and approve its programme of work. It will also review the priorities for its future work, based on the updated table of priorities.

It will be invited to discuss the evaluation document prepared by the secretariat and methodologies for evaluating its future work.

11. Capacity-building

The Working Party will receive an update on planned capacity-building activities. Delegations will be invited to present their priorities for capacity-building in regulatory cooperation and standardization policies.

12. Other business

The Working Party will consider the organizational chart (ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2010/19, annex) and discuss the responsibilities of its coordinators and rapporteurs in the light of its programme of work.

The Working Party will select tentative dates for its meeting in 2011.

13. Adoption of the report

According to agreed practice, during its session the Working Party will approve a list of main decisions. The secretariat will subsequently draft the descriptive part of the report, in consultation with the office bearers.

II. Tentative Timetable

1 November	10:00 – 13:00	Panel session on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems
	15:00 – 18:00	Items 1-6
2 November	10:00 – 13:00	Items 7 and 9-13
	15:00 – 18:00	Panel session on Promoting regulatory cooperation in conformity assessment
3 November	10:00 – 13:00	Item 8