Economic and Social Council

Economic Commission for Europe

Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards

**Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation
and Standardization Policies (WP.6)**

Twenty-eighth session
Geneva, 14 (pm) – 16 November 2018

Report of Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies on its twenty-eighth session

I. Introduction

1.   The Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies held its twenty-eighth session from the afternoon of 14 to 16 November 2018.

2.   The following ECE countries were represented: Belarus, Canada, the Czech Republic, Germany, Kyrgyzstan, Poland, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

3.   The following non-ECE countries were also present: Cameroon, China, Mexico.

4.   The meeting was attended by representatives of the European Commission.

5.   The following United Nations body and international organizations participated: United Nations Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD), International Trade Centre (ITC), and World Trade Organization.

6.   The following inter- and non-governmental organizations participated: ASTM International, European Committee for Standardization, European Committee for Standardization in Electrical Engineering, Eurasian Economic Commission, German Institute for Standardization, International Accreditation Forum, International Electrotechnical Commission, International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation, International Organization for Standardization, International Organization of Legal Metrology, Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development.

7.   Observers present at the invitation of the secretariat included representatives of private-sector companies, associations, universities and civil-society organizations from various United Nations regions.

8.   The Chair of the Working Party opened the meeting.

II.   Adoption of the agenda (Agenda Item 1)

Title of document	Document symbol	For information/decision
Annotated provisional agenda	ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/1	Decision

9.   **The Working Party approved the provisional agenda. (Decision 1)**

III.   Election of officers (Agenda Item 2)

10.   **The Working Party in accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure and established practice, elected Mr. M. Chloupek (Czech Republic) as Vice-Chairperson for the period of 2018-2020. (Decision 2)**

IV.   Matters arising (Agenda Item 3)

Title of document	Document symbol	For information/decision
Report of the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies on its twenty-seventh session	ECE/TRADE/C/WP.6/2017/2	Information
Main directions of ECE ongoing work on further Sustainable Development Goal alignment	EXCOM Informal document No. 2018/12	Information

(a)   Report of the past session and intersessional developments

11.   The secretariat reported on the intersessional activities and highlighted: the finalization of draft recommendations and publications; meetings and events organized and co-organized by Working Party; technical cooperation activities; and partnerships with other organizations.

(b)   Reports by other United Nations Commission for Europe bodies of potential interest to the Working Party

12.   The secretary to the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards referred to the needs assessment studies on regulatory and procedural barriers to trade. He talked about recent budget cuts, which would limit the number of printed publications and the shift of the UN budget from a biennial to an annual cycle.

13.   The secretary of the Commission reflected on the challenges facing the United Nations and addressed the important role of the nexus approach to the future integration and alignment of ECE's work on the Sustainable Development Goals. She emphasized how working across divisional lines created greater synergies, amplified impact and reduced organizational misalignment. She encouraged the Working Party to identify nexus areas that it could contribute to, especially when discussing about its future work programme.

14.   In response to questions from the representative of the European Commission, the secretary of the Commission emphasized the need for both horizontal and vertical coordination. Other interventions focused on the importance to demonstrate impact and

the need for countries to present success stories of implementation of the ECE deliverables.

15.   **The Working Party took note of the presentations by the secretary of the Working Party, the secretary of the Commission and the secretary of the ECE Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards. It requested the secretariat to continue to explore options for cooperation with other ECE intergovernmental committees and programmes in support of the nexus approach. (Decision 3)**

V.   Programme of work for 2018–2019 (Agenda Item 4)

Title of document	Document symbol	For information/decision
Programme of work of the trade sub-programme for 2018–2019	ECE/CTCS/2017/10	Information

16.   The Working Party reviewed its Programme of work for 2018–2019, as contained in document ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2017/6.

VI.   Follow up to the event "Standards for the Sustainable Development Goals" (Agenda Item 5)

(a)   High Level segment on Standards for the Sustainable Development Goals

Title of document	Document symbol	For information/decision
Standards for the SDGs	ECE/TRADE/444	Information

17.   The secretariat presented on the "Standards for the Sustainable Development Goals" event that had been co-organized by the ECE and the International Organization for Standardization in September 2018. The objective of this event was to raise awareness of how standards support the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. The support of ASTM International, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and the National Metrology Institute of Germany was duly acknowledged by the secretariat.

18.   Following the projection of a video on the event, the secretariat launched a publication on the same topic. The report featured case studies illustrating how policymakers had used standards in support of Sustainable Development Goal 6, 7, 11 and 13.

19.   The secretariat received case studies directly from policymakers and indirectly via a large network of partner organizations. The preliminary findings of the research demonstrated a broad lack of awareness on standards, insufficient capacity for their implementation, as well as the multiple benefits stemming from standards-based policymaking for sustainable development.

20.   A database, mapping over 1,600 standards against four selected Sustainable Development Goals was showcased. The objectives, research plan, and deliverables of the database were presented in detail. Going forward, the secretariat will, with the availability of extrabudgetary funds, update the database, establish new partnerships, include a wider selection of Sustainable Development Goals, and integrate links between the identified standards and the case studies illustrating their adoption.

21.   The Head of Government Relations of the German Institute for Standardization was invited to report on their and the ECE secretariat's participation in a hearing by the Advisory Council on Sustainable Development of the German Parliament. The meeting

had been well attended, and the parliamentarians were following up on the information received.

22.   She also explained that the German Standardization Strategy acknowledges the contribution of standards to sustainable development. She said that the German Parliament had established the Advisory Council in 2004. This was done to ensure that regulatory activity recognized the prioritization of sustainability and referenced successful practice in Germany, in using standards in policies related to energy efficiency, among other priorities.

23.   **The Working Party took note of the activities undertaken under the project "Enhancing usage and uptake of the standards for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals" and expressed appreciation to the secretariat for the successful event on "Standards for the SDGs" and high-quality deliverables. It supported continued activities in this area, taking into account the priorities identified in the panel discussion and the ECE nexus approach as long as extrabudgetary funds were available.**

24.   **Contingent on the availability of extra-budgetary funds, the database on "Standards for the SDGs", should continue to be developed. (Decision 4)**

25.   **The Working Party further requested that lessons learned from the project be published in digital format, replacing a previously requested publication on Standards for Disaster Risk Reduction. (Decision 5)**

(b)   **Panel Discussion with Partners on Standards for the SDGs**

26.   The secretary to the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards opened the panel discussion, and addressed the importance of bringing standards into the toolbox of policymaking.

27.   The representative of the National Metrology Institute of Germany reflected on her dual role as chair of ECE's Working Party 6 and as the Head of International Cooperation at the Institute. She further stressed the relevance of quality infrastructure – including not only standards but also metrology, certification and conformity assessment – for sustainable development, and how countries at different levels of development have diverse needs for support.

28.   The Director-General for Metering at the National Hydrocarbons Commission of Mexico provided specific examples of standards uptake in regulatory systems, including the use of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources, aimed at classifying oil and gas projects by considering their social, economic and environmental impact. Standards were a complement to compulsory regulations and allowed administrations to build on existing best practice and avoid duplication of activities.

29.   The Head of Membership and External Relations of the International Organization for Standardization explained how the standards developed by his organization support sustainable development, yet he noted the need to do more. Current activities include: the development of a database mapping their standards against the Sustainable Development Goals and the revision of Guide 82. It provides guidance on how to address sustainability in standards and a new requirement to technical committees to indicate on proposals for new work items a reference to one or more Sustainable Development Goals.

30.   The Global Head of Public Affairs & Advocacy of the International Electrotechnical Commission concurred that many of the organization's standards also supported the priority of sustainability, and specifically Goal 7, but stressed that the inherent complexity of the standards made them difficult to map against one specific indicator. She emphasized the need for collaboration at different levels and for a system's approach, because success depends on a large and structured cooperation

effort. She referred to the successful collaboration of standards bodies in support of disaster risk reduction – spearheaded by the Working Party.

31. The Director of European Affairs of ASTM International echoed the call for partnership in light of the complexity of the Sustainable Development Goals. Much of the work ASTM International's technical committees contributes to the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets; as evidenced by their database, which maps 800 of the organization's standards to sustainability. Additionally, a technical committee on sustainability had been created to develop guidelines to assess the sustainability of materials. The Memorandum of Understanding Programme – an initiative which allows technical experts from any country to participate as full voting members in the ASTM International's standards development process – has led to increased awareness of the relevance of standards for the Sustainable Development Goals.

32. The secretary of the ECE Water Convention presented the findings of the Synthesis Report UN Water prepared on Goal 6 for the 2018 High-Level Political Forum, which reported that the world is not on track, and the ECE region is no exception. In the pan-European area, 21 million people lack access to drinkable water, diarrhea is the cause of death of 30 people per day, while 33 per cent of the region's population live in a water stressed area. The secretary introduced two ECE tools for fostering progress: (i) the Protocol on Water and Health; (ii) the Water Convention.

33. The proposed concrete actions for continued cooperation with the Working Party include:

- organizing thematic sessions to analyze individual Sustainable Development Goals in-depth, bringing together policymakers and standards bodies;

- organizing joint awareness raising and capacity-building activities to sensitize various stakeholders to the importance of standards, and how they complement technical regulations;

- supporting standards uptake among Governments by providing assistance in contextualizing and adapting standards to local needs;

- fostering participation of regulators in the standards development process, especially in developing countries, and reaching out to Parliaments;

- continuing the collection of case studies with focus on the practical experience of policymakers in using standards to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, and expanding it to include experience related to quality infrastructure and a holistic perspective for regulatory systems;

- further developing the ECE Standards for the SDGs mapping database.

34. Cooperation in specific areas included:

- in the sector of water, inputs by standards bodies would be particularly important as regards reuse, efficiency and sanitation;

- in the disaster risk reduction domain, joint activities by standards bodies could prevent losses, promote enhanced resilience, and allow communities to rebound;

- best practice should be developed on how to effectively represent the interests of female workers, consumers, and the environment in the standards-making process, based on examples provided by the German Institute for Standardization and the European Commission;

- creating a database of women speakers for future meetings, potentially divided per topic and expertise area.

35.   A statement from the floor called attention to the lack of financial resources, limiting the ability of Latin American countries to engage in standards development processes.

36.   The chair of the Working Party concluded the panel by summarizing the main points of the discussion. On behalf of the National Metrology Institute of Germany and the German government, she pledged further support for ECE and its initiative on Standards for the SDGs.

VII.   Risk management in regulatory systems (Agenda Item 6)

Title of document	Document symbol	For information/decision
Risk Management in Regulatory Frameworks	ECE/TRADE/390	Information
Progress report on the activities of the Group of Experts on Managing Risks in Regulatory Systems	ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/4	Decision
Recommendation T "Applying Predictive Risk Management Tools for Targeted Market Surveillance"	ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/5	Decision
Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030	http://www.preventionweb.net/files/43291_sendaiframeworkfordrren.pdf	Information
UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience	http://www.preventionweb.net/files/33703_actionplanweb14.06 cs1.pdf	Information

(a)   Report of Activities under the Group of Experts on Managing Risks in Regulatory Systems Group

37.   The progress report of the Group of Experts was introduced (ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/4) followed by a presentation of the amended version of Recommendation T (ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/5).

38.   The Recommendation contained a methodology presenting risk management tools in regulatory frameworks as a prerequisite for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

39.   The secretariat presented activities which were undertaken to implement the best practice developed by the Group of Experts. In the sector of disaster risk reduction, this included cooperation with ISO/TC 292. As regards managing risks related to Sustainable Development Goal 14, this included cooperation with Helmholtz-Zentrum (February 2017, Geesthacht, Germany) and with the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) (October 2018, Reykjavik, Iceland).

40.   **The Working Party noted the report of the Group of Experts as contained in document ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/4. It requested the secretariat and the coordinators to continue to report annually on its activities. The Working Party noted the presentation of the activities of the secretariat in support of disaster risk reduction. (Decision 6)**

(b) **Discussion on draft Recommendation T on "Standards and Regulations for Sustainable Development"**

41.   **After   discussion,   the   Working   Party   approved   the   updated Recommendation T on "Standards and Regulations for Sustainable Development" (ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/5). They requested the secretariat to report on its implementation. They encouraged the donor community to make available resources for capacity-building projects to assist Member States in its implementation. (Decision 7)**

(c) **Panel Discussion on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems**

42.   The representative of the International Trade Centre presented a forthcoming guide on risk management in international trade, which aims at assisting customs authorities and enforcement authorities in building risk-based border management processes. The guide, which builds on best practice established by the ECE Group of Experts, refers to the Working Party's risk management recommendations and calls for improved cooperation among customs and other regulatory authorities.

43.   The representative of UN/CEFACT introduced the United Nations Fisheries Language for Universal eXchange (UN/FLUX) standard, which is an instrumental tool to manage the risks of overfishing, and illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing globally. The standard is used by European Union countries, and other countries (i.e. Thailand, Brazil, Mauritania and Indonesia) as well as the Food and Agriculture Organization for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 14 on Life Below Water, and more specifically Target 14.4.

44.   The Chief of the Policy and Legislation Section of the Trade Logistics Branch of UNCTAD presented the work of her organization in support of landlocked developing countries and small island developing states in managing climate- and weather-related risks to global transportation networks. She added that UNCTAD had also been working on the Port Industry Survey on Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation.

45.   The Head of the Aid for Trade Unit of the World Trade Organization referred to the role of trade in Agenda 2030 and said that risk was a valid justification for introducing technical measures such as technical regulations, standards and conformity assessment procedures. He expressed appreciation for the work of ECE and would involve the secretariat in upcoming events, including in the area of disaster risk reduction and climate change.

46.   **The Working Party noted the report from the ICES/ECE working meeting on "Management tools and standards in support of Sustainable Development Goal 14" (Reykjavik, Iceland from October 9 to 11, 2018) and asked the secretariat and Group of Experts to follow up on its decisions. (Decision 8)**

VIII.   Gender responsive standards initiative (Agenda Item 7)

Title of document	Document symbol	For information/decision
Gender dimension of standards	ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/3	Decision
Recommendation U on "Gender Responsive Standards"	ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/6	Decision

47. The coordinator of the Gender Responsive Standards Initiative introduced Recommendation U (ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/6), and the secretariat presented the progress report of the Initiative (ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/3). The representative of Standards Council Canada noted that the French translation of the Recommendation was inaccurate.

48. Delegates entrusted the secretariat to consult with French-speaking countries and issue a corrected French language version as soon as possible after the session.

Panel Discussion on Gender Responsive Standards

49. The co-Founder of International Gender Champions highlighted how the Declaration on Trade and Women's Economic Empowerment could inspire the Declaration for Gender Responsive Standards and Standards Development. The Permanent Representative of Canada to the World Trade Organization reported that at the June 2018 meeting of the World Trade Organization's Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade, the Canadian delegation submitted a proposal for a workshop on the role of gender in the development of standards and technical regulations, as part of the Eighth Triennial Review.

50. Reflecting on the need for greater diversity and inclusivity in standards development activities, the coordinator of the Gender Responsive Standards Initiative discussed efforts to develop gender disaggregated information within her organization. The percentage of women within the Committees of the British Standards Institution had risen but remained very low at about 14 per cent. She noted, however, that a greater level of gender balance was recorded amongst new committee members.

51. The External Liaisons Officer at the International Electrotechnical Commission showed how participation of women had been growing slowly for the past four decades. Currently, 14 per cent of the experts in the Commission's database and 10 per cent of participants in conformity assessments schemes are women.

52. She emphasized that the International Electrotechnical Commission, as an international organization, had limited capacity to influence the number of women taking part in national standards bodies. However, the General Secretary and Chief Executive Officer is a Gender Champion, the term "chairman" had been abolished in favor of "chair," the Commission's Young Professional Programme had a record 20 per cent women participants and 42 per cent peer-elected leaders.

53. The Director of European Affairs of ASTM International indicated her organization's support for the Working Party's Gender Responsive Standards Initiative and signaled the intent of ASTM International to sign the Declaration. Further, she spoke on the organization's decision to implement new measures, among staff, to more consistently track women in committees and training.

54. Panelists provided examples of standards that demonstrate a gendered impact, including gender bias in artificial intelligence, test dummies and protective personal equipment based on male morphology, as well as issues related to terminology.

55. The Permanent Representative of Canada to the World Trade Organization emphasized the need to significantly strengthen female involvement in the labor market to optimize domestic economies. A gender inclusive workforce supports individuals by encouraging and enabling them to take action within standards development and implementation.

56. **The Working Party noted the report of the Gender Responsive Standards Initiative (ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/3). It requested the secretariat to continue to report on its development and implementation. (Decision 9)**

57.   **After the discussion, the Working Party approved the new Recommendation U on "Gender Responsive Standards". They requested the secretariat to report on its implementation and encouraged the donor community to make resources available for capacity-building projects to assist Member States in its implementation. (Decision 10)**

58.   **The Working Party requested that a digital publication be prepared on the topic of gender responsive standards, replacing a previously requested publication on education and standards. (Decision 11)**

IX.   Review of recent developments in standardization (Agenda Item 8)

Title of document	Document symbol	For information/decision
Bringing Standardization in University Curricula: Making the Case	ECE/TRADE/440	Information

(a)   Updates from intergovernmental organizations, and international and regional standardization bodies

59.   The Head of the Enterprise Branch in the Division of Investment and Enterprise of UNCTAD presented a project concerning the development of guidance on core indicators for companies reporting on sustainability. She explained that, as UNCTAD and UNEP were the co-custodians of the Sustainable Development Goal indicator 12.6.1 since 2016, UNCTAD had developed global core indicators, focused on the economic, environmental, social and institutional dimensions.

60.   Addressing a question regarding indicators related to the prioritization of women in the reporting of enterprises, the speaker emphasized the lack of recorded gender data from enterprises for the suggested indicator – i.e. the proportion of women in managerial positions – and agreed that more needed to be done to demonstrate: (i) its importance to companies; and (ii) how related data could be collected.

(b)   Education on standards-related issues

61.   The secretary of the Working Party introduced the publication "Bringing Standardization in University Curricula: Making the Case" and discussed how the secretariat maintained a database of universities and other institutions who offer educational programmes in the field of standardization. She encouraged delegations to continue to provide inputs, so it could be maintained.

62.   The Rector of Russia's Academy for Standardization, Metrology and Certification presented the diverse educational programmes offered by the Academy, and the international projects on standardization that the institution had been involved in, including the cooperation with international organizations on training and technical barriers to trade.

63.   The Research Director of the Centre for Technical Regulation, Standardization and Metrology at the Higher School of Economics in Moscow elaborated on the relevance of education towards both the Sustainable Development Goals and standardization. She showcased training courses offered by the institution for various audiences, from bachelor's students to trainees seeking professional upgrading programmes. She emphasized that integrated management systems were key instruments to achieve sustainability.

64.   The President of China Jiliang University said this academic institution was the only undergraduate college in China dedicated to metrology, standardization, quality supervision, inspection and quarantine. He then presented the "Belt and Road University Alliance for Standardization Education". Drawing together 105 universities across 30 countries, the alliance includes 37 overseas universities and extends to 19 countries along the 'Belt and Road' initiative. The representative encouraged the Working Party to engage with the initiative and contribute to the University's standardization education and research initiatives.

65.   The Director of European Affairs of ASTM International presented the ASTM's Standards on Campus programme and explained how numerous ASTM technical committees have awards specifically directed at recognizing the accomplishments of high-potential students. She highlighted a broad range of deliverables, including a "Professor's Toolkit", and emphasized the importance of the ASTM Emerging Professionals Programme in creating opportunities, with long-term benefits, for new members of the organization.

66.   The representative of Turkey noted that a new EU-funded project aimed to increase the awareness of product safety, conformity assessment and market surveillance system in Turkey has been implemented. One of the key objectives of the project is to inform high-school and university students about product safety, standards, and conformity assessment through seminars and workshops. In this regard, Turkey would like to share its experiences within this project in both the Group on Education and Standardization and the Advisory Group on Market Surveillance.

67.   **The Working Party took note of the presentations by the representatives of the education institutions and the representative of Turkey. The Working Party also took note of the Group on Education and Standardization's activities and requested the secretariat to continue supporting the activities of the group. It requested the group to report on progress at the 29th Session. (Decision 12)**

X.   International Regulatory Cooperation (Agenda Item 9)

(a)   International Developments

68.   The Assistant Director of the International Organization of Legal Metrology presented the work of the organization in enabling economies to implement effective legal metrology infrastructures. The speaker presented the Advisory Group on issues concerning countries and economies with emerging metrology systems and noted its role in revising D 1:2012 Considerations for a Law on Metrology. He detailed the development of a database of experts to work in countries and economic with emerging systems and promoted the institution's e-learning platform. He further noted the activities of the International Network on Quality Infrastructure and highlighted their important role in promoting global acceptance of quality infrastructure.

69.   **The Working Party took note of the presentation by the representative of the International Organization of Legal Metrology concerning both metrology and activities of the International Network on Quality Infrastructure and appreciated the secretariat's continued participation in the activities of the Network, if extrabudgetary resources were available. (Decision 13)**

(b) **Regional Developments**

70.   The representative of the European Commission emphasized that the Joint Initiative on Standardization includes 15 practical actions which optimize standardization activities in the European market, including a particular activity on education in standardization. Additionally, the European Telecommunications Standards Institute was tasked by the European Commission to prepare teaching materials that could be included in curricula.

71.   **The Working Party took note of the presentations by the representative of the European Commission on developments related to the initiative on standardization. They requested the secretariat to continue to have regular reports on regulatory cooperation developments from representatives of regional groups and regions. (Decision 14)**

(c) **Sectoral projects**

Title of document	Document symbol	For information/decision
Report on the sectoral initiative on cybersecurity	ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/9	Decision
Report on the sectoral initiative on earth-moving machinery	ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/10	Decision
Report on the sectoral initiative on equipment for explosive environments	ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/11	Decision
Report on the sectoral initiative on the safety of pipelines	ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/12	Decision

72.   The convener of the sectoral initiative on equipment for explosive environments, presented a revised Common Regulatory Framework for Equipment Used in Environments with an Explosive Atmosphere. The revised Common Regulatory Framework had been finalized during the intersessional period. It included a procedure for certification bodies and ex-market surveillance. It was tabled for approval by the Working Party. He also highlighted the cooperation with the International Electrotechnical Commission System for Certification to Standards Relating to Equipment for Use in Explosive Atmospheres and with the ECE secretariat for their conferences; high-level events aimed at promoting the uptake of the Common Regulatory Framework by national authorities and other regulatory bodies.

73.   The secretariat recalled that due to budget cuts the publication would not be printed but would only be made available as a digital document. The representative of the International Electrotechnical Commission said that his organization would produce copies on demand. The representative of the International Electrotechnical Commission noted that they would provide resources for editions in different languages.

74.   The initiative coordinator gave a review of the latest activities within the sectoral initiative on the safety of pipelines. He demonstrated the ongoing collaboration with different stakeholders, e.g. ISO/TC 67, the Russian Gas Society and Eurogas. He called attention to the need for common norms and standards. The initiative had recently conducted a survey on the new aspects of security of pipelines systems.

75.   The secretary of the Conformity Assessment Board of the International Electrotechnical Commission introduced a draft proposal for a common regulatory framework on cybersecurity. His intention was to discern the opinions of delegates on the general direction of work. Subject to the agreement of delegates, a more advanced proposal for a Common Regulatory Arrangement would be submitted for adoption at a later date, possibly as early as at the Working Party's Annual Session in 2019. The proposal for a generic methodology for a system's approach to conformity assessment for cybersecurity would utilize a generic matrix model, which combines three objects of conformity (i.e. products, people and processes).

76.   The secretary of the Working Party on Automated/Autonomous and Connected Vehicles (WP.29) presented on countering cybersecurity threats in connected mobility. He linked three Goals of Agenda 2030 (3. Good Health and Well-being, 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities, 13. Climate Action) with how automated driven vehicles can contribute to transport related issues, such as road traffic, pollution, carbon dioxide emissions and the road safety crisis. The need to integrate new technologies of autonomous and connected vehicles into existing transport systems was emphasized. Further, he explained how the development of regulation requires cooperation with various sectors including international standardization bodies. The nexus between cybersecurity and the autonomous connected vehicles was explained, and speaker noted the importance of the Draft Recommendation on Cyber Security and the Draft Recommendation on Over-the-Air Software Updates. These Draft Recommendations are tabled for discussion at the upcoming Session of the Working Party on Automated/Autonomous and Connected Vehicles (WP.29) in January 2019.

77.   The coordinator of the Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems noted that applying the common regulatory framework on cybersecurity, which is based on Recommendations R and L to the field of autonomous vehicles, could be the next step of the framework development, and could serve as a case study for its evaluation at the Twenty-Ninth Annual Session of the Working Party.

78.   **The Working Party noted the report of the sectoral initiative on cybersecurity (ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/9) and the presentation by the secretariat of WP.29. The Working Party further expressed its favorable opinion regarding the overall approach. It should be further refined in consultation with other ECE divisions and other organizations in an inclusive manner towards the development of a high-level shared framework, based on a systemwide approach.**

79.   **The Working Party noted the report of the sectoral initiative on Earth-Moving Machinery (ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/10).**

80.   **The Working Party noted the report of the sectoral initiative on Equipment for Explosive Environments (ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/11). It approved the updated edition of the Common Regulatory Arrangements. This document will be printed as a digital publication and as a hard copy, if extrabudgetary resources are available.**

81.   **The Working Party noted the report of the sectoral initiative on the Safety of Pipelines (ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/12).**

82.   **The Working Party requested the secretariat to continue to report on the progress of the initiatives and requested the initiatives' leaders to report at the 2019 session. It further requested the secretariat to assist in maintaining and developing contacts with governments to promote the project. (Decision 15)**

XI. Review of recent developments in conformity assessment and accreditation (Agenda Item 10)

83.   The representative of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation and the International Accreditation Forum provided an update on the latest development in global accreditation following the recent joint annual meetings. The last twelve months have seen an expansion in the global accreditation arrangements in terms of scope and signatory economies. It has also seen accreditation expand into new areas in many national economies. In order to promote greater use of accreditation by regulators and government departments, an online portal has been developed by the global quality infrastructure to provide supporting evidence and case studies. IAF CertSearch, a global database of management system certificates, is also being developed to support government and procurement.

84.   **The Working Party noted the presentation on recent developments in accreditation under the umbrella of International Accreditation Forum and International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation.**

XII. Market surveillance (Agenda Item 11)

(a)   Update from the Advisory Group on Market Surveillance

Title of document	Document symbol	For information/decision
Report of the Advisory Group on Market Surveillance, its activities and its meetings	ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/13	Decision

85.   The Advisory Group chair presented the report of the meeting of the Group, held in June 2018 in Geneva. The speaker informed the participants about regional and sub-regional developments in the field of market surveillance and discussed the need for revision of the "Glossary of Market Surveillance Terms," which will require additional consultations with international organizations and other stakeholders. The Chair expressed her thanks to the Eurasian Economic Commission for offering to host the 2019 meeting of the Advisory Group in Moscow, at dates yet to be confirmed.

86.   Future priorities of the Advisory Group are: a) continued cooperation with international organizations and other stakeholders; b) to continue to work on the development of an online training application for education in the field of quality infrastructure; c) to continue to work on the updating of the database of market surveillance authorities; d) to continue to work on establishing contacts between global and regional market surveillance networks, encouraging them to participate in the activities of the Working Party; e) to continue research on training opportunities for economic operators in the market surveillance area, e-commerce, counterfeiting in the context of the implementation of Recommendations for the use of market surveillance infrastructure as a mechanism for protection against the harmful effects of counterfeit goods and piracy, including education on identifying internet piracy in cooperation with the European Union Intellectual Property Office; f) to initiate the process of updating Recommendation M relating to the use of market surveillance infrastructure as a counterfeit and piracy mechanism; g) to develop further guidance on the challenges of e-commerce for market surveillance authorities; h) to enhance cooperation with education institutions and with the Working Party's Group on Education and Standardization, as well as with the Working Party's Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems Group.

87. The representative of the European Commission updated the Working Party on product compliance activities in the EU, including a new proposal for a regulation on compliance and enforcement of EU product legislation. This legislation will strengthen internal markets for goods, by fostering greater cooperation amongst national market surveillance authorities. The speaker emphasized the importance of sharing information on illegal products and ongoing investigations, so as to support authorities in taking immediate action against hazardous products.

88. **The Working Party noted the presentation by the chair of the Advisory Group on Market Surveillance.**

89. **The Working Party noted the report of the Advisory Group on Market Surveillance (ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2018/13). It also endorsed its plan of work as detailed in the document. The Working Party requested the secretariat to continue to report annually on the activities of the Advisory Group. (Decision 16)**

(b) **Common definitions and terminology in market surveillance**

90. **The Working Party noted that the existing publication on "Common Definitions and Terminology" needed to be updated. It requested the secretariat to prepare a digital-only updated publication. This will replace a previously mandated publication on "Risk-Based Inspections". (Decision 17)**

XIII. Capacity-building (Agenda Item 13)

Title of document	Document symbol	For information/decision
Training Guide on Regulatory Frameworks and Market Surveillance	ECE/TRADE/441	Information

91. The secretary of the Working Party presented the capacity-building project that has been carried out in Kyrgyzstan as a result of the needs assessment study completed by the Steering Committee, thanks to extra-budgetary funding received from the Russian Federation. The consultants that had been working on the project complemented the information by providing an overview of the trainings and meetings that had been conducted.

92. **The Working Party took note of the project on "Strengthening the National Capacity of Trade-Support Institutions of Kyrgyzstan", and requested the secretariat – if extrabudgetary funds were available – to publish training materials related to standardization. (Decision 18)**

XIV. Other business (Agenda Item 14)

93. The secretary to the Working Party presented the terms of reference of an evaluation which is to be submitted by the end of 2019. This is an opportunity that carries a lot of significance for visibility of the Working Party. She needed further guidance from different stakeholders. Discussion on the content of the evaluation document would be continued in the intersessional period.

94. **The Working Party agreed to hold its 29th session from 20 to 22 November 2019. (Decision 19)**

XV. Adoption of the report and closing of the meeting (Agenda Item 15)

95. **The Working Party adopted the decisions and the report of its 28th session.**

_____