

# Recommendations on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies

Revised Edition

## G Acceptance of Conformity Assessment Results<sup>1</sup>

### The Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization policies,

**Bearing in mind** that activities for the assessment of conformity of products and services are complementary to standardization activities;

**Bearing in mind** that it is desirable to facilitate international trade by avoiding the duplication of conformity assessment procedures which are not justified on grounds of safety and public health;

#### Has agreed to recommend that:

- G.1** Governments should contribute to the development of multilateral agreements for the acceptance of the results of conformity assessment procedures (e.g. calibration, testing, inspection, certification, and accreditation) such as existing international conformity assessment systems or schemes operated by long-standing and respected international organisations.
- G.2** Governments should take into consideration article 6 of the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade in the acceptance of conformity assessment results.
- G.3** Governments should draft, or contribute to the drafting of, clauses on acceptance of conformity assessment results in more general agreements concerning the harmonization or equivalence of technical regulations, or on mutual recognition of conformity assessment systems.
- G.4** Governments should promote the use of harmonized assessment for the acceptance of parties wishing to participate in multilateral mutual recognition agreements.
- G.5** Governments should promote the consistent use of harmonized conformity assessment processes used in multilateral mutual recognition agreements.
- G.6** Governments should promote the consistent use of harmonized approach for application of standards used for conformity assessment processes in multilateral mutual recognition agreements.
- G.7** National accreditation systems for conformity assessment bodies already existing or in the process of being established, should be based, as far as the requirements for the technical competence of conformity assessment bodies are concerned, on the application of the relevant ISO/IEC Guides and Standards.
- G.8** Governments should promote the use of existing international multilateral mutual recognition arrangements among national accreditation bodies (e.g. IAF MLA and ILAC MRA).
- G.9** Governments should promote the use of existing international conformity assessment systems and schemes operated by long-standing and respected international organisations (e.g. IEC CA systems and schemes, including joint IEC/ITU certification scheme), and their international multilateral agreements, for the mutual recognition of conformity assessment results prescribed by national requirements.

<sup>1</sup> Recommendation adopted in 1988, revised in 2016.