Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6) Developments 2019-2020

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Chair

Highlights of WP.6 activities 2019-2020
Normative work

New Recommendation V

- Risk of product non-compliance in international trade
- Outlines options for cost-effective management of non-compliance risk
- Cooperation among product regulators and Customs:
  - IT infrastructure
  - Data integration
Normative work (cont’d)

Revision of Recommendation P

• The current crisis has reiterated the importance of integrating continuity management in every regulatory system, from education, to health, to trade, to urban areas…

• Recommendation P developed in 2011 retains its urgency as every US dollar invested in risk reduction and prevention can save up to 15 dollars in post-disaster recovery.

• Work on update ongoing under GRM

Outreach

The Declaration for Gender Responsive Standards signed by:
- 67 countries
- 20 organizations
Awareness raising: Re-Tooling for Sustainability (19/3/20)

- Enhancing contribution of standards to gender equality, women’s empowerment, sustainable development
- Organized with UN/WOMEN as part of the UN Regional Forum on Sustainable Development
- Enhanced awareness of bottlenecks & opportunities for inclusive decision-making & policy-makers’ uptake of voluntary standards.

Capacity-building

- Operationalization of online courses on:
  - risk management
  - conformity assessment
  - market surveillance
Technical cooperation
UN COVID-19 Surge project

- Global initiative towards post-Covid-19 resurgence of the MSME sector

- “To strengthen the capacity and resilience of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in developing countries and economies in transition to mitigate the economic and social impact of the global Covid-19 crisis.”

- WP. 6 will develop online training courses to help MSMEs select and plan the implementation of appropriate, voluntary, public and private standards to enable them to recover from the COVID-19 induced crisis, with 5 modules.


Further development of the Portal on “Standards for the SDGs” (launched on 14/10/2019, World Standards Day)

- Showcases the role of standards for the achievement of the SDGs

- From 1000 to 1600 standards, with addition of one more goal – SDG 12

- 12 more case studies, now 32

- Easy to use, easy to update; we plan to expand it to cover all of the goals, and many more standards organizations
Work in the groups

- Number of group online meetings held: 14
- Decision on creation of 3 Working Groups under GRSI to advance on the following topics:
  i. Knowledge Sharing & Training
  ii. Methodology for assessing and developing gender responsive standards
  iii. Network development

Business-Critical Decisions

Working Party 6 suggests the following decisions to be approved in a UNECE Silence Procedure in order to secure business continuity:

- Endorse the report of WP.6 in document [ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2019/2]
- Endorse its Programme of Work for 2021 (ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2019/5)
- Take note of the results of the evaluation of ECE’s support to the advancement of Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies
- Endorse the mandate for 2020-2021 of
  - the Group of Experts on Managing Risks in Regulatory Systems,
  - the Advisory Group on Market Surveillance,
  - the ad hoc Team of Specialists on Standardization and Regulatory Techniques (START Team).
Thank You!

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