

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

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Chair

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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

United Nations ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2019/5
 **Economic and Social Council**
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Economic Commission for Europe
 Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards
Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6)

Twenty-sixth session
 Geneva, 20-22 November 2019
 Item 8(b) of the provisional agenda
 Discussion on draft Recommendation V on
 "Addressing product non-compliance risk in international trade"

Draft Recommendation V on "Addressing product non-compliance risk in international trade"

Submitted by the secretariat

Summary

This document contains a draft proposal for a new recommendation. It is hereby submitted for discussion by the Working Party. This first discussion will seek the opinion of delegates on the direction taken and the overall approach being designed. If their opinion is favourable, a final proposal will be submitted for the Working Party's annual meeting in 2020.

Proposed decision:

Member States expressed overall support for the draft Recommendation V on "Addressing product non-compliance risk in international trade". They mandate the secretariat to further refine the text of the recommendation in order to present it for adoption at the thirtieth session in 2020.



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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



P Crisis Management within a Regulatory Framework¹

The Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies.

Recognizing the role of technical regulation, conformity assessment and market surveillance in preventing and addressing crises in various fields,

Noting that some risks are almost impossible to identify, and that all risks, even if identified, cannot be totally mitigated,

Recognizing the common interest of all regulatory stakeholders, including economic operators and consumers, in developing and applying tools that allow to effectively anticipate, and if necessary, resolve situations of crises,

Stressing that in many cases crises have led to imposing disproportionate regulations,

Underlining that risks that are identified and accepted within a regulatory system require developing or updating contingency plans that can be applied by regulators and other stakeholders,

Stressing that "crisis management" is an integral function of the risk management process of any regulatory framework², and that effective preparedness and/or response to crises requires systemic management of risks, and vice versa,

Taking into account international and national standards related to risk management, such as, for example, ISO 31000:2009, AS/NZS 5050:2010, ISO 9001:2008 and ISO 27001:2005,

And with the objective of promoting a culture of responsible management of risks and increased preparedness for crises, including more effective coordination among all parties that can be involved in crises.



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Outreach

The Declaration for Gender Responsive Standards signed by:

- 67 countries
- 20 organizations



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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.



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Capacity-building

- Operationalization of online courses on:
 - risk management
 - conformity assessment
 - market surveillance

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General
RISK MANAGEMENT IN BUSINESS & REGULATION: TOWARDS A BETTER MANAGEMENT OF RISK

This course introduces participants to the various risk management tools necessary to induce and help implement change in the structure of regulatory systems and frameworks.

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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.



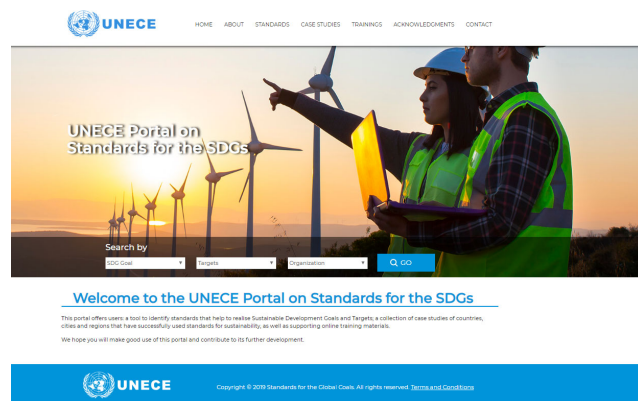
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Standards for SDGs part 2 – Dec. 2019 – Dec. 2021

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



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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



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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).

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Thank You!

Marion Stoldt

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



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