MARS Group meeting
13 – 15 September 2011
Bratislava, Slovak Republic

Information from the UNECE-WP.6 Annual Planning Meeting of Bureau/Rapporteurs/Coordinators
4 – 6 May 2011, Stockholm

Christer Arvíus, WP.6 Chairman
Sectoral initiatives: updates & workplans

- **Telecom**: The CROs could be used in the context of the WTO NAMA negotiations and of the WTO Information Technology Agreement (ITA). UNECE could offer the negotiators a platform that contains all relevant items including market surveillance;

- **Earth Moving Machinery (EMM)**: The initiative had organized training courses in China, India, the Russian Federation and South Korea. The Task Force for the initiative will update the CROs to include market surveillance/work site surveillance, risk management and a global certificate of conformity;
- **Equipment for Environments with an Explosive Atmosphere (SIEEE):** The UNECE had together with IEC made a booklet that presents the CROs and are working together to promote the CROs. A meeting of the SIEEE back to back to the Annual meeting of the IECEx will take place in Split, Croatia in early September 2011. A joint action on market surveillance had been organized by the ATEX Administrative Cooperation Committee (ATEX ADCO) in the EU. The results had revealed a high rate of non-compliance;

- A proposal was made to establish a **new initiative on Medical Equipment**. Authorities from many countries make use of the Worldwide System of IECEE in this sector. It was agreed to prepare a proposal at the 2011 Annual session of WP. 6;
Equipment used on off-shore facilities, mines, factories - recent accidents worldwide;

Need for a broad cooperation between governments, enforcement bodies, business;

Publication: April 2011;

National/regional workshops to promote implementation of CROs planned for 2012;

Meeting of regulatory authorities in charge of this sector Sept 11 – Split – Croatia;
Risk Management in Regulatory Systems

- A third extended webinar of the Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory System (GRM) was broadcasted live to the Annual Planning Meeting;

- A draft should be prepared for a general recommendation on “Risk Management in Regulatory Systems” (based on the existing background document and to align it with ISO 31000);

- A draft to be prepared for a specific recommendation on crisis management, complementary to the general recommendation;

- Presentations to be made on how RM concepts and standards are applied in different sectors;
MARS Group: updates and workplans

- Work to finalizing and publishing the “Glossary of Market Surveillance Terms”;

- Finding resources to use the “General Market Surveillance Procedure” document for the purpose of training and field work;

- Revision of existing Recommendation “M”;

- Work to prepare a new Recommendation “N” with general political guidance on Market Surveillance (work to be advanced through one or more Webinars);

- Development of a repository of information and database on market surveillance worldwide (increase the visibility of this project through a special brochure, in newsletter and website and in seeking partnership with other organisations);
Outreach activities

- On the basis of information by the Secretariat various outreach efforts of UNECE WP.6 work was discussed and advise was made at the meeting on:
  -- the newsletter
  -- the website
  -- publications
  -- the Wiki website of the GRM Group, and
  -- on participation in events by partner organisations;
Some additional items for the preparation of the 2011 Annual Session of WP.6 (31 Oct – 2 Nov 2011)

- Secretariat to seek advice from the RF delegation to follow up on the proposal on an exchange of information on ways to assess the impact of new technical regulations on trade;
- Secretariat to seek advice from the delegations of the RF and the EU on if and how to continue information exchange of regulatory developments in the area of chemicals;
- To prepare proposal to the WP to consider developing a new recommendation on Conformity Assessment (based on existing Recommendations F and G and outcome of the CA panel session at the 2010 Annual session);
- To organize a Workshop on “Traceability as a tool for managing risks” as part of the 2011 Annual session;

- The theme for presentations by representatives of standardization bodies at the 2011 Annual session would focus on: “Sustainable development and social responsibility”
UNECE - WP.6 meeting in Stockholm 2011-05-04--06
A presentation with a report on activities in the WP on Regulatory cooperation and standardization policies was made by the WP.6 chair at the meeting of UNECE Committee on Trade 15 June 2011, Geneva
At this occasion also some special challenges for the WP.6 were highlighted

- Increasing demand for assistance in this domain now met almost exclusively by bilateral assistance

- Difficult to fundraise: the priority of safety and its link with free trade is not well understood

- The WP.6’s secretariat resources will be cut by 40% next year as a result of the 3% budget cut initiative
Thank you very much for your attention!