Intersessional Developments 2020-2021

Tauno Kangur
Market Access Section, Economic Cooperation and Trade Division
Highlights of UNECE’s WP.6 intersessional activities

Normative work

Finalization of 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
Highlights of UNECE’s WP.6 intersessional activities
Outreach

The Declaration for Gender Responsive Standards signed by:

- 77 countries and international standards setting organizations for all regions of the world
- Further countries have shown interest in signing the declaration
Operationalization of online courses on:

- risk management
- conformity assessment
- market surveillance
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
- Close to 2000 standards
- More case studies, now 32
- Easy to use, easy to update:
- Goal to cover all SDGs, and many more standards organizations
Highlights of UNECE’s WP.6 intersessional activities
Work continued in the groups

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

- Call for candidates for **the Chair** of WP.6 now open

- Vice Chair 2020 - 2022: Mr. Miroslav Chloupek, First Deputy President of the Czech Office for Standards, Metrology and Testing

- Vice Chair 2019 – 2021: Mr. Valentin Tataritsky, Chairman of the Belarus State Committee for Standardization
Circular Economy

- 69th UNECE Commission Session – ECE MS commit to step up efforts to promote circular economy
- Trade fostering a circular economy transition
- Request that the MARS group consider circular economy in its current and future work.
Preparation for the WP.6 Plenary Programme of Work 2022

- Deadline beginning August 2021
- Propose to have a brief text from each WP.6 Group & Thematic Area
  - One paragraph on context (background, importance of topic...)
  - One paragraph on planned activities in 2022 (preferably as bullet points)
  - Number of planned meetings, webinars, documents
Upcoming events

WP.6 PLENARY
Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization
Geneva & online | 24-26 November 2021

WP.7 PLENARY
Agriculture Quality Standards
Geneva & online | 15-17 November 2021

WP.6 GRSI
Gender Responsive Standards Initiative
Geneva & online | 24 November 2021

UN/CEFACT FORUM
Virtual event | 4 – 15 October 2021
Thank You!

Tauno Kangur
Market Access Section, Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, UNECE
tauno.kangur@un.org