

Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies

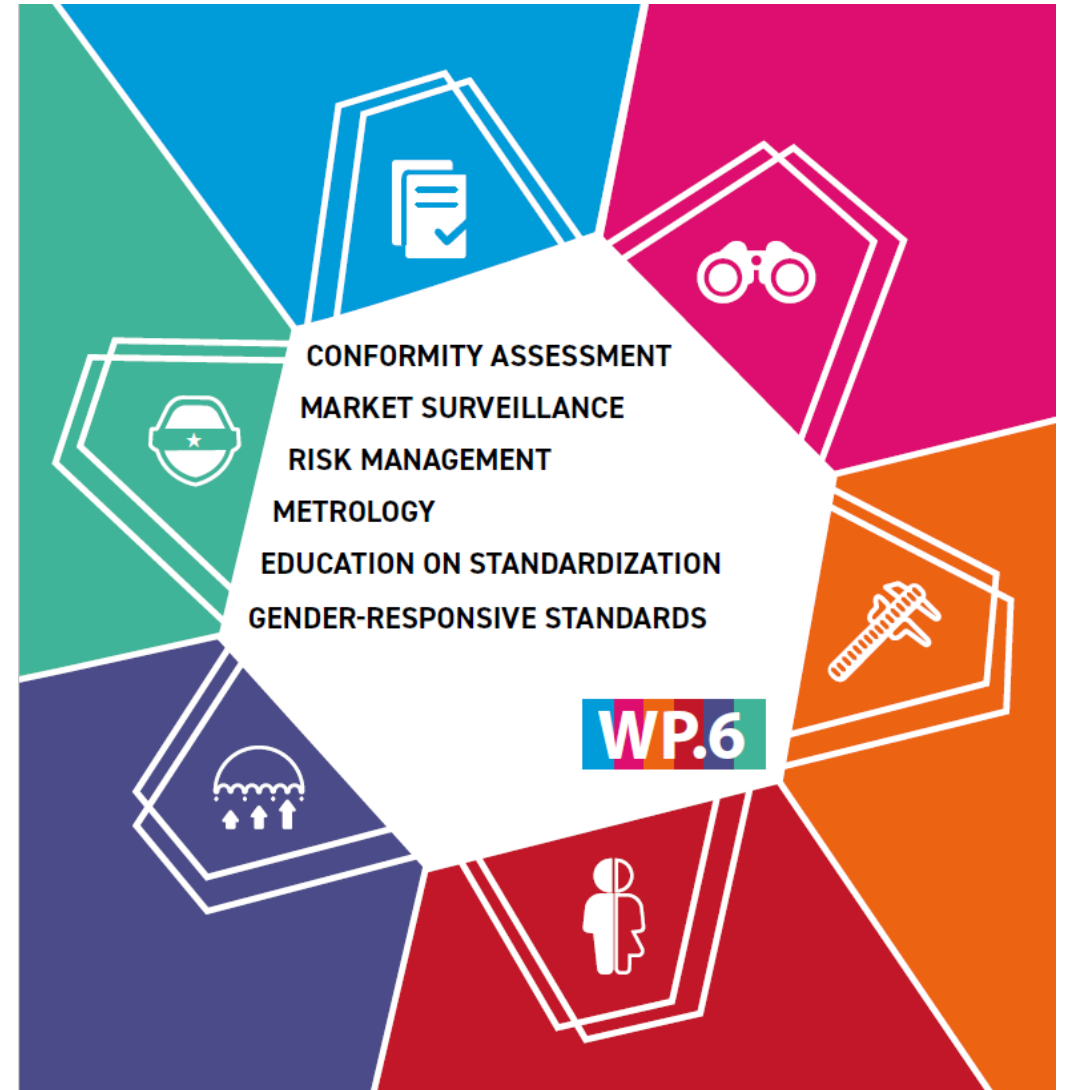
Common Regulatory Arrangement (CRA)

Brief overview

Lance Thompson
Secretary WP.6

UNECE – Working Party 6

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Recommendation L on International Model for Transnational Regulatory Cooperation Based on Good Regulatory Practice



- Aims to further reduce trade barriers and facilitate market access
- International Model
 - Voluntary framework
 - Facilitate global harmonization of national or regional regulation
 - Designed to be flexible mechanism
- Recommendation first adopted in 2001, revised in 2015. Should be revised in 2024 to clearly integrate services.

Common Regulatory Arrangement 5-part structure



1. Scope statement

- Products for which the CRA applies (with reference to HS code)

2. Product requirements

- Establish the principle issues of concern
- What requirements needed to ensure health, safety (human, plant, animal, environment)
- Detailed provisions how to meet the requirements (preferably through standards)

Common Regulatory Arrangement

5-part structure



3. Reference to standards clause

- List of applicable international standards

4. Compliance clause

- Provision on how compliance is demonstrated
- Possible options to demonstrate compliance (e.g. supplier's declaration, third party certification or inspection)

5. Market surveillance clause

- Conditions under which a product is withdrawn from the market

Four CRA to date



- EMM (2009)
 - CRA follows the five-part structure and then provides an annex that explains various éléments of the CRA in more detail
 - Called an objective (CRO) instead of CRA
- EEE (2022)
 - CRA expands the five-part structure (requirements split into three parts and conformity into two parts; annex lists applicable standards)
- Cybersecurity (2019)
 - Loosely follows the five-part structure (sections I-VI on scope, VII-VIII on regulatory requirements) but also proposes a structure in XI (which is not normal procedure)
 - Called an objective (CRO) instead of CRA
- Telecom (2004)
 - Does not really follow the five-part structure.
 - Called an objective (CRO) instead of CRA

Revision of Rec. L



- A project should launch soon to revise Rec. L with the following objectives:
 - Clarify the structure and content of a CRA when referring to systems, processes and services (current text really targets products)
 - Decide on language to be used (arrangement, framework or objective)
 - Decide if Annex B should be retained
- Initial project proposal has been prepared; will likely be requested to launch in the coming weeks/months