Welcome to a WP.6 working meeting

Brief reminder of key points concerning participation within UNECE WP.6

Lance Thompson
Secretary WP.6

UNECE – Working Party 6
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Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies

CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT
MARKET SURVEILLANCE
RISK MANAGEMENT
METROLOGY
EDUCATION ON STANDARDIZATION
GENDER-RESPONSIVE STANDARDS

WP.6
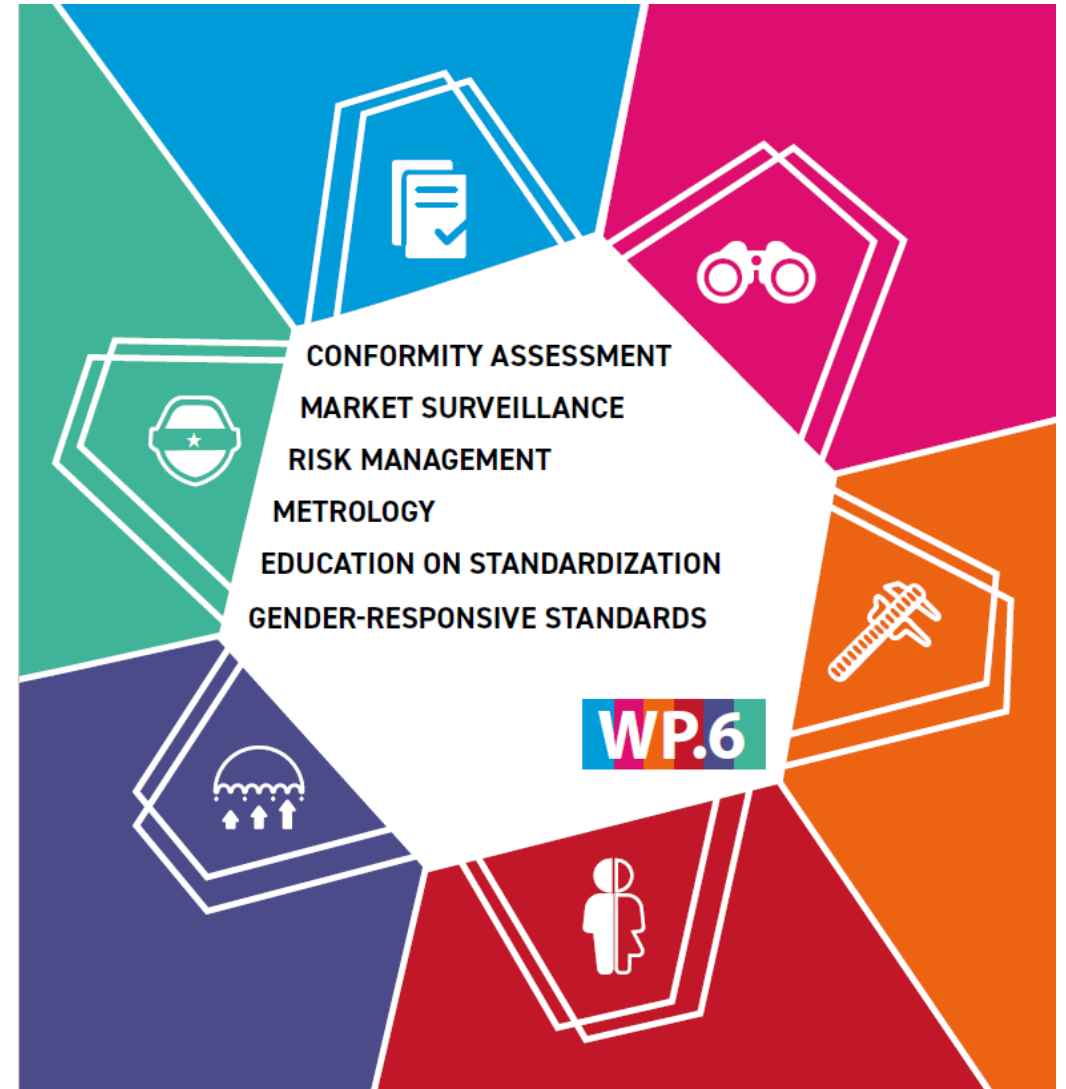
WP.6 Terms of Reference and Objective
Mission Statement

- WP.6 aims to promote regulatory cooperation, standardization policies and activities which contribute towards reducing technical barriers to trade, promoting sustainable development in all its dimensions including, for example, gender equality, climate and environmental protection, circular economy and the adaptation to new technologies.

Quality Infrastructure

"The system comprising the organizations (public and private) together with the policies, relevant legal and regulatory framework, and practices needed to support and enhance the quality, safety, and environmental soundness of goods, services, and processes"

Source: International Network of Quality Infrastructure (INetQI)

WP.6 Terms of Reference and Objective
Activities

- Forum for exchange for topics related to quality infrastructure

- Develop guidance (aim to reduce technical barriers to trade, promote SDGs, efficiently manage risk)

- Maintain liaison with other organizations (through the secretariat)

- Organize seminars, workshops. (through the secretariat)

- Provide advice, assistance and capacity building (coordinated through the secretariat)

- Create projects in support of WP.6 mission statement

WP.6 Programme of Work

- The Programme of Work is done on an annual basis
- All work which is to become public undertaken within WP.6 must be within the Programme of Work
- Each subgroup is requested to provide input when preparing their reports to the WP.6 annual session
- PoW for 2025 has the following concerning education:
  - 15(a)   Continue to build awareness on standards, standardization and education in support of *Recommendation I on Education on Standards-Related Issues*;
- Internal studies or surveys do not necessarily need to be in the Programme of Work (but these are normally not made public except through the report to the WP.6 annual session)

Working Procedures
Project development

- Largely inspired by the UN/CEFACT *Open Development Process*
- Types of deliverables (Recommendations, Guidelines, Proposals for future policies, Glossaries, CRA)
- Three steps:
  - Project inception (idea based on active PoW put forward, circulated to leadership for input; WP.6 Bureau approves to move forward and appoints leader; six experts from at least three different countries)
  - Project development (must meet at least once virtually per semester and report on progress during the annual meeting of relevant subgroup)
  - Project finalization (final draft circulated to leadership for comments; public review; final draft after public review; project team disbanded)
- Secretariat checks agains *UN Editorial Manual*
- Presentation of final deliverable to the WP.6 Annual Session
- Subgroups should monitor all deliverables to ensure they are up-to-date

Participating in WP.6 meetings

- Experts are welcome to participate in WP.6 activities as observers (ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2022/11, section III)

- Membership of groups is comprised of government experts and may also include eminent specialists in the relevant field (ECE/EX/2/Rev.1)

- Members and observers participate in WP.6 activities as volunteers <u>in their own right</u> and <u>do not represent any specific interests of their countries or institutions</u> (ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2023/12, §11)

Intellectual property rights policy

UNECE

- Guiding principle:
  - The main beneficiary of the standards and recommendations are the Member States.
  - In order to promote the widest adoption of the WP.6 deliverables, they can be implemented freely and without any restrictions.

- All new intellectual property generated through the development of WP.6 deliverables belongs to ECE.
  - As a condition for participating in a deliverable drafting team, <u>drafting team members agree to waive their rights</u> to enforce any prior IPRs used in the WP.6 deliverables against any party using the deliverables.

- ECE and the members of drafting teams have no duty of confidentiality with respect to any information transferred between them.

- For more information, see: ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2022/11, Annex

WP.6 inclusive meetings guidelines

- Contributions
  - Strive for balanced contributions from both women and men participants
  - Keep individuals' speaking time balanced (avoid monopolizing)
- Interruptions
  - Avoid interrupting the speaker
  - Avoid talking over each other
- Coded language
  - Be mindful of coded language that may perpetuate gender stereotypes
    - Example: Are women described as aggressive for behavior that would lead to a man being considered confident?
- Recognize contributions

For more information, see *Guidelines on Developing Gender-Responsive Standards* (ECE/TRADE/472)

Representation and titles

- In general, <u>only the secretariat interacts on behalf of WP.6 with other organizations</u>. Please check with the secretariat before taking any engagements.

- Titles in connection with WP.6 may be used only by officers elected by member States (WP.6 chair and vice chairs), officers appointed by the sub-group (sub-group chairs and vice chairs) and experts confirmed by the WP.6 bureau as project leaders. No other titles can be used.

- For more information: ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2023/13

- LIAISON
  - In general, secretariat interacts on behalf of WP.6 with other organizations
  - This may be mandated to an expert for a limited period of time
- REPRESENTATION
  - At a one-off event (e.g., invitation to a conference)
  - WP.6 Bureau members and Subgroup officers may represent WP.6 topics relevant to their subgroup at one-off events
  - Must notify the secretariat (preferably before the event)
  - Such representation is reported to the WP.6 Annual Session
- POWER POINTS AND OTHER MATERIALS
  - If officially representing WP.6, ppt must be pre-approved by the secretariat
  - Cannot use the UN logo unless pre-authorized by the secretariat
- EXPERTS (members or observers)
  - Cannot represent WP.6 without pre-authorization from the secretariat

Meeting report

- The secretariat prepares meeting reports for the official subgroup meetings (not project team meetings)

- Presentations and materials will normally be shared with members through the WP.6 website or emails

- The meeting may be recorded (by the secretariat only) – this is for note-taking purposes only

- Participants in the meeting are NOT PERMITTED to record any part of the meeting (neither screen shots, nor audio recording, nor AI transcriptions, nor any other form of recording)

Thank you

- WP.6 is an expert-driven working party. The deliverables and the programme of work are lead and developed by volunteer experts.

- Given that our work is trade-related, we appreciate a balance between private sector and government officials to ensure that our deliverables are workable for all involved.

Upcoming events

WP.6 ANNUAL SESSION

Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies

26 – 28 AUGUST 2024 | PALAIS DES NATIONS | GENEVA

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WP.6

Contacts and links

- Website: https://unece.org/trade/wp6
- Email: regulatory.cooperation@un.org

- To subscribe or unsubscribe to mailing lists:
- https://forms.office.com/e/9Ar5txhkaD

- WP.6 Secretary: Lance Thompson, lance.thompson@un.org
- START-Ed support: Tauno Kangur, tauno.kangur@un.org