

COPANT MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN ISO/CASCO PLENARY

The COPANT Workshop on ISO/CASCO was also held in Nairobi

The ISO Committee on Conformity Assessment (CASCO) held its 34th Plenary Session in Nairobi, Kenya on 1 and 2 May. A workshop on market surveillance and trade facilitation was held on May 3.

For some of the representatives of the COPANT members, it was the first time they participated in CASCO plenary meeting. For others, it was the third time after participating in the Vancouver (2017) and Mexico (2018) Plenaries. This is a good sign: ensure continuity of participation.

The **COPANT-PTB-CASCO Workshop** was held on Monday 29 April, with the participation of representatives of 14 NSBs from the following countries: Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Haiti, Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago, Uruguay and United States. The main objectives were:

- To present and discuss the main topics of the Plenary Agenda of CASCO;
- Explain ways to access CASCO's work programme and relevant WG and policy documents;
- To report on the activities of the main working groups and the status of their relevant documents;
- An overview of the CASCO roadmap for CASCO normative documents and the Priority Achievement Plan;
- Discuss and prepare a proposal for the CASCO Plenary on the main pillars for the implementation of KSO 10 (Key Strategic Objectives).

On 30 April, another meeting of the **COPANT - CASCO Focal Group** (led by Cristian Vázquez - IRAM - Argentina) was held to discuss better coordination of COPANT members in the exchange of the comments of the CASCO National Special Committees on the different CASCO documents under study. In addition, a new debate was conducted on the proposal to improve the participation of developing countries in CASCO, as approved in the previous COPANT-PTB-CASCO workshop.



COPANT representatives present at the ISO/CASCO Plenary meeting

In order to better organize the COPANT workshop on ISO/CASCO and the participation of COPANT members in the ISO/CASCO Plenary, on **March 29, a Web Ex meeting** was previously held with 32 participants representing 21 NSBs from the following countries: Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago, Uruguay and United States.

The meeting was organized by our expert, Mario Wittner, with the support of the COPANT Secretariat, in order to present the Plenary Agenda in a general way, to emphasize the need for good preparation for the main themes of the Agenda and to detect the main problems of remote participation in the meetings of the CASCO Working Groups.



Source: Report and photos by Mario Wittner (Facilitator)