TMB Communiqué

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SEPTEMBER 2022 TMB MEETING

1. Strategic Advisory Group on Environmental, social, governance (ESG) ecosystem – Final report

Background: The SAG ESG was established by ISO’s Technical Management Board (TMB Resolution 59/2021) at its meeting in June 2021 with a 12-month mandate to provide advice to the TMB.

The report highlights the recommendations for a stakeholder engagement strategy, explores the options for technical gap fill in ISO’s ESG standards, discusses the strengths of the conformity assessment process in the ESG ecosystem and proposes a “Resource Hub”. It closes with a proposal for an ESG Coordination Committee, supported by Task Groups with specific expertise and focus, and a discussion of the wider implications of the SAG’s findings for ISO.

After reviewing the report, the TMB decided to create an ESG Coordination Committee to effectively coordinate ISO’s internal and external ESG activities, prioritizing engagement with key stakeholders as outlined in the report (TMB Resolution 78/2022).

Mandate:
- Oversee the implementation of the recommendations and proposals provided by SAG ESG (via Task Groups).
- Develop further strategies and solutions for appropriate ISO involvement in ESG-related issues.
- Strategic approach to external organizations, including any joint development activities.
- Development and coordination of ESG strategies within ISO, and across ISO committees, and other structures (prioritization, phasing, communication).
- Oversee the development, implementation, and maintenance of the ESG Resource Hub and other ESG tools (including potential ISO Guidelines for Addressing ESG in Standards), and relevant promotion and training.

What this means for you: The technical community is invited to stay tuned. Chairs of all Technical Committees with ESG-related standards and external experts, as relevant, will soon be invited to take part in the ESG Coordination Committee.

2. ISO/TC 197 SC 1 Hydrogen at Scale and Horizontal Energy Systems

Background: Although global economies are looking at all available low-carbon options, hydrogen, and particularly hydrogen produced using zero carbon renewable energy sources (RES), is one of the key energy and technology vectors of national strategies to achieve carbon neutrality.

In this regard, regulations, codes & standards (RCS) have been identified as one of the key pillars of national hydrogen strategies to deploy green and clean low-carbon technologies. This underscores the need for hydrogen RCS harmonization across the globe as well as the need for international standards that can serve as the foundation for such harmonization.

To address the above challenges and needs, the TMB ratified the ISO/TC 197 decision to establish a new sub-committee (SC 1) on Hydrogen at Scale and Horizontal Energy Systems.

ISO/TC 197 will continue focusing on basic / fundamental requirements for hydrogen technologies in production, storage, handling, built environment, protocols and components including road
vehicles and their fueling infrastructure for “pure” hydrogen within familiar regulatory regimes. ISO/TC 197/SC1 will focus on applications’ requirements of hydrogen technologies at large scales and in horizontal energy systems where hydrogen plays a central or significant role, as well as where an overlap or blending with other fuels, energy carriers, and systems is considered, and different expertise and approaches are required due to different global technical regulations.

**What this means for you:** If you are interested in getting involved in standards development, contact your national standards body.

### 3. ISO 20121:2012 Event Sustainability Management Systems

**Background:** ISO 20121:2012 *Event Sustainability Management Systems* was developed by PC 250 *Sustainability in event management* in 2012. The management system standard has been designed to help organisations in the events industry improve the sustainability of their event-related activities, products and services. Since its publication, the standard has been extensively used in the organisation of relevant events, such as the London 2012 Olympics.

With the Paris 2024 Olympics on the horizon, the former secretariat of PC 250, BSI, and ISO/TC 228 *Tourism and related services* have asked the TMB to lead the review of ISO 20121:2012.

The TMB decided (TMB Resolution 81/2022) to approve the creation of a Project Committee on *Sustainability in event management* for the revision of ISO 20121 and allocated the secretariat to BSI, pending the outcome of the Systematic Review on ISO 20121.

**What this means for you:** If you are interested in contributing to this work, do not miss out on the opportunity to participate in the Systematic Review on ISO 20121 that will remain open until 2022-12-02.

### 4. ISO 30500:2018 Non-sewered sanitation systems

**Background:** The standard ISO 30500:2018 (Non-sewered sanitation systems — Prefabricated integrated treatment units — General safety and performance requirements for design and testing) was developed by the former ISO/PC 305, led by ANSI and ASN in a twinning arrangement. ISO 30500 is scheduled to begin its systematic review in October 2023, and ANSI and ASN, as the former leaders of ISO/PC 305, have been in discussions on the process of initiating a revision effort by re-establishing ISO/PC 305.

The TMB decided to (TMB Resolution 82/2022):
- approve the creation of a Project Committee on Sustainable non-sewered sanitation systems for the revision of ISO 30500 based on the results of the NP to be issued, and
- allocated the Secretariat to ANSI and the Twinned Secretariat to ASN pending the Twinning request form.

**What this means for you:** If you are interested in contributing to this work, watch out for the new work item proposal ballot to be issued soon.

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**NEWS**

### 5. One-pager overview of key TMB projects

The TMB has prepared a one-pager to present an overview of the TMB projects.
6. Joint Task Force on New Normal

**Background:** With the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic and the easing of face-to-face meeting restrictions, the JTF NN was mandated to work jointly with IEC to develop new guidance for ISO and IEC committees on virtual, hybrid and face-to-face meetings. The Guidance was published in September 2021. The JTF NN is in the process of setting up a technical community survey to collect feedback from a wide range of ISO and IEC meeting stakeholders to improve the guidance.

**What this means for you:** Committee leadership teams are invited to review the Guidance and the associated checklist when planning meetings. Between October 2022 and April 2023, the JTF NN will open a survey for all meeting participants on the effectiveness of virtual and hybrid meetings and on the utility of the guidance document. During this period, group leaders will be requested to share a survey link at the conclusion of all meetings and encourage participation from their group members. Further details on the survey modalities will be issued in October 2022.

7. The ISO/IEC Joint Task Force on the Concept of Risk and Associated Terms

**Background:** The JTF on the Concept of Risk and Associated Terms was established in September 2021 via TMB Resolution 81/2021. The suggestion to create a joint task force originated in the standardization community, as there is a considerable variation in the definition, use and interpretations of risk and associated concepts. The purpose of the JTF is to examine how the concept of risk and associated terms can evolve to meet the needs of standards users.

Shortly after the first kick-off meeting on the 24th of February, the work of the JTF was put on hold in March 2022 following the letter from the ISO Secretary General informing that all technical meetings under the leadership of GOST R had been put on hold until further notice. A temporary Co-Convenor from the TMB was approved in May 2022 and the JTF has now resumed its work with a second meeting organized on the 8th of August. The focus of the second meeting and the third meeting, which is scheduled for the 11th of October, is information sharing. The JTF has representatives from over a hundred committees and the committees are invited to share the work they do on risk during these meetings.

**What this means for you:** If you are interested in the work of the JTF on the Concept of Risk and Associated Terms, make sure to follow the updates in the TMB Communiqués. The final report and recommendations will be provided in September 2023.

8. L.D. Eicher Award 2022 Winner

**Background:** The Lawrence D. Eicher Award was created to recognize committees with outstanding performance. It provides an opportunity for the winning committee to demonstrate their achievements and raise awareness of their work, both inside and outside ISO. The 2022 winner, announced during the ISO Annual Meeting 2022, is ISO/TC 283 Occupational health and safety management.

As organizations move from addressing physical workplace safety to managing psychological health and well-being—including the impact on OH&S from climate change—there are huge opportunities to enhance OH&S in the workplace and share good practice. That's why ISO is leading work in this sector by bringing together global experts to make this a reality. The OH&S guidance developed by technical committee ISO/TC 283 includes supporting guidelines, standards and good practice to help organizations, regardless of size, location, sector, or the nature of their business. Key standards published are ISO 45001, ISO 45003, and ISO/PAS 45005.

**What this means for you:** If you think your committee could be the next winner of the L.D. Eicher award, keep an eye out for the call for nominations which will be launched in early 2023, or contact tmb@iso.org for further information. Want to know more about the achievements of ISO/TC 283? Read more in this news article on the ISO website.
9. TMB Action Plan (LDAP) approval

**Background:** ISO’s Climate Commitment, the London Declaration was approved by the ISO member bodies in September 2021 (General Assembly Resolution 10/2021). The London Declaration sets out two objectives:

1. Active consideration of climate science and associated transitions in the development of all new and revised International Standards and publications.

2. Facilitation of the involvement of civil society and those most vulnerable to climate change in the development of International Standards and publications.

The TMB recently approved its Action Plan related to the London Declaration. The Plan has four strategic focus areas, namely TCs to include climate considerations; ISO deliverables to respond to the need for urgent climate action; increase participation of underrepresented stakeholders; and raise awareness on TMB’s work in support of the London Declaration.

**What this means for you:** Stay tuned for additional specific communications as the Action Plan enters its implementation phase. If your committee has specific examples of how it’s adapting to include climate considerations into its work (e.g.: revision of standards, scope change, etc.), please do not hesitate to share these examples with us (tmb@iso.org).

10. JSAG on Gender responsive standards – Update

**Background:** Further to the IEC and ISO commitments under the UNECE Gender Responsive Standards Initiative, ISO and IEC have jointly published new guidance on gender responsive standards (GRS). This document has been prepared by the ISO/IEC Joint Strategic Advisory Group on Gender Responsive Standards (ISO/IEC JSAG GRS) under a joint mandate from IEC/SMB and ISO/TMB. It has been developed in keeping with our communities’ commitments under the UNECE GSRI and with the UNECE’s complimentary guidance on GRS.

With diversity and inclusion figuring as central pillars in both the IEC and ISO strategies, it is more important than ever to ensure that international standards provide equal benefit to women and men. Even in fields of activity where gender implications may not be readily apparent, if a standard is used by humans, it is important to ask the questions contained within the newly released guidance to determine the extent of potential gender implications.

This document represents a starting point in ensuring that international standards offer equal protection and benefit to women and men. In the coming months, the JSAG will be seeking input from the ISO and IEC technical communities on the utility of the guidance and will be collecting specific case studies related to the guidance across product, process, service and management system standards. Over the coming 18 months, the JSAG will also collaborate with UNECE in the deployment of training on this guidance to IEC and ISO technical communities.

**What this means for you:** Committees are requested to immediately begin considering the standards assessment form when considering new work item proposals or revisions of published standards. Feedback on the application of the guidance and specific case studies are warmly welcomed by the JSAG as the group works to further refine the guidance and supporting communications. Feedback from ISO groups may be forwarded to tmb@iso.org.

11. Improved Development Processes (IDP) – Update

**Background:** Improved Development Processes is a strategic programme. The expected outcomes are a better identification of the content that is most needed to meet market needs (Committee Strategy Management project) together with the most suitable ISO deliverable to deliver said content (Optimized Deliverables project):
The goal of the Committee Strategy Management project is to improve committee Strategic Business Plans (SBPs) through strengthened competencies, an upgraded SBP template and guidance incorporating leading strategic considerations, such as sustainability and climate change. The project also envisions modernizing the presentation of SBPs on ISO.org and better leveraging their structure and content to inform deliberations on transversal topics as needed by TMB and the standardization roadmap project within the ISO 2030 Strategy. The project was approved by TMB Resolution 14/2022.

The goal of the Optimized Deliverables project is to optimize ISO’s range of standards deliverables to meet longstanding, emergent and urgent market needs (including emergency process and distribution) and ensure that committees make the best use of them at the beginning and during the development of the project. The project was approved by TMB Resolution 38/2022.

Work is progressing for the two projects. The Strategic Planning Task Force (SPTF), composed of TMB members’ representatives and committee representatives including JTC1, will hold its inaugural meeting in September 2022. The meeting will enable an initial exploration of strategic planning best practices, while reaching a consensus on the most effective presentation of SBPs on ISO.org as one of the project’s first deliverables. Related to Optimized Deliverables, preliminary activities took place, with the TMB champions (ABNT, DIN, SN) along with the preparation of the in-depth analysis which is the first component of the project and will represent the major next step in the coming months. The other components of Optimized Deliverables being proposal ideation, implementation and supporting changes.

What this means for you: The Committee Strategy Management project envisions an ISO-specific strategic planning training programme targeted to ISO committee officers. Committees interested in taking part in the piloting of this training in 2023 are invited to contact Nathan Taylor, Programme Manager (taylor@iso.org). This will be an excellent opportunity to confirm the training needs analysis and for committee officers to contribute in a tangible manner to the modernization of strategic planning in ISO.

The technical community is invited to stay tuned. For future changes and improvements related to these pillars of your activity, there will be further engagements with you along the development of the projects. In the meantime feel free to contact Nathan (taylor@iso.org) and Charles-Pierre (bazindecaix@iso.org) should you want to know more.

12.ISO/IEC SMART – Use cases project

Background: SMART refers to the formats, processes, and tools necessary for a user (human and technology-based) to interact with standards over their entire dynamic lifecycle. SMART is a digital capability that will transform the way IEC and ISO share knowledge supporting the world of tomorrow.

While maintaining availability of existing formats such as paper and pdf, SMART creates a unique opportunity for IEC and ISO to implement digital solutions that serve the needs of all stakeholders, from industry, regulators, and end users. As global leaders, IEC and ISO are embarking on a joint journey to drive the digital evolution of international standards under the auspices of the SMART programme. The expansion of digital capabilities will be done in a stepwise way, meeting the changing needs of stakeholders and society. The SMART use cases project is the starting point for this journey, where ideas and needs are being collected from the technical community, ISO national bodies and IEC national committees. The journey is furthered by the work of the business model (JBMG) and technical solutions groups (ISO TS, IEC SG 12), which will explore the commercial and legal implications, and pilot potential technical solutions.

A first batch of use cases will be assessed in October 2022. This batch includes business cases submitted by ISO committees in April 2022 alongside a collection of user stories analyzed by IEC SG 12. These submissions have been further analyzed and the common generic elements have been extracted as part of a package of generic use cases. These will be reviewed by the Joint Use
Cases Group’s (JUCG’s) assessment group in October 2022, accounting for factors of value creation, reach, impact and feasibility. Following the JUCG’s assessment, the batch will be transferred to the JBMG and technical solutions groups where legal and commercial implications will be assessed, and where potential pilots will be identified.

**What this means for you:** Committees that have ideas regarding new digital capabilities in standards are invited to submit a business case if they have not already done so. Committees are also invited to consider the end-users of their deliverables and to share user stories per the recently published guidance on collecting user needs. For those committees that have already submitted a business case, the SMART team expresses its sincere appreciation for your insights and perspectives, which have opened new avenues of thinking and conceptualization. As the generic use cases are further assessed and analyzed, the teams may look to your committees for further advice and technical specification. For additional information on the IEC-ISO SMART programme, please contact Augustin Rollet, SMART Programme Coordinator (rollet@iso.org).

**NEW COMMITTEES**

**Reminder:** The NSBs proposing a new committee have the option to organize a web conference session(s) to “promote” their NPs and TS/Ps. For information on new proposals and the stages of approval that they are in, please click on the following link: https://connect.iso.org/x/L4AhAQ

**TMB RESOLUTIONS**

TMB Resolutions (including 2022) are available on e-committees: https://isotc.iso.org/livelink/livelink/open/15768654