



Secretariat : SCC/Canada  
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## COMMUNIQUÉ

### 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of ISO Technical Committee 207 on Environmental Management

ISO Technical Committee 207 on Environmental Management (TC 207) held its 15<sup>th</sup> plenary meetings in Bogotá, Colombia from June 21 to 28, 2008. Approximately 200 participants from 37 member bodies and 5 liaison organizations participated in the sessions held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Tequendama Bogotá. This communiqué summarizes activities and results of ISO/TC 207's Bogotá meetings. ISO/TC 207 sincerely thanks the Instituto Colombiano de Normas Técnicas y Certificación (ICONTEC) for hosting, and Acción Social for sponsoring, the 15<sup>th</sup> plenary meetings of ISO/TC 207.



#### A. ISO/TC 207 PLENARY REPORTS

##### ISO TC 207 Opening Ceremony

The 15<sup>th</sup> plenary meetings of ISO/TC 207 were officially opened on June 23, 2008 by Mr. Juan Lozano, Minister of Environment, Housing and Territorial Development, Republic of Colombia and Mr. Fabio Tobón, Executive Director of the *Instituto Colombiano de Normas Técnicas y Certificación (ICONTEC)*. Several hundred delegates and guests were in attendance as Minister Lozano delivered a passionate speech that challenged delegates to continue ISO/TC 207's contribution to climate change, environmental management and sustainable development. Mr. Tobón welcomed participants to Colombia while introducing video presentations highlighting Colombia's biodiversity and geographic/cultural splendour. Dr. Robert Page, the ISO/TC 207 Chair Nominee, thanked Minister Lozano and Mr. Tobón on behalf of delegates while noting meeting objectives.

##### ISO/TC 207 Closing Plenary - Resolutions of the 15<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meetings

ISO/TC 207 approved 26 resolutions at its 15<sup>th</sup> plenary meetings in Bogotá (available from [www.tc207.org](http://www.tc207.org)). Resolutions included the:

- Reappointment of the Chairs of Subcommittee 3 and Subcommittee 4 for additional 3-year terms;
- Appointment of the Chair of Subcommittee 5 for a 3-year term;
- Reappointment of the Vice-Chair of the Terminology Contact Group;
- Appointment of the Working Group 8 Convenor, Co-Convenor and Secretary;
- Maintenance of Working Group 7 to prepare implementation proposals for ISO Guide 64;
- Disbandment of the Ad Hoc Group on Desertification and encouragement of a related new work item proposal; and
- Disbandment of the NGO Task Force recognizing the establishment of a new Chair's NGO Contact Group.

Additional information on resolutions can be found in activity summaries of relevant subcommittee or working groups below.

For more information on ISO/TC 207, contact Mr. Kevin Boehmer, ISO/TC 207 Secretary, Canadian Standards Association at [kevin.boehmer@csa.ca](mailto:kevin.boehmer@csa.ca)



## **B. ISO/TC 207 TASK FORCE AND TASK/CONTACT/AD HOC GROUP REPORTS**

### **ISO/TC 207 Chairman's Advisory Group (CAG) Non-governmental Organization (NGO) Task Force**

The NGO CAG Task Force hosted a workshop at the 15<sup>th</sup> plenary sessions to present and discuss draft operating procedures to increase stakeholder participation in ISO/TC 207 activities. After significant discussion at the workshop and Chair's Advisory Group meetings, the ISO/TC 207 Chair decided that consensus did not exist to seek approval of the procedures at this time. The Chair further decided to establish a new Chair's NGO Contact Group to explore opportunities to enhance NGO participation in ISO/TC 207 work at national and international levels. The Chair's NGO Contact Group will build on the important work produced by the NGO CAG Task Force, including the draft operating procedures. The Chair's NGO Contact Group will report to the Technical Committee at the next plenary meeting.

### **ISO/TC 207 Chairman's Advisory Group (CAG) Small-and Medium Enterprise (SME) Task Group**

The ISO/TC207 CAG SME Task Group met at the Bogotá meetings to refine its workplan and prioritize its activities for the next year. The CAG SME Task Group agreed to focus short-term work on i) the promotion of ISO 14001 for certification and other forms of recognition, ii) understanding of auditing time guidelines, iii) building capacity within ISO/TC 207 to enable SME experts to participate more effectively, iv) invite SME experts from the International Council for Small Business and regional affiliates to participate in ISO/TC 207 work, and v) explore the possible use of sectoral guidance in implementing ISO 14000 series of standards by SMEs.

### **ISO/TC 207 Developing Countries Contact Group (DCCG)**

The ISO/TC 207 DCCG held two meetings in Bogotá with over 30 delegates from 22 countries participating. DCCG resolutions included the formalization of regional co-operation networks for Southern Africa, Northern Africa, Latin America and Asia Pacific, activities to increase capacity to apply ISO/TC 207 standards with a focus on climate change applications, continued support to the translation of documents to Spanish, Arabic, Chinese and other languages and the development a contact group business plan.

### **ISO/TC 207 Social Responsibility (SR) Task Force**

The ISO/TC 207 SR Task Force met once in Bogotá with 20 members participating. The Task Force received a presentation on the activities of the ISO/TMB WG SR and considered comments received from Task Force members on Working Draft 4.2 of ISO 26000 Guidance on Social Responsibility. The Task Force agreed on a process to solicit and compile ISO/TC 207 comments for submission to the ISO TMB WG SR Secretariat by July 11, 2008.

### **ISO/TC 207 Ad hoc Group on Desertification**

ISO/TC 207 resolved at its 14<sup>th</sup> plenary meetings in Beijing to establish an *ad hoc* group to study potential standardization needs and opportunities related to the management of desertification and land degradation. The ISO/TC 207 Ad hoc Group on Desertification met twice in Bogotá where they received presentations from Libya, China, Colombia, Spain and Mexico. The Ad hoc Group presented its final report which recommends development of an ISO/TC 207 standard specifying principles, requirements and performance indicators for combating desertification. At its closing plenary, ISO/TC 207 recognized the report of the Ad hoc Group on Desertification, congratulated the Convenor (O. Elmeligy of Egypt) and encouraged the national standards bodies of Egypt, China and Spain to consider submitting a new work item proposal.

### **ISO/TC 207 Spanish Translation Task Force (STTF)**

The ISO/TC 207 STTF met three times in Bogotá to approve the Spanish translation of the draft ISO Guide 64 - Guide for the inclusion of environmental aspects in product standards and ISO/FDIS 14050 –



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Environmental management Vocabulary and prepare initial Spanish versions of ISO/CD 14005 – Environmental management systems – Guidelines for staged implementation. The next meeting of the STTF will be held jointly with other ISO Spanish Translation groups (ISO/CASCO/STWG, ISO/TC 176/STTG) in Bolivia in July 2008.

#### **ISO/TC 207 Arabic Translation Task Force (ATTF)**

The ISO/TC 207 ATTF met in twice in Bogotá where representatives of Egypt and Libya reviewed progress in the translation of ISO/FDIS 14050 – Environmental management vocabulary and ISO 14031 – Environmental performance evaluation. The ATTF revised its 2008 to 2010 workplan, noting that 6 standards had been sent to ISO for publication in Arabic since its 2007 meetings in Beijing. The ATTF noted that its objective is to have the entire ISO 14000 series translated by 2010 and to launch an Arabic translation website by the end of 2008.

*For more information on ISO/TC 207, contact Mr. Kevin Boehmer, ISO/TC 207 Secretary, Canadian Standards Association at [kevin.boehmer@csa.ca](mailto:kevin.boehmer@csa.ca)*

### **C. ISO/TC 207 SUBCOMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUP REPORTS**

#### **ISO/TC 207 Subcommittee 1, Environmental Management Systems**

ISO/TC 207 SC1 on Environmental Management Systems held its Bogotá plenary meeting on June 25, 2008. The meeting was well attended with 24 P members, 3 O member and 4 liaison organizations participating. The meeting was preceded by 4 days of WG3 meetings where the group reviewed the results of the CD2 14005 consultation and agreed to issue a DIS. Other SC1 items included the establishment of two new subgroups (JCTG SC1 mirror group, study group on new technologies) and discussion of interpretation queries. The main resolutions approved by SC 1 included:

- Confirmation of Mr. Noer Wardoyo as ISO/TC 207 SC1 Vice-Chairman for a new term of office;
- Cancellation of Category A liaison with 7 organizations due to a lack of participation;
- Establishment of liaison with ISO/TC 71/SC 8, ISO/PC 242 and IEC/TC 111.

*For more information on ISO/TC 207 SC1, contact Mr. José Alcorta, ISO/TC 207 SC1 Secretary, British Standards Institution at [jose.alcorta@bsigroup.com](mailto:jose.alcorta@bsigroup.com).*

#### **ISO/TC 207 Subcommittee 2, Environmental Auditing and Related Investigations**

ISO/TC 207/SC 2 did not have a meeting in Bogotá. In March 2008 the NWIP for the revision of ISO 19011 as a generic guideline on management systems auditing was approved and will be carried out under the administrative responsibility of ISO/TC 176/SC 3. In May 2008, TC 176/SC3/WG 16 (the new 'Joint Working Group') had its first meeting in NoviSad, Serbia with 30 experts present covering a wide range of disciplines. During that meeting relevant input documents were reviewed and an internal design specification developed. Various task forces have been established to study issues such as: principles of internal and external auditing, risk based auditing, process based auditing, integrated audits, auditor competence, E-auditing and sampling during audits. The next meeting of TC 176/SC 3/WG 16 is scheduled for October in Paris, France.

*For more information on ISO/TC 207 SC2, contact Mr. Dick Hortensius, ISO/TC 207 SC2 Secretary, Nederlands Normalisatie-instituut at [dick.hortensius@nen.nl](mailto:dick.hortensius@nen.nl)*



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### **ISO/TC 207 Subcommittee 3, Environmental Labelling**

ISO/TC 207/SC3 on Environmental Labelling held its Bogotá plenary meeting on June 26, 2008. The meeting was well attended with 27 participants from 18 countries in attendance. Items discussed included an update on activities of ISO/TC 207/SC 7/WG 2 on greenhouse gas quantification/communication of products, a potential review of the ISO 14020 series in light of market developments such as carbon footprint claims, and further alignment of the ISO 14020 series standards. Plenary meeting decisions included the establishment of a task group to examine the options for alignment and adaptation of the ISO 14020 series standards and a proposal to prepare an addendum to ISO 14021 to cover additional symbols and selected claims. ISO/TC 207/SC3 may meet before the next plenary meetings to progress work on an ISO 14021 addendum.

*For more information on ISO/TC 207 SC3, contact Mr. Max Maffucci, ISO/TC 207 SC3 Secretary, Standards Australia at [max.maffucci@standards.org.au](mailto:max.maffucci@standards.org.au)*

### **ISO/TC 207 Subcommittee 4, Environmental Performance Evaluation**

ISO/TC 207 SC4 on Environmental Performance Evaluation held its plenary meeting on June 27, 2008. In addition, SC4 organized a workshop to present results from a survey conducted to collect information and case studies on the use of ISO 14031. Key resolutions included the decision to register the review of ISO 14031 as a Stage 0 project, the establishment of a new task force to prepare for a SC4 ISO 14031 review meeting before the next ISO/TC 207 plenary and the encouragement of SC1 to consider linking ISO 14001 with ISO 14031.

*For more information on ISO/TC 207 SC4, contact Ms. Jennifer Admussen, ISO/TC 207 SC4 Secretary, American Society for Quality at [standards@asq.org](mailto:standards@asq.org)*

### **ISO/TC 207 Subcommittee 5, Environmental Life Cycle Assessment**

ISO/TC 207 SC5 on Environmental Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) held its Bogotá plenary meeting on June 26, 2008. The meeting was well attended with 16 P members, 1 O member and 5 liaison organizations participating. Key SC5 decisions included:

- Nomination of M. Finkbeiner as the new SC5 Chair;
- Reappointment of R. Tan as the SC5 Co-chair;
- Establishment of a new WG7 to develop ISO 14045 on eco-efficiency assessment;
- Circulation for comment of a draft proposal to develop a new environmental life cycle costing standard;
- Extension of the work of the existing task force assessing the future of ISO/TR 14047 and TR 14049;
- Confirmed the status of ISO/TS 14048 for a further 3 years;
- Resolved to cancel liaisons with inactive organisations and ISO/TC 203;
- Appointed liaison officers with SC1/WG4, SC7, SC7/WG2, TC207/WG8 and CEN/TC 350;
- Resolved to recommend to the CAG to consider the need for formal coordination between the leaders of the SC or relevant WGs of SC3/SC5/SC7 with respect to carbon footprinting standards

SC5 plans to hold its next plenary meeting in conjunction with the 16<sup>th</sup> plenary meetings of ISO/TC 207.

*For more information on ISO/TC 207 SC5, contact Ms. Mélanie Raimbault, ISO/TC 207 SC5 Secretary, Association française de normalisation at [melanie.raimbault@afnor.org](mailto:melanie.raimbault@afnor.org)*

### **ISO/TC 207 Subcommittee 7, Greenhouse gas management and related activities**

ISO/TC 207 on Greenhouse gas management and related activities held Bogotá plenary meetings on



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June 21 and 27, 2008. SC7/WG1, which is developing ISO 14066 on competencies for greenhouse gas validators and verifiers, met through the week in considering comments on WD1 while preparing WD2. ISO 14066 WD2 will be finalized and distributed for expert comments in August 2008. SC7/WG2 completed the development of a proposed outline for a potential carbon footprint of products standard – Part 1 focusing on quantification and Part 2 focusing on communication. At its closing plenary, ISO/TC 207/SC7 decided that the Secretariat would submit a new work item proposal based on the outline prepared by WG2 as soon as possible. ISO/TC 207 WG1 and WG2 plan to meet in January 2009 in Malaysia.

*For more information on ISO/TC 207 SC7, contact Ms.Marsha Cheddi, ISO/TC 207 SC7 Secretary, Canadian Standards Association at [marsha.cheddi@csa.ca](mailto:marsha.cheddi@csa.ca)*

### **ISO/TC 207 Terminology Co-ordination Group**

The ISO TC 207 Terminology Co-ordination Group (TCG) held one meeting from June 22 to 27, 2008. The TCG noted that ISO FDIS 14050 was submitted to ISO in September 2007 and includes ISO 14000 terms or definitions in English, French, Russian, Spanish, Arabic, German, Finnish, Italian, Norwegian, Portuguese and Swedish. The TCG updated its workplan in Bogotá, identifying 15 specific tasks for completion and appointing task co-ordinators. ISO/TC 207 members were encouraged to appoint representatives to the TCG to ensure appropriate participation and co-operation. Member bodies were reminded that the multilingual ISO/TC 207 TermBank continues to be updated, maintained and available in the TCG folder on the ISOTC server. Following the publication of the third edition of ISO 14050, the TCG intends to move publication towards ISO's "standards as databases" format.

*For more information on the ISO/TC 207 TCG, contact Mr. Knut Jonassen, ISO/TC 207 TCG Secretary, Standards Norway at [kjo@standard.no](mailto:kjo@standard.no)*

### **ISO/TC 207 Working Group 7 on the Inclusion of Environmental Aspects in Product Standards**

ISO/TC 207 Working Group 7 on the inclusion of environmental aspects in product standards did not meet in Bogotá, but updated members on progress on the revision of ISO Guide 64 - Guide for the inclusion of environmental aspects into product standards which has been completed and awaits publication by ISO. Noting the importance of Guide 64, ISO/TC 207 asked WG7 to prepare specific proposals to encourage implementation of Guide 64 and report progress at the next plenary meeting.

*For more information contact on ISO/TC 207 WG7, contact Ms. Christie Daza, ISO/TC 207 WG7 Co-secretary, Instituto Colombiano de Normas Técnicas y Certificación at [cdaza@icontec.org](mailto:cdaza@icontec.org) or Mr. Reiner Hager, ISO/TC 207 WG7 Co-secretary, Deutsches Institut für Normung e.V. at [reiner.hager@din.de](mailto:reiner.hager@din.de)*

### **ISO/TC 207 Working Group 8 on the Material Flow Cost Accounting**

ISO/TC 207 Working Group 8 on material flow cost accounting held its first meeting in Bogotá on June 24, 25 and 26, 2008. Meeting activities included a workshop on national material flow cost accounting activities and experience, discussion of comments on a pre-working draft of the standard and the establishment of the project schedule. ISO/TC 207 Working Group 8 decided to circulate WD1 of ISO 14051 for comment in October 2008. The next meeting of WG8 is scheduled for November 2008 in Tokyo, Japan.

*For more information on the ISO/TC 207 WG8, contact Mr.Yoshikuni Furukawa, ISO/TC 207 WG8 Secretary, Nitto Denko Corporation at [yoshikuni\\_furukawa@gg.nitto.co.jp](mailto:yoshikuni_furukawa@gg.nitto.co.jp)*