



Secretariat: Standards Council of Canada (SCC)
Secretary: Kevin Boehmer

COMMUNIQUÉ

**16th Annual Meeting of ISO Technical Committee 207 on
Environmental Management**

ISO Technical Committee 207 on Environmental Management (TC 207) held its 16th plenary meetings in Cairo, Egypt from June 21 to 27, 2009. Approximately 250 participants from 45 member bodies and 11 liaison organizations participated in the sessions held at the Semiramis Intercontinental Hotel Cairo. This communiqué summarizes activities and results of ISO/TC 207's Cairo meetings. ISO/TC 207 sincerely thanks the Egyptian Organization for Standardization and Quality (EOS) for hosting the 16th plenary meetings of ISO/TC 207.



A. ISO/TC 207 PLENARY REPORTS

ISO TC 207 Opening Ceremony

The 16th plenary meetings of ISO/TC 207 were officially opened on June 22, 2009 by H. E. Eng. Rachid Mohamed Rachid, Egyptian Minister of Trade and Industry whose speech was delivered by Dr. Eng. Mohamed Hany Barakat, Chairman of the Egyptian Organization for Standardization and Quality (EOS). Several hundred delegates and guests were in attendance as Minister Rachid, noting the significance of the first ISO/TC 207 plenary meeting held in an Arab country, challenged delegates to continue ISO/TC 207's contribution to climate change, environmental management and sustainable development. Mr. Rob Steele, ISO Secretary General delivered a video message thanking participants for their efforts to develop environmental management systems and tools relevant to global issues. H. E. Eng. Maged George, Egyptian Minister of State for Environmental Affairs summarized national and regional environmental management challenges and activities, noting the importance of ISO/TC 207 initiatives. Dr. Bob Page, Chair of ISO/TC 207, thanked the Government of Egypt and the Egyptian Organization for Standardization and Quality (EOS) for hosting the 16th plenary meetings in the historic city of Cairo. Dr. Page wished delegates success while stressing the special circumstances of developing countries in an increasingly inter-dependent world. Mr. Adham Nadim, Executive Manager of Egypt's Industrial Modernization Centre, presented on initiatives aimed at "greening" Egypt's small- and medium-sized enterprises.

ISO/TC 207 Closing Plenary - Resolutions of the 16th Plenary Meetings

ISO/TC 207 approved 13 resolutions at its 16th plenary meetings in Cairo (available from www.tc207.org). Resolutions included the:

- Reappointment of the ISO/TC 207 Vice-chair;
- Reappointment of the Terminology Co-ordination Group Chair;
- Expression of thanks to O. Dodds retired Chair of SC1;
- Support for an ISO/TC 207 Chair's initiative to renew ISO/TC 207 strategic planning through the development and implementation of improved market assessment mechanisms, an ISO/TC 207 strategic vision and criteria for screening existing and proposed work items;
- Expression of thanks to ISO/DEVCO, national standards bodies and other funding agencies for supporting the participation of several developing country delegates to ISO/TC 207's 16th plenary meetings and encouragement to expand opportunities for developing country participation;
- Congratulations to Egypt on leading the development of a draft ISO/TC 207 new work item proposal on the combat of desertification and encouragement to dialogue with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) to validate priority standardization needs, explore co-operative opportunities and finalize new work item proposals;
- Support for the conclusion by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's (UNFCCC) Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA - /CP.15) encouraging the joint preparation of standards, guidance materials and reporting guidelines between relevant agencies of the United Nations and the ISO for terrestrial climate variables and systems;
- Acceptance of a kind offer from Mexico to host the 17th plenary meetings of ISO/TC 207 from July 11 to 17, 2010.

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

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

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 Cairo meetings to report on its work since the Bogotá meetings and to plan its work for the upcoming year.

The CAG SME Task Group agreed to focus its work on:

- The promotion of ISO 14001 environmental management systems and performance recognition in the supply chain by second parties (customer), the use of improved organizational and product performance models based on the revised ISO 14031, enhanced cooperation between the new SC4/WG3 on Data Quality (new ISO/TS14033) and other TC 207 Committees/Groups such as SC1, SC3, SC4/WG3, SC5, SC7 and TC207/WG8;
- Exploring the possibility to use sector/branch guidance for ISO 14001 and ISO 14031 (new SC4/TG) by SMEs to assist sectoral implementation of ISO 14001;
- Building capacity internally and externally to enable SME experts to participate more effectively within ISO/TC 207, for example the use of a CAG SME TG web site;
- Formally inviting SME experts to participate in ISO/TC 207 and the CAG SME Task Group through participating National Standards Bodies and the International Council for Small Business and its regional affiliates.

ISO/TC 207 Developing Countries Contact Group (DCCG)

ISO/TC 207 DCCG held two meetings in Cairo with delegates from 20 countries participating. The DCCG received presentations on the activities of ISO 14000 series of standards in various regions in addition to presentations on carbon footprint and desertification. DCCG urged its members to seek ways to strengthen cooperation between the developing regional economic cooperation groups represented in ISO/TC 207. The DCCG agreed to review the business plan that will be aligned to the current strategic planning efforts of ISO TC 207. In addition, DCCG agreed, through the assistance of ISO/TC 207 leadership and ISO DEVCO, to explore opportunities to build capacity in carbon footprint, greenhouse gas quantification, validation and verification and management system auditing.

ISO/TC 207 Social Responsibility (SR) Task Force

The ISO/TC 207 SR Task Force met once in Cairo with 11 members participating from 9 countries. The Task Force received a presentation on the activities of the ISO/TMB WG SR. According to the drafting plan, ISO/DIS 26000 will be circulated by ISO/CS 7 September 2009 for a five months period of commenting and voting. The next WG SR meeting will be held in Copenhagen, Denmark with the date to be confirmed. The ISO/TC 207 SR Task Force noted it would present its final report to the 17th plenary meeting of ISO/TC 207.

ISO/TC 207 Special Meeting on Desertification

ISO/TC 207 resolved at its 14th 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 Ad hoc Group presented its final report at the Bogotá meetings recommending development of an ISO/TC 207 standard specifying principles, requirements and performance indicators for combating desertification. At the Cairo meetings, Egypt led discussions with about 20 delegates to refine a draft ISO/TC 207 new work item proposal on the combat of desertification. Recognizing the urgency of taking action on desertification,

ISO/TC 207 re-established an *Ad Hoc* Group on Desertification led by Egypt and supported by Australia, China and Indonesia. ISO/TC 207 encouraged the *Ad Hoc* Group on Desertification to dialogue with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) to validate priority standardization needs, explore co-operative opportunities and finalize new work item proposals.

ISO/TC 207 Spanish Translation Task Force (STTF)

The ISO/TC 207 STTF met several times in Cairo to prepare the Spanish translation of the ISO/DIS 14005 - *Environmental management systems - Guidelines for the phased implementation of an environmental management system*. The next meeting of the STTF will be held jointly with other ISO Spanish Translation groups (ISO/CASCO/STWG, ISO/TC 176/STTG) in late 2009.

ISO/TC 207 Arabic Translation Task Force (ATTF)

The ISO/TC 207 ATTF met in several times in Cairo where representatives of Egypt, Libya, Sudan, Iraq, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, AIDMO and the Arab League reviewed progress in the translation of ISO 14024 - *Environmental labels and declarations - Type I environmental labelling* and ISO 14031 – *Environmental performance evaluation*. The ATTF revised its 2008 to 2010 workplan, noting that 4 standards had been sent to ISO for publication in Arabic since its 2008 meetings in Bogotá. 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 2009.

For more information on ISO/TC 207, contact Mr. Kevin Boehmer, ISO/TC 207 Secretary, Canadian Standards Association at 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 held its 17th plenary meeting in Cairo, Egypt on 26th June 2009. The meeting was attended by 28 P members, 1 O Member and 9 Liaisons. The plenary was preceded by the following meetings:

- WG 3 – Resolution of comments from the DIS 14005 (Staged implementation of an EMS), which resulted in an improved draft. WG 3 experts recommended SC 1 members to support a second DIS ballot.
- WG 4 – Preparation of CD 14006 (Guidance on Ecodesign). Experts resolved comments from WD internal consultation and prepared text for CD ballot, which is expected to commence in mid July.
- Study Group on Future Challenges of EMS. New title and terms of reference approved by SC 1. The group will consider new approaches and methods in the field of EMS, it will liaise with its sister group at TC 176/SC 2, feed into the TMB/TAG 13 – JTCG process and report to SC 1 at its next plenary.

- SC 1 JTCG Task Group. The mirror group to TMB/TAG 13 reviewed the outcome of the last JTCG meetings highlighting the two documents out for consultation in parallel at TC and SC 1.

The subcommittee reviewed the proposed mission and vision statements and a document setting out the differences between sector, aspect and element within an MSS. The document will be revised in the near future. Addressing concerns about difficulties in attending ISO meetings and the advance of technologies that allow remote participation, the SC 1 leadership will look into ways of facilitating members' remote participation at meetings (e.g. use of Webinars and teleconferences) and trial them as soon as possible.

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

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

ISO/TC 207/SC 2 held its 15th plenary session on 25 June in Cairo. The subcommittee was informed about the intermediate results of the meeting in Cairo of ISO/TC 176/SC 3/ WG 16 'Joint working group on auditing' that is responsible for the revision of ISO 19011. As part of the revision process the scope of ISO 19011 has been broadened to cover auditing of all types of management systems. Therefore not only TC 176 and TC 207 co-operate in WG 16, but also representatives of ISO committees responsible for food safety management, information security management, risk management and others as well as the non-ISO OHSAS Project Group that is responsible for OH&S management. WG 16 considered the comments received on the 2nd working draft and decided to proceed with the circulation of Committee Draft for ballot and comments. ISO/TC 207/SC 2 decided to establish a task force to prepare a consolidated response from the subcommittee on the annex in ISO 19011 that covers the guidance on EMS auditor competence.

The subcommittee also received an update on the development of ISO 17021-2, the draft standard with requirements for 3rd party certification audits and auditors. This document will proceed to the DIS stage. As a result of this update report the subcommittee discussed the potential need for new work on competence requirements for 3rd party EMS certification auditors. It is envisaged that the need for coordinated action on this type of discipline specific "add-on" documents will be discussed in the upcoming meeting of the Joint Technical Coordination Group. The results of that discussion will be awaited before deciding on the issue of a NWIP.

The subcommittee decided to establish a task force that will prepare a survey to identify market needs related to its scope.

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

ISO/TC 207 Subcommittee 3, Environmental Labelling

ISO/TC 207/SC3 on Environmental Labelling held its Cairo plenary meeting on June 25 and 26, 2009. The meeting was well attended with 31 participants from 23 countries in attendance. Items discussed included an amendment to ISO 14021 (covering claims made by producers and suppliers on the labels of products and in associated advertising material) increasing the range of covered claims and definitions as no changes had been made to the standard since it was first published in 1999. Potential new claims and definitions (Clause 3) discussed at the meeting included biomass, greenhouse gasses, life cycle greenhouse gas emissions, offsetting, sustainable development and traceability. Discussion on usage of terms (Clause 7) included renewable, renewable energy, sustainable, claims relating to greenhouse gas emissions, carbon footprint and carbon neutral. There was also discussion on symbols including “Do not litter”, “Separation for recycling” and material symbols for aluminium, magnetic steel, glass and plastic.

Plenary meeting decisions included a decision for future alignment and adaptation of the ISO 14020 series standards and moving ISO 14021 from CD to DIS to cover additional symbols and selected claims. ISO/TC 207/SC3 will meet at the next ISO/TC 207 plenary meetings to discuss comments on the DIS concerning the amendment to ISO14021 and to progress alignment and adaptation of the ISO 14020 series standards

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

ISO/TC 207 Subcommittee 4, Environmental Performance Evaluation

ISO/TC 207/SC4 met on June 22, 24 and 26 and began the revision of ISO 14031. Some 40 plus source documents were identified and referenced as potentially relevant and applicable for this revision. Over the next twelve months, extracts from these sources will be evaluated by the entire SC for their inclusion in the revised 14031. The SC also established Working Group 3 to create a new document on data quantification and quality. Sweden was appointed to chair this WG. The SC also formed a Task Group to develop a methodology that could be used by sectors to develop sector-specific indicators. Germany was appointed to chair this TG. The SC decided to withdraw ISO 14032 as it is now considered outdated and obsolete. Over the next year, the work of updating ISO 14031 will be conducted by e-mail and occasional conference calls. The next meeting of the SC will be in conjunction with the 17th plenary meeting of ISO/TC 207.

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

ISO/TC 207 Subcommittee 5, Environmental Life Cycle Assessment

ISO/TC 207/SC5 held its Cairo plenary meeting on June 26, 2009. The meeting was well attended with 21 P members and 1 liaison organization participating. The meeting was

preceding by a workshop where LCA and eco-efficiency activities were presented, a task force meeting which proposed recommendations to SC5 on the future of ISO/TR14047 and 14049 and a WG 7 meeting where the group reviewed the comments received on WD.1 14045 and agreed to issue a WD.2 in August.

Other ISO/TC 207/SC5 items included the establishment of new working group (WG8) to undertake an approved project on water footprinting and the recommendation to all SC5 members to vote on the systematic review enquiry on ISO 14040 and ISO 14044 (end of the ballot : 2009-09-15).

ISO/TC 207/SC5 plans to hold its next plenary meeting in conjunction with the 17th plenary meetings of ISO/TC 207 and hopes to convene a workshop during this session.

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

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

ISO/TC 207/SC 7 held its Cairo plenary meetings on June 21 and 26, 2009 and approved a total of 18 resolutions. SC7/WG1, which is developing ISO 14066 on *Competence requirements for greenhouse gas validation teams and verification teams with guidance for evaluation* met and resolved all comments on WD3 and finalized ISO 14066 CD1 for a 2 month ballot with comment. SC7/WG2 which is developing ISO 14067 on *Carbon Footprint of Products (Part 1: Quantification and Part 2: Communication)* met and prepared a revised text for parts of WD2 based on the comments received. WG2 is planning to deliver CD1 by November 2009. At its closing plenary SC7 established SC7/WG3 to develop an ISO Technical Report on *Greenhouse Gases - Quantification and Reporting of GHG emissions of Organizations – Guidance for the application of ISO 14064-1 (Carbon Footprint of Organizations)*. ISO/TC 207/SC7 in collaboration with ISO Central Secretariat agreed to apply for an ISO Side Event at COP 15 in December 2009 in Copenhagen. Following COP 15, SC7 will convene an Ad Hoc Group to assess the results of COP 15 with the purpose of identifying potential opportunities for international standardization by TC 207 and SC7. SC7 will meet again at the 17th plenary meetings of ISO/TC 207.

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

ISO/TC 207 Terminology Co-ordination Group

The ISO/TC 207 Terminology Co-ordination Group (TCG) held one meeting from June 21 to 26, 2009. The TCG noted that ISO 14050 was published in February 2009 and includes ISO 14000 terms and definitions in English, French, Russian, Spanish, Arabic, Dutch, German, Finnish, Italian, Norwegian, Portuguese and Swedish. The TCG updated its workplan in Cairo, identifying 12 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 now 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

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 had a half day meeting in Cairo. The main topic of the WG7 meeting was discussion of the results of a questionnaire distributed to P-members regarding the implementation of ISO Guide 64. The outcome of the meeting was a plan including proposals and actions for promoting the implementation of the Guide. ISO/TC 207 decided to maintain WG7 for one more year to carry out these actions.

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 or Mr. Reiner Hager, ISO/TC 207 WG7 Co-secretary, Deutsches Institut für Normung e.V. at 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 (MFCA) held its third meeting in Cairo from June 22nd to June 26th, 2009. Meeting activities included a workshop, and discussion on aggregated comments on a committee draft (CD) 1 of the standard among approximately 30 participants. Also, the WG8 liaison with International Federation of Accountants was reported at the meeting. Furthermore, future project schedule was established after the successful discussion. ISO/TC 207 Working Group 8 decided to develop and circulate CD2 of ISO 14051 in September 2009. The next meeting of WG8 is scheduled for January 2010 in Prague, Czech Republic.

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