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Working Party on Technical Harmonization and
Standardization Policies

Tenth session, 6-8 November 2000

Item 8 (c) of the provisional agenda

Developments in the Area of Environmental Management Standards*

Note by the Rapporteur on Quality

ISO/TC 207 held its 8th Plenary meeting in Stockholm from 11 to 18 June 2000. Member bodies from 60 countries participated in the meetings, as well as 11 liaison organizations.

The 8th Plenary meeting of ISO/TC 207 set the framework for upcoming committee activities. The Plenary concluded with 30 resolutions, which included support for the:

- ❖ Ongoing work/strategies of ISO/TC 207's six Subcommittees (SCs) and one Working Group (WG)
- ❖ Ongoing compatibility activities between ISO 14001 and ISO 9001
- ❖ Implementation of a process to establish a "Terminology Group" and disband SC6
- ❖ Issuance of a letter ballot to determine whether an NGO Task Group will be established
- ❖ Strengthened Terms of References, and structure, of the Developing Countries Contact Group
- ❖ Ongoing work of the Climate Change Task Force
- ❖ Completed/ongoing work of the Spanish Translation Task Force.

Meeting participants declared the 8th Plenary meeting of ISO/TC 207 a resounding success. TC 207 accepted an invitation from the Malaysian Ambassador to Sweden to host the 9th Plenary meeting of ISO/TC 207 from June 3 to 10, 2001 in Kuala Lumpur. ISO/TC 207 also accepted an invitation from Colombia to host the 10th Plenary in Cartagena de Indias in 2002.

* The present document is circulated for information to delegates on the recent activities of ISO Technical Committee 207 "Environmental Management".

Here is the summary of main outcomes of the Subcommittees (SCs) and other meetings held in Stockholm.

Subcommittee 1 (SC1), Environmental Management Systems

Key discussion and outcomes included:

- ❖ Requested WG1 to initiate the revision process of ISO 14001:1996. The revision will be limited to consideration of issues related to compatibility of ISO 14001 with ISO 9001 and to clarification of the existing text. Any changes to the existing text should help understanding and implementation by users without resulting in additional requirements in ISO 14001. Any suggested changes will be considered against the criteria set by SC1 in the document SC1 N223 Annex B.
- ❖ Ensured that any existing/new issues in environmental management not dealt with within its current revision process are recorded for future analysis.
- ❖ Authorized WG2 to continue the revision process of ISO 14004:1996.
- ❖ Requested WG1 and WG2 to take into consideration relevant Joint Task Group (JTG) recommendations on compatibility during the revision of ISO 14001 and ISO 14004.
- ❖ Resolved to ensure that effective communication and liaison exists and is maintained with ISO/TC 207/SC4, to ensure appropriate consultation and communication during the revision of the ISO 14001 and ISO 14004 standards.
- ❖ Decided to accept the invitation to participate in ISO/CASCO/WG 20's revision of Guide 7 – "Guidelines for the drafting of standards suitable to use for conformity assessment".

Subcommittee 2 (SC2), Environmental Auditing

Key discussion and outcomes included:

- ❖ ISO 14015 provides guidelines for the Environmental Assessment of Sites and Organizations (sometimes referred to as Environmental Due Diligence Assessments). ISO 14015 has been circulated for ballot as a Draft International Standard with a closing date of 1 October 2000.
- ❖ ISO 19011 provides guidelines on auditing of quality and environmental management systems. This document is being developed by a Joint Working Group (JWG) of TC 207/SC2 and TC 176/SC3 and will replace the current separate standards on quality and environmental auditing (ISO 10011 (guidelines for auditing quality system) and ISO 14010-14012).
- ❖ ISO 19011 has been circulated as the Second Committee Draft (CD). ISO/TC 207/SC2 resolved to take decisions on the further development of ISO 19011 after the next JWG meeting (September 2000) considers results of the CD2 ballot.

Subcommittee 3 (SC3), Environmental Labelling

Key discussion and outcomes included:

- ❖ The first meeting of the new SC3/WG4 Type III Environmental declarations was the main focus of activity on environmental labels and declarations in Stockholm. The working group completed its first task, to review the comments submitted along with the ballots on TR 14025:2000 Environmental labels and declarations – Type III environmental declarations. The working group proposed a future work programme with the objective of further analyzing and resolving these issues. The SC endorsed this plan while making it clear that the time is not yet right to begin standardization of Type III environmental declarations.

- ❖ A proposal was put forward to encourage experts in LCA and in Type III environmental declarations to coordinate at the national level with a view to resolving the two substantive issues in relation to TR 14025 that had been raised in TC 207/SC5. These issues were the use of comparative assertions and the use of alternative methodologies in the application of Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) to Type III environmental declarations.
- ❖ With the publication of ISO 14021 on self-declared environmental claims and ISO 14024 on Type I environmental labelling, it was decided that the two working groups that developed these standards could be placed in abeyance until such time as they may again be needed.
- ❖ There was also considerable discussion of the need to facilitate implementation of the standards in the ISO 14020 series in developing countries, countries in transition to a market economy and generally throughout the world.

Subcommittee 4 (SC4), Environmental Performance Evaluation

As ISO 14031:1999 (Environmental performance evaluation - Guidelines) and ISO TR 14032:1999 (Examples of environmental performance evaluation) have been published, this SC addressed a series of administrative matters, including:

- ❖ Relationships/liaisons with other ISO/TC 207 subgroups. By resolution, the subcommittee agreed that its leaders would establish relations with the leaders of SC1 in order to obtain information that may be helpful for SC4 to determine whether it wishes to provide input on the revisions of ISO 14001 and ISO 14004. Furthermore, resolutions were passed to support the SC's review of SC5 draft document ISO 14048 (LCA data documentation format) and the ISO/TC 207 Climate Change Task Force's (CCTF) third draft interim report.
- ❖ The SC reviewed results of the very successful June 13, 2000 Environmental Performance Evaluation (EPE) workshop and agreed that the SC should organize another such workshop to be held in Kuala Lumpur at the June 2001 ISO/TC 207 meetings. This future workshop should feature EPE implementation examples from SMEs, Asian countries and organizations that have used Environmental Condition Indicators (ECIs).
- ❖ An open discussion was held on possible new or future work items for the SC, and Sweden indicated its interest in submitting a new work item proposal to either this SC or to ISO/TC 207 on the subject of internal and external communications.

Subcommittee 5 (SC5), Environmental Life Cycle Assessment

Key discussion and outcomes included:

- ❖ Resolved to collect ISO 14040 implementation data from member bodies.
- ❖ Circulation of the first working draft of ISO 14047 to SC5/WG4 for comments, with the second working draft going to SC5 for comments and vote prior to the 9th ISO/TC 207 meetings.
- ❖ Recommended change in title of ISO/CD 14048 to "Life Cycle Interpretation (LCI) Data Documentation Format". The second CD of ISO 14048 will be circulated to SC5 requesting positions on whether the documents should be a Technical Specification or an International Standard.

Subcommittee 6 (SC6), Terms and Definitions

Key discussion and outcomes included:

- ❖ SC6/Ad Hoc Group (AHG) –finalized entries to be included in the second edition of ISO 14050 Environmental Management-Vocabulary to be submitted to ISO CS for FDIS (Final Draft International Standard) ballot.
- ❖ SC6/AHG1 discussed terminology coordination issues related to cooperation with ISO/TC 176.
- ❖ Recommended that a new “Terminology Group”, with committed participation from other ISO/TC 207 SCs and WGs, be established and SC6 eventually disbanded. Detailed guidelines regarding the Scope, Leadership, Membership and Operations of the proposed group were developed and presented to the Chair’s Advisory Group.
- ❖ Recommended that work continues and be strengthened on the development of a “Multilingual Term Bank of Environmental Management”.

Working Group 3 (WG3), Design For The Environment

ISO/TC 207/WG3 meetings focused on developing structure and content for the first draft of the ISO/TR 14064 (Integrating Environmental Aspects into Product Development). Participants agreed to circulate the first working draft to WG3 members for comments by the end of June 2000 and set their next meeting for October 11 to 13, 2000 in Toronto, Canada.

Annex

International Standards of the ISO 14000 series
Normes internationales de la série ISO 14000

ISO Guide 64:1997	Guide for the inclusion of environmental aspects in product standards	Guide pour l'introduction des aspects environnementaux dans les normes de produit
ISO 14001:1996	Environmental management systems - Specification with guidance for use	Systèmes de management environnemental - Spécification et lignes directrices pour son utilisation
ISO 14004:1996	Environmental management systems - General guidelines on principles, systems and supporting techniques	Systèmes de management environnemental - Lignes directrices générales concernant les principes, les systèmes et les techniques de mise en oeuvre
ISO 14010:1997	Guidelines for environmental auditing - General principles	Lignes directrices pour l'audit environnemental - Principes généraux
ISO 14011:1996	Guidelines for environmental auditing - Audit procedures - Auditing of environmental management systems	Lignes directrices pour l'audit environnemental - Procédures d'audit - Audit des systèmes de management environnemental
ISO 14012:1996	Guidelines for environmental auditing - Qualification criteria for environmental auditors	Lignes directrices pour l'audit environnemental - Critères de qualification pour les auditeurs environnementaux
ISO/CD 14015	Environmental management - Environmental assessment of sites and organizations	Management environnemental - Evaluation environnementale des sites et organismes
ISO/WD 19011	Guidelines on quality and environmental auditing	Lignes directrices pour l'audit qualité et environnemental
ISO 14020:1998	Environmental labels and declarations - General principles	Étiquettes et déclarations environnementales - Principes généraux

ISO 14021:1999	Environmental labels and declarations - Self-declared environmental claims (Type II environmental labelling) (<i>under publication</i>)	
	Environmental labels and declarations - Type I environmental labelling - Principles and procedures (<i>under publication</i>)	
ISO 14024:1999	Environmental labels and declarations – Type III environmental labelling (<i>future type 2 technical report</i>)	Marquages et déclarations environnementaux - Autodéclarations environnementales (Etiquetage environnementale de type II) (<i>en cours de publication</i>)
ISO/CD TR 14025	Environmental management - Environmental performance evaluation - Guidelines	Marquages et déclarations environnementaux - Label environnemental de type I - Principes et méthodes
ISO/FDIS 14031	Environmental management – Examples of environmental performance evaluation (EPE) (<i>future technical report</i>)	Marquages et déclarations environnementaux – Label environnemental de type III (<i>futur rapport technique type 2</i>)
ISO/CD 14032		Management environnemental - Evaluation de la performance environnementale - Lignes directrices
		Management environnemental – Exemples d'évaluation de la performance environnementale (EPE) (<i>futur rapport technique</i>)
ISO 14040:1997	Environmental management - Life cycle assessment - Principles and framework	Management environnemental - Analyse du cycle de vie - Principes et cadre
ISO14041:1998	Environmental management - Life cycle assessment - Goal and scope definition and inventory analysis	Management environnemental - Analyse du cycle de vie - Définition de l'objectif et du champ d'étude et analyse de l'inventaire
ISO/FDIS 14042	Environmental management - Life cycle assessment - Life cycle impact assessment (<i>in preparation</i>)	Management environnemental - Analyse du cycle de vie - Evaluation d'impact du cycle de vie (<i>en cours de préparation</i>)

ISO/FDIS 14043	Environmental management - Life cycle assessment - Life cycle interpretation <i>(in preparation)</i>	Management environnemental - Analyse du cycle de vie - Interprétation du cycle de vie <i>(en cours de préparation)</i>
ISO/AWI 14047	Environmental management - Life cycle assessment - Examples for the application of ISO 14042 <i>(future technical report)</i>	Management environnemental - Analyse du cycle de vie - Exemples d'application de l'ISO 14042 <i>(futur rapport technique)</i>
ISO/AWI TR 14048	Environmental management – Life cycle assessment – Data documentation format <i>(future technical report)</i>	Management environnemental – Analyse du cycle de vie – Format de données de documentation <i>(futur rapport technique)</i>
ISO/CD TR 14049	Environmental management - Life cycle assessment - Examples for the application of ISO 14041 <i>(future technical report)</i>	Management environnemental - Analyse du cycle de vie - Exemples pour l'application de l'ISO 14041 <i>(futur rapport technique)</i>
ISO 14050:1998	Management-environnemental – Vocabulaire	Management environnemental - Vocabulaire
ISO/CD 14050:1998/ DAM 1	Amendment 1 to ISO 14050:1998	Amendement 1 à l'ISO 14050:1998
ISO/TR 14061:1998	Information to assist forestry organizations in the use of Environmental Management System standards ISO 14001 and ISO 14004	Informations pour assister les organismes forestiers dans l'utilisation des normes ISO 14001 et ISO 14004 relatives aux systèmes de management environnemental
ISO/TR 14062	Guidelines to integrating environmental aspects into product development <i>(new work item proposal, not yet approved)</i>	Directives relatives à l'intégration des aspects environnementaux dans le développement des produits <i>(proposition de nouvelle étude, pas encore approuvée)</i>

ISO/TC 207 website: <http://www.tc207.org>ISO website: <http://www.iso.ch/>**Abbreviations**

AWI	Approved Work Item	FDIS	Final Draft International Standards
CD	Committee Draft	TR	Technical Report
DAM	Draft amendment	WD	Working Draft
