HOW NEW WORK ITEMS COME TO BE

“GOOD STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE”

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Peter Linders

SWG member, Chair ISO/TC 210, Chair DITTA Standardization WG
1. Introduction
2. Mechanics of standards development
3. Structured approach
4. Tools
5. What’s critical?
6. Take aways
INTRODUCTION

Development of (IEC, ISO) standards is simple ...  
... if you know what to do

Oh well, there are a few boundary conditions:

• Adhere to WTO principles
• Adhere to prescribed format
• Follow prescribed processes
• Subject to national members approval

See ISO/IEC Directives 1&2
WTO principles (Directives pt 1, Annex SM.1):

- Effectively respond to regulatory and market needs (in the global marketplace)
- Respond to scientific and technical developments in various countries
- Not distort the market
- Have no adverse effects on fair competition
- Not stifle innovation and technological development
- Not give preference to characteristics or requirements of specific countries or regions when different needs or interests exist in other countries or regions
- Be performance based as opposed to design prescriptive
More principles (Directives pt 1, Annex SO.2):

a) ISO and IEC are committed to creating **market-driven** International Standards, based on objective information and knowledge on which there is global consensus, and not on subjective judgments, in order to provide credible technical tools that can support the implementation of regulation and public policy initiatives.

b) ISO and IEC are committed to developing International Standards that are market relevant, **meeting the needs and concerns of all relevant stakeholders** including public authorities where appropriate, without seeking to establish, drive or motivate public policy, regulations, or social and political agendas.
Still more principles (Directives pt 1, Annex SO.3):

- transparency
- openness
- impartiality and consensus
- relevance and effectiveness
- coherence
- development dimension

For details of these principles, see Annex 4 to the Second Triennial Review of the TBT Agreement.
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*Similar process for TR, TS, and PAS*
TC/SC

P-members
O-members

NCs

WG / PT

Working Group stage
(draft documents)

NC interest?

Working Group stage
(draft documents)

 WG / PT

TC stage
(comments)

2 voting
stages

IS Process

1. Preliminary Stage
(PWI)

2. Proposal Stage
(NP, RVN)

3. Preparatory Stage
(WD)

4. Committee Stage
(CD, CC)

5. Enquiry Stage
(CDV, RVC)

6. Approval Stage
(FDIS, RVD)

7. Publication Stage
(IS)

≥2/3 P-mem. vote &
≥4(or 5) NCs experts

≥2/3 P-mem vote &
<25% neg. vote
(both stages)

Detailed workflows on IEC website
Obviously, IEC and ISO demand a “standard approach” ...

- Part 2 of ISO/IEC Directives describes just that ...
- Lots of support tools are there to help drafting of standards
- Among them: ISO/IEC Guides, e.g. Guide 51, Guide 63

NB – Part 1 of Directives is about structuring the work
WHAT’S CRITICAL?

Three elements are decisive for a good standard development and timely delivery:

1. New work item Proposal (NP)
2. Stakeholder representation
3. Convener
WHAT’S CRITICAL?

Three critical elements:

1) New work item Proposal (NP)
   - Reflects clear vision of intended deliverable
   - Has solid justification for the effort to be made
   - Is realistic about time needed
   - Might refer to selected “Essential Principles”
WHAT’S CRITICAL?

Three critical elements:

2) Stakeholder representation

- Broad group of experts \((\text{expertise, nationality, ...})\)
- Collaborative attitude
- Preferably available for the entire project
- Ideally: mix of expertise tailored to project
- Often depends on experts “made available”
WHAT’S CRITICAL?

Three critical elements:

3) Convener

- Consensus builder
- Must have ample time available
- Project manager, for timely completion
- Focus, preferably not too close to the subject
Sometimes, a convener must “borrow” from Darth Vader.

Asteroids do not concern me, Admiral. I want that ship, not excuses.
TAKE AWAYS

• Good standards development is not difficult, but ...
• Many tools and support materials available
• Context for IEC/ISO standards: enhancing global trade and regulatory convergence
• Structure and format prescribed in Directives
• Good preparation (NP) critical for start-up
• Focus and dedication critical for timely delivery
THANK YOU!

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