



INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

REPORT TO WTO TBT COMMITTEE

March 2015

IEC. Making electrotechnology work for you.



IEC ACTIVITIES IN DEVELOPING AND INDUSTRIALIZING COUNTRIES

OCTOBER 2014 – MARCH 2015

This report to the WTO Technical Barriers to Trade Committee highlights the activities of the IEC, its Members, Affiliates and Regional Centres related to increasing the participation of developing and industrializing countries in IEC International Standardization and Conformity Assessment activities.

IEC Regional Centre activities

IEC Asia-Pacific Regional Centre

The IEC Asia-Pacific Regional Centre ([IEC-APRC](#)), located in Singapore, has a twofold mission: to promote awareness of the IEC in the region, increase the use of IEC International Standards and Conformity Assessment (CA) Systems as well as enhance participation of all countries in the region in the Commission's work; and to provide additional staff support to IEC Technical Committees (TCs) and Subcommittees (SCs) in the same way the IEC Central Office does at present.

JISC/IEC/APSG Human Resource Development Seminar on IEC International Standards and Conformity Assessment activities – Jakarta, Indonesia, 28 January 2015

IEC-APRC, in collaboration with the Japanese Industrial Standards Committee ([JISC](#)) and the [Indonesia IEC National Committee](#) organized the JISC/IEC/APSG (Asia-Pacific Steering Group) seminar on "Standards and Conformity Assessment". The objective of the seminar was to provide the latest updates on standards relating to electrical safety and Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) for Information Technology Equipment (ITE), Multi-Function Peripheral/Printer/Product (MFP) as well as on the IEC Conformity Assessment Systems. The focus was particularly on the IECEE (IEC System of Conformity Assessment Schemes for Electrotechnical Equipment and Components) CB Scheme where there were presentations on how it is used and accepted in Japan, Malaysia and Singapore. The IECEE CB Scheme helps facilitate trade through the mutual acceptance of test results based on IEC International Standards. About 50 industry and government officials from Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand attended the seminar.

IEC-PTB national workshop – Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, 20 November 2014

Following the IEC General Meeting in Tokyo, Japan, in November 2014, IEC Asia-Pacific Regional Director flew to [Mongolia](#), accompanied by IEC Affiliate Country Programme Executive Secretary. The objective of their visit was first a joint workshop with [PTB](#), the German national metrology institute that provides capacity building to developing countries. The workshop focussed on IEC International Standards and Conformity Assessment Systems in the field of renewable energies. The second objective was to assist the country in establishing its National Electrotechnical Committee (NEC) under the terms of the IEC Affiliate Country Programme. A meeting, held at the Mongolian Agency for Standardization and Metrology ([MASM](#)) headquarters, brought together stakeholders from small and medium enterprise, the Chamber of Commerce, the telecommunication sector, laboratories, the administrative City Council of Ulaanbaatar, the university,

the college of electrical engineering and of course MASM itself. Since November, Mongolia has established its NEC, has become an IEC Affiliate Plus, has signed the IEC Affiliate Conformity Assessment Status (ACAS) Pledge for training in CA and has begun a mentoring partnership with Germany.

IEC Latin America Regional Centre

The IEC Latin America Regional Centre ([IEC-LARC](#)), located in São Paulo, Brazil, is the focal point for the IEC in Latin America, helping to promote awareness of the IEC in the region, increase the use of IEC International Standards and IEC CA Systems, and enhance participation and membership of countries in the region.

New NEC meeting – Port-au-Prince, Haiti, 28 January 2015

The first meeting of the Haitian NEC took place in Port-au-Prince on 28 January 2015. The meeting was first chaired by Michèle Paultre, Director of Haiti bureau of standards ([Bureau Haïtien de Normalisation](#)) and then by Jean-Robert Magloire from [CONATEL](#) (Conseil National des Télécommunications) who was officially elected NEC President during the meeting.

IEC-LARC Director took part by web conference with a presentation on the role of the NEC within the IEC Affiliate Country Programme. He presented additional benefits of the Programme such as the Affiliate Plus status, the ACAS and the IEC Mentoring Programme for Affiliate Countries. He insisted on the key role of the Secretary and the President and offered further assistance if necessary. The participants showed a strong interest in the NEC activities and that members should not only share their individual expertise but also the know-how of their companies. All were encouraged to involve their respective structures for the overall benefit of the Committee at the national level. Now the first task will be to consider the catalogue of IEC International Standards for national adoption.

For the time being, the NEC brings together representatives from the following sectors: university of sciences, civil aviation, national laboratories, utilities, private companies, mines and industry, public transports and communications, building and public works. The Secretariat is held by the Haitian bureau of standards. The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and the Collège National des Ingénieurs et Architectes Haïtiens (CNIAH) will be invited to attend the next meeting in view of integrating the Haitian NEC

Meetings with the Peruvian NEC – Lima, Peru, 10-11 February 2015

In February, IEC-LARC Director met with Peruvian NEC and stakeholders in Lima, Peru. The meetings brought together representatives from the industries, the government, accreditation bodies and the regulators, ►

- ▶ under the chairmanship of Rosario Uría from [INDECOPI](#), recently appointed as new IEC Affiliate Leader (see section below). IEC presented its structure based on two pillars: international standardization and conformity assessment activities. IEC Affiliate Leader focussed on the new benefits offered by the Programme emphasizing the participation of Peru which has the Affiliate Plus status and ACAS. A new Peruvian quality system will be put in place in March 2015 and many questions were raised about the four IEC Conformity Assessment Systems. NEC members and stakeholders showed great interest in using IEC ACAS e-learning modules to learn how to recognize conformity assessment certificates issued within the IEC Systems.

FINCA Meeting – Santiago, Chile, 16-17 October 2014

FINCA is the Forum of IEC National Committees of the Americas. All FINCA members were represented at the 2014 meeting: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Mexico and USA. The meeting was to update their information and help IEC National Committees to take a position on the IEC General Meeting issues due to the presence of very experienced NCs. It was the opportunity for newcomers to discuss the topics they needed to know better. FINCA is also a point of contact with COPANT, the Pan American Standards Commission, and it is becoming a bridge to help IEC Affiliates to participate more in IEC activities. It is also an ideal platform for regulators to meet and exchange on IEC work.

IEC Affiliate Country Programme

The [IEC Affiliate Country Programme](#) is aimed at developing countries that do not yet have the necessary infrastructure and technical expertise to participate in IEC activities as a Member. Participants join the Programme free of charge on invitation by the IEC General Secretary and CEO.

Update on participation

Since our last report, [Mongolia](#) and [Haiti](#) have reported the establishment of their NEC. The Mongolian NEC President is the Chairman of [MASM](#), whereas the Vice-President comes from [MCS International LLC](#), specialized in delivering solutions to the mining and energy industry. The NEC gathers emerging sectors from the mineral and energy resources, communication technology, commerce and trade, science and engineering academics, information technology, thermal energy, technical regulation of standards, accreditation policy and standardization, and certification of standards. In Haiti the NEC President comes from the telecommunication sector ([CONATEL](#)) and the Secretariat is held by the [Bureau Haïtien de Normalisation](#).

With the declaration of their previous 52 national adoptions and the establishment of the NEC, [Mongolia](#) met both criteria to be granted the [IEC Affiliate Plus Status](#). Similarly, [Bhutan](#) which has declared additional national adoptions to bring its total to 53, together with its already established NEC, has been granted the IEC Affiliate Plus Status. Out of the 83 developing countries that participate free of charge in IEC Affiliate Country Programme, 46 have now established their NEC and 23 have been granted the Affiliate Plus Status.

IEC Affiliate countries are showing further interest in IEC work through the national adoptions of IEC International Standards. Seven countries have declared additional adoptions: [Barbados](#), [Bhutan](#), [Costa Rica](#), [Ethiopia](#), [Ghana](#),

[Malawi](#), [Uganda](#). [Cameroon](#) also declared its first national adoptions of IEC International Standards.

New IEC Affiliate Leader

Phuntsho Wangdi's term of office came to an end on 31st December 2014 and as per 1st January 2015, the IEC Affiliate Countries have a new Leader. Rosario Uría, who is the Technical Secretary of the Standardization and Non-Tariff Barriers Surveillance Commission, [INDECOPI](#), Peru was appointed by IEC General Secretary. Uría will put her 24 years of experience and practical knowledge in national and international standardization to the service of the IEC Affiliate community for a period of 2 years. Uría contributed to the establishment of the NEC in her country in 2010 which allowed Peru to achieve the Affiliate Plus status. Peru is one of the Affiliate countries that uses its right to comment, and has already submitted technical and editorial comments during the development of IEC International Standards. During the 2014 IEC General Meeting in Tokyo, Rosario Uría learnt from Phuntsho Wangdi about her new role and met the IEC Affiliate delegations and the other members of the IEC Affiliate Team.

IEC Mentoring Programme for Affiliate Countries

The IEC is pleased to report the establishment of two new partnerships in the Mentoring Programme for Affiliate Countries: [Zambia–Austria](#) and [Mongolia–Germany](#). The IEC Affiliate countries and their respective mentors have committed for a period of 2 years to reinforce their NEC through activities including identifying and reaching out to relevant stakeholders, increasing the national adoptions of IEC International Standards and establishing mirror technical committees.

These partnerships add to those previously established between [Rwanda–Austria](#), [Afghanistan–Malaysia](#), [Côte D'Ivoire–France](#), [DR Congo–France](#), [Ethiopia–Germany](#), and [Uruguay–Norway](#) for a total of eight currently undergoing partnerships.

Also in the context of the IEC Mentoring Programme for Affiliate Countries, Afghanistan NEC Secretary was invited to the Department of Standards Malaysia in December 2014 to take part in a week long training programme. It was the opportunity for the Afghanistan NEC Secretary to meet with his counterpart in the Malaysian National Committee of the IEC and to observe the inner workings of an IEC Full Member National Committee.

Regional collaboration

SARSO – Dhaka, Bangladesh, 18-19 December 2014

In December 2014, IEC-APRC Director was invited by previous IEC Affiliate Leader, Phuntsho Wangdi, who is the Chair of the South Asian Regional Standards Organisation ([SARSO](#)) Governing Board to attend the SARSO Governing Board and Technical Management Board (TMB) meetings. SARSO is the South Asian Regional Standards Organization for all member states of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). The TMB oversees the various SAARC Sectoral Technical Committees, one of which covers electrical, electronics and related technologies. Except for the Maldives, all SARSO members are part of the IEC Family, either as Members (India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) or as Affiliates (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal). The SAARC Sectoral Technical Committee on Electrical, Electronics, Telecoms and IT has met for the first time in September 2014 and ▶

- is currently focused on harmonizing to IEC International Standards for double-capped fluorescent lamps and electrical cables. The meeting paved the way for further cooperation between SARSO and the IEC.

International collaboration

WTO workshop – Chinese Taipei, 2-4 December 2014

IEC was invited by the WTO to participate at the event at the request of Chinese Taipei. The national workshop addressed some 40 government officials relating to trade and provided an overview of the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade. The IEC presentation complemented the topics relating to the TBT Agreement and gave the participants background on the IEC as they are users of IEC International Standards.

WTO workshop – Lima, Peru, 12-13 February 2015

About 100 participants attended the WTO national workshop bringing together governmental departments and agencies, including regulators. IEC was represented by the Director of its Regional Centre for Latin America (IEC-LARC) and the IEC Affiliate Country Programme Leader, Rosario Uría from INDECOPI (Peru) who presented the benefits of the IEC Affiliate Country Programme and Peru's achievements. Uría also presented the new National Quality System that will push the country to be more effective in standardization and conformity assessment activities. Considering the Quality National Plan, it is expected that Peru will have adopted almost 200 IEC International Standards by the end of 2015. After the presentation on the Peruvian Conformity Assessment (CA) System, a discussion was engaged with IEC-LARC Director regarding the recognition of IEC CA Systems in Peru.

Collaboration pledge with ARE

In December 2014, the IEC signed a collaboration pledge with the Alliance for Rural Electrification (ARE) through its Affiliate Country Programme, to exchange information and promote communication between the organizations and have cross representation in each other's annual meetings and workshops.

ARE is an international business association which represents the decentralized energy sector working towards the integration of renewables into rural electrification markets in developing and emerging countries. As is the IEC, ARE is a partner of the United Nations Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) initiative. The collaboration with IEC began in September 2014 with the ARE Energy Access

Seminar in Brussels, Belgium. In November 2014, the IEC Coordinator for Africa attended the Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP) Workshop held in Nairobi, Kenya, part of a series of energy business dialogue fora taking place at the national level in Africa.

In March 2015, the IEC participated in the International ARE Energy Access Workshop held in Madrid, Spain, back to back with the ARE General Assembly. The IEC held a round table on facilitating rural electrification in developing countries through the use of IEC International Standards and Conformity Assessment Systems.

IEC at the IRENA 5th General Assembly, Abu Dhabi, 17-18 January 2015

In the context of its ongoing collaboration, the IEC attended the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) 5th General Assembly held in Abu Dhabi, UAE, 17-18 January 2015. IRENA is an intergovernmental organization that promotes the adoption and sustainable use of renewable energy. The IEC was invited to present the benefits for policymakers of using IEC International Standards in the renewable energies sector. It was the opportunity for IEC to meet with regulators in the energy sector and inform about IECRE, the new IEC CA System for renewable energies.

IEC Conformity Assessment activities

New ACAS countries

As part of its commitment to involve developing countries in all aspects of IEC work, including Conformity Assessment Systems, the IEC is pleased to report that three new countries have requested the IEC ACAS (Affiliate Conformity Assessment Status): Cameroon, Mongolia and Peru. This will enable them to access benefits such as the newly launched ACAS e-learning modules (see below), further information on IEC CA Certificates and Reports and, following successful completion of their training, access to the IEC CA System Management meetings.

ACAS e-learning

The IEC is pleased to announce the first release of its ACAS e-learning modules to train developing countries on the IEC CA Systems, including how they operate, and how developing countries can get involved. These modules are split into three levels, with progress to more advanced levels determined by a short test on previously covered knowledge. The IEC intends for developing countries to use this new resource, in conjunction with regional ACAS workshops, in order to familiarize themselves with IEC Conformity Assessment procedures. ■

About the IEC

The IEC is the world leading organization that prepares and publishes International Standards for all electrical, electronic and related technologies – collectively known as “electrotechnology”. The IEC also administers 4 global Conformity Assessment Systems, IECEE, IECEX, IECQ and IECRE.

They cover testing, certification and approval of equipment, systems, components and in selected areas services and personnel to its International Standards

IEC NC (National Committees): 83

Full Members: 60
Associate Members: 23

IEC Affiliates: 83

With adoption: 39

IEC TCs and SCs: 174

Technical Committees: 97
Subcommittees: 77

IEC Publications: 6 933 (as per 2014-12-31)

IEC Conformity Assessment Systems:

Over 1 000 000 issued certificates

ANNEX A

83 IEC National Committees (as per 2015-02-28)

Albania	Associate Member	Latvia	Associate Member
Algeria	Full Member	Libya	Full Member
Argentina	Full Member	Lithuania	Associate Member
Australia	Full Member	Luxembourg	Full Member
Austria	Full Member	Malaysia	Full Member
Bahrain	Associate Member	Malta	Associate Member
Belarus	Full Member	Mexico	Full Member
Belgium	Full Member	Moldova	Associate Member
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Associate Member	Montenegro	Associate Member
Brazil	Full Member	Morocco	Associate Member
Bulgaria	Full Member	Netherlands	Full Member
Canada	Full Member	New Zealand	Full Member
Chile	Full Member	Nigeria	Associate Member
China	Full Member	Norway	Full Member
Colombia	Full Member	Oman	Full Member
Croatia	Full Member	Pakistan	Full Member
Cuba	Associate Member	Philippines, Rep. of the	Full Member
Cyprus	Associate Member	Poland	Full Member
Czech Republic	Full Member	Portugal	Full Member
Denmark	Full Member	Qatar	Full Member
Egypt	Full Member	Romania	Full Member
Estonia	Associate Member	Russian Federation	Full Member
Finland	Full Member	Saudi Arabia	Full Member
France	Full Member	Serbia	Full Member
Georgia	Associate Member	Singapore	Full Member
Germany	Full Member	Slovakia	Full Member
Greece	Full Member	Slovenia	Full Member
Hungary	Full Member	South Africa	Full Member
Iceland	Associate Member	Spain	Full Member
India	Full Member	Sri Lanka	Associate Member
Indonesia	Full Member	Sweden	Full Member
Iraq	Full Member	Switzerland	Full Member
Iran	Full Member	Thailand	Full Member
Ireland	Full Member	The Former Yugoslav	
Israel	Full Member	Rep. of Macedonia	Associate Member
Italy	Full Member	Tunisia	Associate Member
Japan	Full Member	Turkey	Full Member
Jordan	Associate Member	Ukraine	Full Member
Kazakhstan	Associate Member	United Arab Emirates	Full Member
Kenya	Associate Member	United Kingdom	Full Member
Korea, DPR of	Associate Member	United States of America	Full Member
Korea, Republic of	Full Member	Vietnam	Associate Member

ANNEX B

83 IEC Affiliates (as per 2015-02-28)

Afghanistan	January 2007	Kyrgyzstan	December 2003
Angola	July 2002	Lao PDR	June 2002
Antigua and Barbuda	May 2002	Lebanon	November 2001
Armenia	November 2001	Lesotho	July 2005
Azerbaijan	June 2011	Madagascar	April 2005
Bahamas	July 2012	Malawi	November 2001
Bangladesh	November 2001	Mali	November 2001
Barbados	November 2001	Mauritania	May 2002
Belize	April 2002	Mauritius	November 2001
Benin	November 2001	Mongolia	December 2001
Bhutan	July 2006	Mozambique	March 2003
Bolivia	November 2001	Myanmar	November 2007
Botswana	November 2001	Namibia	November 2001
Brunei Darussalam	November 2001	Nepal	November 2001
Burkina Faso	November 2001	Niger	September 2006
Burundi	April 2002	Palestine	April 2009
Cambodia	November 2001	Panama	April 2003
Cameroon	March 2005	Papua New Guinea	May 2004
Central African Republic	April 2008	Paraguay	December 2001
Chad	June 2008	Peru	September 2002
Comoros	November 2001	Rwanda	November 2001
Congo	June 2008	Saint Kitts and Nevis	September 2013
Congo (Dem. Rep. of)	November 2001	Saint Lucia	April 2002
Costa Rica	February 2000	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	January 2008
Côte D'Ivoire	September 2003	Senegal	April 2002
Dominica	May 2002	Seychelles	November 2001
Dominican Republic	August 2005	Sierra Leone	March 2003
Ecuador	April 2003	South Sudan	April 2013
El Salvador	February 2008	Sudan	April 2004
Eritrea	August 1999	Suriname	November 2008
Ethiopia	June 2002	Swaziland	June 2003
Fiji	November 2001	Tanzania	November 2001
Gabon	February 2007	Togo	April 2006
Gambia	March 2008	Trinidad and Tobago	January 2007
Ghana	November 2001	Turkmenistan	December 2001
Grenada	November 2001	Uganda	November 2001
Guatemala	November 2001	Uruguay	September 1996
Guinea	January 2007	Yemen	April 2002
Guinea Bissau	November 2006	Zambia	March 2002
Guyana	November 2001	Zimbabwe	November 2001
Haiti	May 2002		
Honduras	August 2007		
Jamaica	November 2001		



INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

3, rue de Varembé
PO Box 131
CH-1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Tel: + 41 22 919 02 11
info@iec.ch
www.iec.ch