



Report to WTO TBT Committee

November 2016



IEC activities in developing and industrializing countries

June 2016 – October 2016

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 Africa Regional Centre

The IEC Africa Regional Centre ([IEC-AFRC](#)), located in Nairobi, Kenya, is the focal point for the IEC in Africa, helping to promote awareness of the IEC in the region, increase the use of IEC International Standards and IEC Conformity Assessment Systems, and enhance participation and membership of countries in the region.

Continuing visits to African countries of the IEC

IEC-AFRC Officers continued to tour Africa in order to support the electrotechnical standardization work of countries in the region. From June to October 2016, IEC-AFRC Officers visited countries of three African sub-regions:

- Eastern Africa (Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania) back to back with the the African Organization for Standardisation ([ARSO](#)) General Assembly in Arusha, Tanzania,
- Western Africa (Mauritania, Niger, Mali, Benin, Togo)
- Central Africa (Cameroon and the Republic of the Congo)

These visits supported Mauritania, Benin, Togo and the Republic of the Congo to set up their National Electrotechnical Committee (NEC). The other countries benefited from presentation of IEC Standardization work and Conformity Assessment Systems.

IOREC 2016 – Nairobi, Kenya, 30 September to 1 October 2016

IEC-AFRC participated in the 3rd edition of the International Off-Grid Renewable Energy Conference and Exhibition ([IOREC](#)) which took place in Nairobi. The Conference was organized by the International Renewable Energy Agency ([IRENA](#)) in partnership with the Kenya Ministry of Energy & Petroleum and the Alliance for Rural Electrification ([ARE](#)). IEC-AFRC Officers held a side-event together with IRENA on the topic of *"Reliable clean energy solutions for energy access: the role of standards and quality assurance"*.

EAPIC 2016 –Nairobi, Kenya, 21-22 September 2016

IEC-AFRC participated in the East African Power Industry Convention ([EAPIC](#)) held in Nairobi. IEC-AFRC Officer participated as panellist on the topic of *"Optimizing the performance of utilities infrastructure"* addressing the role of IEC International Standards and Conformity Assessment Systems on issues such as:

- How to embrace better systems and processes that will help prolong asset life span
- Smart operation management to maximize energy production, minimize downtime and reduce operating and maintenance costs
- Solutions for achieving operational efficiency for plants and grids
- The role of capacity building in the development of the East African power industry

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 Systems as well as enhance participation of all countries in the region in the IEC work; and to provide additional staff support to IEC Technical Committees and Subcommittees in the same way the IEC Central Office does at present.

World Standards Day, World Accreditation Day and World Metrology Day Event – Hong Kong, China, 8 June 2016

A collaborative and combined event was organized in Hong Kong for the World Standards Day, World Accreditation Day and World Metrology Day. For this occasion, the IEC President delivered the opening remarks relating to the theme of the World Standards Day. About 200 participants attended the event which was organized not only to mark and celebrate the three occasions, but also to increase awareness on the relationships and dependencies between standards, accreditation and metrology.

World Smart City Forum and first global meeting of major standards organizations – Singapore, 13-14 July 2016

The first World Smart City Forum was held on 13 July, co-located with the World Cities Summit in the Marina Bay Sands Expo and Convention Centre in Singapore. More than 300 participants joined the event and listened to experts who addressed, discussed live questions from audiences in the room and online. The event was simultaneously live-streamed to close to 1 000 online participants.

During the Forum, discussions shaped around four pain points that are currently holding back Smart City development: energy, water, cybersecurity/privacy and mobility. The need for standard setting organizations to collaborate was highlighted as cities are complex, relying on systems within systems, and no single organization will be able to provide everything needed. Here, as elsewhere, broad collaboration is required.

It was noted that policies, regulation, citizen involvement and standards are all key components needed to build a viable Smart City. Particularly, on the path towards smarter cities, standardization will play a key role in ensuring consistent outcomes.

On 14 July, in the wake of the World Smart City Forum, representatives of IEC, ISO, ITU, IEEE, CEN, CENELEC and ETSI gathered for a meeting to examine how to more effectively collaborate for the greater good of cities and citizens. More than 70 participants from national standards organizations also joined the meeting as observers.

Participants of these standards organizations expressed their commitment to uphold principles of mutual respect, transparency, openness and sharing of new work information. Discussions looked at gaps – where standards are needed but work is not yet advanced –, overlaps – where different organizations may be active–, and how the standards world can collaborate to better serve the needs of cities and citizens.

Over the coming months the organizations are to develop a viable framework for cooperation in order to optimize outcomes and reduce duplication, wasted time and expense. A follow-up meeting organized by ISO is planned for 2017.

India Young Professionals Launch – New Delhi, India, 21 July 2016

The IEC National Committee of India and the Bureau of Indian Standards launched its Young Professionals programme in New Delhi. The event attracted about 60 participants from electrotechnical industry and government bodies. Organized with the objective of helping young professionals in the industry appreciate the importance and benefits of standards, the event also helped to encourage participation of young professionals in standardization work. The seminar introduced participants to the concept of national standards and International Standards, as well as the benefits of participation.

Regional seminar to promote Renewable and Alternative Energy standards – Bangkok, Thailand, August 2016

IEC together with the Japanese Industrial Standards Committee (JISC) and in cooperation with the IEC National Committee of Thailand, the Thai Industrial Standards Institute (TISI) jointly organized the JISC/IEC/Asian Pacific Steering Group (APSG) seminar to promote awareness of IEC

International Standards in this subject. Solar and wind energy were the main focus at the seminar which was attended by 41 participants from Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Apart from IEC activities, there were many insightful presentations and deep discussions about the policy and status of Renewable Energy in the participation countries. The seminar was opened by the Secretary General of TISI/Secretary of NC.

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 Conformity Assessment Systems, and enhance participation and membership of countries in the region.

IEC training course and meetings – Santiago, Chile, 28-29 June 2016

The IEC was in Chile to conduct a training course and to participate in meetings with the aim of updating local stakeholders on IEC activities. The IEC-LARC Director also met with authorities to enhance the country's participation in IEC.

IEC visit to Peru – 22-26 July 2016

On 22 July in Lima, the IEC-LARC Director, together with the IEC Affiliate Leader, met with the board of directors of INACAL, the Peruvian National Quality Institute, to present IEC activities and new areas of development in standardization and conformity assessment.

On 25 July in Piura, the IEC-LARC Director participated in a workshop on “*Fluids for Electrical Isolation*” at the University of Piura to present the IEC and its standardization activities.

On 26 July in Lima, the IEC-LARC Director visited Cite-Energía – a high voltage laboratory – to give a presentation on IEC Conformity Assessment Systems.

APEC Forum – Lima, Peru, 16-21 August 2016

During the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Forum held in Lima, IEC participated in the APEC Sub-Committee on Standards and Conformance (SCSC) and its Joint Regulatory Advisory Committee on Electrical and Electronic Equipment (JRAC) meetings. These meetings were attended by representatives of both IEC-APRC and IEC-LARC, as well as the IEC Affiliate Leader and IEC Ambassador.

In the context of the SCSC, a number of parallel workshops were held: one on how to help the micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) become more competitive through the use of standards, and the other on a number of successful case studies on how standards drive innovation. An important conclusion that emerged was the need to help MSMEs to insert themselves in the global supply chain through support programmes that encourage them to use International Standards.

The IEC Ambassador presented at a workshop on Low Voltage Direct Current (LVDC) and its applications for rural electrification. The workshops were attended by representatives of the 21 APEC members, as well as representatives from various sectors of Peru.

COMENOR Standards Forum – Mexico City, Mexico, 21 September 2016

The forum was organized by COMENOR, the Mexican Council of Standardization and Conformity Assessment, and CONCAMIN, the Mexican Confederation of Industrial Chambers. . The IEC Vice-President delivered a presentation detailing the IEC work in standardization, new areas of development, conformity assessment and its importance for global trade.

FINCA meeting – Buenos Aires, Argentina, 29-30 September 2016

FINCA is the Forum of IEC National Committees of the Americas. The objective of the meeting was to update on IEC activities and help IEC National Committees to take a position on IEC General Meeting issues. 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. For the first time this year, the meeting benefitted from the participation of Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, and Honduras, in addition to the regular members, [Argentina](#), [Brazil](#), [Canada](#), [Chile](#), [Colombia](#), [Mexico](#) and [USA](#).

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.

Affiliate NEC Guidelines document



As a result of a joint effort between the Affiliate Country Programme Secretariat and the valuable collaboration of several Affiliate countries, a new version of the guide for IEC National Electrotechnical Committees (NECs) has been published. This new version includes practical suggestions for the setting up, running and reinforcement of Affiliate NECs, drawn from the feedback of many countries. In addition, this new version highlights the experiences, success stories and challenges, faced by Affiliate countries in the work of their NECs.

The *Guidelines to set up a National Electrotechnical Committee in an Affiliate country* are available to download in English, French and Spanish from the following page (IEC login required):

<http://www.iec.ch/affiliates/participation/nec.htm>

If you do not have an IEC login and wish to download this document, please contact the IEC (info@iec.ch)

IEC Mentoring Programme for Affiliates

The IEC is pleased to report the establishment of a new partnership in its Mentoring Programme for Affiliate Countries between the [Gambia](#) and the [Netherlands](#). The IEC Affiliate country and its respective mentor have committed for a period of two years to reinforce the NEC through a number of activities, including identifying and reaching out to relevant stakeholders, national adoptions and implementation of IEC International Standards, establishing mirror technical committees and participating in IEC work.

This partnership adds to those previously established between [Afghanistan–Malaysia](#), [Bhutan–Sweden](#), [Côte D'Ivoire–France](#), [DR Congo–France](#), [Ecuador–Mexico](#), [Ethiopia–Germany](#), [Mongolia–Germany](#), [Peru–Mexico](#), [Rwanda–Austria](#), [Uruguay–Norway](#) and [Zambia–Austria](#).

Mentoring meetings for Affiliates

The IEC General Meeting in Frankfurt, Germany, 10-14-October 2016, was the occasion for a number of bilateral meetings between mentors and Affiliate countries. [Bhutan–Sweden](#), [Côte D'Ivoire–France](#), [DR Congo–France](#), [Ecuador–Mexico](#) and [Mongolia–Germany](#) were all able to meet face to face in order to review progress made so far and establish action plans for the year to come.

Update on participation

After a first invitation sent to the [Syrian Arab Republic](#) in 2010 to become part of the IEC Affiliate Country Programme, the IEC received a correspondence from the Syrian Arab Standards and Metrology Organization (SASMO) in June 2016 expressing their interest in IEC activities. The IEC General Secretary and CEO reiterated his invitation and the Pledge was signed within a couple of

weeks. We are now happy to welcome SASMO onboard and hope that IEC International Standards and Conformity Assessment Systems will play an important role in the country's development.

❖ 85 Affiliates and 84 Members are now part of the IEC Family.

Since our last report, [Benin](#), [Mauritania](#) and [Togo](#) have reported the establishment of their NEC. The Benin NEC President is the General Director of [AISER BENIN](#) (Renewable Energy), whereas the NEC Vice-President comes from [Polytechnic School of Abomey-Calavi](#), and the NEC Secretary is the General Director of the [ABeNOR](#). The Mauritanian NEC President is represented by the Technical Advisor of the Ministry of Employment ([MEFP TIC](#)), and the NEC Secretary is from the Directorate of Standardization and Quality Promotion of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism ([MCIT](#)). The Togolese NEC President is the General Director of the Electric Energy Company of Togo ([CEET](#)), the Vice-President is the President of the High Authority of the Quality and Environment (HAUQE), and the NEC Secretary is the General Director of the Non-Destructive Testing & Quality Expertises (NQE).

With the declaration of their previous 169 national adoptions and the newly establishment of the NEC, [Benin](#) met both criteria to be granted the IEC Affiliate Plus status. With a previously established NEC and the recently declaration of additional national adoptions to bring its total to 64, [Cambodia](#) also met both criteria to be granted the [IEC Affiliate Plus Status](#). Out of the 85 developing countries that participate free of charge in the IEC Affiliate Country Programme, 51 have now established their NEC and 28 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. Three countries have declared additional adoptions: [Cambodia](#), [DR Congo](#) and [Ecuador](#).

IEC Conformity Assessment activities

IEC Affiliate Conformity Assessment Status

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 Peru has signed the [ACAS Declaration](#) and commits to accept IEC Certificates and Reports issued within the IEC Conformity Assessment Systems related to [nationally adopted IEC International Standards](#).

ACAS events

IECEE ACAS Regional Seminar in Costa Rica, November 2016

The IEC, in collaboration with [COPANT](#), the Pan American Standards Commission, [PTB](#), the German National Metrology Institute (Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt), [INTECO](#), the Costa Rican National Standards Institute (Instituto de Normas Técnicas de Costa Rica) and the Costa Rican National Electrotechnical Committee, will hold an IECEE ACAS regional seminar on 23-25 November 2016 in San José, Costa Rica.

The seminar will focus on the topic of the IEC System of Conformity Assessment Schemes for Electrotechnical Equipment and Components (IECEE). It will provide a general overview of the IEC and its Conformity Assessment Systems before going into detail on topics such as its [CB Scheme](#) and the application of IEC International Standards in a laboratory setting. The seminar will also provide capacity building for Affiliate Countries to further strengthen their NECs whilst increasing the benefits that can be derived from using IEC International Standards and participating in IEC work.

An international audience composed of regulators and national standards body members are expected, including delegates from Barbados, Bolivia, Colombia, Dominica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Peru, Saint Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago.

Regional collaboration

IEC-GSO and IEC-SARSO Memorandums of Understanding

Two MoUs were signed in Frankfurt, Germany on Sunday 9 October, between the IEC and the Standardization Organization for the Gulf Cooperation Council (GSO), and between the IEC and the South Asian Regional Standards Organization (SARSO).

The overall objective of these agreements is to promote IEC standardization and conformity assessment work and activities in the Arab States of the Gulf and in South Asia.

IEC-CENELEC Frankfurt Agreement

During the annual IEC General Meeting in Frankfurt, the IEC and CENELEC, the counterpart of the IEC at the European level, signed an agreement that will increase the harmonization between International and European standards.

Currently, around 80% of all European electrotechnical standards are identical to or based on IEC International Standards. This level was achieved through the Dresden Agreement which was signed in 1996 between both organizations. However, much changed since then – global trade in electrical and electronic devices has accelerated and the differences between products have become smaller. The new Frankfurt Agreement takes these changes into account, and aims to bring the ratio of harmonization between International and European standards to an even higher level.

Under the Frankfurt Agreement, the primacy of electrotechnical standardization at the international level in the IEC will be reinforced. This avoids duplication of efforts and helps make best use of European and IEC experts. Also new is the fact that CENELEC will start including the IEC acronym in the designation of all European standards that are identical to IEC International Standards to increase transparency and facilitate content traceability.

This agreement will benefit the European electrical and electronic industry, which will find it easier to export to markets around the world, many of which rely on IEC International Standards, as well as manufacturers from other countries that will be able to export assemblies and products more easily into the European market.

International collaboration

IEC-PTB Memorandum of Understanding

In recent years, the IEC, through its Affiliate Country Programme, has accelerated its cooperation with PTB, the national metrology institute of Germany, an important provider of practical aid to developing countries globally. Acknowledging the challenges arising for developing countries in their efforts to implement the rules and agreements of the multilateral trading system, in particular with respect to the WTO TBT Agreement, IEC and PTB signed a MoU in September 2016 to establish a framework for technical cooperation in developing countries, with the objective of complementing their respective contributions to the development of standardization and quality infrastructures in support of consumer protection and trade development.

It is worth noting that this year's IEC Workshop for Industrializing Countries was organized in partnership with PTB and held on 12 October 2016 at the PTB Headquarters in Braunschweig, Germany. The upcoming IECEE ACAS Regional Seminar in San José, Costa Rica in November 2016 (see under ACAS section above) is the next practical implementation of this MoU as a joint IEC-PTB capacity building activity, together with COPANT and INTECO.

80th IEC General Meeting 2016 in Frankfurt, Germany, 10-14 October 2016

The IEC held its 80th annual General Meeting in Frankfurt in October 2016. This year in total over 3 800 delegates from over 80 countries participated in the General Meeting. Amongst those, 81 delegates from 29 countries were from the IEC Affiliate Country Programme.

The IEC annual gathering is not only a general assembly with management meetings such as [Council](#), [SMB](#) and [CAB](#). It is also a vast technical platform for IEC international experts to meet and work on their ongoing projects. This year, Over 450 technical meetings took place in Frankfurt at committee, subcommittee or working group levels. Affiliate delegates were allowed to attend any meetings of their choice as observers. It is always an opportunity for them to get more familiar with the development of IEC International Standards and to meet IEC international experts.

Some events were dedicated to IEC membership. This is the case of the National Committee (NC) President Workshop, the NC Secretaries Forum and the Technical Committee/Subcommittee (TC/SC) Secretaries Forum. These meetings are held at each General Meeting and give IEC NC and TC officers the opportunity to exchange and share their experience.

To encourage the participation of the next generation of experts in IEC activities the [IEC Young Professionals Programme](#) organizes a [workshop](#) during the General Meeting. Young professionals have the opportunity to meet with IEC experts and to get an insight in IEC Standardization and Conformity Assessment activities. It is also the opportunity for networking with professionals from all over the world.

Events mainly for Affiliate country delegates are the [Affiliate Forum](#) and the [Affiliate NEC Secretaries and Chairs Workshop](#). Other workshops such as the [Workshop for Industrializing Countries](#) are open to all delegates.

Affiliate Forum

At the Affiliate Forum, the Affiliate Leader presented a report on new developments of the Affiliate Country Programme, while Affiliate Countries have had the opportunity to report on their work and share their experience with other participants. External organizations whose work is aligned with the objectives of the Affiliate Country Programme were also invited to present during this session.

For this edition of the Affiliate Forum in Frankfurt, there were 107 delegates from 34 countries that participated. Presentations were heard from Cambodia and Cameroon on their electrotechnical standardization work. IRENA delivered a presentation on their clean energy corridors initiative and the convenor of IEC Systems Evaluation Group 4 on Low Voltage Direct Current applications gave a presentation on how to facilitate access to electricity in developing countries.

During the last session, the participants break into three groups to focus on specific regional issues with the participation of the IEC Regional Centres.

All presentations made during the Affiliate Forum are available in the [presentation section](#).

Affiliate NEC Secretary and Chair Workshop

As a NEC (National Electrotechnical Committee) represents the electrotechnical standardization field of an IEC Affiliate country, the NEC Secretary's role is of particular significance in effectively coordinating activities for the benefit of all its stakeholders. Recognizing the importance of this coordination, the Affiliate NEC Secretary and Chair Workshop is arranged as a session during which more time can be allocated towards exploring the dynamics of an IEC Affiliate NEC.

For this edition of the NEC Secretary and Chair Workshop, 43 delegates from 22 countries participated. Following the feedback previously received from Affiliate Countries, it had become apparent that an Affiliate NEC Business Plan and/or Strategy Document was a particularly valuable

document for the NEC to refer to in its activities and development. The objective of this session was to focus on the strategy document and try to extract the best practices from those NECs that had already established one in order to facilitate the development of such a strategy document for all Affiliate NECs. Certain IEC Members that participate in the Affiliate Country Programme as mentors were also present and were able to relate some of their experiences to the room.

Following a presentation by the Affiliate Leader of the new [Affiliate NEC Guidelines document](#), Côte d'Ivoire was invited to present the Strategic Orientation Document developed and used within the Côte d'Ivoire NEC. The rest of the session was used for open discussion amongst delegates on the topic of NEC strategy and was moderated by the Affiliate Secretariat.

An important point frequently raised during the session was the importance of aligning the NEC strategy with national developments goals in order to appropriate some of these development targets. This was also closely related to effectively communicating with other sectors of the government: Presenting the outcomes of standardization and conformity assessment in such a way that it was made clear, in practical terms, just how these quality infrastructure measures would assist in attaining national development goals.

All presentations made during the NEC Workshop are available in the [presentation section](#).

Workshop for industrializing countries 2016 in collaboration with PTB

The IEC held the annual Workshop for Industrializing Countries (WIC) in Braunschweig at the headquarters of the German national metrological institute (PTB). For over 50 years PTB has shared its expertise in international cooperation and has supported developing and emerging economies to build capacity in the field of quality infrastructure. In the framework of the MoU signed with the IEC earlier in September, PTB invited WIC participants to visit its laboratories and, on the way, to visit the Jühnde Village, a self-sustainable bio-energy village.

Following the IEC Affiliate Forum in Frankfurt, over 100 delegates from more than 50 countries travelled to Braunschweig to attend the WIC which focused on Quality infrastructure and Renewable Energy systems. A panel discussion was held on how to make the best use of expertise and provide capacity development. After a presentation from PTB on a systematic approach to support renewable energy systems, IEC standardization work and conformity assessment activities were presented by the Secretary of the IEC Egyptian National Committee, with a focus on the Egyptian experience. Participants learned that the very first solar-generating plant in the world was set up in 1913 in Egypt. Since then, Egypt has continued to use solar energy, chaired the first IRENA annual meeting in 2008 and the second Africa Smart Grid Forum in March 2016. Egyptian strategy now aims at raising the contribution of renewable energy by 23% of its total electricity generation by the year 2022.

The debate which followed brought together panelists from Germany (DKE), South Africa (AFSEC TC82), Peru (INACAL), Thailand (IEC TC82) and the Vice President of the Alliance for Rural Electrification (ARE). The discussion was moderated by the IEC Ambassador from India who is the convenor of IEC System Evaluation Group on Low Voltage Direct Current. The newly launched IEC Regional Centre in Africa (IEC-AFRC) wrapped up the workshop, giving participants a few key points to take home:

- Regulations should allow photovoltaics (PV) anywhere at any time.
- Quality infrastructure must support government policy.
- Needs for product/equipment compliance to International Standards
- Provide support for renewable technology
- Reduce taxes on PV systems

The discussion underlined the need for quality but also for capacity building, especially in developing countries to ensure safe and reliable installation but also maintenance.

On the way back to the IEC General Meeting in Frankfurt, the participants made a stop at the Jühnde Village. They listened to presentations on how the village is self-sufficient, using bio-mass to produce electricity, before touring the electricity generating plant itself.

All presentations made during the Workshop for Industrializing Countries are available in the [presentation section](#).

Bilateral meetings with Affiliates

During the IEC General Meeting, Burkina Faso, Ecuador, Palestine, and Togo were also able to meet with the Affiliate Secretariat. The objective of these discussions was to take stock of each country's current situation, answer questions specific to each country's needs, and examine the best approaches to take in the coming year in order to increase participation in the IEC Affiliate Country Programme. Topics included the national adoption of IEC International Standards, selection of IEC TCs related to fields of interest in the country, technical commenting on IEC Working Documents, and participation in IEC Conformity Assessment Systems through the Affiliate Conformity Assessment Status (ACAS).

IEC Technical Meetings attended by Affiliates

With over 450 IEC Technical Committee, Subcommittee and Working Group Meetings having taken place during the IEC General Meeting in Frankfurt, there was a wide range for Affiliate countries to choose from. These meetings are also a major draw for Affiliate countries to attend the IEC General Meetings so that their experts can further familiarize themselves with the technical work of the IEC and the particularities of how that work is undertaken. In total, there were 96 instances of Affiliate delegates attending IEC Technical Meetings, split amongst the meetings of 35 different Technical Committees, Subcommittees and Working Groups. The three most popular were [SC 23B](#): Plugs, socket-outlets and switches, [TC 57](#): Power systems management and associated information exchange, and [TC 61](#): Safety of household and similar electrical appliances.

Useful brochures/flyers



The IEC has issued a brochure on [The IEC and the Sustainable Development Goals](#). Often behind-the-scenes but nevertheless crucial, the work of the IEC directly impacts 12 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. This brochure provides a summary, goal-by-goal, of how IEC International Standards and Conformity Assessment Systems are making a difference. (English only)



A useful [flyer](#) to help communicate about IEC. It gives a basic overview of IEC structure, work and partnerships. Don't hesitate to download or ask for hard copies (English only)

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): 84

Full Members: 61

Associate Members: 23

IEC Affiliates: 85

With adoption: 48

With NEC: 51

IEC TCs and SCs: 178

Technical Committees: 101

Subcommittees: 77

IEC Publications: 7 282

(as per 2016-06-30)

IEC Conformity Assessment Systems:

Over 1 000 000 issued certificates

ANNEX A

84 IEC National Committees (as per 2016-11-01)

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
Kuwait	Full Member	Vietnam	Associate Member

ANNEX B

85 IEC Affiliates (as per 2016-11-01)

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 (DR)	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	Syria	July 2016
Gabon	February 2007	Tanzania	November 2001
Gambia	March 2008	Togo	April 2006
Ghana	November 2001	Trinidad and Tobago	January 2007
Grenada	November 2001	Turkmenistan	December 2001
Guatemala	November 2001	Uganda	November 2001
Guinea	January 2007	Uruguay	September 1996
Guinea Bissau	November 2006	Uzbekistan	October 2015
Guyana	November 2001	Yemen	April 2002
Haiti	May 2002	Zambia	March 2002
Honduras	August 2007	Zimbabwe	November 2001
Jamaica	November 2001		



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