

Report on the Twentieth Session

Presentation by the Secretariat

Highlights of the agenda of the 20th session

- Celebration of 40 years of work on standardization and related issues in UNECE
- Approval of the Group of Experts on Risk Management
- Two panel session on Conformity assessments and risk management

Item III: Matters arising

- At the 20th session
 - The secretariat informed members about the “needs assessment study on economies in transition” and presented results of the preliminary results of the report on Belarus
 - Discussion and comments by several delegations
- At the 21st session: Discussions on this item will continue this morning

Item IV: Risk Management

- At the 20th session:
 - Panel session with presentation of experiences in countries' (the EU, the Netherlands, Brazil) and sectors (medical equipment)
 - Presentation of the work programme for the GRM
 - Establishment of the GRM Group/Election of officers
- Intersessionally:
 - Endorsement by the Committee on Trade and preliminary discussion at the EXCOMM
 - Activities started (members/methods of work)
 - Deliverables: 2 draft recommendations + 1 draft publication
- At the 21st session:
 - We will take up this item tomorrow afternoon (Item 5)

Item V: Standardization & regulatory practice

- At the 20th session:
 - Information received from: the World Standards Cooperation, CEN/CENELEC, national standards bodies (Czech Republic), the EU Commission, the ITU
 - Proposal from the Russian Federation on improving information-sharing on technical regulations and standards
 - Information about the CU among Belarus, Russian Federation and Kazakhstan
 - Discussion on regulatory developments in the chemicals industry
- Intersessionally:
 - the Secretariat maintains contacts with main standardization bodies
 - a liaison member of ISO/PC 262 on Risk Management (Item V)
 - acts as the secretariat of the DCMAS network (Network on Metrology, Accreditation and Standardization for Developing Countries)
 - participated in the meetings of the CIS Interstate Council on Standardization, Metrology, and Certification
 - participates in the meetings of the ISO/CASCO STAR Group
 - participates and updates members of the
 - published one edition of the Regulatory Newsletter
- At the 21st session: Item VII – new format

Item VI: Regulatory Cooperation

- At the 20th session:
 - Updates from the ongoing and proposed sectoral projects: Telecom Initiative, Earth-Moving Initiative, the Equipment for Explosive Environments and on Safety of Pipelines
- Intersessionally:
 - Meeting of the Rapporteurs of the Sectoral Initiatives in Stockholm
 - Follow up work on all four initiatives
 - Publication of the CROs of the Initiative on Equipment for Explosive Environments and on Safety of Pipelines and meeting of regulators of this sector in Split
- At the 21st session: Item 6

Item VII: Conformity assessment and accreditation

- At the 20th session:
 - Panel session on Regulatory Cooperation in Conformity Assessment with presentations of the issues of concerns by Belarus and countries with economies in transition/developing countries, by business + presentations of experience in the EU, multilateral schemes for assessment of conformity, ISO/CASCO and at sectoral level
- Intersessionally:
 - Meeting of the Rapporteurs of the Sectoral Initiatives in Stockholm discussed how to move this forward
- At the 21st session: Item 9

Item VIII: Market Surveillance

- At the 20th session:
 - Discussions on a possible revision of recommendation M
 - Updates on the market surveillance model initiative
- Intersessionally:
 - Meeting of the Rapporteurs of the Sectoral Initiatives in Stockholm
 - Meeting of the MARS Group in Slovakia
 - Publication of the « Glossary » issued
 - Database on MSAs operational
 - Draft recommendation N prepared
- At the 21st session: Item 10

Last items

- Metrology:
 - Last session update from OIML unfortunately not present at this meeting
- Capacity-building:
 - Intersessionally: session with CEFTA countries during the CEFTA week
 - At the 21st session: Item 12
- Other business
- Adoption of the report