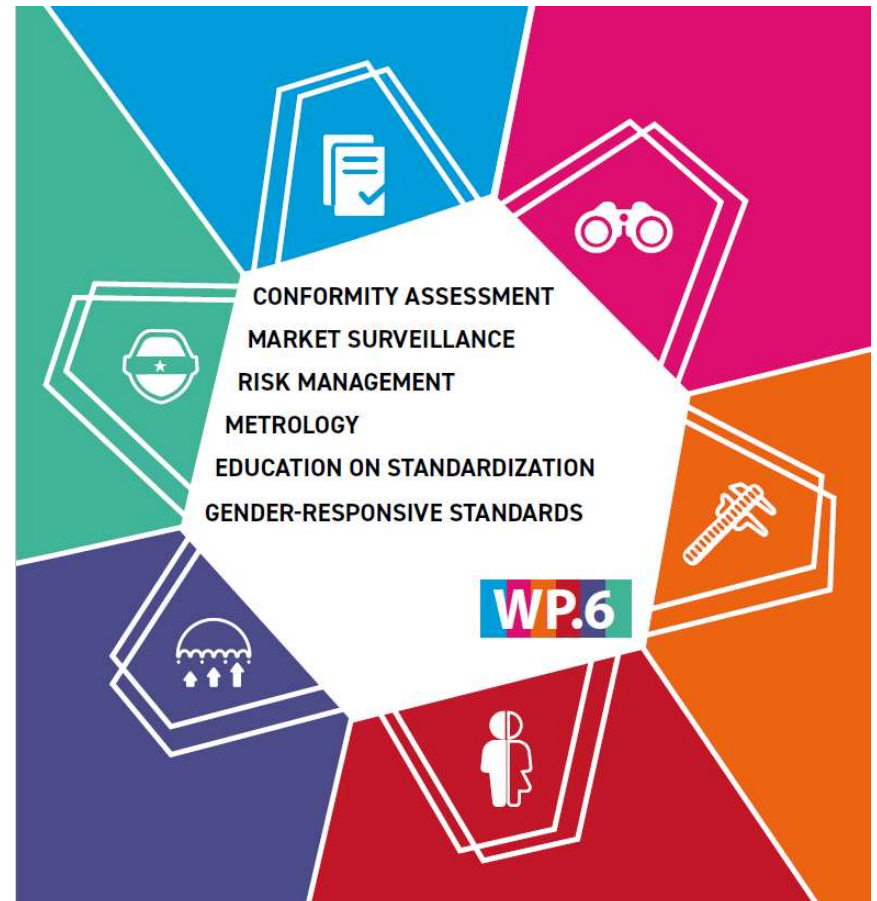


Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies

Report on activities

up to the 23rd WP.6 session



Marco Pangallo
Vice Chair WP.6

UNECE – STCTS – WP.6

28/06/2024, Geneva

Election of officers of WP.6



For the period 2023-2025 (2 years)

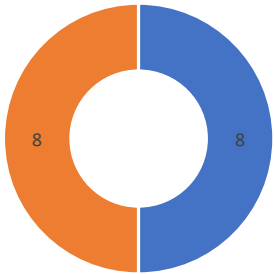
Chairperson

- Heidi Lund (Sweden)

Vice-Chairpersons

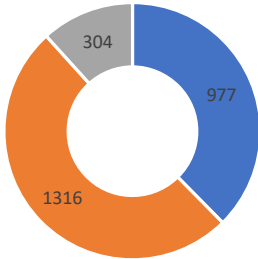
- Gabrielle White (Canada)
- Davit Tkemaladze (Georgia)
- Marco Pangallo (Israel)
- Anthony Quinn (United States of America)

Meetings during this period and gender balance



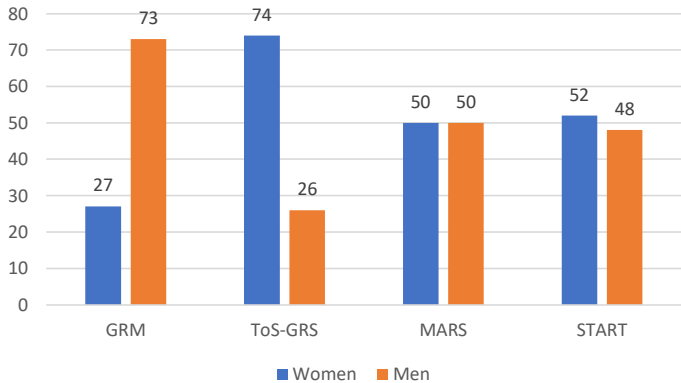
■ Women ■ Men

Graph 1:
Proportion of women in the leadership of WP.6 (Bureau and its subgroups) as of October 2023.



■ Women ■ Men ■ Not specified

Graph 2:
Proportion of women experts registered in WP.6 as of October 2023



Graph 3:
Proportion of active women experts (participating in meetings and webinars) in the subgroups of WP.6 during the period November 2022 to October 2023.

Excerpt from 2023 Bureau report: ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2023/INF.1

WP.6 Working Practices



- *Summary of working practices for the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies* ([ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2023/12](#))
 - Covers elections of subgroups, official meetings, membership, project development
- *Summary of practices for representation of and the use of titles within the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies* ([ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2023/13](#))
 - Covers representation and use of titles

Advisory Group on Market Surveillance



Leadership

- Chairperson: Jan Deconinck (Belgium); Vice-Chairpersons: Ivan Hendrikx (Belgium) and Lucy Salt (New Zealand)

Activities (full report in [ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2023/3](#))

- Finalization and approval of the *Revision of Recommendation K on Metrological Assurance of Conformity Assessment and Testing* ([ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2023/5](#))
- Webinar on 21/02/2023 on “Market surveillance role in combatting counterfeit products” ([ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2023/4](#))
- Launch of the revision of *Recommendation M on Use of Market Surveillance Infrastructure as a Complementary Means to Protect Consumers and Users Against Counterfeit Goods*

Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems



Leadership

- Chairperson: Alexia Davison (UK); Vice-Chairpersons: Valentin Nikonov (Israel) and Donald Macrae (UK)

Activities (full report in [ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2023/6](https://www.ece.org/ctcs/wp6/2023/6))

- Webinar on 25 May 2023 featuring best practices with examples from EU DG TAXUD, Georgia, Greece, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria and NAPPO.
- Launch of the project on “Integrated risk management in single window systems”

Ad Hoc Team of Specialists on Standardization and Regulatory Techniques



Leadership

- Chairperson: Ronald Tse (Canada)

Activities (full report in [ECE/CTCS/WP.6/7](#))

- Closure of the initiatives on earth-moving machinery and telecommunication
- Initiative on equipment for explosive environments – coordinating with IEC-Ex
- Initiative on pipeline safety planned to launch a project on harmonization of technical requirements of material used for the extraction and/or the transport of hydrogen and hydrogen-mixes

Team of Specialists on Gender-Responsive Standards



Leadership

- Chairperson: Michelle Parkouda (Canada); Vice-Chairpersons: Lucy Salt (New Zealand) and Stephanie Eynon (UK)

Activities (full report in [ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2023/10](#))

- Webinar on 24 May 2023 featuring best practices with examples from ASTM International, Austria, COPANT, CEN/CENELEC, Rwanda, SMIIC
- Gender and salutation code list paper ([ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2023/11](#))
- Publication on *Why Gender-Responsive Standards are Better for Everyone* ([ECE/TRADE/474](#))
- Working on GRS-related gender action plans; a survey & repository of responses launched during this period

Team of Specialists on Gender-Responsive Standards



Currently 86 signatories to the ECE Declaration on Gender-Responsive Standards

Programme of Work for 2024



Activities outlined in the PoW are closely linked to the WP.6 mission statement (see ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2022/11, paragraph 5)

- WP.6 aims to promote regulatory cooperation, standardization policies and activities which contribute towards reducing technical barriers to trade, promoting sustainable development in its all dimensions including, for example, gender equality, climate and environmental protection, circular economy and the adaptation to new technologies.

And does this by (see paragraph 6):

- Serving as a forum of exchange & promote discussion; developing guidance; maintaining liaison; organizing seminars & workshops; and providing trade-related capacity building & technical assistance in the field of regulatory cooperation & standardization policies

Conference

“How to target continuous compliance”



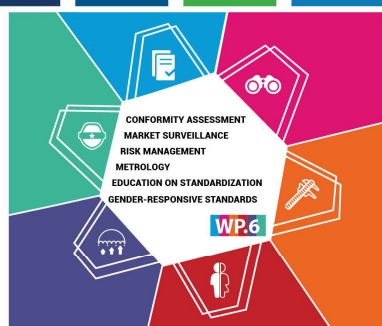
- Topic chosen in response to the high-level theme of the 70th Commission session on “Digital and green transformations”
- Conference concentrated mainly on artificial intelligence
- Speakers underlined the challenge such technologies have on regulating products and performing conformity assessment and market surveillance
- One of the main challenges is the potential for such products to evolve after entry onto the market, which reenforces the need for continuous compliance
- WP.6 is actively working to address these challenges

WP.6 work on artificial intelligence



- At the 23rd Annual Session of WP.6, a document on artificial intelligence was submitted ([ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2023/9](#))
- It was suggested at that session to:
 - Develop a Common Regulatory Arrangement (CRA) based on Rec.L
 - Propose a declaration that agencies can sign to signify that they have the intention of working in line with the principles of the CRA
- The CRA and declaration have been completed and will be submitted to the 24th session of WP.6 on 26(pm) – 28 August
- The concept of the CRA & declaration were presented to the WTO TBT on 7 June.

Upcoming Meetings



WP.6 ANNUAL SESSION

Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies

26 – 28 AUGUST 2024 | PALAIS DES NATIONS | GENEVA

For more information:

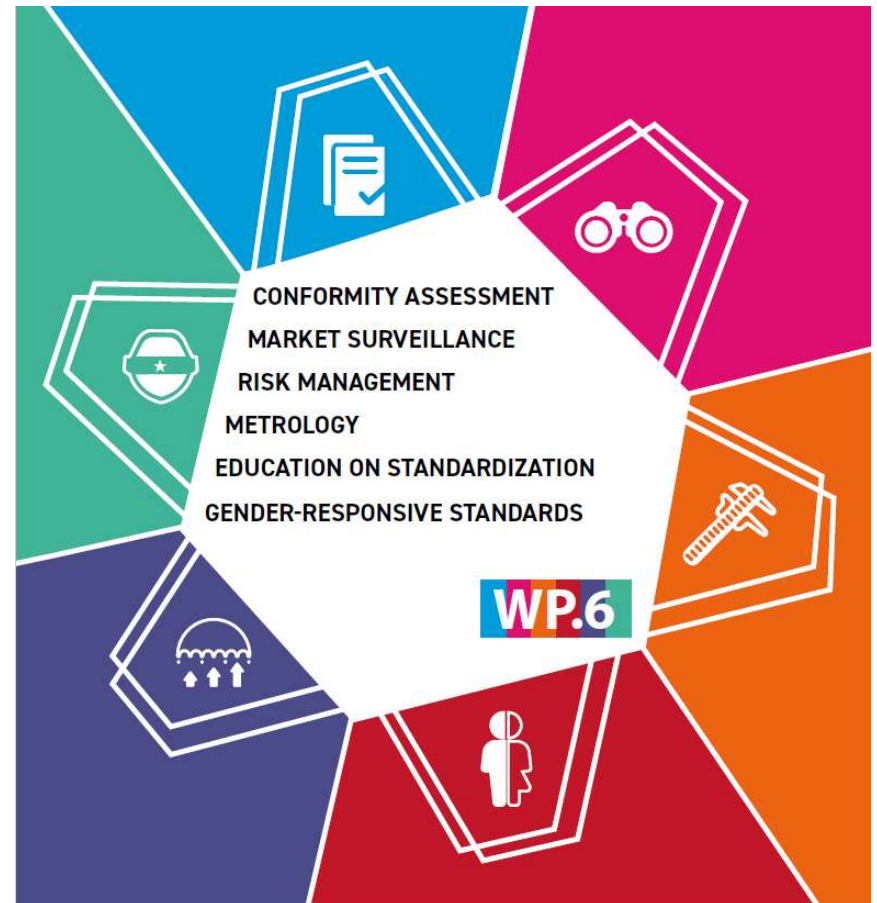
- <https://unece.org/trade/wp6>
- regulatory.cooperation@un.org

- Lance Thompson, Secretary WP.6
 - lance.thompson@un.org

Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies

WP.6

Proposed decisions



Proposed decision 2024-11



- The Steering Committee expressed its satisfaction with the work undertaken by the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6). It recognized the importance of quality infrastructure for reducing technical barriers to trade and
 - endorsed the report of the thirty-third session of WP.6 on 23–24 November 2023 in document [ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2023/2](#).
 - Following decision 16 of the thirty-third session of WP.6, the Steering Committee endorsed the Programme of work of WP.6 in document [ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2023/14](#). The Steering Committee invited WP.6 to continue implementing its programme of work and report to the 2025 session. The Steering Committee also called on donors and development partners to consider providing funding to offer demand-driven capacity-building in line with the programme of work of WP.6.
 - Following decision 7 of the thirty-third session of WP.6, the Steering Committee endorsed the revision of *Recommendation K on Metrological Assurance of Conformity Assessment and Testing* in document [ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2023/5](#).
 - Following decision 12 of the thirty-third session of WP.6, the Steering Committee endorsed the publication *Why Gender Responsive Standards are Better for Everyone* ([ECE/TRADE/474](#)).

Proposed decision 2024-13



- Following up on decision 2023-06 of the Steering Committee, WP.6 finalized and approved in decision 14, its internal procedures in documents [ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2023/12](#) and [ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2023/13](#). The Steering Committee took note of these documents and commended WP.6 for its efforts to streamline and clarify its internal procedures.

Proposed decision 2024-14



- The Steering Committee took note of the publication *The Basics of Quality Infrastructure for Trade* (**ECE/TRADE/478**) and expressed its appreciation to WP.6 and its secretariat for its efforts to clarify the base principles of its work. It also took note that further “Basics” publications were planned and encouraged WP.6 and its secretariat to present these publications at future meetings of the Steering Committee.

Merci ありがとうございました Hvala Ačiū
 شكرًا جزيلًا Mahalo Дякую Teşekkür ederim
 Рахмат Dankon ඔබට ස්තූතියි Sagbol Ευχαριστώ
 Tack Çox sağ ol Dziękuję Ci Obrigado
 மადல்லஹ் תודה 감사합니다 धन्यवाद Dankon
 Natur nuhun Баярлалаа Хвала вам
 Спасибо Tak skal du have Diolch Paldies
 Go raibh maith agat Faleminderit Rahmat
 Grazi Dank je Рахмат сага Faafetai Благодаря ти
 Grazie Mulțumesc Ačiū Danke
 谢谢 សូមអរគុណ Takk skal du ha
 Gracias Հնրհախալիւրթյունս Pakka þér fyrir
 Selamat Aitäh Dankie Köszönöm Дзякуй
 Ви благодарам Dėkuji ধন্যবাদ Gràcies Asante
 Kiitos

Thank you

Marco Pangallo
 Vice Chair WP.6

UNECE – Working Party 6
 28/06/2024, Geneva

Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies

