

# **Second Policy Dialogue on Trade Facilitation through International Standards and Mutual Recognition of Agricultural Machinery Testing**

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# Overview of SLSI

**The premier national organization that promotes Standardization and quality in the country**

- ❑ **Established under an Act of Parliament**
- ❑ **The National Standards Body**
- ❑ **Sri Lanka's sole Representative at the ISO and IEC**
- ❑ **Representative of Sri Lanka at the SARSO- regional standard body**
- ❑ **Work is handled by two Divisions**
  - **Engineering (Civil, Mechanical, Electrical & Electronics including IT)**
  - **Scientific (Food, Agriculture, Chemical & Cosmetics, Textile & Garments)**

# Standards Formulation stages

## 1. Proposal acceptance and allocation of project :

### **Requests may come from:**

- Ministries
- Consumers
- Producers
- Industries/Associations
- Other divisions of SLSI
- Members of WG/SC
- Sister organizations

## 2. Planning stage – collect relevant information for the project and prepare the basic draft

# Standards Formulation stages

## Cont...

### 3. Committee stage –

Mirror committee - Specific to the field

Sectoral committee - Advisory committee

Working group - Drafting committee specific to the project

4. Circulation stage - Issue the draft standard for public comments for 2 months

5. Approval and Authorization stage - The draft is approved by Sectoral Committee is submitted for the Council for authorization

6. Publish

# DIFFERENT STAGES OF FORMULATION OF A NATIONAL STANDARD & INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

	National standards	Adoption of International Standards
<b>1. Proposal acceptance and allocation of project</b> SLSI shall prioritize project proposals come from stakeholders and project shall be allocated to a Project officer	√	√
<b>2. Planning stage</b> Collect relevant information for the project and prepare the basic draft	√	-
<b>3. Committee stage</b> Mirror committee - Specific to the field Sectoral committee - Advisory committee Working group - Drafting committee specific to the project	√	√
<b>4. Circulation / Enquiry stage</b> Issue the draft standard for public comments for 2 months	√	Except test methods & standards on management systems
<b>5. Approval stage</b> The draft approved by Sectoral Committee is submitted for the Council for authorization	√	√
<b>6. Publish</b>	√	√

# Membership of International Standards Organizations cont..

- SLSI recognizes ISO, IEC, ASTM, AATCC standards. However to adopt them have to go through the process described
- Sri Lanka Standards are voluntary unless made it mandatory by some Regulatory Authority. Some standards have been made mandated by regulators.
- Sri Lanka Standards are issued only by SLSI

# Membership of International Standards Organizations

- **Requirement to become a member of an International Standards Organizations”**
  - *Is to be the Standards body in Sri Lanka.*
  - *Members participate in technical committees according to the national economic, social and environmental priorities*
- **Government approval is not required to become a member for the NSB**
- **SLSI is a member of ISO and IEC as it is the only standards body in Sri Lanka**
- **In Sri Lanka all the standards are published in English. Upon request only SLSI translate Standards in to other languages**

# Problems or challenges faced by SLSI when adopting international Standards and accreditations

- 1) In case of adopting IEC, standards we are directly adopting them as it deals with safety which we cannot compromise.
- 2) ASTM, AATCC standards as they are test methods are directly adopted
- 3) ISO, and other international Standards following challenges are faced
  - - Due to advanced testing included in some standards it is difficult to establish those testing facilities in Sri Lanka and also high cost of testing them in overseas laboratory.
  - - Due to geographical conditions in Sri Lanka (Weather, soil condition etc.) some international standards are not suitable for direct adopting.



# Problems or challenges faced by SLSI when adopting international Standards and accreditations Cont..

- Most of the Agricultural produces such as fruits , vegetables , spices ,nuts etc are consisted with specific indigenous features. Hence adoption of international standards as it is not possible to safeguard indigenous features,

4). SLSI will not be facing any problems when required to adopt ANTAM standards. Nevertheless adoption of ANTAM mutual recognition system must be considered with the consensus of other stakeholders relevant to this area including Farm Mechanization Research Center(FMRC) and Farm Mechanization Training Center(FMTC) in Sri Lanka

Thank  
you

