



Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

**THEMATIC SESSION ON CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES:
NATIONAL QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE**

12 NOVEMBER 2019, 15:00-18:00 – 13 NOVEMBER, 10:00-13:00

Programme¹

At the Eighth Triennial Review, Members agreed to continue to hold thematic sessions in conjunction with its regular meetings during 2019 to 2021, with a view to further deepening the Committee's exchange of experiences on specific topics, and to hold a session on conformity assessment procedures (CAP) in November 2019 with a focus on: National Quality Infrastructure (NQI).²

This thematic session will be moderated by: Mr. BI Zhonglin (China) and Ms Lorena Rivera (Colombia)

Guiding questions:³

- What approaches exist for the development of NQI, including metrology, standardization, conformity assessment and accreditation?
- How can Members encourage the use of NQI by their regulators, in order to avoid unnecessary barriers to trade?

Speakers are invited to make presentations not exceeding 15 minutes.

Panel 1: Accreditation

- a. **Indonesia:** *Indonesia's experience on the use of Accreditation as a basis for conformity assessment acceptance*, Mrs. Konny Sagala, Director of Implementation System for Standard and Conformity Assessment, BSN.
- b. **European Union:** *Overview of the system for accreditation in the EU as part of National Quality Infrastructure*, Mr. Andreas Steinhorst, Executive Secretary, European co-operation for Accreditation.
- c. **Egypt:** *Outline and brief on quality infrastructure development in Egypt*, Eng. Hany El-Desouki, Executive Director, and Eng. Mohamed Abdelhalim, Head of International Relations Department, Egyptian Accreditation Council.

Panel 2: Metrology

- a. **International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM):** *A common international approach to Quality Infrastructure – recent developments*", Mr. Andy Henson, Director of International Liaison and Communication Department, BIPM.

¹ The draft programme is contained in [JOB/TBT/342/Rev.1](#).

² [G/TBT/41](#), para. 8.2.a.iv, footnote 298; [JOB/TBT/273/Rev.5](#), para. 2.2.a.

³ [G/TBT/41](#), para. 4.17.c.iv.

Panel 3: Standardization

- a. **Japan:** *Standardization Process in Japan's Quality Infrastructure*, Ms Yukiko Kotani, Japanese Standards Association Group.
- b. **United States:** *Standardization in the United States National Quality Infrastructure*, Ms Leslie McDermott, Director, International Development, American National Standards Institute (ANSI).
- c. **European Union:** *The role of standards in Quality Infrastructure*, Mr. Gonçalo Ascensão, Manufacturing, Standardization & Digital Solutions, European Committee for Standardization (CEN) - European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC).

Panel 4: Conformity Assessment Procedures

- a. **New Zealand:** *The Approach to conformity assessment – the New Zealand experience*, Mr. Adam Dubas, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment.
- b. **Australia:** *Matching conformity assessment procedures with NQI capacity – a case study in energy efficiency regulation*, Ms Jennifer Evans, CEO, National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia.
- c. **Brazil:** *New conformity assessment framework for telecommunications products in Brazil*, Mr. André Mota de Abreu Iwasa, Process Coordinator, National Telecommunications Agency (ANATEL).

Panel 5: NQI systems

- a. **Trinidad and Tobago:** *Steps in the Strengthening of the Quality Infrastructure - A Developing Country Perspective*, Ms Jo-Anne Beharry, Standards Officer III, Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards.
- b. **China:** *China's quality infrastructure*, Mr. WANG Yunsong, Deputy Director General of Quality Development Bureau, State Administration for Market Regulation.
- c. **Turkey:** *Quality Infrastructure in Turkey*, Ms. Sanem Yıldız, Senior Trade Expert, Ministry of Trade.
- d. **Argentina:** *Regulatory Strategy of the Argentine Republic. The new National Quality System – the role of the Technical Regulators Commission and the harmonization of conformity assessment procedures. Presentation on Argentina's experience in the use of international standards as a tool to access international markets*, Mr. Matías Bernocco, Director of Technical Regulations and Quality Promotion.⁴
- e. **United States:** *National Quality Infrastructure of the United States*, Mr. Warren Merkel, Chief of Standards Services, Standards Coordination Office, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).
- f. **Mozambique:** *INNOQ's technical assistance needs*, Mr. Alfredo Siteo, Director, *Instituto Nacional de Normalização e Qualidade* (INNOQ).
- g. **Brazil:** *The Brazilian National Quality Infrastructure: an overview and recent developments*, Léa Contier, National Institute of Metrology Standardization and Industrial Quality (Inmetro).

⁴ [G/TBT/GEN/270](#).

Panel 6: Regional approaches to QI

- a. **South Africa:** Southern African Development Community (SADC) Quality Infrastructure in relation to cooperation to demonstrate equivalence of technical regulations in the SADC Region, Mr. Innocent Sbu Khumalo, Deputy Director, Technical Infrastructure of the Industrial Development Division of the Department of Trade and Industry of South Africa.
 - b. **Vanuatu:** Regional Quality Infrastructure: The Pacific experience, Ms Mere Falemaka, Permanent Representative and Ambassador, Permanent Delegation of the Pacific Islands Forum to the United Nations, WTO and Other International Organisations in Geneva.
 - c. **United States:** Regional Perspective on NQI, Ms Ileana Martinez, Principal, Standards, Accreditation and Trade Advisors, representing Quality Infrastructure Council of the Americas (QICA).
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