

COMISSÃO DA CEDEAO

ECOWAS COMMISSION



COMMISSION DE LA CEDEAO

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**REPORT OF THE ECOWAS 7th meeting of the Technical Management
Committee (TMC) for Standards Harmonization**

24th – 28th July 2017,

ACCRA, GHANA

REPORT

1. Opening Ceremony

The seventh (7th) meeting of Technical Management Committee for standard harmonization of ECOWAS (TMC) was held in Accra, Republic of Ghana from 24th to 28th July 2017.

The following countries and institutions participated in the meeting:

- Republic of Benin
- Burkina Faso
- Republic of Cote d'Ivoire
- Republic of The Gambia
- Republic of Ghana
- Republic of Guinea
- Republic of Guinea Bissau
- Republic of Liberia
- Republic of Mali
- Republic of Niger
- Federal Republic of Nigeria
- Republic of Senegal
- Republic of Sierra Leone
- Togolese Republic
- Helen Keller International
- UNIDO/ WAQSP

Absent:

- Republic of Cape Verde (TMC member and THC1 Chair – apologies)
- Republic of Ghana (THC4 Chair – apologies)
- Federal Republic of Nigeria (THC1 secretariat – apologies)

Delegates at this meeting were composed of members of the TMC: Directors of National Standards Bodies, bureaus of the Technical Harmonization Committees (THC3, THC4 and THC6), representative of institutions as listed above. (*The list of participants is attached as **Annex A***).

The opening ceremony began with the welcome address by the Executive Director of Ghana Standards Authority, Pr. Alex DODOO. He warmly welcomed the participants in Ghana. He stressed that West Africa needs sub-regional quality infrastructure to trade within and without and therefore standards harmonization is core of the quality infrastructure. He reminded the participants of the importance of the TMC meeting and reiterated the support of Ghana to this process.

In his address, Mr. Christian KAFANDO, Monitoring and Evaluation Expert at the West Africa Quality Program (WAQSP), on behalf of the Chief Technical Advisor, Mr. Aka Jean Joseph KOUASSI thanked ECOWAS Commission and the TMC for the work done for the region in the area of harmonisation of standards. He showed appreciation to the Director of Industry for the efforts done so far. He recalled the necessity and importance of Quality Infrastructure in West Africa through harmonization of standards, which the WAQSP is supporting since 2015. He concluded by wishing the participants an excellent meeting.

The Director of Industry, Mr. LAWSON Hechelli-Mensan on behalf of the ECOWAS Commission, thanked the members for coming to the TMC meeting and the government of Ghana for hosting the

Member States. He conveyed the apologies of ECOWAS Commissioner in Charge of Industry and Private Sector Promotion for his inability to attend this important meeting. He made reference to the adoption of the ECOSHAM and ECOQUAL by the authority of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS. He recalled the work done since then, as in 2013, 2014 and 2016 about fifty Standards have been harmonized in the area of Agricultural products, Food products and Electro-technical materials. Once notified to the Member States, these ECOSTANDS will supersede any existing national standard on the same product/service, hence removing possible technical barrier to trade. He also recalled that the last Council of Ministers of ECOWAS held in Monrovia in June has adopted the structure of the ECOWAS Quality Infrastructure as suggested by the Conference of Ministers in Charge of Quality. Also in order to increase the awareness among the Private sector, the first ECOWAS Quality Award Ceremony has been held in Abidjan last month and all these are happening in 2017, being celebrated as African Year of Quality as instructed by the African Union. He expressed his special appreciations to the partners, the European Union and UNIDO, Helen Keller International and USAid, PTB and the German Government, SIS and the Swedish Development Agency. He concluded by recognizing the active contribution of Ghana Standards Authority, through the fruitful contribution of its experts in all the six Technical Harmonization Committees of the ECOSHAM. He wished the participants successful deliberations.

The meeting was graced by Mr. Dawarnoba BAEKA, Chief Director at the Ministry of Trade and Industry of Ghana. On behalf of the Honourable Minister Mr. Alan KYEREMATENG, he congratulated ECOWAS Commission for the continuous efforts to implement West African Quality Policy. He stated that the lack of harmonized standards for similar products caused technical barriers to trade and their implementation makes international trade cheaper, faster and safer and will increase intra - regional trade. He acknowledged the work done so far in ECOSHAM and encouraged the TMC to sustain the effort and participation. He wished all the participants a successful meeting and declared the meeting opened.

2. Adoption of the draft Agenda - Self-Introduction by Members – setting up of the bureau

- Adoption of the draft Agenda

The draft agenda was adopted as presented (*copy attached as **Annex B***).

- Self-Introduction by Members

There was self-introduction by members of the TMC and present THCs bureaus.

The Chairman of the TMC, Dr. Justin NICKAF, Director of Planning, Research and statistic of the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) on behalf of the Director General SON, Mr. Osita ABOLOMA, welcomed the participants to the meeting. He congratulated the Government of the republic of Ghana, the Ghana Ministry of Trade and Industry, and in particular Ghana standards Authority, for the excellent arrangements and their hospitality. He also thanked the Governments of ECOWAS for supporting ECOSHAM, and also recognized the great efforts of UNIDO colleagues who have worked very hard for handling the logistics of the meeting. He reminded the responsibilities of the TMC as outlined in clause 5.2.4 of the ECOWAS Standards Harmonization procedures and recalled the aim of this 7th TMC meeting which is consideration of the balloting from ongoing THCs, their proposed workplan for 2017/2018 and composition of the Technical Committees.

- Setting of the bureau

The bureau of the meeting was elected:

Chairman: Federal Republic of Nigeria (TMC Chair)

Rapporteur: Burkina FASO (French), Guinea Bissau (Portuguese) and Liberia (English).

3. Presentation of ballot reports from THCs – Discussions - Review of the Final Draft Harmonized Standards for Approval by TMC

The TMC chair explained the procedures to be use in the meeting. The main item was discussion and finalization of final drafts harmonized standards presented by THC3, THC4 and THC6 for submission to The Ministers in Charge of Quality for validation.

THC's secretaries Committee 6 – Tourism, Committee 4 – Building and Construction Materials, and Committee 3 – Chemical Products, presented each draft standard, the ballot report and comment where existing.

An overview of each standard was done and discussed among the TMC. The ballot reports, collated comments and the voting from Member States and decisions at the THC's meetings, on each of the drafts harmonized standards were reviewed.

a) THC 6 – Tourism

The THC6 presented the ballot report on three ECOSTAND and seven (7) ISO Standards that the committee worked on. The list of the ECOSTAND Final Drafts Harmonized Standards (FDHS) ECOSTAND and comments presented by the secretariat of THC6 are captured in the **Annex C**.

The TMC approved the three ECOSTAND and adopted seven (7) ISO Standards for ratification by ECOWAS Ministers in charge of Quality.

In order to consider the problem of child abuse and sustainable development, the TMC recommended the THC6 bureau to take these into account in their New Work Item (NWI) for 2017 – 2018. In this regard, the title of the ECOSTAND 056 needs to be changed to “Sustainable Tourism - Performance requirements”.

b) THC 4 – Building and Construction Materials

The THC4 presented the ballot reports of ten ECOSTAND (10) that the committee worked on. The list of the ECOSTAND Final Drafts Harmonized Standards (FDHS) ECOSTAND and comments presented by the secretariat of THC4 are captured in the **Annex D**.

The TMC approved the ten DFHS and recommended them for ratification by ECOWAS Ministers in charge of Quality.

The TMC asked the THC4 secretariat to review the format in order to have correct insertions of diagrams and images in some FDHS.

The TMC also asked the THC4 Committee to consider in their NWI, adoption of ISO standards cited in the normative references in the various ECOSTAND and ECOSTAND standards on construction sand.

c) THC3 - Chemical Products

The THC3 presented the ballot reports on ten ECOSTAND (10) that the committee worked on. The list of the ECOSTAND Final Drafts Harmonized Standards (FDHS) ECOSTAND and comments presented by the secretariat of THC3 are captured in the **Annex E**.

The TMC approved eight out of the ten FDHS and recommended them for ratification by ECOWAS Ministers in charge of Quality.

The following two FDHS are requested to be recirculated among the THC3 Committee and revert to the TMC in order to:

- Review the level of lead in ECOSTAND 038 Paints and Varnishes – Specification for oil paint as proposed by Côte d'Ivoire and Nigeria
- Review the technical comments from Nigeria in ECOSTAND 040 Paints and varnishes – Specification for Emulsion Base Textured Wall Coatings for Interior and Exterior Use

The TMC also asked the THC3 Committee to consider in their NWI, adoption of ISO Standards in the normative reference as well as Ghana Standards. A useful guide for the use and handling of the raw material turpentine should be also considered as NWI.

4. Submission and consideration of 2017/2018 Activities Programs of THC3 – THC4 – THC6

THCs secretaries reported on the activities of each of the three (3) committees done so far. They also presented their work plans for 2017 – 2018.

Their work plans were discussed and The TMC thereafter endorsed THC3, THC4 and THC6 work program for 2017/2018. The progress reports and work plans are attached as **Annex F**.

THCs secretaries also raised the challenges of lack of response and the level of vote by Members countries was brought to the notice of the TMC; Countries that did not vote were asked to make necessary arrangements to avoid this situation.

5. Composition of Technical Committees

The TMC discussed on the issue of having single national focal point that will not guarantee effective communication and participation, and because of the workload impact on NSBs in ECOSHAM activities. The Ghanaian experience was shared, and Countries were invited to update their lists including contacts of the expert and an alternative in committees where they participate. These alternatives should have expertise or knowledge in said area.

The THC5 scope of activities was expanded by the TMC to include mechanical aspects.

Chair of THC4: After careful deliberations, Senegal was unanimously confirmed as chair of the THC4.

THC Secretary: The case of Côte d'Ivoire was discussed, which currently hosts two technical secretaries of two THCs (THC5 and THC6). It was agreed that Côte d'Ivoire should not be burdened further but instead one of the secretaries should be relinquished to another ECOWAS countries.

However, Côte d'Ivoire was asked to reconsider handling one secretariat only.

6. Cooperation with HKI – Way Forward

The representative of Helen Keller International (HKI), Mr. TOUAORO Zaoro, on behalf of the Vice President Africa of HKI and all the partners expressed his appreciations to the ECOWAS Commission for supporting food fortification in Member States, he acknowledges the important work done by the TMC and the technical committees.

He made a presentation on an over view of fortification in West Africa. HKI called for a review of the current MoU with ECOWAS since their emerging situation and call for more effort to apply harmonised standards on food fortification and increase fortification in West Africa. Discussions followed on the harmonization of the Logo and availability of harmonised ECOSTAND on fortified food. The presentation is attached as **Annex G**.

7. Communication on ISO PC 305

Mr Abdourahmane NDIONE, of ASN (*Association Sénégalaise de Normalisation*) and Twinned Secretary ISO PC 305 Sustainable Non-sewered sanitation systems made a presentation on ISO PC 305. He indicated that ISO PC 305 was responsible for the development of ISO 30500, transportation and treatment outside of the sanitation system are out of the scope. ASN is serving as twin secretary to this technical committee through a twinning with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). He explained the current work done and gave the list of participating Members from ECOWAS. He urged NSBs to join the committee and gave the information of availability of travel scholarships with the generous support of Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The presentation is attached as **Annex H**.

8. Presentation on ISO 37101

Mr. Constant BOKA, Director General CODINORM (Côte d'Ivoire Normalisation), gave a presentation on ISO 37101 Sustainable development in communities -- Management system for sustainable development -- Requirements with guidance for use. He stated the importance of this Standards as it is applicable to small and big communities. He urged Member Countries to promote this standard. Discussion was done and it was suggested to contact ISO to give support for the development of a guide for implementation or training of trainers.

9. Concerns raised / Recommendations

During the course of the meeting, the following concerns/recommendations were raised:

To the NSBs:

- a) NSBs should respond on time on voting and enquiries –The ECOSHAM procedure should be respected;
- b) Amelioration of the communication: other channels such as use of ECOWAS website for notification, social media as well as a creation of an administrative email with several accesses at national level should to be considered;
- c) NSBs should always formalized reason for not voting following ECOSHAM procedure;
- d) Update the list of ECOSHAM contacts email addresses;

To ECOWAS Commission

- e) Invitation of ISO for presentation on ISO PC 305 should be considered at the next TMC meeting;

To Members States

- f) Special memo should have sent to governments reminding of the commitment countries have toward their organizations and especially meeting with the payment of membership dues. It should be emphasized of how resources should be put to the disposal of NSBs for the effectively carrying out the work of standardization.

10. Adoption of Meeting Report

The report of the meeting was considered and unanimously adopted as amended.

11. Closing

ECOWAS Commission expressed their thanks and appreciation to TMC and specially to TMC chair for the good proceedings of the meeting. He congratulated all the committees for their work and participation of Member States in achieving the goals of developing regional standards.

12. Vote of Thanks

The members expressed their appreciations to West Africa Quality Program for sponsoring the meeting. Also, members expressed their gratitude to the government and people of Ghana for the excellent facilities placed at their disposal for the successful organization of the meeting.

Done this day, 28th of July 2017 in Accra, Ghana



Dr. Justin NICKAF

Chairman



ECOWAS Technical Management Committee (TMC) for Standards Harmonization Meeting

24th – 28th July Accra, Ghana

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Réunion du Comité Technique de Gestion (TMC) pour l'Harmonisation des Normes ECOWAS

24 – 28 juillet 2017, Accra, Ghana

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS/LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS

ALISA HOTEL

ACCRA, GHANA 24 – 28 avril 2017

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7th TMC Meeting – Draft agenda From Monday, July 24th 2017 - To Friday, July 28th 2017

Draft Agenda

July 24, 2017 – Day 1		
08.30 – 09.00	Arrival of Guests, TMC members, and the Press	
09:00 – 09:40	<p><u>Opening Ceremony</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome Address by the Host country • Remarks by Director General SON – TMC Chair • Address by the ECOWAS Commissioner • Opening Address by Ghana Minister, Trade & Industry 	GSA TMC Chair ECOWAS Hon. Min. T&I
09:40-10:00	Coffee Break/ Group Photo/Press Briefings	
10:00 – 10:15	Adoption of the Agenda	TMC Chair
10:15 – 12:30	Presentation of ballot reports 1 & 2 from THC6 – Discussions -	THC6 Bureau
12:30-13:45	Lunch Break	
13:45 – 15:45	Presentation of ballot reports 3 from THC6 – Discussions - (Ctd)	THC6 Bureau
15:45-16.15	Coffee Break	
16.15 – 17.30	Presentation of ballot reports 3 from THC6 – Discussions - (Ctd) (ISO Standards)	THC6 bureau
End of Day 1		

July 25, 2017 – Day 2		
09:00 – 09:10	Opening Remarks and Announcements	TMC Chair/ ECOWAS Commission
09:10 – 10:30	Submission and Consideration of 2017/2018 Work Program THC6 – Discussions -	THC6 Bureau TMC
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break	
11:00 – 13:00	Presentation of ballot reports 1, 2, 3 & 4 from THC4 –	THC4 Bureau

	Discussions	
12:30-14:00	Lunch Break	
14:00 – 16:00	Presentation of ballot reports 5, 6, 7 & 8 from THC4 – Discussions - (Ctd)	THC4 Bureau –
16:00-16:30	Coffee Break	
16:30 – 17:30	Presentation of ballot reports 9, 10 from THC4 – Discussions - (Ctd)	THC4 bureau
End of Day 2		

July 26, 2017 – Day 3		
09:00 – 09:10	Opening Remarks and Announcements	TMC Chair/ ECOWAS Commission
09:10 – 10:30	Submission and Consideration of 2017/2018 Work Program THC4 – Discussions -	THC4 Bureau
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break	
11:00 – 13:00	Presentation of ballot reports 1, 2, 3 & 4 from THC3 – Discussions -	THC3 Bureau
13:00-14:30	Lunch Break	
14:30 – 16:00	Presentation of ballot reports 5, 6, 7 & 8 from THC3 – Discussions - (Ctd)	THC3 Bureau
16:00-16:30	Coffee Break	
16:30 – 17:15	Presentation of ballot reports 9 & 10 from THC3 – Discussions - (Ctd)	THC3 bureau
End of Day 3		

July 27, 2017 – Day 4		
09:00 – 09:10	Opening Remarks and Announcements	TMC Chair/ ECOWAS Commission
09:10 – 10:40	Presentation of ballot reports 11, 12 & 13 from THC3 – Discussions - (Ctd)	THC3 Bureau
10:40 - 11:10	Coffee Break	
11:10 – 12:30	Submission and Consideration of 2017/2018 Work Program THC3 – Discussions -	THC3 Bureau TMC
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch Break	
14:00 – 15:30	Composition of Technical Committees	TMC Chair
15:30 - 16:00	Coffee Break	
16:00 – 16:30	Cooperation with HKI – Way Forward	HKI

16:30 – 17:00	Communication on ISO PC 305	ASN
End of Day 4		

July 28, 2017 – Day 5		
09:30 – 09:40	Opening Remarks and Announcements	TMC Chair/
09:40 – 10:30	A.O.B.	TMC
10:30 – 11:10	Preparation of TMC Report for the meeting	TMC
11:10–11:30	Coffee break	
11:30 – 12:30	Presentation and adoption of TMC Meeting Report Closing Remarks and Announcements	TMC Chair ECOWAS
12.30–14.00	Lunch Break	
End of Day 5		