

# Trade builds on effective regulatory systems

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Chair, Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation & Standardization Policies

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# Current challenges on international markets – beyond the TFA



STRENGTHENING THE GLOBAL TRADE AND INVESTMENT SYSTEM  
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



## Regulatory Cooperation: A Wikihow

Christer Arvius and Lorenza Jachia

October 2015

E15 Task Force on  
Regulatory Systems Coherence

Think Piece

- Deep regulatory fragmentation
- Staggering rates of non-conformity on the markets
- Proliferation of low quality and counterfeit:
  - Consumer products
  - Pharmaceuticals
  - High-tech equipment used in plants, factories, aircrafts
  - Electrotechnical equipment of all kinds
- In spite of mounting costs for *testing & certification*



# UNECE WP. 6

## What we are:

- Intergovernmental body
- Participation by: authorities, regional & int'l org, standards-setting bodies, business, certification bodies, test houses, civil society
- From all UN Member States
- 1970 – 2015: 45+ years

## Our mandate:

- ☒ Standardization ☒ Technical regulations ☒ Conformity assessment ☒ Accreditation ☒ Metrology ☒ Market surveillance ☒ Risk Management ☒ Education x standards

## Our activities

- Develop and share info & best practice
- Capacity-building (trainings and awareness-raising events)
- Develop and maintain a set of recommendations
- Implement a set of initiatives on specific industrial sectors



# Recommendation L: from harmonization of technical requirements to common regulatory systems



**International Model for Technical Harmonization Based on Good Regulatory Practice for the Preparation, Adoption and Application of Technical Regulations via the Use of International Standards<sup>1 2</sup>**

**Note by the secretariat**

1. This paper contains a recommendation based on the proposal for an "International Model", as submitted to the UNECE Working Party on Technical Harmonization and Standardization Policies at its eleventh session in October 2001 (documents TRADE/WP.6/2001/8, TRADE/WP.6/2001/8/Corr.1 and TRADE/WP.6/2001/8/Add.1). The proposal for an "International Model" was prepared by the ad hoc Team of Specialists on Standardization And Regulatory Techniques ("START" Team).

At this session, the Working Party decided:

- Approved by UNECE in 2001 – revised November 2015
- Recommendation L sets out a model for regulatory cooperation that is comprehensive and includes both pre and post market dimensions:
  - Common technical requirements
  - Reference to international standards as the basis for the technical requirements
  - Provisions on how compliance shall be demonstrated.
  - Provisions on cooperation among enforcement authorities



# Recommendation L has helped regulatory practices converge



- 4 sectoral initiatives underway
- Drives down trade costs and reduces time to market, increasing the competitiveness of local industry
- Ensures that the products are safe and efficient, minimizes the risk to property and persons, contributes to environmental conservation and public health
- Reference to standards and to international conformity assessment schemes help regulatory authorities save resources, and take advantage of existing expertise

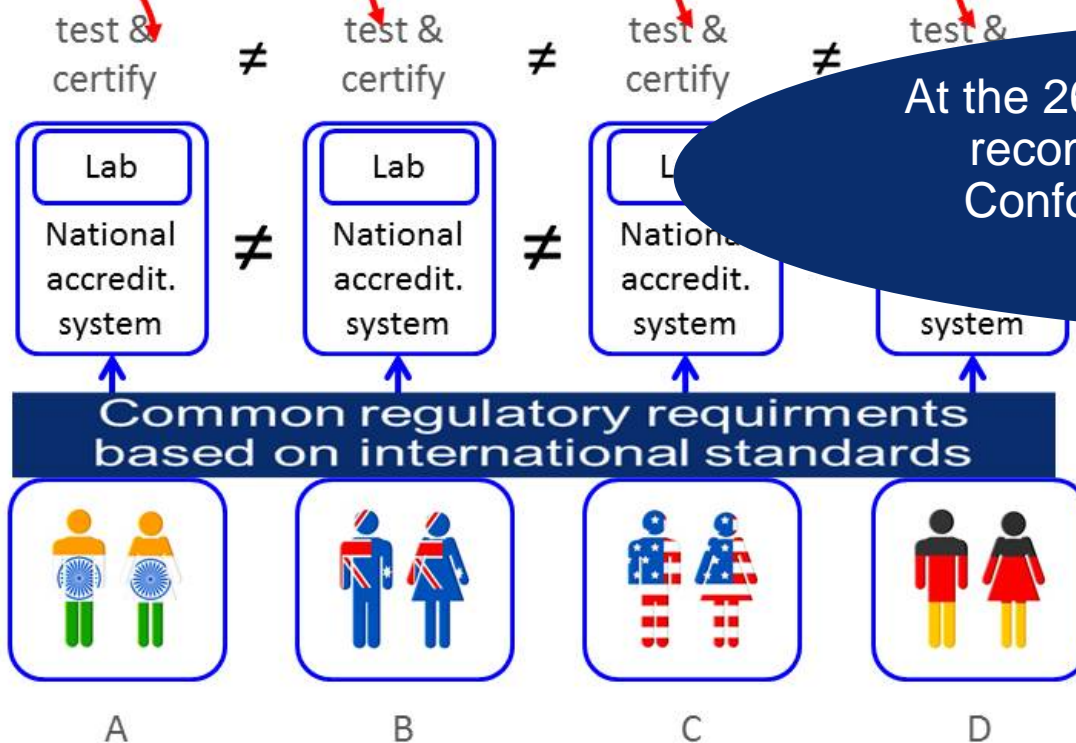


# Cooperation in CA among regulators: pre-market

International conformity assessment  
processes not harmonized  
→ No confidence in results from elsewhere



Non-harmonized  
National  
accreditation  
systems



- Challenge for regulators is to go beyond harmonization of regulations and standards

- Towards the international harmonization of regulatory

At the 26th Annual Session of WP. 6 revised recommendations for Governments on Conformity Assessment Policies will be discussed

- Avoid duplication of testing, enhance the competitiveness of the industry & safety



# Cooperation post-market also increases probability of compliance



Cooperation among conformity assessment and enforcement agencies helps:

At the 26th Annual Session of WP. 6 new recommendation for Governments on  
**“Risk management tools for predictive market surveillance”**

methodology of the  
the assessment  
agencies

- To prevent non-complaint goods found on one market being dumped on other markets



# Lets continue the discussion at the session

## Twenty-sixth Session of the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6)

30 November - 2 December 2016

Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

Introduction

Registration

Documents

The 26th Annual Session of the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6) will be held from 30 November 2016 starting at 15:00 and ending on 2 December 2016 at 18:00.

Three mini-workshops will be held as part of the session on:

- The implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: what role for standards and regulatory cooperation?
- Managing risks, managing development
- International regulatory cooperation: the experience of members

The session will additionally discuss and possibly adopt recommendations on "Cooperation in Conformity Assessment" and on "Import compliance: implementing product-based surveillance".





# Thank you

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