



International Standards for a Globalised World

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World Trade – whereto?

To globalize
or
not to globalize

The Inexorable March of Globalization

- After World War II leading industrialized nations concluded the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)
- Other nations joined them and through successive *rounds* of multilateral trade negotiations a set of rules for international trade was developed
- Thanks to progressive lowering of tariffs and quotas international trade grew steadily

The Momentous Growth of International Trade

(1)

- The fifty years following World War II witnessed growing liberalization and a momentous growth of international trade
- World export of merchandise and services grew 238 times from 1950 to 2006 –
Annual rate of growth of Global Trade -
nearly 10% !
- Average annual rate of growth of global GDP – less than 2.3%
- World Trade now represents 30.6% of Global GDP!

The Momentous Growth of International Trade

(2)

**238 – fold increase
in world trade
from 1950 to 2006 !**

World trade \approx 31% of Global GDP

**USD
14472 bln**

**USD
60,7 bln**

1950

1960

1970

1980

1990

2000

2010

2006

WTO/TBT Agreement (1)

- The liberalization and growth of world trade during the second half of the 20th century resulted in:
 - Reduction or elimination of import tariffs and quotas
 - Technical barriers to trade became more visible!!!
- An agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade was concluded in 1979 and made compulsory for all WTO members in 1995

WTO/TBT Agreement (2)

- The WTO/TBT Agreement attempts to eliminate or reduce TBTs due to:
 - Technical regulations
 - Standards
 - Conformity assessment (CA) procedures
- The TBT Agreement uses 2 main tools:
 - ✓ Harmonisation
 - ✓ Transparency
- For **harmonisation** to be effective, countries must participate in international standardisation and CA systems

Globalisation Trends Related to Standards and Conformity Assessment (1)

① Globalization of markets and industrial integration on a global scale through:

- Outsourcing
- Joint ventures
- Relocation of production

Consequence → **Increased role of International Standards and CA systems**

- ✓ Need for harmonization of national standards and conformity assessment procedures with international ones

Globalisation Trends Related to Standards and Conformity Assessment (2)

② Shorter product cycles (due to use of IT in design and production) and accelerated growth of ICT

Consequence → need for faster standards writing

③ Stiff competition and demand for higher quality

Consequence → widespread use of quality management systems according to ISO 9000

Globalisation Trends Related to Standards and Conformity Assessment (3)

- ④ Growing concern about the environment

Consequence → widespread use of environmental management systems according to ISO 14000

- ⑤ Growing concern about food safety and traceability

Consequence → Requirement for food safety and traceability management acc. to ISO 22000

Globalisation Trends Related to Standards and Conformity Assessment (4)

- ⑥ Concerns about occupational health and safety

Consequence → Standards for occupational health and safety (OHS)

- ⑦ Growing concern about social problems

Consequence → Development of standards for Social Responsibility (ISO 26000)

What is ISO?

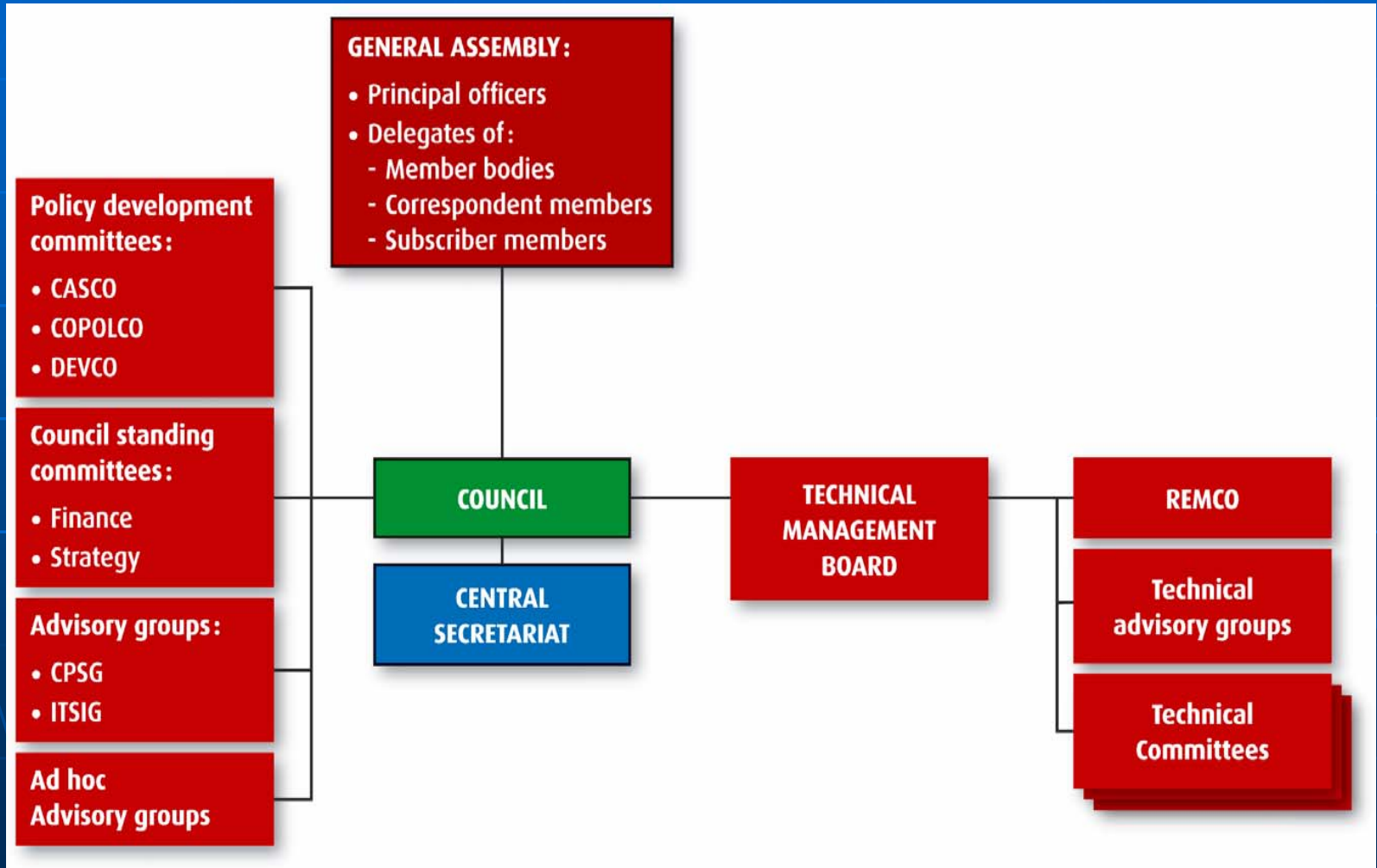
ISO is a *Worldwide federation of national standards bodies from 158 countries*

ISO members: 103

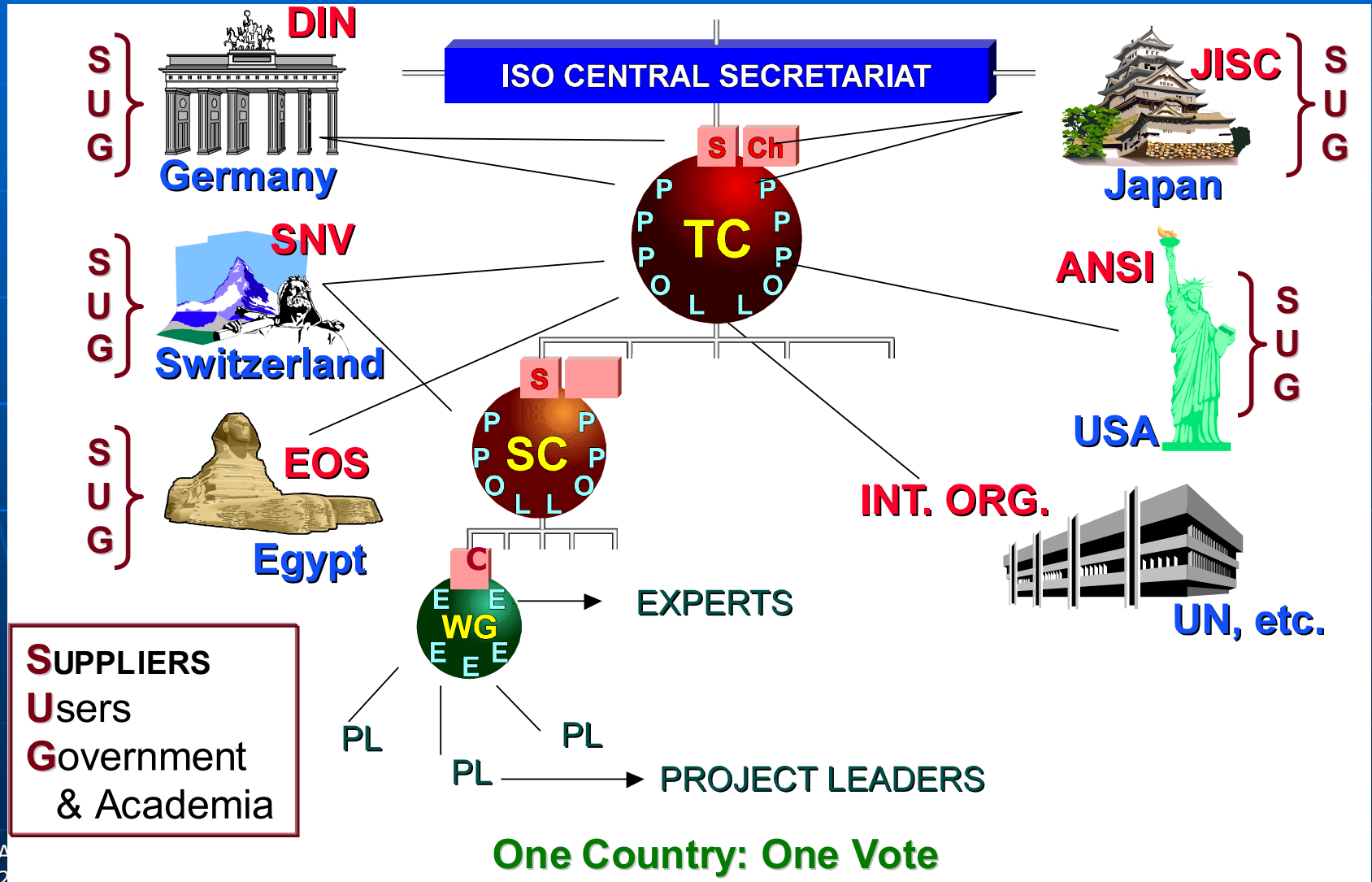
Correspondent members: 46

Subscriber members: 9

ISO Structure and Governance



ISO Technical Committees



ISO System 2007

153 employees

ISO CENTRAL SECRETARIAT

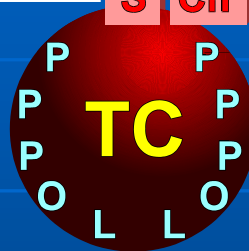
More than 17 000
ISO Standards

Secretary

S

Ch

Chairman



About 193 TCs

733 Secretariats
held by
37 countries

S Ch



~ 550 SCs

Convenor

C



~ 2300 WGs

~ 3 400 active projects (January 2007)

Standard Development at ISO

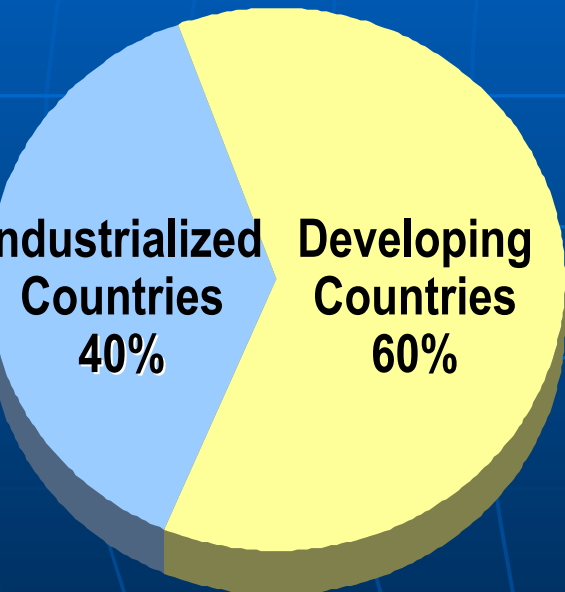


Other ISO Deliverables

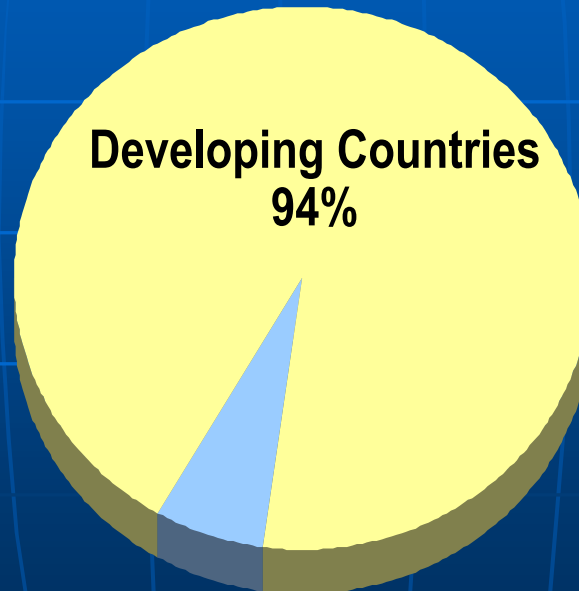
- Technical Specification (TS)
 - where consensus not yet achieved but may be achieved in the future
- Publicly Available Specification (PAS)
 - document urgently published by ISO representing
 - ❖ consensus in an external organization or
 - ❖ consensus of experts in a working group
- Technical Report (TR)
 - Document containing data of different kind (example: survey, work in other organizations, state of art concerning national standards on a subject)
- International Workshop Agreement (IWA)
 - Document prepared by an intern. ISO workshop

Developing Countries in ISO

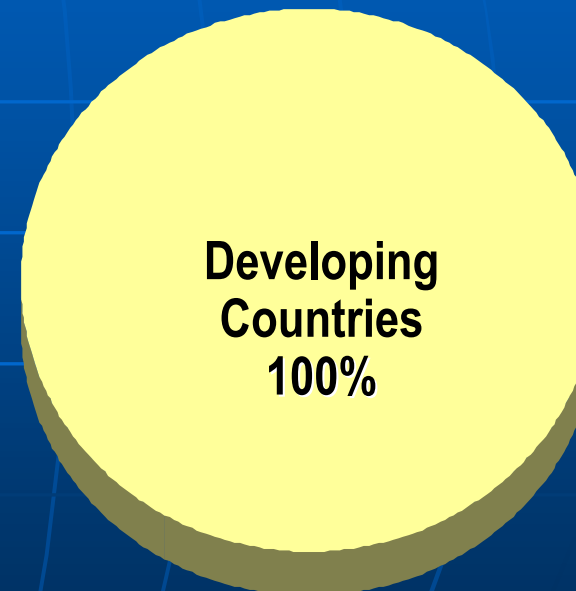
Full Members



Correspondent Members



Subscriber Members



Industrialized
Countries
6%

Participation of Developing Countries in ISO Work (1)

- Correspondent members and subscriber members represent 35% of ISO membership but do not vote on international standards.
- Surveys have shown that
 - ❖ About 40% of ISO members from DC are not P or O members of any ISO/TC/SC
 - ❖ About 50% of ISO DC members do not participate in meetings of ISO/TC/SC/WGs and do not follow their work by correspondence
 - ❖ Only some 3.5% of ISO/TC/SC secretariats are held by DC which hold less than 2% of WG convenorships

Adoption of International Standards is the way to catch up with the world!

- However, adoption of IS should not be a formal process!!!
- Full consultation/information should be carried out for each adopted IS
- Due to limited resources prioritization of the adoption of IS is a must!
- Adoption of IS does not end with the publication of a national version:
 - Extensive information campaigns should be mounted
 - Widespread training should be provided