

Harmonizing National Standards with International Standards

Malaysia's Experience

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STANDARDS MALAYSIA

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Overview of Malaysian Standards System

- >4,800 published Malaysian Standards
- Active program with >200 standards committees
- Active participation in ISO, IEC, CAC
- Policy of adopting international standards as first option
- Implement an arrangement with ASTM and CEN to adopt standards into Malaysian standards



Harmonization of Standards

ISSUES

- Alignment Vs Harmonization
- APEC Initiatives
- ISO/IEC Guide 21
- ASEAN Program
- Malaysian Response



Why harmonize national standards ?

- To facilitate exports
- To improve or ensure quality of imports
- To up-grade national industry
- To promote compliance with WTO/TBT and SPS agreements
- To promote regional economic integration
- When undertaken in a collective manner, harmonisation will reduce trade barriers and promote economic integration and investment.



Harmonization or Alignment ?

- Harmonized standards-full equivalence
- Full equivalence is not always possible or desirable
- Aligned standards (APEC definition) permits adoption of international standards incorporating technical deviations that are identified.
- WTO/TBT Agreement permits deviations due to justified underlying national conditions



Malaysia's Actions

New Policy Adopted for Harmonization:

- Should provide economic identified benefits- promote trade
- Be consistent with WTO/TBT and SPS agreements
- Basis standards should be recognized international standards as first option- next option is used international trade or by main trade partners
- As first option consider full harmonization – next consider “MOD” as in ISO/IEC Guide 21
- Maintain records of harmonization
- Consider participation in international standards committees that are adopted



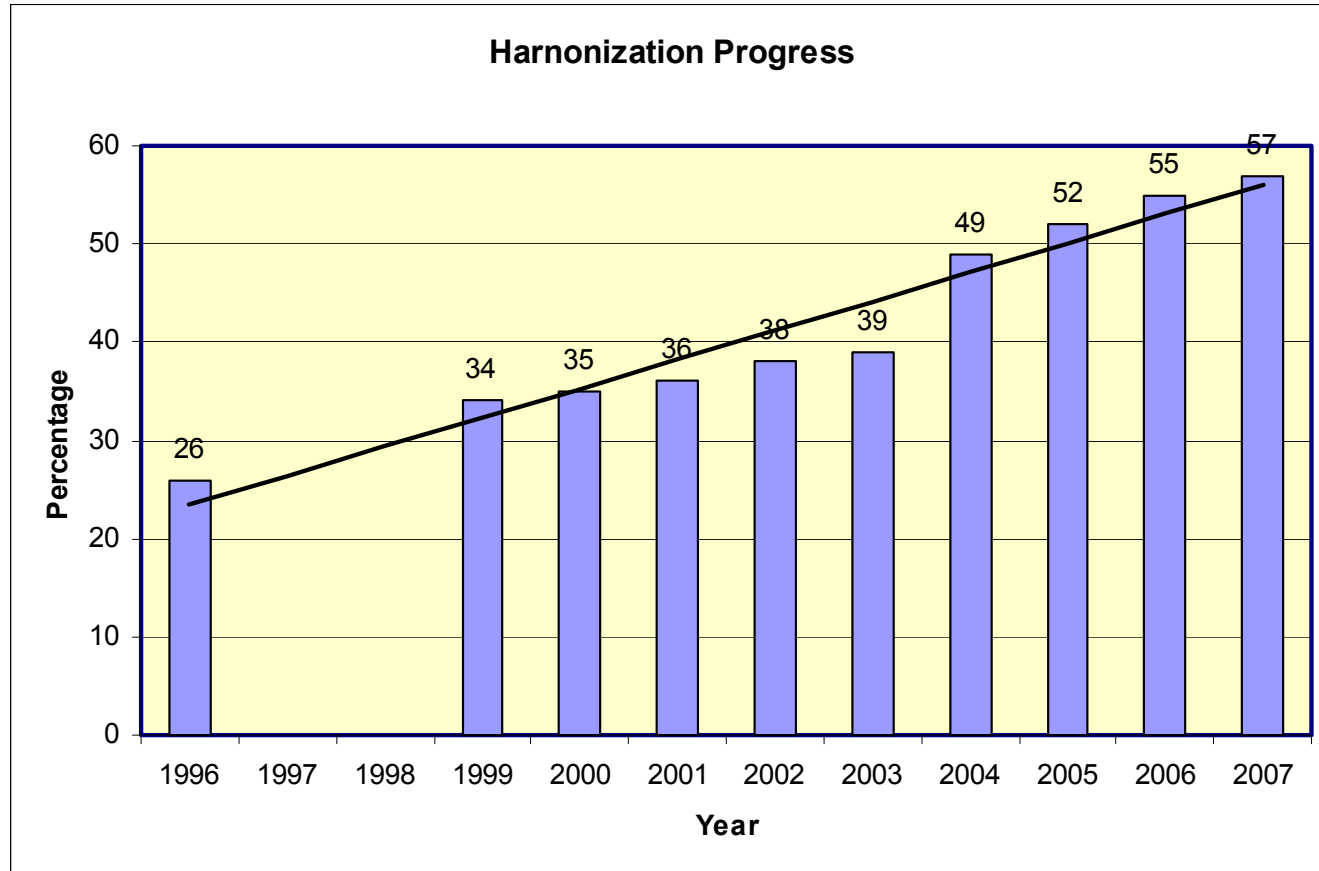
Malaysia's Actions

Actions Taken

- Increase participation in international standards committees
- Increase resources for international standards Vs national standards
- Educating stakeholders & committee members
- Arrangements with ASTM and CEN to adopt standards
- Implementation of ISO/IEC Guide 21



Malaysian Standards – Progress in Harmonisation



PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS in ISO & IEC

Year	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
Participating Member	118	114	99	74	70	66	58
Observer member	194	171	122	122	119	120	120
WG Chair /Convenor	8	8	6	6	6	4	3
TC /SC Secretariat	4	4	4	4	3	2	2

Malaysia became a member of ISO in 1969 AND IEC IN 1996



ISO, IEC Participation

