

World Standards Day



Standardization of Wood-based Products in Myanmar

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2018, October

Standards and Global Trade

Standards;

- used as the technical basis for trade in end-products between buyers and sellers
- a means of facilitating compliance with technical regulations
- used extensively in production, product, service and process environments
- developed in a transparent, open and consensus based process
- a necessary precursor to the evolution of a ‘quality’ culture in society

Standards and Global Trade

Direct contribution of standards

- Economic growth
 - Produce economies of scale
 - Promote interoperability of products and services
 - Encourage greater competition
 - Facilitate Trade
- Environmental integrity
 - Promote ecological safety
 - Assist environmental management
 - Encourage energy efficiency
 - Help reduce carbon footprint
 - Address air, soil and water quality

Standards and Global Trade

- Social equity
 - Provide consumer protection
 - Enhance product safety
 - Support worker protection
 - Promote health services
 - Disseminate innovation

Standards and Global Trade

Three most relevant WTO agreements

- The Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT)
 - Seeks to ensure that regulations, standards and testing and certification procedures, including packaging, marking and labelling requirements, do not create unnecessary barriers to trade.
 - Encourages member countries to use international standards where appropriate, without lowering their national levels of protection against defective products.
 - Contains a code of good practice for the preparation, adoption and application of standards.

Standards and Global Trade

- Determines whether a product conforms to national standards should be fair and equitable.
- Disapproves methods that would give domestically produced products an unfair advantage.
- Encourages countries to accord recognition to each other's testing procedures.
- Urges all WTO members to establish a 'national enquiry point' to respond to inquiries on standards.

Standards and Global Trade

- Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (the SPS Agreement)
 - Rendering an offered commodity free of unwanted dirt, seeds, pests and disease.
 - Establishing own standards, but the relevant regulations must be based on science and applied only to the extent necessary to protect human, animal or plant life or health.
 - Not allowing to arbitrarily or unjustifiably discriminate between countries in which identical or similar conditions prevail.

Standards and Global Trade

- Designed to reduce the inspection, quarantine and treatment of imported forest products as prohibitive measures beyond those necessary to protect domestic human, animal and plant population in receiving country.
- Requires that governments provide advance notice of new or changed SPS regulations.
- It is mandatory for a national enquiry point to provide up-to-date information.

Standards and Global Trade

- **Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**
 - technical specifications in government tenders should be “based on international standards, where such exist, otherwise on national technical regulations, recognized national standards, or building codes”
 - a national technical regulation is any standard set by a recognized body (ISO 14001 : Environmental Management System)
 - Government purchases make up a significant share of global markets (e.g: 10-25% of GDP in OECD)

Standards and Global Trade

- Defining product quality with standards
 - Product quality is usually defined as – but not limited to – meeting the following criteria:
 - satisfaction of customer's needs
 - suitability for intended end-use
 - Performance according to product specification and service life
 - Quality : the degree to which the innate characteristics of a product, process, or person fulfill stated and unstated customer requirements and expectations; comply with stated norms, regulations, and laws; or both.
 - Standards: a set of rules for ensuring quality; are often used to codify technological requirements expected by customers or governments, making them an essential element in the effect to upgrade quality in a country

Standards and Global Trade

- **Developing country perspective**
 - a moderate or small role in the development of standards unabling to safeguard their interests
 - higher cost of adjustment to new standards because of lower baseline level
 - disadvantage in benefiting from standards for late adopters.
 - undue cost burden for less access to accredited certification bodies.
 - larger incremental costs to achieve certifiable operations because of weak management system
 - a low level of fund to meet the costs of stricter standards

Standards and Global Trade

■ Principle 11 of the Rio Declaration

“Environmental standards management objectives and priorities should reflect the environmental and development context to which they apply. Standards applied by some countries may be inappropriate and of unwarranted economic and social cost to other countries, in particular developing countries.”

➔ Standard, therefore, is an important tool for trade development, while, on the other hand, many people concern that it is a necessary evil – ie; unavoidable impediment to trade.

Standards and Global Timber Trade

- **Tropical Country Perspective**
 - Wood-related regulations in consumer markets, such as product standards, environmental credentials and codes related to safety, health and building practices, restrict the expression and diversification of international trade in wood products and furniture.
 - Technical requirements are designed to protect the health and safety of consumers and to establish product - quality conformity among producers, but they also have the potential to create obstacles to fair market access.
 - Technical and environmental standards have become an important issue in the international trade of tropical timber products.

Standards and Global Timber Trade

- Technical Standards
 - Roundwood and Primary Processed Wood Products
(Logs, Sawn wood, Veneer, Plywood)
 - Secondary Processed Wood Products
(Wooden flooring, wooden furniture, packaging material)
 - Formaldehyde requirements

- Environmental Standards
 - Forest Management
 - Chain - of - Custody

Standards and Global Timber Trade

- Organization for Wood-related standards
 - ATIBT - Association Technique Internationale des Bois Tropicux
 - IWPA - International Wood Products Association (US)
 - IHPA - International Hardwood Products Association (US)
 - NHLA - National Hardwood Lumber Association (US)
 - ISO - International Organization for Standardization
 - CEN - European committee for Standardization

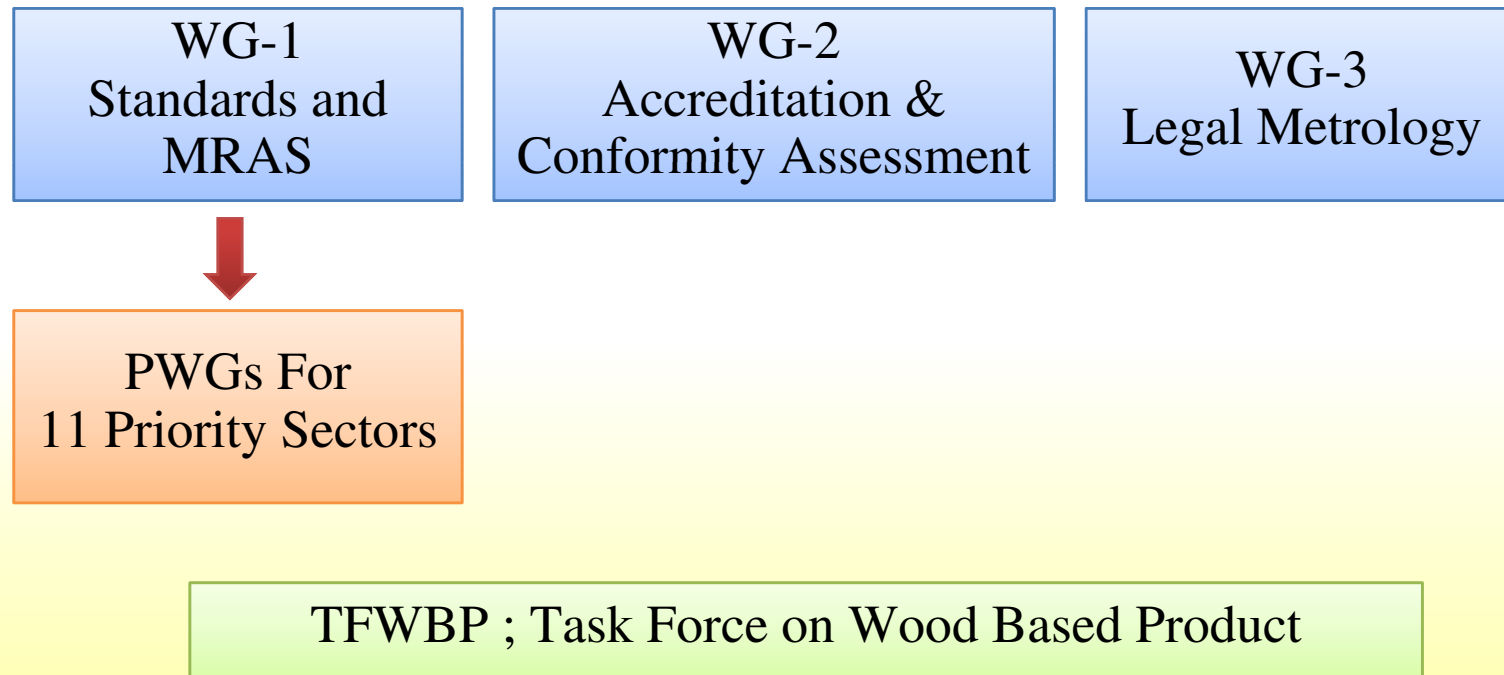
Standards and Global Timber Trade

■ Harmonization of Standards in ASEAN

- ASEAN does not formulate its own standards.
- Member states agree to adopt certain international standards for products of interest as national standards.
- DIR ; Direct Use, IDT ; Identical Adoption,
- MOD ; Modified Adoption
- NEQ ; Not Equivalent to International Standards
- MOD ;
 - not prepared and adopted with a view to or with the effect of creating unnecessary TBTs.
 - not be more restrictive than necessary to fulfill legitimate objectives
 - an easy comparison of the content and structure and provision of information to explain the reason for such modification

Standards in ASEAN

■ ACCSQ Structure



- TFWBP - currently developing its Action Plan 2017-2018

Standard in ASEAN

- Woodbased Products Sector
 - Prioritized Standards for Harmonization – 57
 - NEQ ; 12
 - MOD ; 30
 - IDT,DIR ; 15
 - In 12th Meeting of TFWBP, on 7 May, 2018, Singapore:
 - the first priority of harmonisation standard of WBP should be based on the standards that are coherence and identical alignment with international standards;
 - to remove the 12 NEQ standards

Standard in ASEAN

- ASOF
 - ASEAN Cooperation on;
 - Forest Management
 - Forest Product Development
 - CITES and wildlife enforcement
 - Forest and Climate Change
 - Social Forestry
 - Environmental Standards
 - C & I for legality of timber
 - Forest Management Certification
 - Timber Certification and legality assurance System
 - Chain of Custody (CoC) Guidelines

WBI Standardization in Myanmar

- Myanma Timber Enterprise
 - Established in 1948; a State-owned Economic Enterprise
 - Responsible for Timber harvesting, processing and marketing
 - Private sector participation initiated in 1989
 - No national standards for WBP
 - set the Grading Rules for Log, Conversion and other woodbased products

WBI Standardization in Myanmar

- Technical Sub-committee for Standardization of Woodbased Product
 - Organized in 2013
 - Reorganized in 2018
 - Standards prioritized for Harmonisation in ASEAN
 - 6 ISO Standards for Timber and Woodbased products are identically adopted
 - another 10 standards are under preparation to be adopted.

WBI Standardization in Myanmar

- Myanmar Standards related to Woodbased Products included in Notification No 34/2018 issued by National Standardization Council
 - MMS ISO 1072 : 1975 (Solid wood parquet – General characteristics)
 - MMS ISO 8903 : 1994 (Boardleaved sawn timber – Nominal sizes)
 - MMS ISO 8904 : 1990 (Boardleaved sawn timber – Sizes- Methods of measurement)
 - MMS ISO 4471 : 1982 (Wood – Sampling sample trees and logs for determination of physical and mechanical properties of wood in homogeneous stands)
 - MMS ISO 3129 : 1975 (Wood - Sampling methods and general requirements for physical and mechanical tests)
 - MMS ISO 8375 : 2009(E) (Timber structures – Glue laminated timber – Test methods for determination of physical and mechanical properties)

Standards under preparation for adoption

- ISO 17064 Wood-based panels.. Fibreboard, particleboard and oriented strand board (OSB)-Vocabulary
- ISO 12466-1 : 1999 Plywood. Bonding quality. Part 1: Test methods
- ISO 12466-2 : 1999 Plywood. Bonding quality. Part 2: Requirements
- ISO 8905 : 1988 Sawn timber ; test methods ; determination of ultimate strength in shearing parallel to grain
- ISO 8906 : 1988 Sawn timber ; test methods; determination of resistance to local transverse compression

Standards under preparation for adoption

- ISO 3132 : 1975 Wood; Testing in compression perpendicular to grain
- ISO 3133 : 1975 Wood; Determination of ultimate strength in static bending
- ISO 3397 : 1985 Broadleaved wood raw parquet blocks; General characteristics
- ISO 2299 : 1973 Sawn timber of broadleaved species; Defects; Classification Trilingual edition
- ISO 2301 : 1973 Sawn timber of broadleaved species; Defects; Measurement

THANK YOU
