International Organization for Standardization

www.iso.org
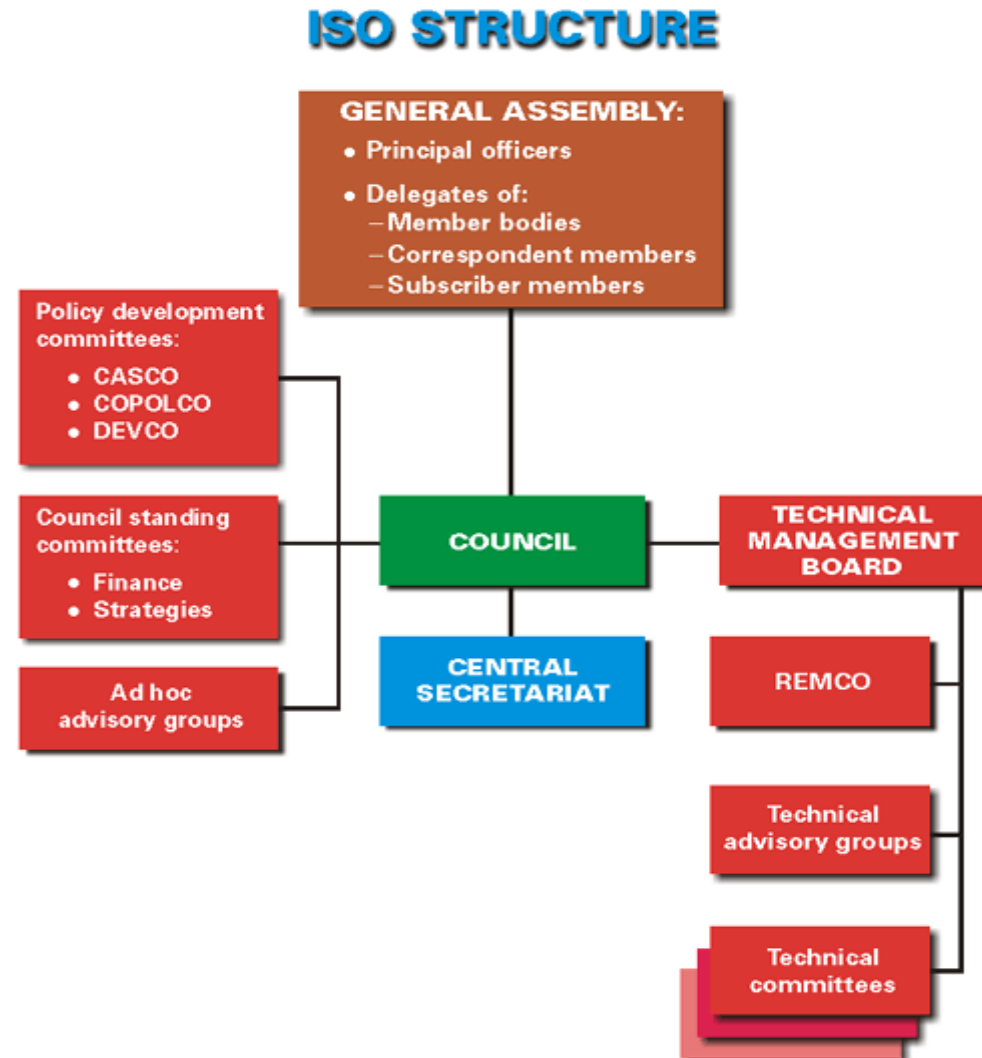
A Tool Box for CITES 'Certification'

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International Organization for Standardization (ISO)

- **ISO is a international technical <u>NGO</u>**

- **148 countries, a mixture of government, semi-government and private bodies**

- **Each national member body is to represent its government, industry and consumer views**

- **Develops international technical policy and reflects this in international standards and guides**

- **Some 13,700 technical standards have been published, most of which are in engineering, materials and electrotechnology (in conjunction with IEC) fields**

- **Approximately 3000 technical committees, subcommittees and working groups with around 30,000 national experts**

- **Based on consensus through application of the ISO/IEC Directives**

- **Liaisons with a number of international bodies**

ISO STRUCTURE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY:
- Principal officers
- Delegates of:
  - Member bodies
  - Correspondent members
  - Subscriber members

Policy development committees:
- CASCO
- COPOLCO
- DEVCO

Council standing committees:
- Finance
- Strategies

Ad hoc advisory groups

COUNCIL

CENTRAL SECRETARIAT

TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT BOARD

REMCO

Technical advisory groups

Technical committees

ISO and conformity assessment

- **For ISO, certification is one form of conformity assessment**

- **ISO is regime neutral, what is recognised as the most appropriate form of conformity assessment is determined by market forces and government regulation**

- **ISO has an international committee (CASCO) that writes voluntary standards and guides on how conformity assessment practices should be carried out – referred to in the WTO Agreements**

- **ISO itself does not perform assessments of conformity against its standards – it is a documentary standard writer only**

- **Voluntary and government 'certification' schemes are based on ISO standards**

Is the CITES scheme a certification scheme?

- Yes, as long as Management Authority and Scientific Authority is acting independently of the commercial interests of suppliers and users

- The CITES scheme is a regulatory certification scheme, in which the 'certifier' is the government

- CITES as a G2G scheme has the potential for significant market recognition

- Product, not a management systems scheme (not ISO 14001)

- Need to have robust credible implementation – standardization of practices will help

ISO tools for improving internal credibility and efficiency

- Consider ISO/IEC Draft Guide 67 *Fundamentals of product certification* and ISO/IEC Draft Guide 28 *General rules for a model third-party certification system for products*

- Supplement the Significant Trade Review with continuous peer assessment based on ISO/IEC DIS 17040 *Peer assessment,* that would include stakeholder involvement

- Consider the possible role of accreditation of management and scientific authorities – especially in terms of testing and laboratories (ISO/IEC 17025:1999)

- For situations of low risk consider options for 'suppliers declarations of conformity' in accordance with ISO/IEC DIS 17050

ISO tools for increasing external recognition of CITES

- Alignment of *terminology* with ISO/IEC definitions which are used in trade and regulatory circles (see ISO/IEC Guide 2 and ISO/IEC FDIS 17000)

- Develop a brand and mark for permits and certificates that conform with ISO/IEC 17030:2003 *Marks of conformity*

- Consider establishing mutual recognition of export and import permits and certificates based on ISO/IEC Guide 68:2002 *Mutual recognition*