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## **Revised Business plan for ISO/TC 223, Societal security**

**2011-03-04**

**BUSINESS PLAN  
ISO/TC 223  
SOCIETAL SECURITY**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In recent years there have been many highly consequential natural and man-made disasters. The increasing risks of widespread disruption arising from incidents such as natural and man-made disasters, technological accidents, and emerging disease have threatened the integrity of critical societal assets, functions and infrastructure, the continuity of organizations and health and safety of individuals. These incidents have demonstrated that organizations must prepare themselves, individually and communally, to prevent and minimise, control and manage the adverse consequences of these incidents.

Societal security considers and integrates a range of interconnected disciplines, such as risk management, crisis management, emergency management with its essential tools as crises communication and command and control, continuity management, security management, disaster management and resilience. In addition, societal security covers a range of integrated activities such as anticipation, assessment, prevention, protection, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery before, during, and after a disruptive incident.

The expected benefits of the work from ISO/TC 223 are:

- provision of International Standards to enhance all actors capacity in society to handle all phases before, during and after an disruptive events;
- achievement of greater consistency across multiple interests and different abilities of professional disciplines, sectors, and levels of administrative responsibility within national and transnational contexts including increased organisational resilience;
- increased preparedness and continuity management culture and best practices within organisations;
- reduced risks and consequences of accidental, intentional and natural events;
- enhanced deployment, integration and interoperability of procedures, systems and technologies;
- increased level of cooperation and coordination;
- increased awareness and enhanced capabilities amongst interested parties and stakeholders to share information and to communicate; and
- increased public awareness and public warning.

Scope of TC 223

ISO/TC 223 develops international standards that aim to increase societal security, i.e. protection of society from and response to incidents, emergencies, and disasters caused by intentional and unintentional human acts, natural hazards, and technical failures. An all-hazards perspective is used covering adaptive, proactive and reactive strategies in all phases before, during and after a disruptive incident. The area of societal security is multi-disciplinary and involves actors from both the public and private sectors, including not-for-profit organisations.

## **1 INTRODUCTION.**

### **1.1 ISO technical committees and business planning.**

The extension of formal business planning to ISO Technical Committees (ISO/TCs) is an important measure which forms part of a major review of business. The aim is to align the ISO work programme with expressed business environment needs and trends and to allow ISO/TCs to prioritise among different projects, to identify the benefits expected from the availability of International Standards, and to ensure adequate resources for projects throughout their development. Your role in the implementation of the Business Planning concept will contribute significantly to the overall effectiveness of international standardization.

We express our sincere appreciation and thanks for your time in reviewing this Business Plan.

### **1.2 International standardization and the role of ISO.**

The foremost aim of international standardization is to facilitate the exchange of goods and services through the elimination of technical barriers to trade.

Three bodies are responsible for the planning, development and adoption of International Standards: ISO (International Organization for Standardization) is responsible for all sectors excluding Electrotechnical, which is the responsibility of IEC (International Electrotechnical Committee), and most of the Telecommunications Technologies, which are largely the responsibility of ITU (International Telecommunication Union).

ISO is a legal association, the members of which are the National Standards Bodies (NSBs) of some 130 countries (organizations representing social and economic interests at the international level), supported by a Central Secretariat based in Geneva, Switzerland.

The principal deliverable of ISO is the International Standard.

An International Standard embodies the essential principles of global openness and transparency, consensus and technical coherence. These are safeguarded through its development in an ISO Technical Committee (ISO/TC), representative of all interested parties, supported by a public comment phase (the ISO Technical Enquiry). ISO and its Technical Committees are also able to offer the ISO Technical Specification (ISO/TS), the ISO Public Available Specification (ISO/PAS) and the ISO Technical Report (ISO/TR) as solutions to market needs. These ISO products represent lower levels of consensus and have therefore not the same status as an International Standard.

ISO offers also the Industry Technical Agreement (ITA) as a deliverable which aims to bridge the gap between the activities of consortia and the formal process of standardization represented by ISO and its national members. An important distinction is that the ITA is developed by ISO workshops and fora, comprising only participants with direct interest, and so it is not accorded the status of an International Standard.

## **2 BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT OF THE ISO/TC.**

### **2.1 Description of the Business Environment.**

The following political, economic, technical, regulatory, legal, societal and/or international dynamics describe the business environment of the industry sector, products, materials, disciplines or practices related to the scope of this ISO/TC, and they may significantly influence how the relevant standards development processes are conducted and the content of the resulting standards:

In recent years there have been many highly consequential natural and man-made disasters. The increasing risks of widespread disruption arising from incidents such as natural and man-made disasters, technological accidents, and emerging disease have threatened the integrity of critical societal assets, functions and infrastructure, the continuity of organizations and health and safety of individuals. These incidents have demonstrated that organizations must prepare themselves, individually and communally, to prevent and minimise, control and manage the adverse consequences of these incidents.

Societal security addresses the resilience of the core capabilities of society's public, private and not-for-profit sectors and societal security can be regarded as the outcome that is achieved through the combined and collective resilience of the vital functions of society. From this perspective societal security has a strong focus on the resilience of communities, organizations and people, both individually and in their interrelationships. In general, many issues related to societal security are regulated by national legislation which needs to be considered in the work.

Societal security considers and integrates a range of interconnected disciplines, such as risk management, crisis management, emergency management with its essential tools as crises communication and command and control, continuity management, security management, disaster management and resilience. In addition, societal security covers a range of integrated activities such as anticipation, assessment, prevention, protection, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery before, during, and after a disruptive incident.

## **3 BENEFITS EXPECTED FROM THE WORK OF THE ISO/TC.**

The expected benefits of the work from ISO/TC 223 are:

- provision of International Standards to enhance all actors capacity in society to handle all phases before, during and after an disruptive events;
- achievement of greater consistency across multiple interests and different abilities of professional disciplines, sectors, and levels of administrative responsibility within national and transnational contexts including increased organisational resilience;
- increased preparedness and continuity management culture and best practices within organisations;
- reduced risks and consequences of accidental , intentional and natural events;
- enhanced deployment, integration and interoperability of procedures, systems and technologies;
- increased level of cooperation and coordination;
- increased awareness and enhanced capabilities amongst interested parties and stakeholders to share information and to communicate; and
- increased public awareness and public warning.

## **4 REPRESENTATION AND PARTICIPATION IN THE ISO/TC.**

### **4.1 Members**

(The heading is linked to [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org))

## **4.2 Analysis of the participation**

In August 2010 the committee had 41 P members, 18 O members and 10 Liaisons. One third of the 59 members of ISO/TC 223 are developing countries. Participants come from all regions of the world. However, participation from Africa and the Middle East could be increased.

ISO/TC223 encourages the establishment of national mirror committees and its members to ensure that their delegations and positions reflect openness and represent broad constituencies. ISO/TC 223 supports the broadest possible participation of ISO member bodies and liaisons, and recognizes that special attention must be given to the needs of several groups, such as developing countries.

## **5 OBJECTIVES OF THE ISO/TC AND STRATEGIES FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENT.**

### **5.1 Defined objectives of the ISO/TC.**

ISO/TC 223 will assess the need for and develop ISO standards and other deliverables within its scope.

ISO/TC223 has the following objectives:

- to provide requirements and guidelines for coordination and cooperation during all phases and for all interested parties and stakeholders;
- to increase preparedness and continuity management within organisations to achieve enhanced organisational resilience;
- to enhance the interoperability of procedures, systems and technologies;
- to provide requirements for efficient command and control in emergency response organisations;
- to increase awareness and to enhance capabilities amongst interested parties and stakeholders to share information and communicate;
- to provide procedures to better prepare and warn the public;
- to provide procedures for exercises and testing; and
- to encourage partnerships between private, public and other relevant actors and organisations.

Note: Other objectives can be developed depending on stakeholders needs within the scope of ISO/TC 223.

### **5.2 Identified strategies to achieve the ISO/TC's defined objectives.**

In order to achieve its objectives, ISO/TC 223 will:

- develop a work programme to ensure that relevant stakeholders actively participate in the work of ISO/TC;
- ensure that the TC is aware of relevant international policy developments and national policy developments and trends within its scope, in order to assess the need for new ISO standards;
- identify those standards and other deliverables within the scope that are still missing and are not being developed by others;
- ensure cooperation with other standardization groups relevant to the scope of ISO/TC223;
- promote the involvement of relevant bodies and encourage experts from various of disciplines and organisations to participate in the work;
- use an all-hazards approach (i.e. addressing all hazards, such as those caused by intentional and accidental human acts, natural hazards, and technical failures);
- ensure that organisational, managerial, operational and human approaches are supported by defining application of capabilities, addressing the management of technology usage and interoperability but not including procurement specification or product standardisation; (see note below);
- establish definitions of key terms for the work;
- take into account existing best practices and standards.

## **6 FACTORS AFFECTING COMPLETION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ISO/TC WORK PROGRAMME.**

The high number of member bodies, liaisons and, consequently, of experts in the various Working Groups will likely extend the timescale required for the work of ISO/TC 223 as:

- a common understanding of the contents of the standards has to be developed by new participants;
- new participants can have difficulty sustaining technical expertise and consistent funding;
- new work items may strain the ability of member bodies to provide appropriate resources.

The cost of hosting the meetings of ISO/TC 223 may become prohibitive. The cost of attending meetings can also limit the ability for many member bodies, delegates and liaisons to participate.

Participants who have the necessary expertise are commonly very busy in their normal work. Thus, the time available to work on the development of ISO standards may sometimes be limited, delaying the production of drafts and the reviews of and comments on new proposals.

All secretariats within ISO/TC 223 (TC, WGs, Project teams etc) should ensure that the work and meeting arrangements are done in the most effective way. The possibility of using teleconferences and webmeetings should always be considered to minimize travelling.

ISO/TC 223 will address and supplement issues not currently addressed by other technical committees or international bodies with which ISO has formal agreements

Due to the global relevance of the work in ISO/TC 223 it is essential that the ISO member bodies implement the deliverables from the committee.

## **7 STRUCTURE, SCOPES AND WORK PROGRAMME OF THE ISO/TC.**

This section gives an overview of ISO/TC's structure, scopes of the ISO/TCs and any existing subcommittees and information on existing and planned standardization projects, including resources needed for their completion.

### **7.1 Structure of the ISO committee**

(The heading is linked to [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org))

### **7.2 Current projects of the ISO technical committee**

(The heading is linked to [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org))

### **7.3 Publications of the ISO technical committee**

(The heading is linked to [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org))

## **8 Reference information**

### **8.1 Glossary of terms and abbreviations used in ISO/TC Business Plans**

(The heading is linked to [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org))

### **8.2 General information on the principles of ISO's technical work**

(The heading is linked to [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org))