Proposal on a New Mechanism to Update ANTAM Codes

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Since 2014, the ANTAM Secretariat has been working on the development of the Codes.

While the first edition of ANTAM 003 was terminated in 2017, ANTAM 001 and 002 have been developed over the course of three years, 52 online meetings and three in person meetings.

Given the advanced stage of these two Codes and the programmatic need to stabilize the standards, it is important to discuss a new method to update the Codes.
The analysis of highly functioning certification schemes (ISO, CEN, ANSI/OPEI, OECD) showed that most international organizations involved in standardization avoid negotiating standards on yearly basis and that standards are modified only under express request of participating countries.
Current ANTAM Codes Update Methodology

- Annual Meeting
- Member countries comments
- Technical negotiations
- National consultations
- Publication of new Code
Proposal on a New Mechanism to Update ANTAM Codes

The ANTAM Code shall be amended on yearly basis only if at least 5 participating countries request changes. If not, the Technical Working Groups will consider member countries requests only once every two years. All request for amendment shall be presented to the ANTAM Secretariat prior to the end of the calendar year (December 31).
Proposed ANTAM Codes Update Methodology starting from 2018

- **2018 CSAM Circulates formal request to Focal Points**
- **Focal Points conduct national consultations**
- **5 Member countries request amendments** → **Negotiations**
- **Less than 5 countries request amendments**
- **The standard doesn’t change in 2019**
- **The proposed changes will be considered in 2020**
Scenario 1: Request for Amendment

- 2018: CSAM circulates formal request for amendments
- 2018: National consultations
  - Reply to formal request for amendments
- 2019: If at least 5 countries request amendment = technical negotiations
- 2019: New Code = request for amendment
Scenario 2: No Request for Amendment

- **2018**
  - CSAM circulates formal request for amendments

- **2018**
  - National consultations---- Reply to formal request for amendments

- **2019**
  - If less then 5 countries request amendment= no technical negotiations in 2019

- **2019**
  - New request will be circulated before the end of 2019 regarding technical negotiations in 2020

- **2020**
  - If there will be less then 5 requests for changing the Code the Secretariat and the TWGs will consider the requests presented in 2018 and 2019.
Does this mean there will be no technical discussion?

❖ No

❖ In 2018-2019, the TWGs will meet once a year to discuss implementation, various issues including harmonization of calibration criteria, overall consistency cross Codes and test reports etc. Frequency and funding modality for subsequent years to be discussed in due course.

❖ Discussions carried out by the TWGs could offer the basis for improvements and further request for amendments.
Why this proposal?

- Resources
- Need to stabilize the Codes
- Different requests from one country
- Late requests
- Procrastination
- All meetings must produce concrete results
- Amendments should be requested only if REALLY necessary
- The network should serve regional needs
Benefits of the Proposal

❖ Alternating negotiation years with implementation years would allow CSAM to focus on the strategic objectives.

❖ The annual meeting of the TWGs could focus on other technical matters.

❖ It could assist the TWGs in implementing meaningful and essential changes based on empirical data.

❖ Reducing the number of technical negotiations would contribute to invest human and financial resources towards the strategic objectives of ANTAM.

❖ It would allow for a deeper involvement of manufacturers in the ANTAM process and allow for changes in construction to be implemented.
Questions?