

DEVELOPMENT AND ADOPTION OF NEW NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS IN SRI LANKA

BY

Dr. Siddhika G Senaratne PhD

Director General

Sri Lanka Standards Institution(SLSI)



STANDARDS FORMULATION PROCESS OF SLSI

- 1. Formulation of National Standards and development of the Standards as required for the National economy mainly in the industrial, trade and service sectors.**
- 2. SLSI adopting International and Regional Standards only. National Standards are formulated by SLSI.**
- 3. Authenticated translation not required.**

ADOPTION OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

In the formulation of National Standards, the policy of the Sri Lanka Standards Institution is to be in line with the International Standards and practices as far as practicable. To this effect International Standards are adopted, as Sri Lanka Standards, wherever feasible.

STANDARDS FORMULATION PROCESS

These standards are developed through a committee process and a consultative process with the voluntary involvement and the cooperative effort of all interested parties representing consumers, producers, users, public Institutions and independent technical organizations.



STAGES OF FORMULATION OF STANDARDS

1. Proposal acceptance and allocation of project

Requests may come from:

- Ministries
- Consumers
- Producers
- Industries/Associations
- Other divisions of SLSI
- Members of WG/SC
- Sister organizations

2. Planning stage – collect relevant information for the project and prepare the basic draft

STAGES OF FORMULATION OF STANDARDS CONT...

3. Committee stage

Mirror committee - Specific to the field

Sectoral committee - Advisory committee

Working group - Drafting committee specific to the project

4. Circulation stage

- Issue the draft standard for public comments for 2 months

5. Approval stage

- The draft approved by Sectoral Committee is submitted for the Council for authorization

6. Publish

TIME LINE FOR ADOPTION OF INTERNATIONAL / REGIONAL STANDARDS

Type of Standard	Time line
Management System Standards	2 Months (only stages 5 & 6)
Product Standards	6 Months (except stage 2)
Testing Standards	4 Months (except stage 4)

DIFFERENT STAGES OF FORMULATION OF A NATIONAL STANDARD & INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

	National standards	Adoption of International Standards
1. Proposal acceptance and allocation of project SLSI shall prioritize project proposals come from stakeholders and project shall be allocated to a Project officer	√	√
2. Planning stage Collect relevant information for the project and prepare the basic draft	√	-
3. Committee stage Mirror committee - Specific to the field Sectoral committee - Advisory committee Working group - Drafting committee specific to the project	√	√
4. Circulation / Enquiry stage Issue the draft standard for public comments for 2 months	√	Except test methods & standards on management systems
5. Approval stage The draft approved by Sectoral Committee is submitted for the Council for authorization	√	√
6. Publish	√	√

STAKEHOLDERS OF STANDARDS

Experts –
Consultants,
academics

Consumer

Standards
body

STAKEHOLDERS

Industry

Labour

Government

PROBLEMS OR CHALLENGES FACED BY SLSI WHEN ADOPTING INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND ACCREDITATIONS

- 1) In case of adopting IEC, standards we are directly adopting them as it deals with safety which we cannot compromise.
- 2) ASTM, AATCC standards as they are test methods are directly adopted.
- 3) ISO, and other international Standards following challenges are faced;
 - Due to advanced testing included in some standards it is difficult to establish those testing facilities in Sri Lanka and also high cost of testing them in overseas laboratory.
 - Due to geographical conditions in Sri Lanka (weather, soil condition etc.) some international standards are not suitable for direct adopting.

PROBLEMS OR CHALLENGES FACED BY SLSI WHEN ADOPTING INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND ACCREDITATIONS

- Most of the Agricultural produces such as fruits, vegetables, spices, nuts etc. are consisted with specific indigenous features. Hence adoption of international standards as it is not possible to safeguard indigenous features
- 4) Sri Lanka accreditation Board despite being a member of ILAC, IAF and APAC, their certificate is not recognized in other countries.
- 5) Recognition of private standards in the international market is another challenge. Global agricultural and food trade is governed by various private standards and certifications. (Eg.- BRC Certificate)

Thank
you

