African Organisation For Standardisation

Secretary General report
HIGHLITGHT DECEMBER 2018 – JUNE 2019

Dr. Hermogene Nsengimana, Secretary General, ARSO

25th ARSO GA, Nairobi, Kenya
ARSO MISSION
Facilitate intra-African and global trade

ARSO is an intergovernmental organization established in 1977 by OAU (currently AU) and UNECA through harmonized standards and conformity system.
1. Harmonize national and regional standards
2. Development of African Standards
3. Coordinate standardisation and conformity assessment procedures
4. Facilitate adoption of international standards
5. Facilitate the development technical regulations based on ARS and IS;
6. Establishment of effective NSB
7. Coordinate the views of members at Intern.
8. Create appropriate bodies in addition to the organs of ARSO fulfilling its objectives.
ARSO STRATEGIC PLAN 2017 – 2022

- **Goal 1:** ARSO, through its members, develops high-quality standards and related deliverables
- **Goal 2:** African standards are adopted and applied as national and sub-regional standards
- **Goal 3:** ARSO’s structures and operations are sustainable
- **Goal 4:** Stakeholders are effectively engaged across the entire ARSO standardization community
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Premised on Article 49 of the AEC Treaty:

1) ARSO/THC 01, Basic and General Standards
2) ARSO/THC 02, Agriculture and Food Products
3) ARSO/THC 03, Building and Civil Engineering
4) ARSO/THC 04, Mechanical Engineering & Metallurgy
5) ARSO/THC 05, Chemistry & Chemical Engineering
6) ARSO/THC 06, Electro-technology
7) ARSO/THC 07, Textiles and Leather
8) ARSO/THC 08, Transport and Communication
9) ARSO/THC 09, Environmental Management
10) ARSO/THC 10, Energy and Natural Resources
11) ARSO/THC 11, Quality Management
12) ARSO/THC 12, Services
13) ARSO/THC 13, African Traditional Medicine
Harmonisation of standards:
- THC 03, 05 and 07 held meetings
  - 13 ARS standards approved,
  - By notification 33 EN
- Working group online meetings

Ongoing project:
- Automotive (AFREXIMBANK)
- Cosmetology (EU–ACP)
- Sanitation (ANSI)
- Food products – cassava (AUC)
- Fashion industry (AUC)

(1) ARS 1472:2018, Cleaning chemicals for use in food industry
(2) ARS 1476:2018, Acidic liquid toilet cleaners — Specifications
(3) ARS 1483:2018, Calcium ammonium nitrate (CAN) fertilizer — Specifications
(4) ARS 1487:2018, Potassium chloride (muriate of potash) fertilizer — Specification
(5) ARS 1488:2018, Potassium sulphate (sulphate of potash) — Specification

(1) ARS 670-1:2019, Compressed earth blocks — Part 1: Definitions, classifications specifications
(2) ARS 670-2:2019, Compressed earth blocks — Part 2: Earth mortars
(3) ARS 670-3:2019, Compressed earth blocks — Part 3: Test methods
(6) ARS 1307:2019, Guideline for energy efficiency in buildings
(7) ARS 1308:2019, Guidelines for structural design for heavy duty pavement constructed of concrete or clay paving units
(8) ARS 1336:2019, Guidelines for laying of precast concrete or clay paving units
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Request submitted to members to indicate adoption by the ISO/IEC Guide 21:

- Submitted: Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria, Zimbabwe
- Analysis of catalogue indicated (annex 7) –
  - Ghana
  - Kenya
  - Zimbabwe
  - Rwanda
  - South Africa

Observation:
- ATM and Constructions, few on Agri and Food
- Resource mobilization for THCs focus???

South Africa
1. SANS 1688:2017 Conformity assessment for African traditional medicinal products (medicinal plants)
2. ARP 1554:2014 Guidelines for sustainable harvesting of traditional medicinal plants
Cons.2. ARS implemented

- ARSO CACO Technical Regulations Subcommittee meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, 25th – 26th October 2018
- Launching of the ARS 1651: 2018 for Good Financial Grant Practice (GFGP) in South Africa on 12th December 2018 organised by the African Academy of Sciences.
- Joint project on IS:
  - ARSO, ANSI and AfWA/AAE Workshop on the “Reinvented Toilet Standard National Recognition/ISO 30500 Regional African Workshop” held on 13th – 14th September 2018, Senegal:
  - ITC
Cons.2. ARS training–SME

- Maturity model with SME–ZED training
- **EMA Benchmarking** with other SDO – FTA, GAP…
- Outreach materials – dvpt continuous
Cons.1. Strategy

- ARSO–RECs (COMESA, EAC, ECCAS, ECOWAS, SADC and ECCAS) meeting – 22nd –24th October 2018, Nairobi, Kenya –
  - Reports from EAC, SADC received
  - ARSO contributed to ECOSHAM review
  - ASHAM to be approved with a JAC (joint advisory committee from RECS
  - Aligning THC/WG with TC in RECS
  - Joint workplan ARSO –RECs by June 2019

- ARSO MoU:
  - signed MoU with ECCAS
  - ARSO–IGAD MoU under consideration
  - MoU review and signing with SAC
  - MoU singing with ITU
  - Copyright agreement with CEN–CENELEC
  - ISO–ARSO bilateral meeting–MoU drafting
  - ARSO–ITC: quality champions

- UNECA:
  - Identifying Priority Value Chains for Standards Harmonization in Africa
  - ARSO included in AfCFTA national implementation strategy

- Standardisation strategy toward 4th IR (Chaired by Dr Eve Gadzikwa)– online meetings – deadline December 2019
Launch of ECOMARK:
- **Capacity building:** (1) Cameroon; (2) DRC Congo; (3) Egypt; (4) Gabon; (5) Ghana; (6) Kenya; (7) Madagascar; (8) Mauritius; (9) Nigeria; (10) Rwanda; (11) Senegal; (12) South Africa; (13) Tanzania (+Zanzibar); (14) Uganda; (15) Zambia; (16) Zimbabwe
- **Certification:** Cameroun, Ghana (agriculture), Kenya (agriculture and aquaculture), Nigeria (aquaculture), Rwanda (tourism), Uganda (aquaculture), Zambia (aquaculture), Zimbabwe (forestry)

GFGP certification:
- Collaboration with AAS

Tailor made trainings to ARSO members

Mobilising Members towards adoption of ARS
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25th ARSO GA, Nairobi, Kenya
Cons. 1. Policy

- Africa quality policy on standardization and measurement as per Abuja Treaty:
  - PRC
  - Africa industrialization week

- ARSO Permanent Headquarters:
  - Discussion with KEBS and Ministry

- PAQI forum – 20th and 21st September 2018, Mauritius
Government support to the ARSO President Elect: Cameroun

Support from ARSO champions and ARSO Goodwill Ambassador

Repositioning ARSO within AUC and UNECA:
  - MoU: ARSO–AUC–AFREXIMBANK
  - Visit by SG and ARSO President to the ES–ECA
Cons.3. Policy

- PanAfrican quality policy on standardization and measurement as per Abuja Treaty:
  - Zero draft ready
  - Consultative meetings:
    - COMESA, EAC, SADC: 22–23 July (Nairobi)
    - ECCAS, UMA, ECOWAS: 29–30 July (Abuja)
    - Validation: PAQI, AUC, RECs: 8 August

- ARSO Permanent Headquarters:
  - KEBS approved request
  - Request under consideration by the Kenyan government
Cons.3. Membership

- ARSO membership mobilization: report from ARSO champions
  - Consideration: Morocco, Gambia, Morocco, Djibouti, Burundi
  - Malawi, Gabon, Togo reactivating membership
- Permanent Council Membership
- ARSO Fund:
  - Zanzibar
  - Ethiopia
  - Uganda
  - Nigeria
  - Mauritius
- Payments of the 2019 membership fee by 17 countries.
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Cons.1. Support ARSO program

- Private sector engagement:
  - COMESA Business council
  - ACP–Private sector Development

- Implementation of standards:
  - AU IBAR – Fisheries
  - NEPAD – Fisheries, Tourism, forestry
  - IS– Africa regional strategy

- AUC:
  - Trade and industry
  - Agriculture and rural economy
  - Implementation on TBT annex 6

- African Day of Standardisation
  - 21st March

- Draft African Quality Award: linking to ITC quality champions

- SPS Stocktaking Workshop held in Nairobi, Kenya, 4th – 5th October 2018,
Conclusion – ARSO Sustainability

Challenge and way forward
Challenges

1. Institutional sustainability – Policy organs influence – repositioning ARSO
2. Financial sustainability – Membership payment – Funding growing activities within AfCFTA
3. Programmatic sustainability – Capacity building of ARSO members
   ◦ Participation in standards
   ◦ Uptake of standards – deliberate action to be taken by NSBs at national and within RECs
Conclusion – Role of all of us

1. Support and participate in the Panafrican Quality Policy development
2. Self-reliance – Membership and ARSO fund payment
3. Deliberate action to adopt and implement standards for regional integration – AfCFTA
4. Participation and support CACO – CA and TR
5. Tailor made capacity building in all component of QI – Standards, CA, Metrology, Accreditation
Asante

Merci beaucoup!

Thank you!

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Muito obrigado!