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Secretariat of ISO/PC 283

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To the Members of ISO/PC 283
Occupational health and safety management systems

## Communiqué on the October/November 2016 meeting of ISO/PC 283/WG1 *Development of ISO 45001*Klaipeda, Lithuania, 30 October – 4<sup>th</sup> November 2016

The ballot on the Draft International Standard (DIS) of ISO 45001 closed in May 2016, and failed to approve the document. It also received approximately 3000 comments giving recommendations for improvement.

A meeting of ISO/PC 283/WG1 was held in June 2016 in Canada, followed by a plenary meeting of ISO/PC 283 itself.

The WG1 meeting examined a number of key issues identified from the comments, to enable the review of comments to progress. It also proposed the establishment of a Task Group (TG8) to do a detailed review of the comments.

The following PC meeting agreed that the path forward would be to develop and release a second Draft International Standard, as opposed to publishing the DIS as a Technical Specification. It also took the unusual step of confirming the constitution of the proposed TG8 (unusual, as a PC or TC would not normally intervene in the way that the activities of a WG are managed).

TG 8 held a meeting in September in Frederica in Denmark, and managed to complete an initial review of the comments against the Introduction and clauses 4 to 10 of the DIS. 23 experts attended the meeting, and the PC is very grateful to Dansk Standard, Glaesel HSEQ management, CO- Industry (The Central Organisation of Industrial Employees in Denmark), and DI (Confederation of Danish Industries) for having hosted the meeting, for the excellent facilities provided, and for their hospitality.

A further meeting of WG1 and the PC had been proposed (back in June) for September/ October; however, due to the difficulties of finding a host for the meeting, and the short notice given, this could only be run as a WG1 meeting in accordance with ISO's rules of procedure.

Consequently, a further meeting of WG1 was held during 30<sup>th</sup> October to 4<sup>th</sup> November in Klaipeda, Lithuania, at the Ibis Styles Aurora hotel. 51 Experts attended the meeting, from 22 national standards bodies, and 4 liaison organizations.

WG1 is extremely grateful to the Lithuanian Standards Board (LST) and Certification Association Russian Register for having hosted the meeting at such short notice, for the superb facilities provided and for their hospitality.



Delegates to the Klaipeda meeting





**Ibis Styles Aurora hotel** 

The WG1 meeting reviewed the work of its TG8, and made good progress in agreeing the texts for the DIS2 for the majority of clauses 4 to 10 (although some of the sub-clauses will need to be revisited). It did not manage to review the Introduction, the Scope in clause 1, some of the terminology in clause 3, or the guidance Annex A (approximately 1000 of the 3000 comments received on ISO/DIS 45001, were against Annex A).

The WG agreed the need for a further meeting in order to complete the review of comments. It has since received an offer from AUVA-Hauptstelle to host this meeting in February 2017 in Vienna, Austria.

In terms of the potential timeline for the publication of ISO 45001, it should be noted ISO Central Secretariat has now clarified that the 9 month extension rule for a project does not apply directly to the 18 month, 2 year or 3 year project timelines. Instead a project on one of those timelines may now be changed to the 4 year timeline, and only if it fails to achieve the 4 year timeline, does the 9 month extension apply. Consequently, the PC283 Secretariat has requested that the project be moved from its initial 3 year time line to the 4 year one, and this has been agreed by ISO C/S. This now sets the deadline for completion of the project at 25<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

## Potentially, the following could now occur:

February 2017 – WG1 meets and completes its review of comments

March 2017 – Editing and preparation of the DIS2 April/May 2017 – The DIS2 is released for translation

June/July 2017 - The DIS2 ballot is held

September 2017 - PC283 and WG1 meet to review the results of the DIS2 ballot

## Then provided the DIS2 achieves approval:

- a) If the DIS2 only receives a limited number of comments, the PC agrees to avoid the Final Draft International Standard (FDIS) stage, and the review of DIS2 comments is completed at the September meeting, publication could be achieved by October/November 2017;
- b) If an FDIS stage is decided as being necessary, or a large volume of comments is received (requiring multiple meetings to process them), publication could be achieved by approximately March 2018 at the earliest.

Both options would require use of the 9<sup>th</sup> month timeline extension (or part of it).



Jelena Riazanova

In closing its meeting, the WG gave its sincere thanks to Jelena Riazanova, Head of CA "Russian Register", Lithuanian branchoffice, for all her outstanding assistance in arranging and planning the meeting.

It also gave its thanks to all the staff at the Ibis Styles Aurora hotel for their help and cheerfulness in running the meeting.

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