



## JISC (Japanese Industrial Standards Committee)

### Standardization Strategy

September, 2001

#### I. Introduction and Background

JISC developed its standardization strategy, in order to respond to recent developments in the world of standardization both internationally and at home, which could be summarized as follows;

##### **(a) Advancement in regulatory reform**

--- Advancement in utilization of voluntary standards as criteria for performance-based technical regulations, which increased the need for further developing voluntary standards responding to regulatory needs (e.g. safety, environment).

##### **(b) Advancement in globalization**

--- Acceleration of globalization underpinned by the existence of the WTO Agreements, including the TBT Agreement, which results in further alignment with international standards and guides.

##### **(c) Increasing awareness for standards as a tool for strengthening industrial competitiveness**

--- The growing importance of acquiring international standards in the context of industrial competitiveness, which results in the needs for integrating R&D strategy and standardization strategy.

##### **(d) Diversification of values among consumers**

--- Increasing awareness of consumers on such values as safety and environment, which leads to the increasing role of voluntary standards and conformity assessment as a tool to provide information responding to consumers diversified values.

#### II. Summary of the Strategy

##### 1. Development of the Strategy

In January this year, JISC launched the development of the Standardization Strategy, which consists of two parts; a) general strategy and b) sector-specific strategies.

After intensive discussions in committees in JISC, as well as taking into account of commenting from public, the Strategy was finalized in September 2001.

##### 2. Features of General Strategy

Responding to the developments in the world of standardization, as well as taking into account of recent international developments such as the outcome of the 2nd Triennial Review of the WTO/TBT Agreement, the development of long-range strategy in ISO/IEC, and the development of standardization strategies in US and EU, the general strategy part emphasizes the following three points;

- (1) Responding to market and social needs**
- (2) Strategy for international standardization**
- (3) Integration of R&D and standardization**

### **3. Responding to market and social needs**

#### **(1) Development of sector-specific strategies**

In order to adequately and effectively respond to changing market and social needs for standardization, JISC, together with interested parties, developed sector-specific strategy, which sets priorities for standardization in each sector.

#### **(2) Encouraging further involvement of interested parties**

JISC will further encourage the wider and deeper involvement of interested parties, such as industries and regulators, as well as reflecting the views of consumers, the elderly and people with disabilities.

#### **(3) Prompt and transparent standards development**

JISC will further promote the usage of information technology in its standardization process. Utilization of complementary deliverables is also recommended as a mean for the prompt development of standards.

#### **(4) Need for improving public awareness**

The need for improving public awareness for standardization was also strongly recognized. Strategic actions include;

- Provide training programmes to interested parties for participating in standardization, including courses at university level
- Improve public relations (e.g. further utilization of JISC website)

### **4. International Standardization Strategy**

#### **(1) Strategic actions for international standardization**

As the results of efforts in the past decade, Japan has been successful in improving its representation in international standardization. JISC, however, recognizes that there is further need for increasing involvement in international standardization to appropriately reflect the interests of Japan.

Strategic actions include;

- Government support for international standardization of strategic importance by industries.
- Government support for industry initiative to increase chairpersons, convenors, secretariats of TC/SC/WG from Japan.
  - Efforts to improve the recognition and support for standardization from business leaders
- Further strengthening cooperation with national standardization bodies in Asia-Pacific region by utilizing regional organizations such as PASC and APEC.

#### **(2) Promotion of international cooperation**

Responding to recent discussions in fora such as WTO, ISO/DEVCO, APEC, on the needs for international cooperation in assisting capacity building of developing countries in the area of standardization, Japan will continue its efforts for international cooperation, in particular, of regional cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region through organizations such as APEC and PASC. JISC, as a leading national body in the region, also welcomes the planned establishment of IEC regional center in Asia (Singapore) as an important mean to promote further participation of region's standardization bodies in IEC activities, and is willing to contribute to the activities of the regional center.

### **(3) “International standards” and JIS**

While JISC recognizes ISO/IEC as standardization bodies that develop appropriate international standards in many areas, JISC also understands the fact that in some areas, standards developing organizations (SDOs) other than ISO/IEC are developing internationally prevailing standards. JISC recognizes possible importance of cooperation with such SDOs in strategic implementation of its international standardization activities. JISC also supports the ISO strategy to establish partnership with such SDOs.

## **5. Integration of R&D and Standardization**

As “Science and Technology Basic Plan” (a Cabinet Decision, 2001.3) points out, JISC recognizes the importance of R&D with clear awareness of eventual standardization, as well as development of test evaluation method that fulfill the role as public asset. Strategic actions include;

- Awareness of standardization from the planning stage, particularly in the standardization of new technologies
- Public involvement in development and standardization of test evaluation method that fulfills the role as public asset
- Promote the development of intellectual infrastructure such as measurement standards through active public involvement.

## **6. Sector-Specific Strategy**

In order to set detailed priorities for its standardization, JISC together with interested parties developed sector-specific strategies as a part of the Strategy. Sectors of particular importance as well as the summary of their strategies will be as follows;

### **(1) Standardization of information technology**

Standardization of information technology related to e-Commerce and realization of e-Government are in urgent need. While taking into account of de facto standardization, promote effective development of JIS.

(Examples of priority issues)

- Security & encryption technology
- IC cards
- Coded character set
- GIS (Geographical Information System)

### **(2) Standardization that contributes to environmental protection and recycling**

As standards in this sector are often to be used as criteria for environmental technical regulations, government will lead the standardization.

(Examples of priority issues)

- Measurement methods for dioxins
- Measurement methods for greenhouse gases
- Testing methods to assess quality of recycled products

### **(3) Standardization that reflects the views of consumers, the elderly and people with disabilities**

Promote development of JIS that reflects the views of consumers, the elderly and people with disabilities. Collect body size data of the elderly and people with disabilities for standards development.

(Examples of priority issues)

- Guides for consumer protection
- Further participation of consumers in the development of standards
- Reflection of ISO/IEC Guide 71 to product standards development

**(4) Standardization that facilitates industrial growth and safety**

Promote standardization for advancing the industrial infrastructure and fundamental technologies.

(Examples of priority issues)

- Industrial automation
- Geometrical product specification (GPS)
- Safety of machinery

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Contacts : JISC Secretariat

Tel: +81-3-3501-9471 ☐☐☐: +81-3-3580-8606  
e-mail: isojisc@meti.go.jp or iecjisc@meti.go.jp  
☐☐☐: http://www.jisc.org.jp



# **Japanese Standardization Strategy**

**September, 2001**

**Masahiro Hashimoto**

**Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry**

**JAPAN**



# Responding to the Changing Environment (1)

- **Advancement in regulatory reform**
  - Utilization of voluntary standards as criteria for performance-based technical regulations.
  - Needs to further develop standards responding to regulatory needs (e.g. safety, environment).

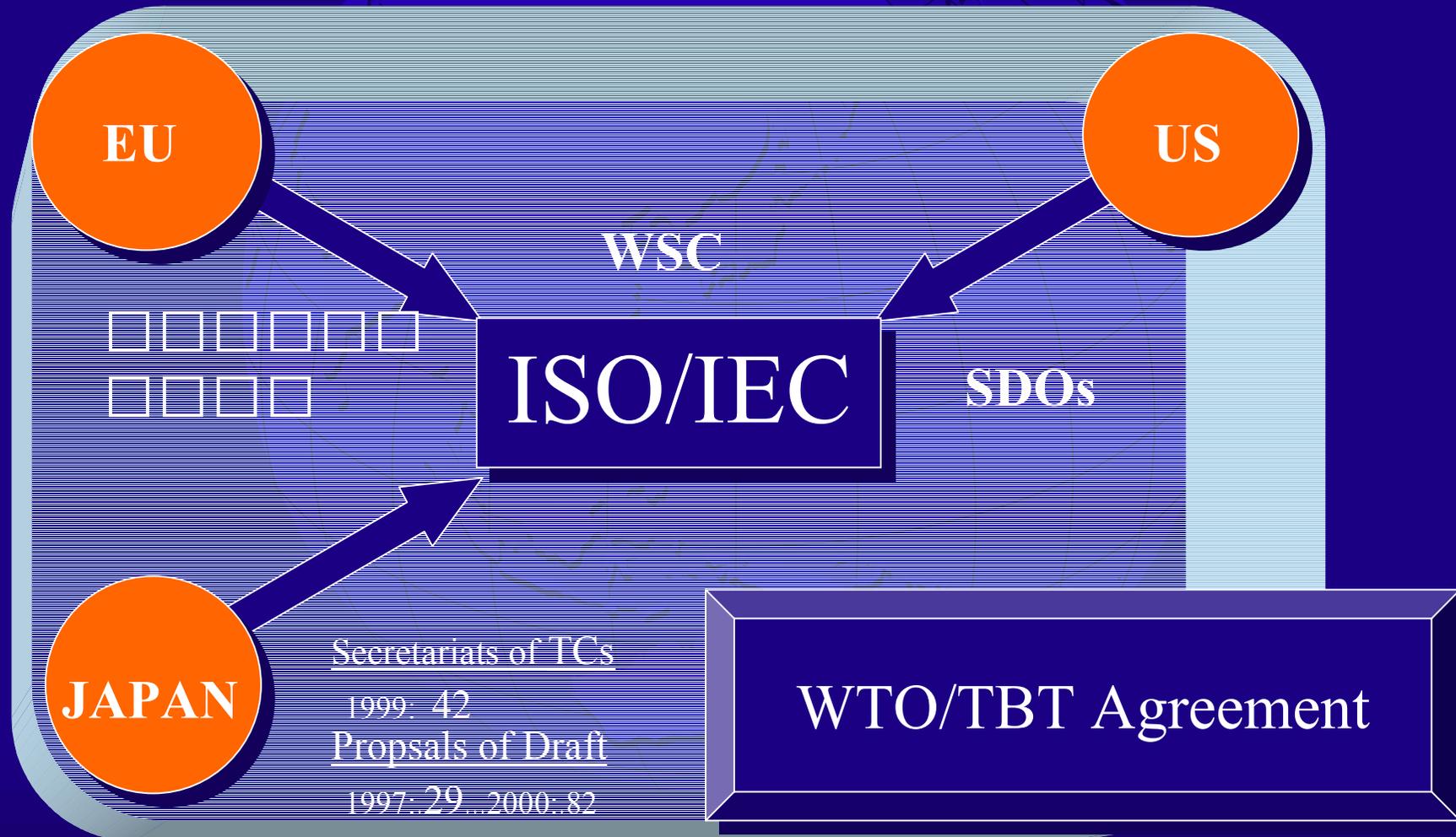


# Responding to the Changing Environment (2)

- **Advancement in globalization**
  - Acceleration of globalization and the WTO/TBT Agreement which underpins it
  - Needs for further alignment with international standards and guides



# International Standardization





# **Responding to the Changing Environment (3)**

- **Needs for strengthening industrial competitiveness**
  - **The growing importance of acquiring international standards in the context of industrial competitiveness**
  - **Needs for integrating R&D strategy and standardization strategy**



# **Responding to the Changing Environment (4)**

- **Diversification of values among customers**
  - **Increasing awareness of customers on such values as safety and environment**
  - **The increasing role of standards and conformity assessment as a tool to provide information responding to consumers diversified values**



# Development of Standardization Strategy

- JISC (Japanese Industrial Standardization Committee) launched the development of the Strategy responding the changing environment in January this year.
- The Strategy consists of two parts;  
a) general strategy and b) sector-specific strategy
- Approved by JISC General Assembly in September 2001



# Features of the Strategy (1)

- Responding to the developments surrounding the world of standardization, as well as taking into account of recent international developments such as the outcome of the 2nd Triennial Review of the WTO/TBT Agreement.....,



## **Features of the Strategy (2)**

- **The Strategy emphasizes the following 3 points;**
  - (1) Responding to market and social needs**
  - (2) Strategy for international standardization**
  - (3) Integration of R&D and standardization**



# Responding to market and social needs (1)

- **Development of sector-specific strategy**  
JISC, together with interested parties, developed sector-specific strategies, which set priorities for standardization in each sector.



## **Responding to market and social needs (2)**

- **Ensuring wider and deeper participation of interested parties to standardization, such as**
  - industries**
  - regulators**
  - consumers, the elderly and people with disabilities**



## **Responding to market and social needs (3)**

- **Prompt and transparent standards development**
  - **Further usage of IT**
  - **Utilization of complementary deliverables**



## **Responding to market and social needs (4)**

- **Improving public awareness for standardization**
  - **Provide training programs to interested parties for participating in standardization**
  - **Improve public relations (e.g. further utilization of JISC website)**



# **International Standardization Strategy (1)**

- **Overview**
  - Having been steadily successful in improving Japanese representation in international standardization,
  - Further need for strengthening participation to international standardization to appropriately reflect the interests of Japan



# **International Standardization Strategy (2)**

- **Actions for strengthening the participation**
  - Government support for international standardization of strategic importance for industries competitiveness
  - Government support for industry initiatives to increase chairs, convenors, secretariats of TC/SC/WG
  - Efforts to improve the recognition and support for standardization from business leaders
  - Further strengthening cooperation with national standardization bodies in Asia-Pacific region by utilizing regional organizations such as PASC and APEC



# **International Standardization Strategy (3)**

- **Promotion of international cooperation**
  - Responding to the recent discussions in international fora such as WTO, ISO/DEVCO, IEC and APEC on technical assistance to developing countries, Japan will strengthen its efforts in this area in particular in Asia-Pacific region.
  - Minister Hiranuma has announced to launch “New Cooperation Program on Standards and Conformance in Asia-Pacific Region”



# **International Standardization Strategy (4)**

- **“International standards and JIS”**
  - While Japan recognizes ISO/IEC as standardization bodies that develop appropriate international standards in many areas
  - Japan also understands that in some areas, SDOs other than ISO/IEC are developing international prevailing standards.
  - Japan recognizes possible importance of cooperation with such SDOs.



# **Integration of R&D and Standardization**

- **Japan reaffirms the importance of R&D with clear awareness of eventual standardization, as well as development of test evaluation method that fulfill the role as public asset.**



# **Sector –Specific Strategies**

- **In order to set detailed priorities for standardization, JISC together with interested parties, developed sector-specific strategies.**
- **Sectors of particular importance are as in the below**
  - **Standardization of information technology**
  - **Standardization in environmental protection and recycling**
  - **Standardization reflecting the views of consumers, the elderly and people with disabilities**
  - **Standardization that facilitate industrial growth and safety**



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