

SAUDI ARABIAN STANDARDS ORGANIZATION

(SASO)

TECHNICAL DIRECTIVE

PART TWO:

**POLICY FOR THE PREPARATION OF SAUDI
MANDATORY STANDARDS (SAUDI TECHNICAL
REGULATIONS) AND SAUDI VOLUNTARY STANDARDS**

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STANDARDS (SAUDI TECHNICAL REGULATIONS) AND
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Introduction:

The aim of the Saudi Arabian Standards Organization (SASO), when preparing and approving Saudi voluntary standards and Saudi mandatory standards (Saudi technical regulations) issued by it, is to achieve the appropriate levels of quality in products, taking in consideration the Islamic legislation, national security requirements, the protection of the consumer's health and safety, the protection of environment, and the prevention of deceptive practices and not to create unnecessary technical barriers to international trade, and to depend on the international standards prepared by international organizations such as ISO when preparing Saudi standards and technical regulations.

To achieve this aim, this part of technical directive for SASO has been prepared so that it ensures the agreement upon a unified technique for the preparation of Saudi voluntary and mandatory standards and the participation of all concerned bodies by making comments in all stages of preparing Saudi standards.

1. **Definitions:**

The terms defined in Part One of SASO Technical Directive “Standardization and Related Activities - General Vocabulary”, shall be applied. However, for the purpose of this part the following definitions shall apply:

1.1 SASO: Saudi Arabian Standards Organization.

1.2 **Saudi Voluntary Standard:**

Document approved by SASO, that provides, for common and repeated use, rules, guidelines or characteristics for products or related processes and production methods, with which compliance is not mandatory. It may also include or deal exclusively with measurements and calibration, terminology, symbols, packaging, marking or labelling requirements as they apply to a product, process or production method, testing methods, sampling.

1.3 **Saudi Mandatory Standard (Saudi Technical Regulation):**

Document approved by SASO, which lays down product characteristics, or their related processes and production methods, including the applicable administrative provisions, with which compliance is mandatory. It may also include or deal exclusively with measurements and calibration, terminology, symbols, packaging, marking or labelling requirements as they apply to a product, process or production method, testing methods, sampling.

2. **General Provisions:**

The following shall be taken into account when preparing and approving the Saudi voluntary and mandatory standards:-

- 2.1 SASO agrees to act according to the code of good practice for the preparation, adoption and application of standards. SASO shall give adequate opportunity for consultation on comments made by other standardization organizations that accepted the code concerning the progress of this code (see Annex A).

- 2.2 All products, including industrial and agricultural products, shall be subject to all that is mentioned in this part of the directive.

because of climatic or geographical factors, or fundamental technological problems.

3.2 **Preparation of draft standard**

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3.3 Declaration of the draft standard

- 3.3.1 SASO shall allow a period of at least 60 days prior to the draft approval in order that the concerned bodies, provide their comments thereon. However, this period may be reduced in cases where pressing safety, health or environmental problems are found.
- 3.3.2 SASO should circulate a notice, indicating the time limit before which date to receive the comments, starting from the beginning of the comment period. This notification should, as much as possible, state whether the draft standard differs from the relevant international standard.
- 3.3.3 On the request of one of the concerned bodies SASO should promptly, provide a copy of the draft standard on which comments are to be made provided that the determined charges shall be the same as those of bodies inside and outside the Kingdom except for the actual delivery cost.
- 3.3.4 SASO should take into consideration - if acceptable - the comments received on the draft standard during the period of comments. The comments shall be replied if the concerned body requires. The reply shall include the reasons which made SASO to abandon the corresponding international standards.

3.4

The draft standard shall be presented to a sub-

3.5 **Printing**

3.5.1

- 2.3 Where international standards exist or their completion is imminent, the standardizing body shall use them, or the relevant parts of them, as a basis for the standards it develops, except where such international standards or relevant parts would be ineffective or inappropriate, for instance, because of their violation to the Islamic Legislation, an insufficient level of protection or fundamental climatic or geographical factors or fundamental technological problems.
- 2.4 With a view to harmonizing standards on as wide a basis as possible, the standardizing body shall, in an appropriate way, play a full part, within the limits of its resources, in the preparation by relevant international standardizing bodies of international standards regarding subject matter for which it either has adopted, or expects to adopt, standards. For standardizing bodies within the territory of a Member, participation in a particular international standardization activity shall, whenever possible, take place through one delegation representing all standardizing bodies in the territory that have adopted, or expect to adopt, standards for the subject matter to which the international standardization activity relates.
- 2.5 The standardizing body within the territory of a Member shall make every effort to avoid duplication of, or overlap with, the work of other standardizing bodies in the national territory or with the work of relevant international or regional standardizing bodies. They shall also make every effort to achieve a national consensus on the standards they develop. Likewise the regional standardizing body shall make every effort to avoid duplication of, or overlap with, the work of relevant international standardizing bodies.
- 2.6 Wherever appropriate, the standardizing body shall specify standards based on product requirements in terms of performance rather than design or descriptive characteristics.
- 2.7 At least once every six months, the standardizing body shall publish a work programme containing its name and address, the standards it is currently preparing and the standards which it has adopted in the preceding period. A standard is under preparation from the moment a decision has been taken to develop a standard until that standard has been adopted. The titles of specific

draft standards shall, upon request, be provided in English, French or Spanish. A notice of the existence of the work programme shall be published in a national or, as the case may be, regional publication of standardization activities.

The work programme shall for each standard indicate, in accordance with any ISONET rules, the classification relevant to the subject matter, the stage attained i

