



UNITED NATIONS  
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
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Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs,  
Education and Research EAER  
**State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO**

# GOOD GOVERNANCE IN DEVELOPING MODERN QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS

SIDE EVENT HELD ON THE MARGINS OF THE TBT COMMITTEE MEETING

20 June 2018 | 13:15 - 14:45

In the framework of UNIDO's trade capacity-building activities, a side event will be held on setting the good governance foundations for modern quality infrastructure systems for an effective integration to the global trading scheme. The event is being organized in cooperation with the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO). It will take place at the WTO on the margins of the TBT Committee on 20 June 2018 from 13.15 to 14.45.

Panellists include representatives from International Network for Quality Infrastructure (INetQI)<sup>1</sup> in particular the quality infrastructure governance organizations for accreditation (ILAC, IAF) and standardization (ISO), as well as representatives from the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), WTO Secretariat, and UNIDO.

To integrate successfully in the global trading system, countries need to comply with international quality requirements for goods and services. Quality infrastructure (QI) helps domestic and global producers and consumers fulfil their mutual quality goals. It also stimulates industrial development, trade competitiveness, innovation and efficient use of resources, while ensuring protection of the environment. At the same time, QI components may evolve in isolation and overlap in functions and responsibilities, resulting in policy gaps and lack synergies. This may lead to operational and cost inefficiencies. As such, proper interventions at policy level are usually critical to address these challenges and to ensure good governance.

In today's global trading system, conformity assessment schemes and standards, accreditation, good regulatory practices, and quality policy form an indispensable foundation to ensure the good governance and efficiency of any modern quality infrastructure system. Quality infrastructure is a key driver for better health, increased safety and enhanced competitiveness, thereby contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The draft programme is attached. A light lunch will be offered in front of Room S2 prior to the session.

<sup>1</sup> The International Network for Quality infrastructure INetQI is the global network of international organizations active in promoting and implementing metrology, accreditation, standardization and conformity assessment activities as a tool for sustainable economic development.



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## DRAFT PROGRAMME

WELCOMING REMARKS	Monica Rubiolo, Head of Division at Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO
VIDEO	Good Governance in setting modern Quality Infrastructure Systems
PANEL DISCUSSION	Setting a Strategic Approach to Access the Global Trading System
MODERATOR	Deryck Omar, Chief Executive Officer, Regional Organization for Standards and Quality (CROSQ), The African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP)
SPEAKERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» <b>Good Governance in Quality Policy Design - Foundations for a Robust QI:</b> Bernardo Calzadilla Sarmiento, Director of Trade, Investment and Innovation TII, UNIDO</li><li>» <b>Conformity Assessment standards as a means for good governance of QI - Focus on the ISO/CASCO conformity assessment toolbox:</b> Sean MacCurtain, Head of Conformity Assessment, International Organization for Standardization ISO</li><li>» <b>Reducing the Cost of Trading through International Cooperation in QI and Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs):</b> Merih Malmqvist Nilsson, ILAC Chair on behalf of INetQI</li><li>» <b>Approaching good governance in QI through Technical Assistance - The Global Standards and Quality Programme GQSP:</b> Monica Rubiolo, Head of Division at Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO</li><li>» <b>The regional perspective in good governance principles for QI in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS):</b> Mamadou Traore, ECOWAS Commissioner for Industry and Private Sector Promotion</li><li>» <b>Role of WTO in supporting QI:</b> Hoe Lim, Director, Trade and Environment Division</li></ul>