



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE VERSAILLES PROJECT ON ADVANCED MATERIALS AND STANDARDS (VAMAS) AND THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION (ISO)

CONCERNING COOPERATION AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL ON THE UTILIZATION OF THE RESULTS OF PRE-STANDARDIZATION RESEARCH ON ADVANCED MATERIALS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

1. General considerations

1.1 Recognizing the role of the Versailles Project on Advanced Materials and Standards (hereinafter referred to as VAMAS) in promoting research on the properties and performance of advanced materials in laboratory and service conditions; and in promoting the development of unified test methods through international collaborative projects aimed at providing the technical basis for drafting codes of practice and specifications for advanced materials;

1.2 Recognizing the role of the International Organization for Standardization (hereinafter referred to as ISO) in the development and publication of International Standards;

1.3 The Chairman of the Steering Committee of VAMAS and the Secretary-General of ISO, on behalf of their respective organizations, agree to the following principles to govern cooperation between the two organizations in all areas where their functions and activities are complementary and mutually supportive.

2. Cooperation

2.1 VAMAS undertakes through its technical working areas to prepare guidelines to accelerate the establishment of standards on advanced materials through pre-standardization research permitting to identify those aspects most suitable to the characterization and testing of advanced materials. Guidelines ready for provisional application may be offered to ISO for publication.

2.2 When VAMAS guidelines are at a stage of development permitting their use as "prospective standards for provisional application" in a specific field of advanced materials, ISO will consider, through its approval mechanism, to publish them in its "Technology Trends Assessment" series of documents and disseminate them through its distribution channels.

ISO expresses a special interest to receive from VAMAS guidelines covering fields of advanced materials in which there is an urgent need for guidance on how standards should be used to meet an identified need. Those guidelines should be proposed for provisional application so that information and experience of their use in practice may be gathered.

2.3 ISO shall circulate comments received on "Technology Trends Assessment" documents to VAMAS, to ISO member bodies and to potentially interested ISO technical committees with a view either to continuation of the pre-standardization research or to their introduction into the formal process of International Standards development.

3. Practical considerations

3.1 The foreword and cover of ISO "Technology Trends Assessment" documents developed in accordance with article 2 of this Memorandum shall give appropriate recognition to VAMAS as the originator.

3.2 The foreword of International Standards developed from such "Technology Trends Assessment" documents shall give appropriate recognition to the role of VAMAS in the development of such International Standards.

3.3 VAMAS formal requests are directed to and accepted by the ISO Secretary-General.

4. Effective date

This Memorandum of Understanding will become effective upon signature by the Chairman of the Steering Committee of VAMAS and by the Secretary-General of ISO. This Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by either party by giving written notice at least one year in advance.

FOR VAMAS

Kamal Hossain
Chairman of the Steering Committee

FOR ISO

Lawrence D. Eicher
Secretary-General