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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

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## ISO UPDATE TO THE TBT COMMITTEE

### INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION (ISO)

This document contains information provided by ISO at the TBT Committee meeting of 21-23 June 2023 under Agenda Item 5 (Update by Observers).<sup>1</sup>

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1. ISO would like to thank the WTO TBT for the opportunity to provide an update on ISO activities. ISO attended the Second International Negotiating Committee (INC-2) to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, which took place in Paris from 29 May to 2 June 2023. ISO's written submissions to the INC are available on the [INC-1](#) and [INC-2](#) websites. ISO also continues to participate in the WTO Dialogue on Plastic Pollution and has published research into how standards can help tackle plastic pollution, available at: [iso.org/plasticpollution](https://iso.org/plasticpollution).

2. ISO is actively preparing its participation in UNFCCC COP28 and attended the Bonn Climate Conference in June 2023. The ISO National Climate Champions Network has been meeting on a monthly basis since February 2023, bringing together ISO Members to help standards meet global needs around climate action.

3. The ISO Standards and Public Policy Toolkit will be launched at the ISO Annual Meeting in September 2023. It was developed to support collaboration between policymakers, regulators and national standards bodies in using international standards (including conformity assessment standards) in preparing, adopting and applying policy and technical regulations.

Over the next year, the ISO Standards and Public Policy toolkit will be supplemented by policy briefs that ISO members can use in their engagement with policymakers and regulators in key sectors to highlight the benefits of using standards, how standards are being used in this area in combination with other policy levers, the key standards for the sector, and how to get involved in the standards development process to make sure that future standards meet their policy and regulatory needs.

4. The ISO Annual Meeting 2023 will take place on 18-22 September in Brisbane. It offers a **unique opportunity** to engage in timely discussion on **emerging trends and challenges** related to International Standards and their role in achieving the **global sustainable development agenda**. The **week-long programme** is shaped under the theme "**Meeting global needs**" and features an inspiring series of **virtual, hybrid and in-person** sessions and workshops. **Open to anyone** with an interest in standardization and eager to engage in **forward-looking dialogue**, the ISO Annual Meeting provides a platform for participants to **hear and share insights with global stakeholders** - from the ISO community, civil society, international organizations and the private sector, as well as policy makers, academics and young professionals.

Register now on [annualmeeting.iso.org](https://annualmeeting.iso.org) to participate in virtual sessions exploring how standards can help address the most pressing challenges facing our planet today.

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<sup>1</sup> In original language only.