

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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Special Distribution

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

INDIVIDUAL STANDARDIZING AND CERTIFYING BODIES

Note by the Secretariat

Addendum

The present document includes information on an individual standardizing body in the Philippines.

Country: Philippines

1. Name : Product Standards Agency (PSA)
2. Date established : Established on June 20, 1964.
From 1964 until 1972 the office was known as Bureau of Standards; from 1972 until 1975 as Philippines Bureau of Standards (PBS); from 1975 until 1979 as Philippines Bureau of Product Standards. (PBPS); from 1979 until 1981 as Office of Product Standards (OPS); and finally from 27 July 1981 up to the present as Product Standards Agency (PSA).
3. Membership : Not applicable.

4. Organizational Structure and Management

: PSA is the Philippines national standards body responsible for standardization activities in the country. It is a government agency under the administrative supervision of the Ministry of Trade and Industry. The management of the office is done by a Director and an Assistant Director. To attain its principal objective which is to insure quality assurance of products, the PSA organized four divisions: the Product Standards Development Division - responsible for the preparation, promulgation and publication of product standards, and coordination with other standardizing organizations regarding programs on product standardization; the Product Inspection Division - responsible for implementation of national standards and evaluation of products for compliance; the Quality Assurance Division - responsible for operation and evaluation of applications for a Philippine Standard Certification Mark or "PS" Mark and Commodity Clearance, accreditation of testing laboratories, and render quality control and metrication services; and the Technical Assistance Division - responsible for collection, retrieval, storage, dissemination and updating of information on standardization, standards promotion, and operation of the GATT Standards Code focal inquiry point. Attached is the present organizational chart of PSA.

5. Financing : Operation of PSA is financed by the national government.
6. Activities : a) Standards-writing, promulgation and publication
b) Certification and product evaluation
c) Product testing
d) Laboratory Accreditation
e) Standards Promotion
f) GATT Standards Code focal enquiry point
g) Involvement in international and regional standards bodies such as International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and Pacific Area Standards Congress (PASC).
7. Fields of Standardization : All fields such as building and construction materials, electrical products, chemical products, etc.
8. Fields of Certification : All fields such as building and construction materials, electrical products, chemical products, etc.
9. Status of Publications : Mandatory for products affecting health, life and safety.

PRODUCT STANDARDS AGENCY

Organizational Chart

