

September 1994

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION (ISO)

ARAB INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINING ORGANIZATION (AIDMO)

AGREEMENT ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN ISO AND AIDMO*

Per its resolution 9/1994 the ISO Council recognized the Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization (AIDMO) as the regional standards organization for the Arab region under the terms of Council resolution 26/1992.

1. Basis for cooperation

It is the policy of AIDMO members to adopt ISO standards without change as their national standards whenever possible and appropriate for their needs. In order to pursue this objective AIDMO undertakes to assist its members in co-ordinating their input to the development of ISO standards, and in adopting ISO standards in a uniform and consistent way throughout the Arab region.

In cases where direct adoption of an ISO standard is neither possible nor appropriate for specific needs of the AIDMO members, AIDMO may choose to undertake standards development work for use in the countries of its members under its own authority. In such cases, it remains the policy of AIDMO to rely as much as possible on existing ISO standards as the basis for their work.

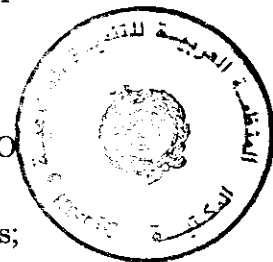
To support the practical realisation of these policy and objectives of AIDMO, this agreement on exchange of information and technical cooperation between ISO and AIDMO was approved by the AIDMO Executive Board on 13 April 1994 and by the ISO Council on 20 April (Council resolution 21/1994).

2. General exchange of information at ISO Central Secretariat/AIDMO Standardization Center level

With the objective of enhancing transparency and promoting cooperation between ISO and AIDMO, the two organizations agree to exchange documents related to their technical work as follows:

The ISO Central Secretariat shall issue to AIDMO in both English and French:

- Memento, Catalogue, ISO Bulletin, development manuals and other ISO publications other than standards;
- Work programme of the ISO/TCs with state of progress and target dates;



* Members of AIDMO who are not members of ISO do not have any rights vis-à-vis ISO under this ISO/AIDMO agreement.

- Resolutions of the ISO Technical Management Board linked to technical activities having an interest for AIDMO;
- Proposals for new fields of technical activity (TS/P);
- Texts of DIS, International Standards, and Technical Reports, when specifically requested for particular subjects under clause 4.1;
- Working documents and meeting reports prepared for CASCO, DEVCO, COPOLCO, INFCO, and REMCO meetings;
- General information on the ISO 9000 Forum and related matters.

The AIDMO Standardization Center shall regularly issue to the ISO Central Secretariat:

- Directory of AIDMO members;
- AIDMO Bulletin;
- AIDMO General Technical Report (work programme of the AIDMO/TCs with state of progress and target dates);
- Resolutions of the AIDMO Executive Board and General Assembly linked to standardization and conformity assessment activities;
- Proposals for new AIDMO technical committees;
- Texts of draft AIDMO standards at formal voting stage, and approved AIDMO standards.

Further exchange of available general information shall be possible subject to agreement between the two Organizations.

3. Cooperation to assist AIDMO members' input to ISO technical committee work

In order to achieve a more efficient representation of AIDMO's interests in ongoing ISO work of interest to AIDMO members, AIDMO may organize technical advisory groups from among its members to follow the work of specific ISO technical committees or subcommittees. These groups (AIDMO ISO/TAGs) shall have at least three AIDMO members as participants, and AIDMO will undertake to ensure that at least one of these members is a P-member of the concerned ISO technical committee or subcommittee. One such P-member shall be designated as the AIDMO ISO/TAG convenor, and shall take responsibility to ensure adequate communication among its members in respect to relevant TC/SC activities in ISO.

The AIDMO Standardization Center shall regularly provide an updated list of AIDMO ISO/TAG convenors to the ISO Central Secretariat.

4. Cooperation on standards drafting between ISO and AIDMO

The ISO Central Secretariat and the AIDMO Standardization Center shall establish and regularly update a list of ISO/TCs (or SCs) and AIDMO/TCs which have technical activities of common interest. The list shall also indicate the names of the ISO and AIDMO committee secretaries and the relevant technical officers of the ISO Central Secretariat. The list shall be notified to the ISO Technical Management Board and to the AIDMO Executive Board.

4.1 Reporting on standards development work

For the list prepared and maintained in relation to clause 3.1 above, the ISO Central Secretariat and the AIDMO Standardization Center shall exchange information on draft standards, if possible at an early stage, but not later than at the beginning of the vote and comment period (ISO DIS and AIDMO draft Arab Standards) by members. Responsibility for taking needed actions in relation to the information received in these exchanges rests with the ISO Central Secretariat/AIDMO Standardization Center.

4.2 Written contributions

The interactive involvement in the work of AIDMO and ISO by way of exchanging written contributions is well accepted by the two organizations as a contribution towards a more open process of standardization and promotion of harmonization within the Arab region and at international level. Written contributions may emanate from TC secretariats or the ISO Central Secretariat/AIDMO Standardization Center and are directly addressed to the secretariat of the technical body concerned, with copies to the ISO Central Secretariat/AIDMO Standardization Center.

4.3 Participation of ISO representatives as observers in AIDMO TC meetings

When requested through the ISO/CS and approved by the AIDMO/CS, individuals having ISO TC/SC chairmanship or secretariat responsibilities, or ISO/CS technical officers, may participate in AIDMO TC meetings as observers.

5. Translation of ISO standards into Arabic

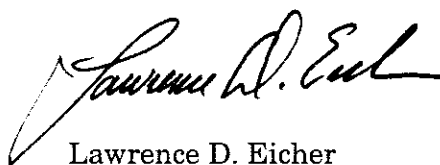
AIDMO undertakes to study the lists of published ISO standards with a view to identifying priorities for their translation into Arabic and their adoption as Arab standards. The ISO Central Secretariat undertakes to assist in this exercise to the extent feasible under the condition that AIDMO members commit themselves to adopt nationally those Arab standards which are technically identical to International standards.

6. Implementation and duration of this agreement

The implementation of this agreement shall be monitored by the ISO and AIDMO Secretaries-General who shall issue progress reports to their ISO Council/AIDMO Executive Board at regular intervals. This agreement may be cancelled with three months prior notice by AIDMO or ISO.



Mohamed Karbid
AIDMO Secretary-General



Lawrence D. Eicher
ISO Secretary-General