



**Management Regulations of  
Association Standards (Trial)  
(Issued on 15 December  
2017)**

20 December, 2017



Seconded European Standardization Expert in China Project (SESEC)

**General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and  
Quarantine of the People's Republic of China**

**Standardisation Administration of the People's Republic of  
China**

**Ministry of Civil Affairs of the People's Republic of China**

Notice No. 536 [2017]

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**Notice of AQSIQ, SAC and MCA on printing and distributing the *Management  
Regulations of Association Standards (Trial)***

To the quality and technology supervision bureau (market supervision and management department) and the department (bureau) of civil affairs of all provinces, autonomous regions, municipalities and the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps, to all ministries and commissions concerned of the State Council, and to all social associations concerned:

In accordance with the newest revision of the *Standardisation Law of the People's Republic of China*, the *Management Regulations of Association Standards (Trial)* has been developed by AQSIQ, SAC and MCA, and deliberated and adopted by the fourth plenary session of the inter-ministerial joint conference of standardisation coordination and advancement of the State Council. It is hereby printed and distributed to you and please conscientiously put it into practice.

AQSIQ (stamp)

SAC (stamp)

MCA (stamp)

15<sup>th</sup> December, 2017

(This document is released publicly)

## **Management Regulations of Association Standards (Trial)**

### **Chapter I General Provisions**

**Article 1** In accordance with the *Standardisation Law of the People's Republic of China*, These regulations are developed for regulating, guiding and supervising the standardisation work of associations.

**Article 2** The development, implementation and supervision of association standards apply to these regulations.

**Article 3** Association standards as referred herein mean standards jointly developed by lawfully formed social associations for satisfying needs of market and innovation and coordinating relevant market entities.

**Article 4** Standardisation works of associations are under the unified management of competent authorities for standardisation of the State Council. Relevant competent authorities of the State Council are responsible for the standardisation work of associations of their own departments and sectors respectively.

Competent authorities for standardisation of people's governments above county level uniformly manage the standardisation work of associations within their administrative areas. Relevant competent authorities of people's governments above county level are in charge of the standardisation work of associations of their own departments and sectors within their administrative areas respectively.

**Article 5** Association standards are subject to the self-declaration disclosure and supervision system.

**Article 6** It is encouraged for social associations to participate in international standardisation activities and promote the internationalisation of association standards.

### **Chapter II Development of Association Standards**

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**Article 7** For carrying out standardisation works, social associations shall be provided with personnel familiar with laws and regulations as well as policies and professional knowledge related to standardisation, shall establish internal departments capable of standardisation management and coordination as well as standard development, shall formulate relevant administrative measures and intellectual property policies of standard, and shall specify procedures and requirements of the development and implementation of association standards.

**Article 8** Association standards development shall benefit scientific and rational use of resources, promote scientific and technological achievements, strengthen products safety, generality and replaceability, improve benefits economically, socially and ecologically, as well as be advanced in technology and reasonable in economy.

It is prohibited to eliminate or limit market competition by hindering free circulation of products and services with association standards.

**Article 9** Association standards shall conform with relevant laws and regulations while shall not conflict with relevant industrial policies of the state.

**Article 10** Technical requirements of association standards shall not be lower than relevant technical requirements of mandatory standards.

**Article 11** It is encouraged for social associations to develop association standards with technical requirements higher than that of voluntary standards; and to develop association standards in step with international leading level.

**Article 12** General procedures of association standards development include: proposal, project approval, drafting, opinion solicitation, technical review, approval, numbering, publication and re-examine.

**Article 13** The compiling of association standards shall be carried out according to GB/T 1.1 *Directives for standardization - Part 1: The structure and drafting of standards*.

The cover format of association standards shall conform with certain requirements, the details of which are presented in the Annex.

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**Article 14** Social associations shall handle necessary patent issues involved in association standards, promptly disclose relevant patent information and acquire license notice from patent holders.

**Article 15** Association standard number is composed of association standard code, social association code, association standard sequence number and the year. Association standards numbering method is presented as follow:



Social association code can be decided by the social association itself, and can be in the form of capital letters or the combination of capital letters and Arabic numerals. Social association code shall be in line with laws while shall not overlap existing standard codes.

**Article 16** Social associations shall make information like the name, number and the like of their association standards public. If there are patents involved in their association standards, patents information shall be made public as well. It is encouraged for social associations to make public the full text or main technical content of their association standards.

**Article 17** Social associations shall self-declare the conformance of their published association standards with laws and regulations, mandatory standards as well as relevant industrial policies of the state, and shall assume responsibility for the legitimacy and authenticity of their published information.

**Article 18** It is encouraged for social associations to make their association standards information public through standard information public service platforms by self-declaration.

For those social associations publishing information onto standard information public service platforms by self-declaration, the following materials shall be provided: certificate of legal entity, information of internal departments and personnel involving in the standardisation work of the association, documents related to procedures and the like of association standards development and revision, as well as a self-commitment to be held accountable for the legitimacy and authenticity of materials provided.

**Article 19** Social associations shall handle copyright issues involved in association standards properly, promptly resolve the copyright ownership of their association standards and specify handling rules, procedures and requirements for relevant copyright issues.

**Article 20** It is encouraged for social associations to cooperate in association standards development or publishing.

**Article 21** It is encouraged for standardisation research institutes and professional standardisation technical committees to make full use of their technical advantages to provide services concerning standard development, standardisation personnel training and standardisation technical consultant for social associations.

### **Chapter III Implementation of Association Standards**

**Article 22** Association standards can be adopted by their association members as agreed or provided for the public to use voluntarily according to regulations of their associations.

**Article 23** Social associations are responsible for the promotion and application of their association standards. Seal-discipline pact can be used for social associations to push forward the implementation of association standards.

**Article 24** It is voluntary for social associations to apply for good practice evaluation on association standardisation from third party institutions.

Good practice evaluation on association standardisation shall be carried out according to national standard series of association standardisation (GB/T 2004), and make public evaluation results.

**Article 25** Association standards with satisfactory implementation effects conforming with development requirements of national standards, industry standards or provincial standards whose issuing bodies can apply for conversion from association standards into national standards, industry standards or provincial standards.

**Article 26** It is encouraged for all departments and localities to apply association standards in industrial policy development, administrative management, government procurement, social management, inspection and testing, certification and accreditation, bidding, etc.

**Article 27** It is encouraged for all departments and localities to include association standards in the selection range of awards at all levels.

#### **Chapter IV Supervision of Association Standards**

**Article 28** Social associations shall not carry out any association standardisation activities in the course of an activity halt with a time limit ordered by registration administrative organs of social associations.

**Article 29** Competent authorities for standardisation of people's governments above county level and relevant competent authorities shall guide and monitor the development of association standards as well as supervise and inspect the implementation of association standards according to their statutory duties.

**Article 30** All units and individuals are entitled to file complaints or reports concerning association standards failing to meet requirements of laws and regulations, mandatory standards and relevant industrial policies of the state.

**Article 31** Competent authorities for standardisation and relevant competent authorities shall make public the the telephone number, mailing address or E-mail address for accepting reports and complaints, and shall arrange personnel for handling reports and complaints.

**Article 32** Social associations who developed association standards failing to meet the requirements of laws and regulations, mandatory standards and relevant industrial policies of the state shall be ordered to rectify within a prescribed time by competent authorities for standardisation; if such social associations make no rectification within the prescribed time, competent authorities for standardisation of people's governments above provincial level shall abolish association standards concerned, make announcements on the standard information public service platform and notify registration administrative organs of social associations, who shall record such violations in the credit system of social associations.

**Article 33** Social associations who developed association standards unable to "benefit scientific and rational use of resources, promote scientific and technological achievements, strengthen products safety, generality and replaceability, improve benefits economically, socially and ecologically, as well as be advanced in technology and reasonable in economy" shall be ordered to rectify within a

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prescribed time by competent authorities for standardisation; if such social associations make no rectification within the prescribed time, competent authorities for standardisation of people's governments above provincial level shall abolish association standards concerned and make announcements on the standard information public service platform.

**Article 34** Social associations who fail to number association standards according to these Regulations shall be ordered to rectify within a prescribed time by competent authorities for standardisation; if such social associations make no rectification within the prescribed time, competent authorities for standardisation of people's governments above provincial level shall revoke the standard number concerned and make announcements on the standard information public service platform.

**Article 35** Social associations who eliminate or limit market competition using association standards shall be dealt with according to *Anti-monopoly Law of the People's Republic of China* and other laws and administrative regulations.

#### **Chapter V Supplementary Provisions**

**Article 36** Competent authorities for standardisation under the State council are responsible for the interpretation of these Regulations.

**Article 37** These Regulations go into effect as of the day of promulgation.

**Article 38** *Guiding Opinions on Cultivating and Developing Association Standards* shall be annulled as of the day of these Regulations promulgation.

**Annex:** Cover format of association standards



**Annex**

ICS number

CCS number

## **Association Standard**

Association standard number

Replace association standard number

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Standard name

Standard English name

Issued on XX-XX-XXXX

Implemented on XX-XX-XXXX

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Issued by Full name of the social association



## Introduction of SESEC Project

The Seconded European Standardization Expert in China (SESEC) is a visibility project co-financed by the European Commission (EC), the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) secretariat and the three European Standardization Organizations (CEN, CENELEC and ETSI).



Since 2006, there has been two SESEC projects in China, SESEC I (2006-2009) and SESEC II (2009-2012). In Dec 2014, SESEC III was officially launched in Beijing, China. Dr. Betty XU was nominated as the SESEC expert and will spend the next 36 months on promoting EU-China standardization information exchange and EU-China standardization cooperation.

The SESEC project supports the strategic objectives of the European Union, EFTA and the European Standardization Organizations (ESOs). The purpose of SESEC project is to

- Promote European and international standards in China;
- Improve contacts with different levels of the Chinese administration, industry and standardization bodies;
- Improve the visibility and understanding of the European Standardization System (ESS) in China;
- Gather regulatory and standardization intelligence.

The following areas have been identified as sectoral project priorities by the SESEC project partners: Internet of Things (IoT) & Machine-to-Machine (M2M) communication, communication networks & services, cybersecurity & digital identity, Smart Cities (including transport, power grids & metering), electrical & electronic products, general product safety, medical devices, cosmetics, energy management & environmental protection (including eco-design & labelling, as well as environmental performance of buildings).

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