



### New and old content comparison table for *Management Regulations on Association Standards*

On January 17, the Ministry of Civil Affairs of the Standardization Administration of China issued the *Management Regulations on Association Standards* and abolished the original *Management Regulations on Association Standards (Trial)*. The comparisons between the new and old *Regulations* are presented as follows:

<b><i>Management Regulations on Association Standard (Trial) 2017</i></b>	<b><i>Management Regulations on Association Standard (Jan 2019)</i></b>
<b>Chapter I General Provisions</b>	<b>Chapter I General Provisions</b>
Article 1 These regulations are formulated in accordance with the Standardization Law of the People's Republic of China for the purpose of standardizing, guiding and supervising association standardization work.	Article 1 is the same as Article 1 of the <i>Trial</i>
Article 2 These Provisions apply to the formulation, implementation and supervision of association standards.	Article 2 is the same as Article 2 of the <i>Trial</i>
Article 3 Association standards are standards jointly developed by legally established social groups for meeting the needs of market and innovation and for coordinating relevant market entities.	Article 3 is the same as Article 3 of the <i>Trial</i>
Article 4 The standardization administrative department of the State Council shall uniformly manage the association standardization work. The relevant administrative departments of the State Council shall manage the standardization work of their departments and their industries respectively.  The standardization administrative department of the local people's government at or above the county level shall uniformly manage the association standardization work within its administrative region. The relevant administrative departments of the local people's governments at or above the county level shall manage the standardization work of their own departments and their own industries within their administrative regions respectively.	<b>Article 4 Social groups carrying out association standardization work shall abide by the basic principles, methods and procedures of standardization work.</b>  Article 5 is the same as Article 4 of the <i>Trial</i>
Article 5 China implements an association standard self-declaration disclosure and supervision system.	Article 6 is the same as Article 5 of the <i>Trial</i>
Article 6 It is encouraged for social groups to participate in international standardization activities and promote the internationalization of association standards.	Article 7 is the same as Article 6 of the <i>Trial</i>
<b>Chapter II Formulation of Association Standards</b>	<b>Chapter II Formulation of Association Standards</b>





<p>Article 7 Social groups carrying out association standardization work shall be equipped with staff familiar with relevant laws, regulations, policies and professional knowledge of standardization, establish internal work departments with functions such as standardization management coordination and standard development, formulate relevant administrative measures and standard intellectual property rights policies, and clarify the procedures and requirements for the development and implementation of association standards.</p>	<p>Article 8: <b>Social groups shall carry out activities in accordance with the business scope stipulated in their regulations, carry out association standardization work by standard</b>, be equipped with staff familiar with relevant laws, regulations, policies and professional knowledge of standardization, establish internal work departments with functions such as standardization management coordination and standard development, formulate relevant administrative measures and standard intellectual property rights policies, and clarify the procedures and requirements for the development and implementation of association standards.</p>
<p>Article 8 The formulation of association standards shall be conducive to the scientific and rational use of resources, to the promotion of scientific and technological achievements, to the enhancement of product safety, versatility and substitutability, and to the improvement of economic, social and ecological benefits, and shall be technologically advanced and economically reasonable.</p> <p>It is forbidden to use association standards to conduct activities that exclude and restrict market competition such as hindering the free circulation of commodities and services.</p>	<p>Article 9 <b>The formulation of association standards shall follow the principles of openness, transparency and fairness, involve representatives of producers, operators, users, consumers, educational research institutions, testing and certification institutions, government departments and other relevant parties, and fully reflect the common needs of all parties. Support consumer and SME representatives to participate in association standard formulation.</b></p> <p>Article 10 The formulation of association standards shall be conducive to the scientific and rational use of resources, to the promotion of scientific and technological achievements, to the enhancement of product safety, versatility and substitutability, and to the improvement of economic, social and ecological benefits, and shall be technologically advanced and economically reasonable.</p> <p><b>Association standards shall be formulated based on the summarization of scientific and technological research results and social practice experience, through in-depth investigation and analysis, by experimentation and demonstration in order to be scientific and effective with advanced technical indicators.</b></p> <p>It is forbidden to use association standards to conduct activities that exclude and restrict market competition such as hindering the free circulation of commodities and services.</p>
<p>Article 9 Association standards shall comply with the requirements of relevant laws and regulations and shall not contradict the relevant industrial policies of China.</p>	<p>Article 11 Association standards shall comply with the requirements of relevant laws and regulations and shall not contradict the relevant industrial policies of China.</p> <p><b>The basic general aspects of contents such as terms, classifications, magnitudes and symbols</b></p>





	shall comply with national standards, sectoral standards, and local standards, and generally no separate regulations apply to association standards.
Article 10 The technical requirements for association standards shall not be lower than the relevant technical requirements for mandatory standards.	Article 12 is the same as Article 10 of the <i>Trial</i>
Article 11 China encourages social groups to develop association standards with technical requirements higher than relevant technical requirements of the recommended standards; encourages the development of association standards in line with international leading standards.	Article 13 <b>The formulation of association standards shall meet the needs of the market and innovation, focus on new technologies, new industries, new business types and new models, and fill standard gaps.</b>  China encourages social groups to develop association standards with technical requirements higher than relevant technical requirements of the recommended standards; encourages the development of association standards in line with international leading standards.
Article 12 The general procedures for formulating association standards include: proposal, project establishment, drafting, solicitation of opinions, technical review, approval, numbering, publication, and review.	Article 14 The general procedures for formulating association standards include: proposal, project establishment, drafting, solicitation of opinions, technical review, approval, numbering, publication, and review.  <b>The time limit for soliciting opinions shall be clear, which is generally not less than 30 days. For standards involving consumers' rights and interests, opinions shall be solicited from the public and the feedbacks shall be coordinated and handled.</b>  <b>Technical reviews shall be coordinated and unified in principle. If voting is required, may the standard pass, only if no less than 3/4 of the total number of delegates attending the meeting consented. Drafters and experts from the drafters' units cannot vote.</b>  <b>Association standards shall be approved in accordance with procedures established by social groups and published in the form of social group documents.</b>
Article 13 The preparation of association standards shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of GB/T 1.1 <i>Guidelines for Standardization Work Part 1: Standard Structure and Compilation</i> .  The cover format of the association standard shall meet the requirements, the specific format of which is attached in the Annex.	Article 15 is the same as Article 13 of the <i>Trial</i>



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<p>Article 14 Social groups shall reasonably handle the necessary patent issues involved in the association standards, promptly disclose relevant patent information, and obtain a permission statement from the patentee.</p>	<p>Article 16 is the same as Article 14 of the <i>Trial</i></p>
<p>Article 15 The association standard number consists of the association standard code, the social group code, the association standard sequence number and the year in such order. The association standard numbering method is as follows: T/XXX XXX-XXXX (T-association standard code; XXX-social group code; XXX-association standard sequence number; XXXX-the year).</p> <p>Social group codes are developed by social groups and may consist uppercase Latin letters or a combination of uppercase Latin letters and Arabic numerals. The social group code shall be legal and shall not be duplicated with the existing standard code.</p>	<p>Article 17 is the same as Article 15 of the <i>Trial</i></p>
<p>Article 16 Social groups shall disclose the names and numbers of their association standards. Where a association standard involves a patent, such social group shall also disclose information about the patent involved in the standard. It is encouraged for social groups to disclose the full text or main technical content of their association standards.</p>	<p>Article 18 is the same as Article 16 of the <i>Trial</i></p>
<p>Article 17 Social groups shall self-declare that their published association standards comply with the requirements of laws, regulations, mandatory standards, and relevant national industrial policies, and shall be responsible for the legality and authenticity of published information.</p>	<p>Article 19 is the same as Article 17 of the <i>Trial</i></p>
<p>Article 18 China encourages social groups to self-declare their association standard information through the standard information public service platform.</p> <p>If the social group self-declares public information on the standard information public service platform, it shall provide its the legal person certificate and the internal work department, staff information for the association standardization work, the association standard revision procedure and other relevant documents, and commit to be responsibly for the legality and authenticity of the above mentioned materials.</p>	<p>Article 20 is the same as Article 18 of the <i>Trial</i></p> <p><b>Article 21 The standard information public service platform shall provide convenient and effective services to facilitate users and consumers to inquire about association standard information and provide support for the supervision and management of government departments.</b></p>
<p>Article 19 Social groups shall reasonably handle the copyright issues involved in association standards, promptly handle the copyright of asso-</p>	<p>Article 22 is the same as Article 19 of the <i>Trial</i></p>





<p>ciation standards, and clarify the rules, procedures and requirements for the handling of relevant copyrights.</p>	
<p>Article 20 It is encouraged for social groups to carry out association standardization cooperation and jointly develop or publish standards.</p>	<p>Article 23 is the same as Article 20 of the <i>Trial</i></p>
<p>Article 21 It is encouraged for standardization research institutions and <b>professional standardization technical committees</b> to give full play to their technological advantages and provide services such as standards development, standardization personnel training, and standardization technical consultation for social groups.</p>	<p>Article 24 It is encouraged for standardization research institutions to give full play to their technological advantages and provide services such as standard development, standardization personnel training, and standardization technical consultation for social groups.</p>
<p><b>Chapter III Implementation of Association Standards</b></p>	<p><b>Chapter III Implementation of Association Standards</b></p>
<p>Article 22 The association standards may be adopted by members of the group or may be voluntarily adopted by the society in accordance with the provisions of such group.</p>	<p>Article 25 is the same as Article 22 of the <i>Trial</i></p>
<p>Article 23 Social groups shall be responsible for the promotion and application of their association standards. Social groups can promote the implementation of association standards through self-regulatory conventions.</p>	<p>Article 26 is the same as Article 23 of the <i>Trial</i></p>
<p>Article 24: Social groups shall voluntarily apply to third-party organizations for evaluation of good behaviors in association standardization. Association standardization good behavior evaluation shall be carried out in accordance with the national standard on association standardization (GB/T 20004), and the evaluation results shall be disclosed to the public.</p>	<p>Article 27 is the same as Article 24 of the <i>Trial</i></p>
<p>Article 25 If the implementation of association standard is effective and meets the requirements of national standards, sectoral standards or local standards, the association standard issuing agency may apply for converting such association standard to national standards, sectoral standards or local standards.</p>	<p>Article 28 is the same as Article 25 of the <i>Trial</i></p>
<p>Article 26 It is encouraged for all departments and local governments to apply association standards in works such as industrial policy formulation, administrative management, government procurement, social management, inspection and testing, certification and accreditation, and bidding.</p>	<p>Article 29 is the same as Article 26 of the <i>Trial</i></p>
<p>Article 27 All departments and local governments are encouraged to include association standards in the selection scope of awards at all levels.</p>	<p>Article 30 is the same as Article 27 of the <i>Trial</i></p>
<p><b>Chapter IV Supervision of Association Standards</b></p>	<p><b>Chapter IV Supervision of Association Standards</b></p>





<p>Article 28 Social groups that are ordered by the social group registration and management authority to stop activities within a time limit shall not conduct association standardization activities during the time limit.</p>	<p>Article 31 is the same as Article 28 of the <i>Trial</i></p>
<p>Article 29 The standardization administrative department and the relevant administrative department of the people's government at or above the county level shall, in accordance with their statutory duties, guide and supervise the formulation of association standards, and supervise and inspect the implementation of association standards.</p>	<p>Article 32 is the same as Article 29 of the <i>Trial</i></p> <p>Article 33 It is the same as the <i>Trial</i> for industry in which relevant social groups have developed association standards, the relevant administrative departments of the State Council shall, in light of the characteristics of such industries, formulate relevant administrative measures, clarify the development direction of the association standards of such industry, formulate requirements for the subject capabilities, promotion and application, implementation and supervision, etc., and strengthen the guidance and supervision for the formulation and implementation of association standards.</p>
<p>Article 30 Any unit or individual has the right to make complaints and reports on association standards that do not comply with laws, regulations, mandatory standards, and relevant national industrial policy requirements.</p>	<p>Article 34 is the same as Article 30 of the <i>Trial</i></p> <p>Article 35 Social groups shall take the initiative to respond to questions raised by the society that are related to the association standards with rather great impact. If any problems are found to exist, they shall be corrected in a timely manner.</p>
<p>Article 31 The administrative department of standardization and relevant administrative department shall publicly disclose the telephone number, mail box or e-mail address for receiving reports and complaints, and arrange personnel to handle reports and complaints.</p>	<p>Article 36 The administrative department of standardization and relevant administrative department shall publicly disclose the telephone number, mail box or e-mail address for receiving reports and complaints, and arrange personnel to handle reports and complaints.</p> <p>For reports and complaints, the administrative department of standardization and relevant administrative departments may conduct investigations and handling by means of interviews, looking up materials, field investigations, expert review, and hearings. Relevant social groups shall cooperate with the investigation and handling of relevant departments. For national social groups, the relevant administrative departments of the State Council shall investigate and deal with them according to their duties and relevant policy requirements, and urge relevant social groups to properly solve relevant problems; if social groups are required to make corrections within a time limit, they shall be handed over to the standardization administrative department of the State Council. For local social groups, the relevant administrative departments of the people's governments at or above the county level shall investigate and deal with the social groups within their respective administrative areas according to their</p>



	<p>duties and relevant policies, and urge relevant social groups to properly solve relevant problems; if the problem is necessary to be corrected within a time limit, such social groups shall be handed over to the administrative department of standardization of the people's government at the same level.</p>
<p>Article 32 If the association standards formulated by a social group do not comply with laws, regulations, mandatory standards, or relevant national industrial policies, the administrative department of standardization shall order such group to make corrections within a time limit; if it fails to make corrections within the time limit, the administrative department of standardization of the people's government at or above the provincial level shall abolish the concerned association standards and make them public on the standard information public service platform and at the same time, inform the social group registration management authority, so that the social group registration management authority can record their violations into the social group credit system.</p>	<p>Article 37 <b>If the association standards formulated by a social group do not meet the requirements of mandatory standards</b>, the administrative department of standardization shall order such group to make corrections within a time limit; if it fails to make corrections within the time limit, the administrative department of standardization of the people's government at or above the provincial level shall abolish the concerned association standards and make them public on the standard information public service platform and at the same time, inform the social group registration management authority, so that the social group registration management authority can record their violations into the social group credit system.</p>
<p>Article 33: For association standards formulated by a social group fail to “be conducive to the scientific and rational use of resources, to the promotion of scientific and technological achievements, to the enhancement of product safety, versatility and substitutability, and to the improvement of economic, social and ecological benefits, and be technologically advanced and economically reasonable”, the standardization administrative department shall order such social group to make corrections within a time limit; if it fails to make corrections within the time limit, the standardization administrative department of the people's government at or above the provincial level shall abolish the concerned association standards and make them public on the standard information public service platform.</p>	<p>Article 38 is the same as Article 33 of the <i>Trial</i></p>
<p>Article 34 If a social group fails to number the association standard in accordance with these Provisions, the standardization administrative department shall order it to make corrections within a time limit; if it fails to make corrections within the time limit, the standardization administrative department of the people's government at or above the provincial level shall cancel the concerned standard number and make it public on the information public service platform.</p>	<p>Article 39 is the same as Article 34 of the <i>Trial</i></p>
<p>Article 35 Using association standards to exclude or restrict market competition shall be handled in</p>	<p>Article 40 is the same as Article 35 of the <i>Trial</i></p>



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accordance with the provisions of the Anti-Monopoly Law of the People's Republic of China and other laws and administrative regulations.	
<b>Chapter V Supplementary Provisions</b>	<b>Chapter V Supplementary Provisions</b>
Article 36 These Regulations shall be interpreted by the administrative department of standardization under the State Council.	Article 41 is the same as Article 36 of the <i>Trial</i>
Article 37 These Regulations shall be implemented as of the date of promulgation.	Article 42 is the same as Article 37 of the <i>Trial</i>
Article 38 The <i>Guiding Opinions on Cultivating and Developing Association standards</i> shall be abolished from the date of promulgation of these Regulations.	<b>Article 43 The <i>Management Regulations on Association Standards (Trial)</i> shall be abolished from the date of promulgation of these Regulations.</b>
Annex: Cover format for association standards	Annex is the same
Release date: December 15, 2017	Release date: January 09, 2019
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## 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.

## Contact Details

*Room 1005, The Oriental Place, #9 East Dongfang Road,  
Chaoyang, Beijing, 100106, P R China*

*Phone: +86 10 85275366-802*

*Fax: +86 10 8527 6363*

*Mobile: +86 185 118 20197*

*E-mail: [betty.xu@sesec.eu](mailto:betty.xu@sesec.eu)*

*Website: [www.sesec.eu](http://www.sesec.eu)*

