



Outline

- Standardization
- Standards and their benefits
- Role of the Ghana Standards Authority
- Technical Regulations
- Conformity Assessment



Standardization

- **Standardization** is the process of *formulation*, *publication*, and *implementation* of guidelines, rules, and specifications for common and repeated use, aimed at achieving optimum degree of order or uniformity in a given context, discipline, or field.



Standard

- **Definitions**

- document, established by consensus and approved by a recognized body, that provides, for common and repeated use, rules, guidelines or characteristics for activities or their results, aimed at the achievement of the optimum degree of order in a given context (ISO/IEC Guide 2:2004, *Standardization and related activities - General vocabulary.*)

- *NOTE:* Standards should be based on the consolidated results of science, technology and experience, and aimed at the promotion of optimum community benefits.



Standard

Document



Right
Safe
Good
Acceptable
Fit for purpose



Wrong
Unsafe
Bad
Unacceptable
Unfit for purpose



Benefits of Standards

- Standards provide a basis for mutual understanding among individuals, businesses, public authorities and other kinds of organizations. They facilitate communication, commerce, measurement and manufacturing.
- Efficient economic coordination
- **Protection of natural resources**
 - Reduction of pollution
 - Introducing technological compatibility
- **Quality Assurance and safety**
- **Consumer Protection**
 - Standards and their use in Technical Regulations on products, processes and services play a vital role in **Sustainable development**.

Types of Standards

- Consumer Standards
- Company/Industry Standards
- Association Standards
- National Standards
- Regional Standards
- International Standards



Ghana Standards Authority (GSA)

- National Statutory Body responsible for the development and promulgation of **National Standards**. (*formulation, publication*)
 - Standards Decree 1973(NRCD 173)
 - To establish and promulgate standards with the object of ensuring high quality of goods in Ghana, whether for local consumption or for export.
 - To promote standardization in industry and commerce
 - To promote industrial efficiency and development
 - To promote standards in public and industrial welfare, health and safety



National Technical Committees

- TC 1 Food
- TC 2 Textiles**
- TC 3 Cosmetics
- TC 4 Drugs (Including Pesticides)
- TC 5 Automobile Industry
- TC 6 Mechanical Engineering and Metallurgy
- TC 7 Rubber and Plastics
- TC 8 Leather and Leather Products**
- TC 10 Electro Technical
- TC 11 Building and General Construction
- TC 12 Agriculture / Fresh Produce
- TC 13 Petroleum Products
- TC 14 Paper and Stationery Products**
- TC 15 General and Household Chemicals
- TC 16 Documentation
- TC 17 Metrology and Measurements
- TC 18 Quality Management and Quality Assurance
- TC 19 Environmental Management
- TC 20 Fluid Systems and Components for General Use



National Technical Committees

- TC 21 Renewable Energy Resources
- TC 22 Materials, equipment and offshore structures for petroleum, petrochemical and natural gas industries
- TC 23 Software
- TC 24 Telecommunication / ICT (Information and Communications Technology)
- TC 25 Water Quality
- TC 26 Packaging
- TC 27 Herbal Medicine
- TC 28 Paints and Varnishes
- TC 29 Wood and Wood Products
- TC 30 Tourism

Project Committees

- PC 01 Advertising
- PC 02 Cosmetology
- PC 03 Beads
- Others



National Standards

- **Locally developed – > 800 active standards**
- **Adopted international standards – > 6 000**
- **Under development, review, withdrawn – > 400**



National Furniture Standards

- **GS 195: 1997** – Furniture – Specification for Rattan Furniture
- **GS 980: 2009** - Furniture – Specification for Tables
- **GS 982: 2009** - Furniture - Specification for Bedsteads
- **GS 983: 2009** - Furniture - Specification for Furniture Components
- **GS 194: 2003(2008)** - Wood And Wood Products - Specification For Wooden Frames For Door, Window And Ventilator



National Handicraft Standards

- Currently National Standard for beads is under development
- More effort needed to develop National Standards for other types of handicrafts
 - Establishment of a Technical Committee of all relevant stakeholders
 - Consider the adoption of international or foreign standards if available
 - Develop National Standards based on company or Association standards available

Where to obtain copies of standards



- 1. Ghana Standards Authority
Head-Office
Documentation and Information Center
Okponglo
Near Tetteh-Quarshie Interchange
Opposite the Gulf House**

Tel: 0302 500-065/6

- 2. Regional Offices**

- 3. Website: www.gsa.gov.gh
E mail : info@gsa.gov.gh**



Regulators

(implementation)

- Food and Drugs Authority
- Environmental Protection Agency
- National Petroleum Authority
- Ghana Tourism Authority
- National Media Commission
- Energy Commission
- National Communication Authority
- **Forestry Commission**
- Traditional Medicine Practice Council
- Ghana Cocoa Board
- Public Utilities Regulatory Commission
- Community Water and Sanitation Agency
- Metropolitans, Municipals and District Assemblies
- Plant Protection and Regulatory Services Directorate
- Veterinary Services Commission
- Minerals Commission



Technical Regulation

- The Regulator can raise any National Standard to the status of a Technical Regulation.
 - Making it mandatory
- For industry sectors with no regulator or technical regulations
 - The NRCD ACT 173 mandates the Ghana Standards Authority to carry out mandatory certification on products of health and safety implications
 - This automatically raises relevant national standards to the status of a Technical Regulation



Conformity Assessment

- **Conformity assessment**, is any activity to determine, directly or indirectly, that a process, **product**, or service meets relevant technical standards and fulfills relevant requirements. **Conformity assessment** activities may include:
 - Testing.
 - Surveillance.
 - Inspection.
 - Certification
- The Ghana Standards Authority – **Testing Division** is a competent Conformity Assessment Body for furniture and handicrafts

- **THANK YOU FOR
YOUR ATTENTION**