

DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 19 - 08  
Series of 2019

SUBJECT: NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS (SDOs)

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**WHEREAS**, Republic Act 4109 or the *Standards Law* mandates the Bureau of Philippine Standards (BPS) to facilitate the development of standards, inspection of all products and services of the Philippines for which no standards have as yet been fixed by law, executive order, rules and regulations, at the same time, inspecting and certifying the quality of commodities imported into the Philippines. Furthermore, Republic Act 7394 also known as the *Consumer Act of the Philippines* also gives the mandate to develop and provide safety and quality standards for consumer products, including performance or use-oriented standards, codes of practice and methods of tests;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), through the BPS, develops Philippine National Standards (PNS) for which a Quality Management System has been established. The standards development function has been further enhanced through International network and linkage of standardization activities such as membership and active participation to International Organization for Standardization, International Electrotechnical Commission, World Trade Organization, Association of Southeast Asian Nations and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation.

**WHEREAS**, the BPS works with Standards Development Organizations (SDOs) in formulating safety and quality standards, promoting general welfare of the Filipinos and establishing standards of conduct for business and industry.

**WHEREAS**, it is imperative to have cohesion of all standards development activities on a national level so as to optimize resources and prevent duplication of work. In order to have a national coordinated work of standardization, the BPS shall establish a scheme for a National Recognition of SDOs. The scheme shall include maintenance of a repository of national standards developed by SDOs.

### **Section 1 – Definitions**

Standard Development Organizations are organizations that possess necessary expertise and have the capacity and resources to develop standards. Such development shall be in accordance with the BPS Directives for standards development.

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The following are considered as Standards Development Organizations:

a.) Public SDOs – public agencies that are tasked by law – such as the Consumer Act of the Philippines – to develop standards for specific products and services. The following are considered as public SDOs:

- i. The Department of Health with respect to food, drugs, cosmetics, devices and substances
- ii. The Department of Agriculture with respect to product related to agriculture;
- iii. The Department of Trade and Industry with respect to other consumer products not specified above;
- iv. The Department of Energy for quality of petroleum products, facilities, energy conservation and efficiency standardization works.

b.) Private SDOs – private organizations having the necessary expertise and have the capacity and resources to develop standards as recognized under this National Recognition Scheme.

c.) Other public agencies that are not tasked by law but possess necessary expertise and have the capacity and resources to develop standards as recognized under this National Recognition Scheme.

## **Section 2 – Scope**

This DAO shall cover the recognition of organizations, either in public or private sector, having the necessary expertise and have the capacity and resources to develop standards.

## **Section 3 – Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between BPS and SDOs**

All SDOs mandated by law and/or having the necessary expertise, capacity and resources to develop standards for products and services are enjoined to have a written agreement with the BPS being the agency tasked to promulgate Philippine National Standards. The Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) shall be for the purpose of defining responsibilities for the development of Philippine National Standards (PNS).

The MOA between the BPS and SDOs shall provide a commitment by both parties to strictly adhere to the guidelines for the development of PNS. This shall be a prerequisite for the BPS adoption of the SDOs' developed standards as PNS and their inclusion to the national repository of standards.

#### **Section 4- BPS' guidance to Recognize Standards Development Organizations**

The BPS as the National Standards Body shall provide guidance to the standardization activities for products and services under the SDOs jurisdiction.

Guidance shall include, but not limited to, providing technical assistance on best practices for standards development in accordance with International best practices of the World Trade Organization and International Standardization bodies such as the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC). Technical assistance shall include capacity building for the following:

1. BPS' Directives for standards development;
2. World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade code of good practice for standards development;
3. Guide for the adoption of International standards (ISO/IEC Guide 21-1).

#### **Section 5 - Directives on the adoption of standards developed by SDOs**

The BPS as the National Standards Body of the Philippines shall facilitate the adoption of the standards developed by SDOs as Philippine National Standards to establish cohesion of all standards development activities on a national level, optimize resources and prevent duplication of work. The BPS upon promulgation of the standards as PNS shall include in the repository of standards.

Furthermore, International Standards being endorsed for adoption by SDOs such as International Organization for Standardization, International Electrotechnical Commission, etc., shall follow the rule that only the designation of the "Philippine National Standards" shall be allowed to be attached to the International Standard designation. The recommending private SDO shall directly be identified beneath the national designation and acknowledged in the national foreword. The adoption format shall be consistent with the ISO/IEC Guide 21.

#### **Section 6 – Separability Clause**


In the event any provision of this DAO or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance is declared invalid, the remainder of this DAO shall not be affected by such declaration.

#### **Section 7 – Effectivity**

This Department Administrative Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.


27 March 2019, Makati City.

Recommended by:



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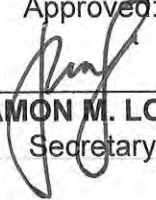
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Approved:



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**RAMON M. LOPEZ**  
Secretary