



Standards Committee Meeting

12th December 2022

Summary notes

Standards Committee Participants: Purvi Shah, Noora Jamsheer, Coline Lemaitre, Laurant Massi, Marie-Charlotte, Joelle Ponnelle, Sara Yood, Robin Kolvenbach, Didier Backaert, Jennifer Hillard, Ilan Keplan, Tehmasp Printer, Trisevgeni Stavropoulos,

Apologies: Ainsley Butler, Salah Hussein, Pippa Howard

RJC Management Team: Suzanne Brooks (Senior Standards Manager), Charlotte Stanbridge (Assistant Standards & Training Manager).

Materials circulated in advance of call: Presentation slides, minutes from November meeting.

1. Introduction

An introduction was conducted by Purvi Shah, the Senior Standards Manager gave an overview of the agenda for today's call and conducted a roll call. The committee were reminded about the RJC's conflict of interest policy and anti-trust statement. Previous meeting minutes were approved by Joelle Ponnelle and Sara Yood.

2. Board feedback

The board approved the 1-year extensions for relevant standards committee members, recognising that there is a need for consistency. The EU cross recognition project, there are two gap areas RJC are working on closing out, submitting for reapplication by February 2023. There is potential for an assessment period of up to 9 months, with the assessment being conducted by an EU appointed consultant, work is ongoing and there should be no issues in closing these non-conformances.

A high-level update was given to the board on the LGMS, ExCo have been engaged and a further meeting is to be scheduled. Updates on the COP, CoC and RJC training work were given to the board. Suzanne thanked committee for input and work and will contact those who have had their term renewed noting that potential additional members of committee will be put to the board at a later stage.

3. General updates



EU update

Purvi gave update on EU cross recognition and clarified the two areas that were not aligned.

ASM workplan

Work is ongoing work on the terms of reference, the next step is to engage with key stakeholders to create a working group. The Senior Standards Manager welcomed the Standards Committee suggestions on which stakeholders to engage in the ASM working group, as well as volunteers to be a part of the group from the committee.

Coloured Gemstones Taskforce

The RJC team will revisit the governance and guidance regarding the expansion into coloured gemstones, the scope, ToR, feedback in COP consultation process and share key themes and next steps.

4. Standards review and development update

COP update

Meeting with project consultant planned for December. It was noted that there is the opportunity for a post substantive review if there is a need to work outside the ISEAL cycle then we can do this for potential lab grown specific provision amendments. Next steps is for the Standards Committee to review and have a workshop on the guidance early 2023, areas of expertise a list being compiled, the Standards Committee were invited to give input on areas they would like to review.

LGM update

A further meeting with ExCo is planned to discuss the implementation and assurance of the LGMS, there may be timeline revisions based on the feedback of this meeting. Completion of work expected in July 2023, but may potentially be amended post ExCo call. It was clarified that we can update the COP as part of a substantive update as per ISEAL.

COP guidance document will be reviewed as part of the workshop and the March 2023 is inclusive of this review, it was raised that this timeline may not be achievable.

COC update

Round two of the consultation is expected to begin in February 2023, the Standards Committee were encouraged to submit their comments as soon as possible. It was questioned who gets final say on whether consultation comments are accepted or not, it was confirmed that the RJC is working with the consultant for the project.

The Senior Standards Manager will review the comment approval process and share the process with the committee. It was fed back that those reviewing the CoC should understand the practical implications for members implementing the CoC standard, the Senior Standards Manager welcomed additional feedback.



A timeline illustrating the three standards consultation reviews (COP, CoC, and LGM) was presented to identify the upcoming work for the Standards Committee. November, January, February, March, May, June and July were highlighted as key areas where Committee engagement will be most prominent, including document review, workshops and approvals.

5. Training

The Assistant Standards and Training Manager gave an overview of the training workplan to be conducted in 2023 (including webinars, toolkits, and resources) as well as a summary of upcoming training planned. There will be a 3-year strategy coming soon and an update will be provided in due course.

6. 2022 Reflection

The Senior Standards Manager thanked the committee for their work and upcoming work on the standards and welcomed any suggestions for ways for working next year.

7. AOB

It was proposed that the focus of the Standards Committee meeting in February be the Code of Practices update draft and changes to the guidance document. 2023 Standards Committee meetings dates are confirmed and will be held every two months. Purvi Shah thanked the committee and closed the meeting.