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ISO/IEC Governance and Leadership Update for July 2026

Australia holds positions on several key international governance groups, including **ISO's Technical Management Board (TMB)** and **IEC's Standardization Management Board (SMB), Conformity Assessment Board (CAB), Business Advisory Committee (BAC)** and **IEC Board (IB)**. These positions give Australia a voice on the policy, operational and strategic direction of ISO and IEC.

1. Updated ISO/IEC AI Guidance for technical committees released

ISO and IEC have released an updated guidance document on the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) within technical committees, providing a common framework to support the responsible use of AI tools throughout the standards development process. The revised guidance reflects the growing adoption of AI technologies by standards experts and aims to promote consistency, transparency and trust across international committee activities.

Developed jointly by ISO and IEC, the document establishes a shared approach for technical committees operating across both organisations. The guidance categorises AI tools according to how they are accessed and managed, helping committees better understand the opportunities and risks associated with their use. It also reinforces core principles including accountability, transparency, privacy protection and safe use of AI technologies.

Australia welcomes initiatives that help standards developers make effective and responsible use of emerging technologies. Through its participation on key ISO and IEC governance bodies, Standards Australia continues to contribute to discussions shaping the future of international standardization.

[Access the ISO/IEC AI Guidance for technical committees here.](#)

If you have any questions related to the update above, please contact us at intsect@standards.org.au

2. New aligned ISO and IEC Directives marks a major step forward for International Standardisation

The international standards community has reached an important milestone with the release of a new, fully aligned edition of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. Published on 1 July 2026 and scheduled to come into force on 5 October 2026, the new directives establish a single, common framework for the development of International Standards across both ISO and IEC.

The updated directives replace the previous structure of separate ISO, IEC and JTC 1 supplements, creating one consolidated reference document for technical committees and working groups. This alignment is designed to simplify processes, remove inconsistencies, and provide a clearer and more coherent set of rules for standards development worldwide.

For Standards Australia and its stakeholders, the changes support greater consistency and efficiency in international standards development. Australian experts participating in ISO and IEC committees will benefit from streamlined procedures and a more unified approach to collaboration across sectors and technologies.

ISO and IEC are supporting the transition through guidance materials, webinars, FAQs and committee briefings to help standards participants understand and implement the new requirements.

The publication of the aligned directives reflects the ongoing commitment of ISO and IEC to modernise standards development and strengthen global cooperation, ensuring that international standards continue to meet the needs of industry, governments and consumers in an increasingly connected world.

[Access the ISO/IEC Directives here](#)

If you have any questions related to the update above, please contact us at intsect@standards.org.au

ISO Technical Update for July 2026

1. New proposal to establish an ISO Technical Committee on Civil and structural design of tunnels (TS/P 334)

A proposal to establish a new ISO technical committee on "Civil and structural design of tunnels" has been submitted by SA (Standards Australia).

The scope of the proposal is the following:

This committee standardises the civil and structural design of tunnels and associated underground structures in soil and rock where they are integral to tunnel infrastructure. It covers tunnel-specific design interfaces including geotechnical design inputs, groundwater design actions and responses, ground reinforcement, structural linings, durability, ground-structure interaction, and the assessment and retrofitting of existing tunnels. Special cases such as immersed tunnels, cross passages forming part of tunnel systems, and underground stations may be considered only where the work concerns tunnel-specific civil and structural design and does not duplicate the remit of existing ISO or IEC committees. The committee is intended to provide a coherent framework for tunnel infrastructure performance, safety, durability, resilience and functionality, while recognising applicable existing standards for materials, systems, operations and environmental matters.

The proposed tunnel design committee presents an opportunity for Australian expertise in major infrastructure projects to influence global standards development.

Voting on this proposal closes on 21 August 2026.

If you have any questions related to the update above or wish to provide feedback, please contact us at intsect@standards.org.au

2. New proposal for a new ISO technical committee on Groundwater (TS/P 335)

A proposal for a new ISO technical committee on "Groundwater" has been submitted by KATS (Korea).

The scope of the proposal is the following:

Standardization of methods, procedures, instruments, and equipment related to measurement, estimation, prediction, and intervention for groundwater availability and behaviour, in order to ensure the sustainable management of groundwater resources through their conservation, protection, remediation, rehabilitation, efficient use, and risk assessment.

Exclude: Standardization covered by

- ISO/TC 113 Hydrometry
- ISO/TC 147 Water quality and its subcommittees
- ISO/TC 190 Soil quality
- ISO/TC 224 Drinking water, wastewater and stormwater systems and services
- ISO/TC 282 Water reuse

Web sessions are being hosted by KATS regarding this proposal on 25th of August 2026

Session 1: 07h00 - 08h00 am UTC

Session 2: 14h00 - 15h00 UTC

Voting on this proposal closes on 29 September 2026.

If you have any questions related to the update, would like the registration information for the info sessions, or wish to provide feedback, please contact us at intsect@standards.org.au

3. New proposal for a new ISO technical committee on Construction Management (TS/P 336)

A proposal for a new ISO technical committee on "Construction Management " has been submitted by INSO (Iran).

The scope of the proposal is the following:

Standardization in the field of construction management, with particular emphasis on the execution phase of built environment projects, including:

- planning, coordination, and control of construction execution processes and site-based activities;
- management of resources required for construction execution, including workforce, equipment, materials, and information flows, strictly from an organizational and managerial perspective;
- operational management practices for on-site delivery, including performance measurement and monitoring;
- coordination of execution-phase activities with relevant design outputs, quality, safety, environmental, and lifecycle considerations, without addressing design development, design governance, or technical specification activities;
- management practices supporting health, safety, and environmental (HSE) performance during construction execution;
- practical application of digital tools and information technologies to support construction execution management processes, without defining information models, data structures, interoperability protocols, or digital technical specifications.

The work of this committee is limited to management frameworks and execution-phase coordination practices. It does not address the technical performance, design, specification, or safety requirements of products, materials, machinery,

electrotechnical systems, or digital infrastructure. On-site assembly, installation, and coordination of prefabricated components are included in this scope. Off site manufacturing and factory production processes for prefabricated building systems remain outside the scope of this committee and are the responsibility of ISO/TC 59/SC 19 (Prefabricated Building). The deliverables of this committee are intended as voluntary management guidance and shall not establish regulatory, legal, professional qualification, certification, or technical product requirements.

Voting on this proposal closes on 1 October 2026.

If you have any questions related to the update above or wish to provide feedback, please contact us at intsect@standards.org.au

4. New proposal for a new ISO technical committee on Responsible Business Practices and Sustainability Reporting (TS/P 337)

A proposal for a new ISO technical committee on "Responsible Business Practices and Sustainability Reporting" has been submitted by ABNT (Brazil), AFNOR (France), DS (Denmark), BIS (India) and BSI (United Kingdom).

The scope of the proposal is the following:

Standardization in the field of responsible business practices, corporate sustainability, ESG principles, and transparent reporting frameworks. This includes:

- Horizontal frameworks and guidance to support the management of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) horizontal principles, including disclosures and performance measurement.
- Social responsibility frameworks, to enhance accountability for the impacts of decisions and activities on society and the environment, ethical business operations, and community engagement.

Exclusions: Standards in the scope of the following committees:

- ISO/TC 207 Environment Management
- ISO/TC 309 Governance of Organizations
- ISO/TC 322 Sustainable Finance

Voting on this proposal closes on 1 October 2026.

If you have any questions related to the update above or wish to provide feedback, please contact us at intsect@standards.org.au

5. ISO Member Consultation on Clusters (TS/P 338)

A proposal on Clusters was submitted by SAC (China), initially proposing the establishment of a new ISO technical committee.

Following its review, the TMB adopted Resolution 69/2026, disapproving the establishment of a new technical committee and noting the relevance of the subject to ISO/TC 279 Innovation management. The TMB nevertheless agreed to consult ISO members to assess their level of interest and expected engagement in this field of work.

If the proposal receives sufficient support, it will be allocated to ISO/TC 279, which will consider how the work can be taken forward, including whether its title and scope should be revised.

The scope of the proposal is the following:

Standardization in the field of cluster governance, including principles, governance structures, diagnostic methods, coordination mechanisms, performance assessment, and implementation tools to improve cluster functioning and productivity.

Excluded:

- *Work on innovation management, including innovation ecosystems, covered by ISO/TC 279;*
- *Work on quality management system standards, covered by ISO/TC 176.*

Web sessions are being hosted by SAC regarding this proposal on;

- 17 August 2026 at 08:00–10:00 AM (UTC)
- 24 August 2026 at 05:00–07:00 AM (UTC)

Voting on this proposal closes on 2 October 2026.

If you have any questions related to the update, would like the registration information for the info sessions, or wish to provide feedback, please contact us at intsect@standards.org.au

IEC Technical Update for July 2026

1. Draft IEC Guide 104 Ed 6, The preparation of safety publications and the use of basic safety publications and group safety publications

IEC Guide 104 was prepared by ACOS, Advisory Committee on Safety.

The objective of this document is to improve the consistency of the safety requirements across IEC publications. For this purpose, essential procedures are defined in the document for limiting overlaps and contradictory safety requirements. Consequently, this document can be considered as complementary to ISO/IEC Directives.

Depending on the situations, risk reduction can be analysed and implemented by different approaches. ISO/IEC Guide 51 and IEC Guide 116 are referenced in this document for specific essential requirements for achieving safety.

This document follows the principles of IEC Guide 108 with specific additions for safety aspects.

The main changes with respect to the previous edition are as follows

- a) alignment and references to IEC Guide 108:2019, including the adaptation of the horizontal terminology and insertion of 4.1;
- b) update of the monitoring process of the horizontal function in 4.4;
- c) lifecycle complement in 5.1.3;
- d) detailed responsibilities of product committees in Clause 7;
- e) update of Annex A.

Voting on this proposal closes on 2 October 2026.

If you have any questions related to the update above or wish to review the document and provide feedback, please contact us at intsect@standards.org.au

2. Proposal for a new Technical Committee on Conversion of waste product for electrical generation

A proposal for a new Technical Committee on Conversion of waste product for electrical generation has been submitted by The Chinese National Committee (NC).

The scope of the proposal is the following:

Standardization of conversion of waste product for electrical generation in a power plant, starting at waste input and ending at electrical/heat output.

Standards will include terminology, design, installation, performance evaluation, test methods, and safety requirements at plant level and component level, including waste pre-treatment system, waste conversion system, flue gas treatment system, and excluding Rankine cycle system, ORC system and water treatment system which are covered by other ISO/IEC committees.

Technologies applied for waste conversion systems include:

- waste incineration;
- waste thermo-chemical treatment;
- waste bio-chemical treatment (including anaerobic digestion and landfill gas (LFG) capture).

Waste covers household waste and household-like commercial and industrial waste (e.g. from offices or hotels).

NOTE 1: This scope excludes waste collection and transportation management covered by ISO/TC 297, and solid recovered fuels covered by ISO/TC 300.

NOTE 2: Standards related to treatment and reuse of leachate from waste incineration power plants will be developed in collaboration with ISO/TC 282. Standards related to treatment of flue gas will be developed in collaboration with ISO/TC 146. Standards related to electricity power generation equipment will be developed in collaboration with ISO/TC 11, ISO/TC 192, IEC/TC 2, IEC/TC 5, IEC/TC 8. Standards related to anaerobic digestion and landfill gas (LFG) capture will be developed in collaboration with ISO/TC 255.

Voting on this proposal closes on 2 October 2026.

If you have any questions related to the update above or wish to review the proposal and provide feedback, please contact us at intsect@standards.org.au