Brussels,
GROW.H.3/MP

The Permanent
Representatives of the Member
States to the European Union

Sent by email only

NOTE TO THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIONS

Subject: Nomination of Member State representatives to access the **information exchange platform on international standardisation**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The European Commission is pleased to invite you to nominate national contacts to participate in the new European Union information exchange platform on international standards-development.

Stemming from the EU Standardisation Strategy, this platform for Member States and National Standardisation Bodies will serve as a mechanism for monitoring, sharing information, exchanging and coordinating on international standardisation.

Following a series of discussions in different fora during the first half of 2024, such as the Committee of Standards, High Level Forum on European Standardisation, Technical Harmonisation Working Party, High Level Group on Competitiveness, Multi-Stakeholder Platform for ICT Standardisation, the Commission set up the information exchange platform on international standards-development.

The platform currently covers strategic sectors and a list of selected technical committees across ISO, IEC and ITU-T. Currently included sectors are: Digital transition (AI, cybersecurity, data interoperability, DPP, quantum and smart cities), Green transition (cement, electricity, hydrogen, solar, steel and wind) and Resilience (critical raw materials).

The users will be able to consult data visualisations on EU/national participation in technical committees in strategic areas, follow pages of interest and get notifications of activities therein, join discussions on technical committee/strategic topic level, and post early warning messages concerning developments in international standardisation TCs.

I kindly request that you nominate two contacts to have *general access* to the entire plaform by sending the names, titles and contact details by 30 September 2024, to GROW-H3@ec.europa.eu, with "nomination – information exchange platform" in the subject.

Furthermore, it is possible to nominate one national expert for each of the 13 sectors currently covered under the platform who will have *restricted access to only one sector's space and discussion* in the platform, using the table in Annex II. The nomination can happen any time, possibly in several instalments to GROW-H3@ec.europa.eu, with "nomination – information exchange platform" in the subject.

I encourage you to nominate contacts active in standardisation in ministries/government agencies as their involvement will be crucial in ensuring the effectiveness and success of this initiative. If you require guidance on appropriate candidates, we suggest consulting your nominees to the Committee on Standards or High-Level Forum on European Standardisation (sherpa level) or Multi-Stakeholder Platform on ICT Standardisation members or ITU-T delegates.

Please note that the similar letter has been sent to the national standardisation bodies in your Member State.

For any further information about the platform, please refer to Annex I. In case of questions you may contact Eszter Batta (eszter.batta@ec.europa.eu) or Mattias Bergdahl (mattias.bergdahl@ec.europa.eu) from DG GROW, Unit H.3.

Yours sincerely,

Maive RUTE

Cc: Sophie Mueller, Mattias Bergdahl, Eszter Batta (GROW), Olivier Bringer (CNECT)

Annex I
About the European Union information exchange platform on international standards-development

The information exchange platform has been set up to facilitate the assessment of Member States' and national standardisation bodies' (NSBs) engagement in standardisation in strategic areas via the monitoring the EU's presence and activities in technical committees in international standardisation organisations in these areas. The platform will also serve as a space where members can discuss developments on strategic standards individual standards in specific technical committees and share early warning messages by members. The platform is assisted by data visualisation and data scraping tools.

A prototype platform was presented in March to representatives of Member States and National Standardisation Bodies and tested in April/May 2024. The platform currently covers 13 sectors and 52 technical committees across ISO, IEC and ITU-T. Currently included areas are: Digital transition (AI, cybersecurity, data interoperability, DPP, quantum and smart cities), Green transition (cement, electricity, hydrogen, solar, steel and wind) and Resilience (critical raw materials) which cover the topics of the High-Level Forum on European Standardisation workstream and some additional sectors covered by Annual Union Work Programme on standardisation items. The purpose is not to create an exhaustive repository but to focus on most important technical committees per strategic topic.

Access to the platform is restricted to nominated Member State and National Standardisation Body representatives. The platform is designed as a wiki space managed by the European Commission.

Features of the platform:

- Access data visualisations on EU/national participation in technical committees in strategic areas.

- Access participation data in technical committees in strategic areas per Member State.

- Follow pages of interest and receive notifications of activities therein or follow the full platform.

- Participate in discussions on TC/strategic topic level (similar functionality to HLF wiki space).

- Benefit from summaries shared by European Commission's representatives who attend technical committee meetings via the EC's liaison status.

Nomination Process:

General access: Member States are requested to nominate up to 2 individuals. Every national standardisation body can nominate 1 individual.

Restricted access: Member States and national standardisation bodies can nominate 1 individual each per strategic area listed in Annex II.

Difference between general and restricted access

For general access it is recommended to nominate individuals with an overview of international standardisation policy and strategic priorities for MSs and NSBs.

For restricted access it is recommended to nominate individuals with specific standardisation and sectoral expertise in the given strategic sector.

This set-up aims to guarantee the confidential nature of discussions. The sectoral wiki pages will list users who have access to the given page.

Possible revision

A possible revision of the number of individuals which can be nominated may follow in early 2025, after the first half a year of user experience.

Data protection

The European Commission is committed to protect your personal data and to respect your privacy. The Commission collects and further processes personal data pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data (repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001). Users will receive the Commission's privacy statement about the processing and the protection of their personal data.

Annex II
Nomination – general access

Return by email to by **30 September 2024 to** GROW-H3@ec.europa.eu, with "nomination – information exchange platform" in the subject.

General Access to the entire plaform

1. NAME:
    FUNCTION:
    ADMINISTRATION:
    EMAIL ADDRES:

2. NAME:
    FUNCTION:
    ADMINISTRATION:
    EMAIL ADDRES:

Nomination - sector restricted access

Return by email to GROW-H3@ec.europa.eu, with "nomination – information exchange platform" in the subject.

Nomination of experts with restricted access to one sector's space and discussion

Sector	NAME	DEPARTMENT	E-MAIL
Artificial intelligence			
Cybersecurity			
Data interoperability			
Digital Product Passport			
Quantum			
Smart cities			
Cement			
Green electricity/ electricity grids			
Hydrogen			
Solar power			
Steel			
Wind power			
Critical raw materials			