



# president



ZHANG Xiaogang

ISO PRESIDENT – PRÉSIDENT de l'ISO – Президент ИСО – 2015-2017

MESSAGE FROM

Dr. ZHANG

INCOMING ISO PRESIDENT – 2015-2017

Xiaogang



It is my great honour to be the President of ISO, the biggest International Standards development organization (SDO) in the world, at a time when standards play a more and more important role in improving global knowledge, science, technology and the economy. I am very proud to be the first ISO President from the emerging economy of China since ISO was founded. This fact not only reflects the influence of ISO, but also shows its inclusiveness. I feel very proud and honoured that in the coming three years (2015-2017) of my term, I can work together with all of you to further improve the sustainability of the world economy, environment and society, to widely disseminate technologies and good practices, and continue to make ISO move forward in an innovative way on the basis of the achievements thousands of experts have made over more than 60 years.

Actually, there is history between ISO and me. I was the Chair of ISO/TC 17/SC 17, *Steel wire rod and wire products*, for 13 years from 1999 to 2012, and was responsible for the development of ISO standards on wire rod, steel fibres, bead wire, steel cord and steel wire rod, working on dimensions and tolerances, etc. In 2014, as President-elect, I gained a more comprehensive understanding of ISO governance, policies and the strategic plan. I also learned the spirit of the wise, pragmatic, and hard-working ISO family, as well as of the passionate and creative experts who support global growth and

sustainability by developing International Standards. I would hereby like to express my appreciation to the former ISO President, Mr. Terry Hill, for the comprehensive and consistent work he has done during his term, promoting understanding and cooperation amongst ISO members with regard to infrastructure by organizing the President's Forum, and for promoting the sustainable development of cities by providing International Standards to solve problems of economic, environmental and social development magnitude. In addition, my thanks go to our Secretary-General, Mr. Rob Steele, the Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer and all our predecessors who have contributed to ISO. Thank you all for your outstanding work and great efforts to build a sustainable ISO.

I feel very proud and honoured that in the coming three years, I can work together with all of you.

When we look back to ISO's more than half-century history as a global non-governmental organization (NGO), ISO has shown its strong vitality and has attracted more and more countries' participation. In order to meet the needs of fast economic development, it is important for ISO to adopt an innovative business model, ensure the market relevance of its standards and further promote its profile. ISO must meet market needs and take proactive actions to face the challenges of international trade. ISO should also further strengthen its cooperation with international standardization organizations, including IEC and ITU, as well as with other organizations. Furthermore, ISO should continue to promote the value of its standards, so that our stakeholders can fully understand the benefits of International Standards.

2015 is the final year to implement ISO's 2011-2015 Strategic Plan and the key year to develop its 2016-2020 Strategic Plan. ISO will also move forward to strengthen its leadership as a standardization organization. During my term, the following work will be my priority.

**FIRST**, continue to improve ISO's profile. Make ISO standards the first choice of enterprises. Make stakeholders, including enterprises, customers and scientific research institutions, gain better understanding of the benefits of ISO standards. And also improve the cooperative relationships between ISO members and other international organizations and stakeholders.

**SECOND**, further improve the value of ISO standards. Fully play ISO's standardization role in supporting development in significant fields like new energy, new materials, smart cities, the Internet of things, energy conservation and protection of the environment, biotechnology, IT, public security, social governance, public services, and more, to promote the sustainable development of the global economy, environment and society.

**THIRD**, extensively build new strategic partnerships for ISO. Promote cooperation between ISO and other SDOs, intergovernmental organizations, NGOs and industrial alliances in specific fields, to help ISO bridge its strategic gaps, take opportunities and meet the challenges to fulfil the goal of "One standard, one test, accepted everywhere".



*Dr. ZHANG Xiaogang and the outgoing ISO President, Mr. Terry Hill.*

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2011-2015 Strategic Plan.

**FOURTH**, continuously improve the process relating to ISO standards. Build open and convenient channels and mechanisms to make the development process more transparent. Make full use of social media to facilitate the process in order to ensure that ISO develops timely and effective standards that are of market relevance; make ISO standards the first and best choice of customers; and emphasize ISO's role in promoting quality in the global economy.

**LASTLY**, continue to provide support to developing countries. Encourage developing countries to actively participate in the development and implementation of ISO standards. The ISO action plan for developing countries will continue to support and improve the participation of developing countries in international standardization.

The road ahead will be long and our climb will be steep. The relay baton has been passed to me now and I have the responsibility, the obligation and the confidence to fulfil my duties, to explore and provide my best efforts to give ISO a better future during my term. I am confident that with all our efforts, ISO will become the most influential and successful standardization organization, benefitting all of the seven billion people around the world.

LET'S TAKE ACTION TOGETHER!

ZHANG Xiaogang  
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