Federal Ministry
for Economic Affairs
and Energy

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German-Brazilian Working Group on Quality Infrastructure for Cooperation in Standardisation, Conformity Assessment and Accreditation, Product Safety and Market Surveillance

Work Plan 2020-2021

The German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi) and the Brazilian Ministry of Economy (ME), collaborate through the German-Brazilian Working Group on Quality Infrastructure to promote economic cooperation. The Working Group focuses on issues related to Quality Infrastructure and aims to reduce hindrances for the industries of both countries, strengthen product safety, and ensure consumer protection between Germany and Brazil. The political and technical dialogue involves relevant ministries and regulators, subordinate authorities, industry associations, companies, and technical and scientific institutions.

The German-Brazilian Working Group on Quality Infrastructure during its virtual annual meeting on 25th November 2020 agreed on this Work Plan for 2020-2021.

The Work Plan is structured along the three key areas of Quality Infrastructure: Standardisation, Conformity Assessment and Accreditation, Product Safety and Market Surveillance. The Work Plan considers cross-cutting issues and specifies for each topic the objective, proposed areas of cooperation, relevant ministries and stakeholders. Both sides agree to actively engage in the implementation of the outlined cooperation areas. The Global Project Quality Infrastructure supports the implementation of the mutually agreed annual Work Plan. Both sides will share the progress of the Work Plan regularly including through delegation visits and meetings, and to address further aspects related

to the aim and scope of the Working Group which may arise during the implementation of this Work Plan. The implementation of activities will be subject to availability of funds.

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Overarching	
Cooperation on Regulatory Challenges with the Secretariat for Competition Advocacy and Competitiveness (SEAE)	
Objective	• Overall regulatory dialogue in order to facilitate the reporting and treatment of regulations • Prospecting and systematizing information as possible inputs for SEAE's programmes "Regulatory Relief" and "Intensive Taskforce for Competition and Regulatory Evaluation (FIARC)" • Review of industry-specific regulatory difficulties
Areas of cooperation	• Identification of potential for streamlining national regulations and for cooperation with Brazilian regulatory bodies • Comparison of national regulations to international best practices • Joint development of possible solutions for industry-specific regulatory challenges
Possible Stakeholders	• Ministry of Economy (ME)/Secretariat for Competition Advocacy and Competitiveness (SEAE) • Relevant QI-institutions and regulatory bodies • Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi) • Experts from the private sector such as industry associations (e.g. German Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers' Association (ZVEI), Brazilian Electrical and Electronics Industry Association (ABINEE), Brazilian Conformity Assessment Association (ABRAC) and sector-specific companies investing in Brazil
Good Regulatory Practices	
Objective	• Cooperation on Inmetro's regulatory stock management, providing transparency, facilitating businesses' compliance, and identifying outdated standards • Reach a common understanding of suitable methods regarding regulatory impact analysis (RIA) and regulatory results analysis (RRA), in support of the implementation of the Economic Freedom Act • Identify ways to measure and reduce businesses' compliance costs and administrative burden
Areas of Cooperation	• Workshop/exchanges with German/European regulators and QI institutions on best practices for regulatory impact and results analysis • Workshop/exchanges with German/European regulators and QI institutions on best practices for measuring business' compliance costs and administrative burden

	• Workshops/exchanges regarding the interlinkages of regulation and standardization activities • Supporting Inmetro in the identification of outdated technical standards in selected sectoral regulations
Possible Stakeholders	• National Institute of Metrology, Quality and Technology (Inmetro), Brazilian Association of Technical Standards (ABNT) • BMWi and other German/European regulatory authorities • German Institute for Standardization (DIN), German Commission for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies of DIN and VDE (DKE)

Standardisation (SN)	
SN 01: Framework Conditions for Industry 4.0	
Objective	• Develop a joint understanding of technical and regulatory preconditions for the intelligent networking of industrial machines and processes • Support companies (incl. SME) in the transition towards Industry 4.0 • Promote the use of global and cross-industry standards ensuring broad compatibility • Identifying industrial applications/sectors for the joint cooperation on technical foundations
Areas of cooperation	• Cooperation on the technical underpinnings for the intelligent networking of industrial machines and processes • Technical exchanges on open source and international standards for machine-to-machine communication (e.g. OPC UA) and its applications to different industrial sectors • Identification of technical standards for international cooperation from an industry perspective, taking into consideration the German and Brazilian Roadmaps for Standardization of Industry 4.0 • Exchanges of best practices regarding regulatory framework conditions for Industry 4.0 applications
Possible Stakeholders	• Brazilian Industry 4.0 Chamber – governmental initiative led by Brazilian Ministry of Economy (ME) and Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MCTI) with participation of the private sector • Mechanical Engineering Industry Association (VDMA), German Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers' Association (ZVEI), OPC Foundation and private companies, BMWi • Brazilian Association of Technical Standards (ABNT), Brazilian Electrical and Electronics Industry Association (ABINEE), Brazilian Machinery Builders' Association (ABIMAQ), COBEI, Institute of Research and Development for Electronics and Information Technology (IPD Eletron)

	• Brazilian Ministry of Economy (ME) • Standardisation Council Industrie 4.0 (SCI4.0), German Institute for Standardization (DIN), German Commission for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies of DIN and VDE (DKE)
SN 02: Cooperation on Industrial Security (Industry 4.0)	
Objective	• Enhanced mutual understanding of standardisation approaches to industrial security in the area of Industry 4.0 • Support the adoption and implementation of the IEC 62443 and its equivalent ABNT series (e.g. ABNT NBR IEC TS 62443-1-1) in Brazil • Raise awareness for the importance of a standardized approach to network and systems security in industrial communication networks
Areas of cooperation	• Technical exchanges to discuss the content of IEC 62443 and its Brazilian equivalent (e.g. ABNT NBR IEC TS 62443-1-1) • Workshops with Brazilian chambers and SMEs on technical prerequisites for to network and systems security in industrial communication networks • Analysis of implications for a regulative framework conducive to industrial security
Possible Stakeholders	• Brazilian Commission for Electrical Engineering, Electronics and Lighting (COBEI)'s Committee 003:065.001, Brazilian Association of Technical Standards (ABNT), • Brazilian Electrical and Electronics Industry Association (ABINEE), Brazilian Machinery Builders' Association (ABIMAQ); Brazilian Industry 4.0 Chamber • German Commission for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies of DIN and VDE (DKE), German Standardization Council Industrie 4.0 (SCI4.0) • BMWi, ME • Relevant companies from both sides
SN 03: IT-security Requirements for Products	
Objective	• Cooperation on the normative underpinnings and pre-requisites for the regulation of product information security • Support the development of product information security requirements consistent with the risk profiles of different software products • Support the development of verification methods for product information security requirements, as well as surveillance methods to monitor IoT products' compliance

Areas of cooperation	• Workshop/exchanges with German/European regulators and QI institutions on minimal requirements for information security of products (e.g. radio equipment) • Workshop/exchanges with German/European regulators and QI institutions on methodologies to verify IoT products' information security • Technical exchanges on the integration of IT-security requirements into the existing product safety regulations
Possible Stakeholders	• National Institute for Metrology, Quality and Technology (Inmetro) • European and German Regulatory Bodies such as the Federal Network Agency (BNetzA) • Private Companies and Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) from both sides • Accredited laboratories for the conformity assessment of integrated software in Brazil and Germany/Europe

Conformity Assessment and Accreditation (CA)	
CA 01: Risk Assessment Methodologies	
Objective	• Cooperation on Inmetro's risk-based product classification and regulation (including periodic review of current risk categories) with a particular focus on child products and electrical/electronic equipment/appliances • Exchange of experiences regarding risk assessment based on international best practices, methodologies, and governance structures • Comparison of risk-based approaches to conformity assessment and identification of potential for harmonizing conformity assessment requirements • Examine possible implications of identified risk categories on market surveillance strategies
Areas of Cooperation	• Workshops with German QI institutions to identify common approaches to risk assessment methodologies and governance structures with a particular focus on child products and electrical appliances • Exchanges with productive sector on challenges and foundations for risk assessment for high risk sectors with a particular focus on child products and electrical appliances
Possible Stakeholders	• National Institute of Metrology, Quality and Technology (Inmetro) • Federal Network Agency (BNetzA), Zentralstelle der Länder für Sicherheitstechnik (ZLS), and other relevant German QI institution(s) responsible for risk assessment • Conformity Assessment Bodies and private companies

CA 02: Legal Metrology (in bilateral cooperation between Inmetro and PTB)	
Objective	• Sharing of practices on legal metrology
Areas of Cooperation	• Expert exchanges on legal metrology in Germany and Brazil and possibilities for the digitalization of legal metrology (e.g. "Metrology Cloud")
Possible Stakeholders	• National Institute of Metrology, Quality and Technology (Inmetro) • BMWi, National Metrology Institute of Germany (PTB)

Product Safety and Market Surveillance (PS)	
PS 01: Cooperation on Best Practices for Market Surveillance	
Objective	• Obtain inputs from the business community and regulators to improve market surveillance practices, e.g. using data monitoring and analysis tools • Align market surveillance practices, including inspection, guidance and prevention, data collection and analysis • Exchange on the methodology of elaborating market surveillance strategies such as sectoral strategies of German agencies (e.g. BNetzA) and respective strategies of Inmetro. • Identification of potential for systematic cooperation between Brazilian and European market surveillance authorities
Areas of cooperation	• Technical exchanges with German/European market surveillance authorities to review potential ways of improving market surveillance practices, including inspection, guidance and prevention, data collection and analysis • Dialogue between experts on how market surveillance of recalled consumer products on the countries' borders is carried out. • Expert dialogue on how to adapt market surveillance strategies to modern supply chains (e.g. e-commerce) • Exchange on employment of resources selectively and proportional to the level of risk (risk assessment), profile and behaviour of the supervised
Possible Stakeholders	• Ministry of Economy (ME), National Institute of Metrology, Quality and Technology (Inmetro) • BMWi and German market surveillance authorities • Conformity assessment bodies, companies and industry associations