What is the role of the national standardization bodies?

Massimo Actis Dato,
UNINFO Secretary General
Overview

- Set the scene
- As it was
- As it is
- Re-invent the role (What can we do for you, and what can you do for yourselves?)
Set the scene

- Requirements
- Competition
- Boundary conditions
- UNINFO’s standing
As it was

- Role of NSOs
- Activity of NSOs
- Resources of NSOs
- Customers of NSOs
De jure standardization structure in ICT

Informatics  |  Electronics  |  Telecommunications

International level

ISO  
www.iso.com

IEC  
www.iec.ch

ITU-TS  
www.itu.int

JTC 1  
www.jtc1.org

European level

CEN  
www.cenorm.be

CENELEC  
www.cenelec.be

ETSI  
www.etsi.org

ICTSB  
www.ictsb.org

National level (Italian)

UNI-UNINFO  
www.uninfo.polito.it
Associated to UNI

CEI  
www.celuni.it

ISCTI  
www.comunicazioni.it/iscti/
Rationale

- Strong national bias
- Disconnect between Europe and the world
- Technical fragmentation
The change

- The drivers
- The results
- Conclusions
The drivers

- Multinationals (oligopoly versus perfect market)
- Technical globalisation
The results

- Consortia
- Reduced role of NSOs (no accreditation, no engineering)
- No formal stds (TRs, ETSI stds, CWs, fast track)
- Fragmentation (e.g. traffic: CEN, ETSI, ISO; Smart Cards: CEN, JTC1, ISO, ETSI; Design for All: ETSI, CEN, CENELEC, ISO, IETF, ITU, W3C)
Summary

- Old model does not work (ICTSB-ICTFSG, JTC1)
- No effective answer yet
- No blitz. Changes by attrition and not casting of new mould
As it will be

- Customers
- Activity
De jure standardization structure in ICT

- International level
  - NSOs
    - Marketing
    - Legitimacy
    - Services
  - Consortia
    - Engineering
- Regional level
- European level
- National level
- International level
What NSO should do for you

- Services
- Searches
- Legitimate
- PA
- Disseminate
- Para standardization projects
The worst case (and current) scenario

- NSOs to entrench into their privileges
- NSOs to forget the users
- Continued fragmentation
- The NSO’s staff interest to overwhelm the interest of society at large

Will the competition void the raison d’etre of NSOs?
What can you do

- Lobby to avoid fragmentation on technology, on geography
- Realise that the interest of NSO’s staff is not necessarily the interest of the NSO’s members
- Support the organisations which support their members
Conclusions

See us as someone who:

- Helps to define and enforce fair rules
- Is a channel for the diffusion and acceptance of standards
- Is a facilitator in a network of informal liaisons at operational level