

SARSO & SARSO SECRETARIAT

The SARSO is headed by the Director General and is assisted by SARSO Secretariat comprising of Professional Staff and General Services Staff to facilitate the activities of SARSO.

SAARC AGREEMENTS RELATED TO SARSO

1. Agreement on the establishment of South Asian Regional Standards Organization (SARSO)

The Agreement lists the objectives and functions, institutional structure and other provisions of the organization.

2. SAARC Agreement on Implementation of Regional Standards (AIRS)

The objective of this Agreement is to provide the framework as well as the guiding principles for implementation of the SAARC Standards.

3. SAARC Agreement on Multilateral Arrangement on Recognition of Conformity Assessment (MARCA)

The objective of this Agreement is to facilitate the Parties to accept results of conformity assessment with a view to eliminate technical barriers to trade within SAARC.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Cooperation Agreement with ISO

To strengthen the cooperation between ISO and its Members in the South Asian Region and to support the practical realization of the objectives set for the mutual benefit of ISO, SARSO and the South Asian Countries.

Cooperation Agreement with IEC

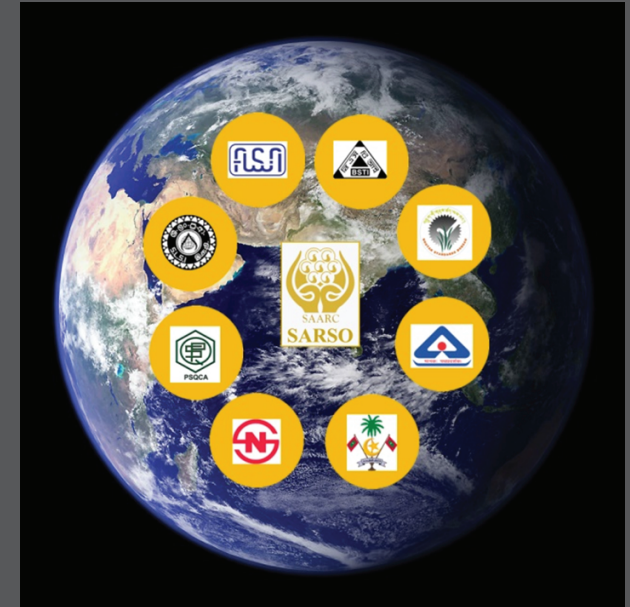
To promote the development, use and adoption of IEC International Standards as well as the use of IEC Conformity Assessment Systems in response to market demands, and thus to facilitate world trade.

MoU with CEN/CENELEC

Formalized cooperation with CEN / CENELEC (European Standards Organization) for greater technical and systemic alignment, with a view to facilitate trade in goods and services between Europe and South Asian countries. Provides common framework for the sharing of information, transferring of technical knowledge, exchange of best practices in sectors such as textile, electrical and electronic goods, chemicals, food and building materials.

South Asian Regional Standards Organization (SARSO)

'A specialized body of SAARC'



'To achieve and enhance coordination and cooperation among SAARC Member States in the fields of Standardization and conformity assessment'

'Aimed to develop harmonized standards for the region to facilitate intra-regional trade and to have access in the global market'

SARSO Secretariat

116/A, Tejgaon Industrial Area
Dhaka-1208, Bangladesh

Tel: +8802-8878130 / Fax: +8802-8878131

www.sarso.org

dg@sarso.org / sarso@sarso.org



SOUTH ASIAN REGIONAL STANDARDS ORGANIZATION (SARSO)

The South Asian Regional Standards Organization (SARSO) is a Specialized Body of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). SARSO, has its Secretariat in Dhaka, Bangladesh and commenced its operations with effect from 03 April 2014.

Member Bodies of SARSO

1. Afghanistan National Standards Authority
2. Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution
3. Bhutan Standards Bureau
4. Bureau of Indian Standards
5. Ministry of Economic Development
6. Nepal Bureau of Standards and Metrology
7. Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority
8. Sri Lanka Standards Institution

OBJECTIVES & FUNCTIONS

1. To promote and undertake harmonization of national standards of the SAARC Member States with a view to removing the technical barriers to trade and facilitate flow of goods and services in the region.
2. To develop SAARC standards on the products of regional/sub-regional interest.
3. To encourage the use of international standards published by international organizations such as ISO, IEC, etc. by way of adoption, where appropriate, as SAARC Standards.

4. To encourage exchange of information and expertise among the National Standards Bodies of the Member States in the fields of Standardization and Conformity Assessment.
5. To facilitate capacity building among the Member States in the fields of Standardization and Conformity Assessment by way of training, workshops, seminars etc.
6. To act as a source of information for the Member States on standards, regulations, conformity assessment.
7. To present the common interests of the Member States in the various international standardization organizations.
8. To establish mutually beneficial cooperation with the relevant international and regional organizations as per relevant SAARC guidelines.
9. To promote Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRAs) on Conformity Assessment Procedures among the Member States.
10. To encourage sharing of facilities relating to conformity assessment procedures among the Member States.
11. To explore the possibility of having a common mark of conformity among the Member States.

GOVERNING BOARD (GB)

Highest authority of SARSO, vested with all powers relating to its functioning. The GB consists of Heads of the respective National Standards Body of each Member States. The Chairperson of the TMB, the Secretary General of SAARC/representative and Director General of SARSO are the ex-officio Members.

TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT BOARD (TMB)

The TMB consists of technical experts representing each National Standards Body of the Member States. The TMB reports to SARSO Governing Board and is responsible for the planning, coordination and monitoring of all the technical work of the Organization. The following Six Sectoral Technical Committees (STCs) have been established to formulate SAARC Standards.

1. Food and Agricultural Products
2. Jute, Textile and Leather
3. Building Materials
4. Chemicals and Chemical Products
5. Electrical, Electronics, Telecom & IT
6. Conformity Assessment



BOARD FOR CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT (BCA)

The BCA has been established as per relevant provision of MARCA (SAARC Agreement on Multilateral Arrangement on Recognition of Conformity Assessment), and is responsible for planning, coordinating and monitoring of all conformity assessment work of SARSO.