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COVER NOTE

From: Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Ms Martine DEPREZ, Director

To: Ms Thérèse BLANCHET, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union

Subject: Challenges and Perspectives for National Standardisation Bodies (NSBs) from Smaller Member States- Presentation at the Working Party on Technical Harmonisation on 2 June 2026

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Challenges and Perspectives for National Standardisation Bodies (NSBs) from Smaller Member States

Meeting of the Working Party on
Technical Harmonisation, Brussels

June 2, 2026

Cyprus Organisation for Standardisation (CYS)

Pambos Kammas
Director





CYS in a Nutshell

2



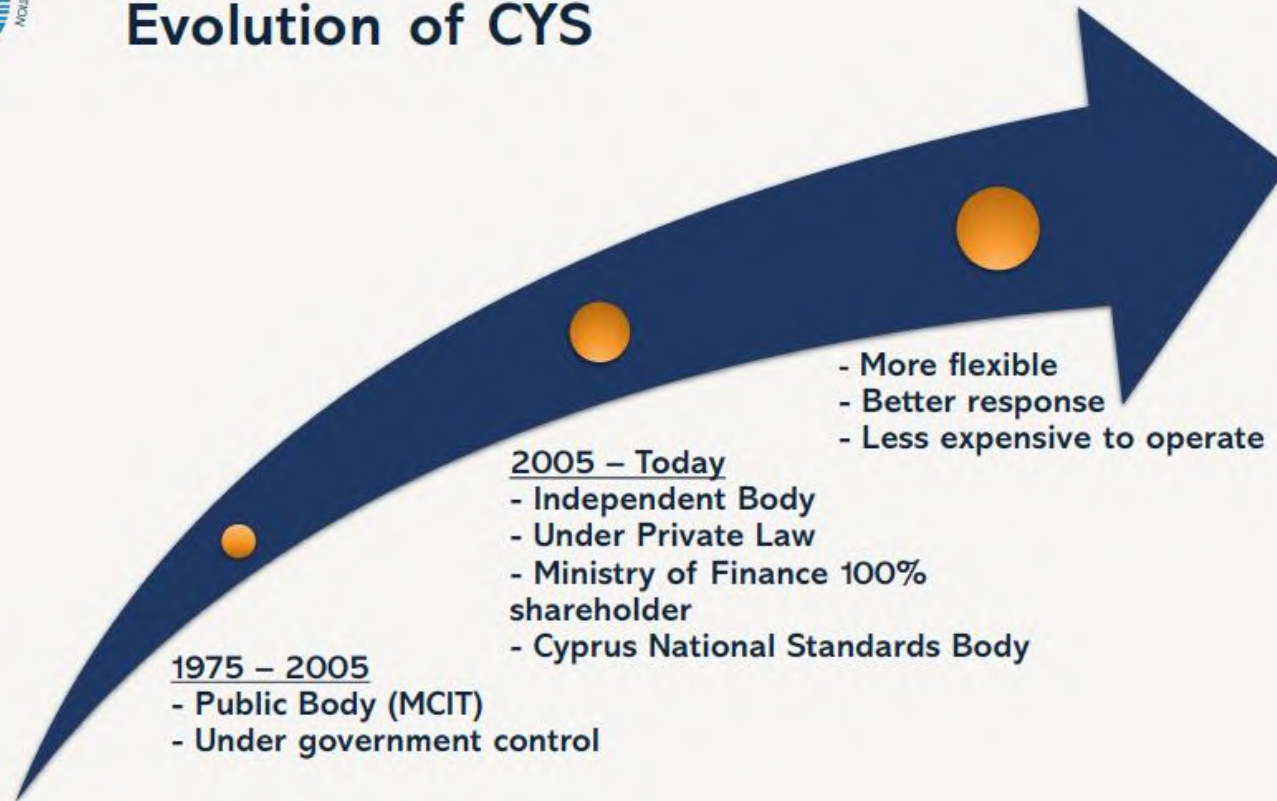
Who is CYS

- Recognized National Standardization Body of Cyprus
- Independent Body since 1st of January 2005
- Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Cyprus: the sole shareholder
- Private Ltd Company, Operates under National Law & the EU Regulation 1025/2012
- Member of ISO, IEC & ITU
- Member of CEN, CENELEC & ETSI
- CYS EN ISO 9001 & CYS EN ISO 14001 certified

3



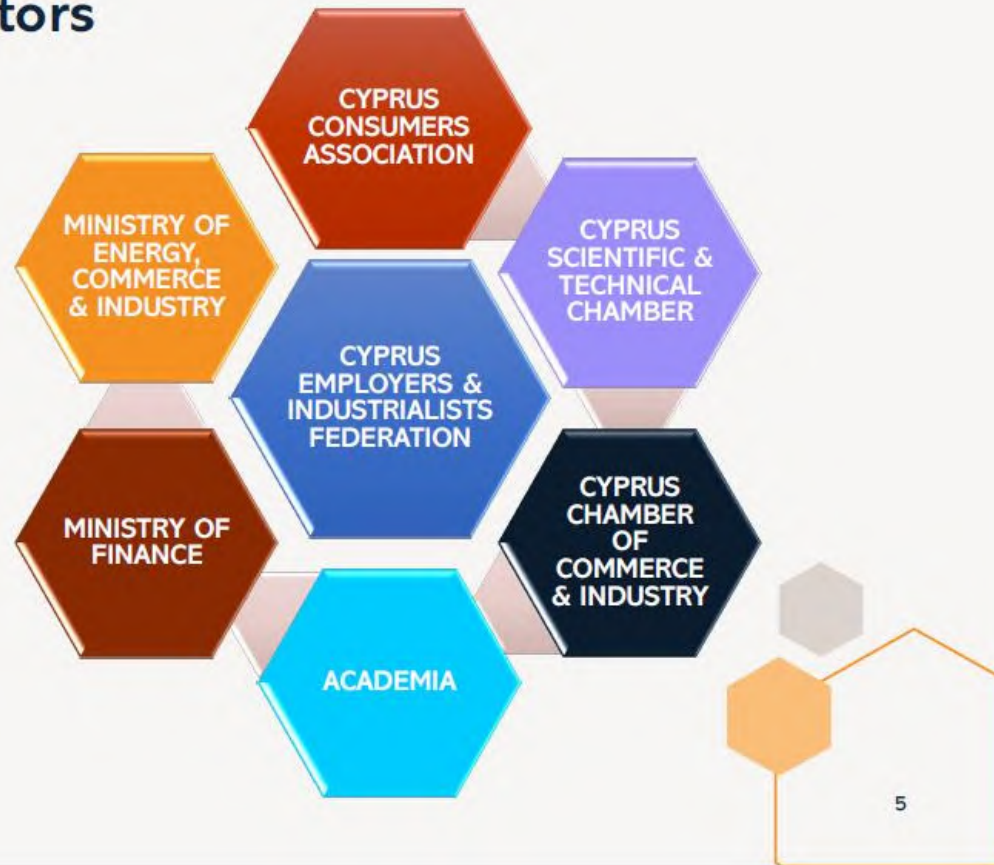
Evolution of CYS





CYS Board of Directors

- ✓ 7 Members
- ✓ appointed by the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cyprus
- ✓ for a 3-year term





CYS Membership Status

European Level

Full Member of:



International Level

Full Member of:



6

Mission

- ❖ empowering the national standardization system to effectively secure the national interests of Cyprus in the European and International standardization system.
- ❖ promoting the International and European standards aiming to enhance the competitiveness of Cypriot companies, protect the environment and safeguard consumers' health and safety.



Main Pillars of CYS Activities

Promotion

of European and International Standards within the industry and organisations in Cyprus

- Training & Informative Seminars
- Lectures/Visits
- Articles/Press releases

Representation

of CYS in the European & International Standardisation Organisations

Development

of national standards, national or private specifications, schemes

Participation

in European funded programs

Cooperation

with Public Authorities, Private Sector Associations, Academia, Social Stakeholders & other NSBs

8



Current situation - Main Challenges 1/2

- Limited human capacity – 22 members of staff
- Keeping up with fast EU and international standardisation developments
- Balancing European harmonisation with national needs
- Ensuring effective Participation on managerial administrative & technical structures of CEN/CLC/ETSI & ISO/IEC
- Maintaining visibility and influence in European decision-making (governance, policy & technical levels)
- Ensuring effective participation of national stakeholders to the technical work.
- Keeping standards relevant for emerging policy priorities

9



Current situation - Main Challenges 2/2

- Supporting competent authorities & businesses with EU compliance requirements – providing solutions
- Increasing awareness and use of standards among SMEs
- Managing the digital transformation of standardisation
- Attracting younger professionals to standardisation
- Ensuring inclusiveness in standardisation
- Resource pressure from training, promotion and service delivery
- Demonstrating the value of standardisation to policymakers and society

10



Short-term Perspectives & Challenges



- Acceleration pressure on standards development
 - Capacity strain
 - Tight timelines while ensuring transparency and inclusiveness
- Increased governance and participation requirements
 - expansion and diversification of national participation
 - increased needs for national coordination
- Stronger alignment with EU policy priorities
 - prioritisation of sectors and strategy
- Digital transformation of standardisation processes (OSD/SMART)
 - need to upgrade digital infrastructure and workflows
 - requirements for new skills and training

11



Mid-term Perspectives & Challenges

- Evolution / Re-engineering of the European Standardisation System
- Increased strategic and geopolitical role of standardisation, maintaining national delegation of all EU members on International level.
- Deep integration with research and innovation ecosystems
- Expansion into emerging and complex domains
- Increased participation in standardisation on International level, simultaneously
- Digital transformation of standardisation deliverables (SMART)

Resulting to...

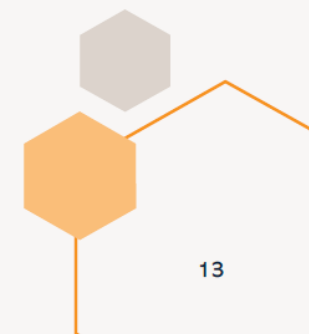
Significant financial and organisational sustainability challenges

12



Important Prerequisites to ensure viability & long-term sustainability

- Ensure status of National Standards Bodies as the authorized competent bodies related to standards
- Maintain the national delegation principle, inclusiveness & transparency
- Secure preservation of IPRs spreading from ESOs to NSBs for continuity of existence and protection of their business model
- Ensure continuity of the centralised model so that small NSBs avoid obligations and relevant costs for:
 - subscriptions & membership fees to many organisations
 - participation in additional administrative structures
 - maintenance of different digital tools and platforms





How will these prerequisites be ensured?

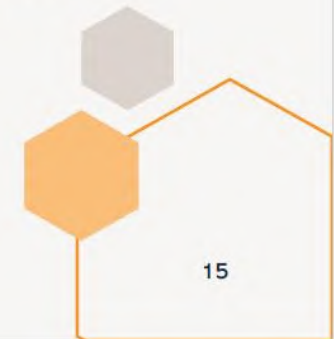
CYS along with all other CEN/CENELEC members have decided to move to a new centralised European Standardisation business model, based on the Long-Term Vision (LTV) recently designed and endorsed by all Members





Key Takeaways

- Challenging era for all NSBs especially smaller ones
- System viability & financial sustainability is crucial
- Digitalisation and Smart solutions are of utmost importance
- The LTV ensures a centralized system with important economies of scale for all Members, delivering maximum added value products and services to all standards users.





Thank you for your
attention