

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Guinea, France, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Laos, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Mauritania, Moldova, Monaco, Morocco, Niger, Romania, Rwanda, St Lucia, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovenia, Switzerland, Togo, Tunisia, Vanuatu, Vietnam.

Headquarters: 28 rue de Bourgogne, 75008 Paris, France.

Website: <http://www.francophonie.org>

Secretary General: Boutros Boutros-Ghali (Egypt).

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION (ISO)

Established in 1947, the International Organization for Standardization is a non-governmental federation of national standards bodies from some 140 countries worldwide, one from each country. ISO's work results in international agreements which are published as International Standards. The first ISO standard was published in 1951 with the title 'Standard reference temperature for industrial length measurement'.

Some 13,000 ISO International Standards are available on subjects in such diverse fields as information technology, textiles, packaging, distribution of goods, energy production and utilization, building, banking and financial services. ISO standardization activities include the widely recognized ISO 9000 family of quality management system and standards and the ISO 14000 series of environmental management system standards. Standardization programmes are now being developed in completely new fields, such as advanced materials, life sciences, urbanization and the service sector.

Mission. To promote the development of standardization and related activities in the world with a view to facilitating the international exchange of goods and services, and to developing co-operation in the spheres of intellectual, scientific, technological and economic activity.

Headquarters: 1 rue de Varembe, Case postale 56, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland.

Website: <http://www.iso.ch>

e-mail: central@iso.ch

Secretary-General: Dr Lawrence D. Eicher.

WORLD WIDE FUND FOR NATURE (WWF)

Origin. WWF was officially formed and registered as a charity on 11 Sept. 1961. The first National Appeal, with HRH The Duke of Edinburgh as President, was launched in the United Kingdom on 23 Nov. 1961, shortly followed by the United States and Switzerland.

Organization. WWF is the world's largest and most experienced independent conservation organization with over 4.7m. supporters and a global network of 27 National Organizations, 5 Associates and 24 Programme Offices.

The National Organizations carry out conservation activities in their own countries and contribute technical expertise and funding to WWF's international conservation programme. The Programme Offices implement WWF's fieldwork, advise national and local governments, and raise public understanding of conservation issues.