# Standards development policy



Authorised by board on: 26 August 2015

**Executive Director's authorisation:** 



Effective date: 4 September 2015

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#### 1. PURPOSE

This policy document aims to:

- outline the FRDC's policy in relation to its obligations as a Standards Development Organisation (SDO) endorsed by the Accreditation Board of Standards Development Organisations (ABSDO)
- Provide a reference point for all internal and external stakeholders associated with standards development.

#### 2. RESPONSIBILITY

Responsibility for this policy resides with the Executive Director.

#### 3. DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

Definitions - follow link to <u>Definitions</u> Acronyms - follow link to <u>Acronyms</u>

Term	Definition
ABSDO	The Accreditation Board of Standards Development Organisations
Approval date	This is the date on which the SDO approves the document for publishing.  For Australian Standards it is the date on which the document is approved by the FRDC board.
Confidentiality	A set of rules that limits access or places restrictions on certain types of information.
Consensus	General agreement, characterized by the absence of sustained opposition to substantial issues by any important part of the concerned interests and by a process that involves seeking to take into account the views of all parties concerned and to reconcile any conflicting arguments.  NOTE: Consensus need not imply unanimity.  Ref - ISO/IEC Guide 2
Consensus agreement	When all of the major interests involved with the subject of the Standard have collectively accepted the content of the document and have voted affirmatively. This normally implies a unanimous affirmative vote, but occasionally it may be achieved where there are one or more outstanding negative votes.  a. a minimum 67 percent of those eligible to vote have voted affirmatively; and  b. a minimum 80 percent of votes received are affirmative; and c. no major interest involved with the subject of the Standard has collectively maintained a negative vote.

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Term		Definition				
Consumer		Individual member of the general public, or consumer				
		organisations, purchasing or using property, products or services				
		for private purposes.				
Deliberative Vote		A deliberative vote is a vote given to a person because they are a				
		member of the SRB.				
		The term is usually applied to the chair of the meeting to draw				
		distinction between the vote they get as an SRB member and the				
		casting vote they may get as the presiding person.				
		SRB chairs do not get casting votes.				
Due process		A course of formal proceedings carried out regularly and in				
		accordance with the established FRDC standards development				
		policy and procedures				
Fishing Industr	γ	As defined in the FRDC Regulations 1991 under the PIERD Act				
FRDC	,	Fisheries Research and Development Corporation				
General intere	st	Those with a demonstrated interest and relevant expertise that				
		are not associated with the production, distribution, direct use,				
		or regulation of the product(s), material(s) or service(s).				
		NOTE: May include technical or professional associations and				
		trade unions.				
Implementation	n date	This is the date that a standard becomes effective, where that				
implementatio	iii date	date differs from the publication date. For example, when there				
		is a need to provide a period of grace to allow products and				
		practices to be modified or upgraded. Occasionally, legislation or				
		certification programs may also require a later date of				
		implementation for a standard than its publication date.				
Interested par	tv	Any of the people or organizations who may be affected by the				
interested par	Ly	potential standards development activity, or have the potential				
		to be affected in the future				
Net benefit		The value or benefit of a standard to the Australian community				
Net belieff		that exceeds the costs likely to be imposed on suppliers, users				
		and other parties in the community as a result of its				
		development and implementation.				
PIERD Act		Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act				
PIEND ACL		1989				
Procedures	5	Documented description of processes undertaken by the				
Troccaares		organisation. Procedures can be electronic or physical				
		documents.				
Procedures,		Description of standards related activities within the organisation				
Standards						
Management		other than for the process of developing a standard. <u>Used to be</u>				
Management		<u>called 'Administrative procedures'</u> and can include such process as standards review and complaint handling.				
Producer		Those who are predominantly involved in production (i.e.,				
TOddcei		manufacture), promotion, retailing, importing or distribution of				
		the subject product(s), material(s) or service(s).				
Droiget mana	or					
Project manag	ei	the person responsible for managing a standard's development				
		project (Clause 2.4				
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Term		Definition						
Publication da	nto.	This is the date that the standard becomes publicly available. It is						
Publication da	ite	also the date on which the standard comes into effect.						
Dublishing Lie	onco	A legal agreement between Standards Australia and SAI Global						
Publishing Lice	ence							
Agreement		whereby SA grants an exclusive worldwide licence to SAIG to						
		publish, sell and distribute documents carrying the trademark						
		'Australian Standard®'. In return, SAIG pays a royalty to SA for						
		each document sold.						
		<b>NOTE</b> : With respect to accredited SDOs, SA directs that SAIG pay						
		any royalties direct to the SDO.						
Quality Manag	_	The FRDC QMS consists of its processes, documentation (policies,						
System (QMS)		procedures and work guides) and resources used to implement						
		and meet quality objectives to meet the requirements of its						
		stakeholders.						
Regulator		Any federal, state, municipal or other government body						
		responsible for regulating the acceptability, sale or use of the						
		subject products, materials or services and those bodies that						
		enforce these rules and regulations.						
SDO		Standards Development Organisation						
Standard		A document, established by consensus and approved by a						
		recognised body, that provides, for common and repeated use,						
		rules, guidelines or characteristics for activities or their results						
		aimed at the achievement of the optimum degree of order in a						
		given context						
-		Standards are published documents setting out specifications						
		and procedures designed to ensure products, services and						
		systems are safe, reliable and consistently perform the way they						
		were intended to. They establish a common language that						
		defines quality and safety criteria.						
		[Source: Standards Australia Standardization Guide 001].						
Standards		To develop a new standard in areas that are not covered by						
Development.	Activity	an existing standard.						
•	•	To develop a new standard to complement or to support						
		existing standards.						
		<ul> <li>To revise or amend an existing standard, where the content</li> </ul>						
		may not be current or appropriate.						
		I o adopt certain categories of Australian, industry, or international standards or guidelines.						
Standards		A detailed plan provided to ABSDO at the commencement of a						
Development	Dlan							
Standards Refe		project with expected timelines for completion  The committee of technical experts having the responsibility for						
Body (SRB)	CICILLE	The committee of technical experts having the responsibility for						
body (SNb)		the technical content of the standard they are developing. (e.g. The Fish Names Committee)						
Technical cont	ont	The requirements, specifications, and/or recommendations, and						
recimical cont	.em							
		associated tables and figures, that comprise the body of the						
		standard. The technical content is developed within the scope of						
		the standard.						
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Term	Definition				
User	Those who predominantly represent end users of the subject product(s), material(s), or service(s) and who are not involved in any way in production and/or distribution of the subject product(s), material(s) or service(s).  NOTE: Users can include consumers; general interest users; industrial users where the product(s), material(s), or service(s) is an input to a manufacturing or fabrication process; and Labour users where the product(s), material(s), or service(s) may be used in the workplace.				

# 4. RISK ASSESSMENT

Risk	Source of risk	Likelihood	Consequence	<b>Existing Controls</b>
Negative	Failure to observe	Unlikely	Major	QMS
stakeholder	policy due to:			
perception of the	<ul> <li>employee lack of</li> </ul>			
FRDC and damage	knowledge			
to FRDC brand	Employee disregard			
	for policy			
Loss of	<ul> <li>Loss of accredittion</li> </ul>	Unlikely	Major	QMS
standardised Fish	<ul><li>Loss of</li></ul>			Internal and
Names across the	ongoing/continued			external audits
Australian	support by the			to ensure
industry	FRDC			compliance
Likelihood:	Very Likely; Likely; Unlikely		•	
Consequence:	Major; Moderate; Minor			

# 5. RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION

Relevant documentation	Document # or web address		
Code of conduct	<u>NEMO-29-561</u>		
Criteria for Designation as an	Criteria for Designation as an Australian Standard		
Australian Standard			
Privacy policy – Australian	FRDC website		
Privacy Principles			
Quality policy	<u>NEMO-29-1575</u>		
Requirements for Accreditation	Requirements for Accreditation		
of Standards Development			
Organisations			
Risk policy	<u>NEMO-29-1155</u>		
Risk register	<u>NEMO-29-1623</u>		
Standards development	NEMO-4436-1093		
procedure			

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#### Informative references

Relevant documentation	FRDC document # or link
Australian Fish Names Standard AS SSA	Australian Fish names Standard
5300	
Standardisation Guide 001	Standardisation Guide 001
Preparing Standards	
Standardisation Guide 002	Standardisation Guide 002
Structure and Operation of	
Standardisation Committees	
Standardisation Guide 003	Standardisation Guide 003
Standards and Other Publications	
Standardisation Guide 004	Standardisation Guide 004
Roles & Responsibilities of	
Standardisation	
Standardization Guide 005	Standardisation Guide 005
Technical Governance and Advisory	
Structures for the Standards	
Development Process	
Standardisation Guide 006	Standardisation Guide 006
Rules for the Structure and Drafting of	
Australian Standards	
Standardisation Guide 007	Standardisation Guide 007
Adoption Of International Standards	
Standardization Guide 009	Standardisation Guide 009
Preparation of Standards for Legislative	
Adoption	
Standardization Guide 020	Standardisation Guide 020
Participation by Consumers in	
Standardization	
Standardization Guide 015	Standardisation Guide 015
Australian Involvement in International	
Standardisation	

# 6. PUBLICATION

This policy is not to be made available on the FRDC website.

# 7. BACKGROUND

The ABSDO accredits suitable organisations to develop Australian Standards; and also defines the scope under which Australian Standards development activities can be undertaken.

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Organisations seeking to be accredited as an SDO must have:

- appropriate recognition and standing within its industry;
- an appropriate level of corporate governance procedures in place;
- adequate resources to undertake the standards development activities.

The FRDC as an accredited SDO can develop Australian standards within the scope: **To** develop Australian Standards in the fields of terminology, sustainability, and operational practices in the fishing industry.

A Standards Reference Body (SRB) is established for each standards development activity (e.g. the Fish Names Committee is the SRB for developing standard names for fish).

#### 8. FRDC STANDING IN THE SEAFOOD INDUSTRY

The FRDC is the national body charged with planning, funding and managing Research, Development and Extension (RD&E) for the fishing industry, delivering against the Australian Government's priorities, and pursuing the adoption of RD&E for industry and community benefit.

It deals with the government, industry and research partners around Australia on both a strategic and operational basis. The FRDC is ideally situated to communicate and network with partners to leverage, and broker knowledge to get the best results from research, development and extension for both government, industry, and the community.

The FRDC plays a leadership role in fisheries RD&E through:

- national leadership and priority setting
- project planning, management and extension across government agencies and industry nationally
- facilitation and partnership activities with research partners
- collaboration across other Research and Development Corporations (RDCs), independent agencies/states and international organisations
- leverage of investment funds across Australia.

The business environment of the FRDC is such that a large component of the research undertaken involves a shared natural resource. This results in a very high component of RD&E being undertaken as public good research for the benefit of the whole community, to ensure sustainability of the fisheries and the supporting ecosystem.

To ensure the FRDC meets stakeholder needs, and increases the speed of output delivery, it continually improves the way it invests in, and manages RD&E. This involves reviewing current funding mechanisms to ensure they are flexible and tailored to meet stakeholders'—needs.

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#### 9. RESOURCES FOR STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT

The FRDC will provide the resources to develop and to maintain standards within its scope of accreditation; including core staff. It will co-opt specialist staff as required for additional standards development activities.

#### 10. RESPONSIBILITIES IN STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT

The FRDC will ensure there is a clear separation of roles in relation to standards development between the organization and the FRDC appointed Standards Reference Body (SRB).

The FRDC board will not overrule the decisions of the Standards Reference Body. The FRDC board may, however, seek further clarification on issues or further information or evidence in relation to adherence to the FRDC approved policies and procedures.

#### 10.1 FRDC BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

The FRDC board is responsible for all standards development activities; including to:

- set the policies under which the SRBs will operate;
- determine the structural representation of the SRB (e.g. the Fish Names Committee)
- give autonomy of the standards development process to the relevant SRB (e.g. the FNC)
- give final process approval to a draft standard to become an Australian Standard provided the appropriate FRDC standards development policies and procedures have been followed.

#### 10.2 FRDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The FRDC Executive Director has operational responsibility for the management of all FRDC standard development activities; including:

- to implement FRDC policies in relation to Standards Development
- to ensure that all standards development procedures are implemented and followed by the specific SRB
- to appoint members to the SRB within the constraints of the structural representation approved by the FRDC Board (e.g. FNC)
- to approve terms of reference for the SRB
- to approve the allocation of resources required for the SRB to undertake its work program
- to set reasonable target dates for achieving the milestones of draft for public comment and committee agreement on the final content of the draft Australian Standard
- to provide a standards development plan to ABSDO
- to communicate with Standards Australia and ABSDO.

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# 10.3 FRDC STANDARDS REFERENCE BODY (SRB) RESPONSBILITIES

A FRDC Standards Reference Body will:

- act independently and with authority in the standards development activity that
  it is tasked with (e.g. The Fish Names Committee is responsible for the
  determination of Standard Fish Names and technical matters relating to fish
  names);
- comply with relevant policies and procedures adopted by the FRDC board and the terms of FRDC's accreditation as a SDO. (e.g. To consider amendments to the Australian Fish Names Standard)
- undertake standards development activities within the defined SRB Terms of Reference
- comply with the Code of Conduct for Standards Reference Body members while undertaking FRDC standards development activities
- develop the technical content of the draft standard
- through the secretary provide progress reports on the standards development to the FRDC.

#### 11. FRDC BOARD DELEGATION

The FRDC board will delegate authority to the SRBs to:

- 1. act with independence and with authority on the review and maintenance of the standard and technical matters relating to the standard
- approve amendments to the relevant standards subject to the committees compliance with FRDC endorsed policies and procedures, the committees' budgets, and FRDC's scope of accreditation as a SDO.

The FRDC board, being responsible for the accredited SDO, will:

- 1. set policies to guide the standards development activities of the SRBs
- 2. ratify the SRB's decisions subject to the committees' compliance with FRDC SRB policies and procedures and the terms of FRDC's accreditation as a SDO.

#### 12. STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT POLICY

The FRDC will develop standards that:

- have a high level of integrity and credibility
- have the support of the industry and stakeholders
- are developed in an open and transparent manner
- provide a value or benefit to the Australian community that exceeds the costs likely to be imposed on suppliers, users and other parties in the community as a result of its development and implementation.

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#### 12.1 STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

The FRDC will evaluate, plan, and prioritise all standards development activities. This evaluation will include the:

- need for the proposed standard
- net benefits of the proposed standard.

The FRDC will, within the constraints of the approved level of responsibilities:

- approve a standards development activity including the allocation of resources
- ensure that the proposed standard is within the FRDC scope of accreditation
- approve terms of reference for the relevant SRB
- determine the membership of the SRB
- approve the allocation of resources required for the SRB to undertake its work program
- set reasonable target dates for achieving the milestones of draft for public comment and committee agreement on the final content of the draft standard.

#### 12.2 PROJECT PROPOSAL AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The FRDC will develop a Project Proposal for each new or revised standard activity.

The FRDC will register all standards development activities and provide a standards development plan to the ABSDO Secretary.

# 12.3 STANDARDS REFERENCE BODY TO UNDERTAKE THE STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

The FRDC will:

- determine the structural representation of the SRB ensuring a balanced membership and representation from all major stakeholder groups
- appoint an independent chair to the SRB
- appoint a secretary to the SRB to assist and support the activities of the SRB
- make appropriate appointments to the SRB to achieve a balanced representation of key stakeholders.

#### 12.4 SRB CHAIR

The FRDC will appoint a Chair of the relevant SRB to lead the standards development activities.

#### SRB Chairs will:

- act in accordance with the FRDC Standards Development procedure, (see relevant documentation)
- promote the attainment of consensus and generally comply with Standards
   Australia Guide: Standards Development SG-004 Roles and Responsibilities of Standardisation (Section 8: Chairpersons).

#### 12.5 REPRESENTATION ON THE SRB

The FRDC will appoint a balanced SRB with a membership that reflects the important role of key stakeholders in the standards development process to undertake the standards development activity in accordance with FRDC *Standards development procedure*, (see relevant documentation).

Where the FRDC is represented on the SRB, its contribution shall be impartial, free from bias and avoid a conflict of interest between its role as a facilitator of the Standards Development process and as a participant in the process.

#### 12.6 SRB TERMS OF REFERENCE

The FRDC will develop the Terms of Reference for each of its SRBs as outlined in FRDC *Standards development procedure* (see relevant documentation).

#### 12.7 ANNOUCING A STANDARDS PROJECT REQUEST

The FRDC will announce requests for standards development activities on its website and via its industry email lists.

#### 12.8 ACHIEVE AND DEMONSTRATE CONSENSUS

The SRB chair will attempt to gain a consensus decision at all stages of the standards development or review process in accordance with the FRDC *Standards development procedure* (see relevant documentation).

#### 12.9 PUBLIC REVIEW AND STAKEHOLER FEEDBACK

The FRDC will conduct an effective and consultative public review of the draft standard.

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#### 12.10 SRB CONSIDERATION OF COMMENT

The SRB will consider all comments on the draft standard raised through the public consultation period in detail and if necessary undertake further drafting of the standard.

#### 12.11 APPROVAL OF FINAL DRAFT STANDARD

The SRB will vote on the final draft through a formal ballot. For the standard to be eligible for process approval, consensus must be achieved.

#### 12.12 PROCESS APPROVAL

The FRDC board will give final process approval to the final draft standard if it is satisfied that:

- consensus on the final draft has been achieved
- the process has been followed as per the endorsed standards development policy and procedures.

The FRDC will advise ABSDO of Process Approval and request ISBN numbers for new standards.

#### 12.13 PUBLISHING OF STANDARD

The FRDC will cooperate with SAI Global regarding the publishing requirements for Standards.

The FRDC will send final versions of the standards to the ABSDO secretary.

#### 12.14 NEW VERSION OF STANDARD

The new version of a standard supersedes all previous versions.

#### 12.15 FRDC ROLE IN CERTIFICATION

The FRDC does not plan to be involved in certification activities in the near future.

If FRDC were to undertake certification, accreditation or similar activities, the FRDC Board will ensure there is a clear separation of the policy-making and governance functions of such activities from those of standards development.

#### 12.16 FRDC STANDARDS – CONFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

Any FRDC Standards developed for conformance assessment purposes (i.e. the basis of a certification scheme) shall comply with the principles in <u>ISO/IEC 17007, Conformity assessment - Guidance for drafting normative documents suitable for use for conformity assessment.</u>

Where FRDC is developing a standard for certification (or with the potential for certification) the SRB, and particularly those drafting the document, will need to be familiar with its requirements and recommendations.

#### 13. STANDARDS REVISION AND MAINTENANCE

The FRDC will:

- review all standards within its conform accreditation art least every five years as pert the table on the ABSDO website;
- continually monitor the technical content of the standard in the intervening period to maintain up to date standards.

#### 14. CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT OF STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The FRDC has established, documented, implemented and maintains, a Quality Management System in accordance with AS/NZ ISO 9001:2008 requirements.

The FRDC will continually improve the standards development process through:

- Regular review of the standards development as per the procedures
- Ongoing requirements as per the Quality policy (see relevant documentation).

#### 15. COOPERATION WITH ABSDO AND STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Standards Australia is responsible for the oversight, co-ordination and governance of SDO Standards development and related activities.

The Accreditation Board of Standards Development Organisations (ABSDO) operates to encourage and accredit Standards Development Organisations (SDO) in Australia to produce internationally aligned Australian Standards.

FRDC co-operates and liaises with the ABSDO and Standards Australia with the intent of enhancing communication and co-ordination of Standards development activities across industry and government.

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FRDC fully cooperates with ABSDO in the audit process and makes available all records required to demonstrate on-going compliance. FRDC will fully comply with the requirements of the ABSDO document, Requirements for the Accreditation of a Standards Development Organisation as available on the ABSDO website at

http://www.absdo.org.au/Responsibilities.aspx

#### FRDC specifically will

- a. Register all new Standards development projects with Standards Australia through the ABSDO secretary prior to commencing substantial work
- b. Prepare and make available to Standards Australia's Project Office an up to date Development Plan for each Standards development activity
- c. Comply with all policies and procedures of the ABSDO including for the determination and funding of appeals
- d. Comply with Standards Australia's administrative procedures, including badging and the format of documents
- e. Make copies of draft and final documents available to Standards Australia via the ABSDO Secretariat, as required
- f. Notify the ABSDO of any significant changes in the organisation's Standards development procedures or significant changes that could materially affect FRDC's capacity to be an accredited SDO
- g. Submit to the ABSDO's determination where there is a conflict in the scope of areas of accreditation
- h. Co-operate with Standards Australia regarding activities of mutual interest
- i. Facilitate auditing by ABSDO to determine ongoing compliance
- j. Provide a copy of all final published standards to Standards Australia
- k. Comply with any additional policies and procedures as required by ABSDO from time to time
- I. Pay all relevant fees to the ABSDO to achieve and maintain accreditation
- m. Comply with the Standards Australia Guidelines for the badging and formatting of standards that it has developed
- n. Co-operate with Standards Australia and ABSDO regarding hand-over of relevant information and records where an SDO's accreditation ceases
- In the event that FRDC ceases to be an accredited SDO, the steps to be taken to hand over IP and other documents are detailed in the FRDC Standards Development Procedure.

#### 16. AUDIT BY INTERESTED PARTIES

The FRDC will make its standards development procedure available for audit by other interested parties where there is a legitimate need for such an audit.

#### 17. RECORDS MANAGEMENT POLICY

The FRDC will maintain effective records management and administrative procedures so as to ensure that its administrative procedures are transparent and accountable.

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#### 18. NEUTRALITY AND INDEPENDENCE

#### 18.1 OBJECTIVITY AND IMPARTIALITY

The FRDC will safeguard the objectivity and impartiality of all individuals and groups responsible for Standards Development.

The FRDC will maintain the privacy of its members through adherence to its *Privacy policy – Australian Privacy Principles* (see relevant documentation).

The FRDC will maintain the objectivity and impartiality of standards development activities through adherence to the standards development procedures.

#### 18.2 INDEPENDENCE OF THE SRB

The FRDC will ensure there is a clear separation of roles in relation to standards development between the organisation and the FRDC appointed SRB as outlined in Clause 10 - Responsibilities in standards development.

#### 19. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

#### 19.1 COPYRIGHT

The copyright of all SSA or FRDC developed standards remain the property of FRDC. An exclusive license is provided by FRDC to SAI Global to sell standards it has developed.

The SRB members will ensure that any material put forward for inclusion in a standard does not infringe a third party's copyright. Material covered by a third party's copyright may be included in a standard only after permission has been obtained from the copyright holder.

Where SRB members submit material that they, their employers or nominating organisations have originated, and where such material is subsequently included in a standard, the right of the originator of the material to continue to reproduce that material in the form in which it was originally submitted is recognised.

#### 19.2 PATENTS

A standard does not confer a monopoly on one section of industry to the detriment of another that can provide an equally satisfactory article.

Nonetheless, on exceptional occasions, technical reasons may justify inclusion in the standard of items or services covered by patent rights. There is no objection in principle to this, provided that certain rules are adhered to. The rules governing patented items in standards are those adopted by ISO and IEC.

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The most important rule is that, before use of material known to be the subject of a patent is made a requirement of a standard, it is to be ensured by means of a formal statement that the owner of the patent has agreed to make licences available to all who apply on reasonable and non-discriminatory terms.

#### 20. COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

The FRDC will maintain an unbiased complaints procedure for handling complaints from affected stakeholders.

The FRDC will review its complaints procedure for effectiveness as part of its continual improvement if its operations.

#### 21. INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION

- 1. FRDC recognises that Standards Australia is the Australian member of the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC). Any participation in the standardisation activities of these two bodies shall be through Standards Australia.
- 2. The FRDC will, where appropriate
- participate in international standardisation activities within its scope of accreditation.
- cooperate with Standards Australia and abide by the policies outlined in Standards
   Australia <u>Standardization Guide 015- Australian Involvement in International</u>
   Standardisation.
- Comply with the requirements of ISO/IEC Guide 21.1 Regional or national adoption of International Standards and other International Deliverables — Part 1: Adoption of International Standards where an International Standard is being adopted as an Australian Standard.

#### 22. COOPERATION AND LIAISON WITH OTHER SDO'S

FRDC will participate in meetings with other SDO's as organised by ABSDO from time to time.

Where appropriate, or as requested, FRDC will cooperate with other SDOs, including Standards Australia, regarding activities of mutual interest and with the intent of enhancing communication and co-ordination of Standards development activities across industry and government.

#### 23. EVALUATION

The evaluation of this policy is measured against the Governance component of FRDC's performance framework.

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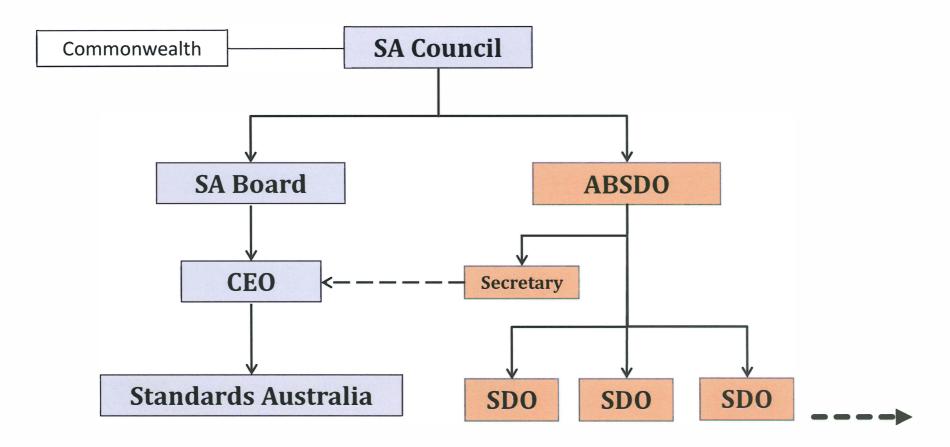
# 24. ATTACHMENTS

#	Description
1	Background Information on ABSDO and Standards Australia

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# Attachment 1 - Background Information

The diagram below demonstrates the relationship between ABSDO, the Standards Development Organisations, and Standards Australia.



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Further information can be found on these websites'

Accreditation Board of Standards

http://www.absdo.org.au

Development Organizations' (ABSDO)

Standards Australia <a href="http://www.standards.org.au">http://www.standards.org.au</a>

Information on responsibilities of

http://www.absdo.org.au/Responsibilities.a

Standards Development Organizations' <u>spx</u>)

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