

The Republic of Armenia

LAW ON STANDARDIZATION

Part I General Provisions

Article 1. *Scope of the Law effect*

This Law establishes the legal bases of standardization in the Republic of Armenia and competence of its participants, as well as regulates the principles of preparation and application of standardization normative documents.

Article 2. *Basic concepts*

The scope of this law is directed at:

standardization shall mean activities directed to the establishing provisions for general and repeated use on the existing or proposed tasks, to reach the optimal level of organization in specific area;

standardization normative document shall mean document, defining rules, general principles or characteristics concerning different type of activities or their results;

technical regulation shall mean document which lays down technical requirements on characteristics product, services or their related processes and fulfillment procedures and methods. It may also include or deal exclusively with terminology, symbols, packaging, marking or labeling requirements as they apply to a product.

Requirements established by technical regulation are mandatory;

standard shall mean document laying down rules, general principles and characteristics for general and repeated use concerning different types of activities or their results with the purpose to reach the optimal level of organization in specific area, which shall be prepared on the basis of consensus and approved by the authorized body. Depending on the field of implementation and the level of approval standards may be national, international, regional, interstate, national and company standard;

technical conditions shall mean document establishing technical requirements to which given production, labor (including process), service shall conform to;

indices of technical-economic information shall mean document which defines collections of codes and/or names of classified objects and their sub-types;

national body for standardization shall mean standardization body recognized by government that has the right to be recognized as the national member of the relevant international or regional standardization organization;

national system for standardization shall mean regulated by the normative documents of one country interrelated rules and provisions on the organization of standardization activities and procedures thereof.

Article 3. The objectives and objects of standardization

The objective of standardization is to ensure:

- a) the safety of production, work, service for the environment, life, health and property;
- b) the technical and informational compatibility, exchangeability of the production;
- c) the improvement of quality of the production, work, service;
- d) uniformity of measures;
- e) economy of resources;
- f) in the event of emergencies, the security and reliability of the buildings and constructions;
- g) removal of technical barriers to trade;
- h) the essential conditions for the state defense and mobilization readiness.

Objects of standardization are products, labor (including process) and services.

Article 4. Legal regulation of the standardization relations

Standardization related relationships in the Republic of Armenia are regulated by this law and other legislative acts.

Article 5. International treaties

Should the International treaties of the Republic of Armenia establish rules other than stipulated by this law, then the rules of international treaties shall be implemented.

Article 6. Participants of standardization

1. Participants of standardization are national body for standardization, other state bodies, as well as legal persons and sole entrepreneurs.
2. State other bodies shall participate in standardization process within the scope of their competence according to the legislation of the Republic of Armenia.
3. Legal persons and sole entrepreneurs shall realize their activities in the process of standardization in compliance with this Law and other legal acts.

Part II
**Normative Documents of Standardization, their Application and
Provision of Information**

Article 7. Normative documents acting in the Republic of Armenia and requirements towards them

1. Normative documents acting in the Republic of Armenia are as follows:
 - a) technical regulations;
 - b) national standards;
 - c) technical conditions;
 - d) indices of technical-economic information (hereinafter – indices);
 - e) specifications.
2. The requirements established by standardization normative documents shall be based on contemporary achievements of science, engineering and technology, international, regional, interstate standards, standardization rules, norms and national standards of other countries, taking into account specific conditions of products use, labor fulfillment, service provision and shall not come into conflict with the legislation of the Republic of Armenia.

Article 8. Technical regulations

1. Technical Regulations in the Republic of Armenia are those Laws of the Republic of Armenia and legal acts, which include technical requirements on standardization objects, as well as institutional normative legislative acts adopted by the state bodies authorized to establish the mandatory requirements towards products, services and procedures and methods concerning their production, realization, in compliance with the legislation of the Republic of Armenia.
2. The requirements with the objective to ensure the national safety, including economic and industrial safety, protection of consumers life and health, environment, flora and fauna, natural resources, prevention of a deceptive practices concerning designation of product and service, quality or safety thereof, misleading consumers shall be established by technical regulations.
3. Technical regulations may include technical requirements directly, by means of reference to standard or inclusion of text of standard completely or partly.
4. Requirements established by technical regulations shall not create technical barriers to trade.

Article 9. National standards

1. National standards are:
 - a) standards of the Republic of Armenia;

- b) international, regional, interstate and national of other countries standards applied in the Republic of Armenia in accordance with the procedure established by the national system for standardization.
2. National standards shall define requirements and norms on the products, labor, service safety, sanitary state, technical and informational compatibility, products exchangeability, main consumptive (exploitation) characteristics of product, testing methods, packaging, labeling, transportation, storage, regeneration (repairing), use and utilization of products.

National standards shall also define requirements on the paper work with technical documentation related to products processing, production and use (exploitation), products, labor and service quality assurance, utilization of resources, requirements to the tolerance and seat, as well as terminology, metrology and other organizational-technical and general technical rules.
3. "HST" index shall be applied for national standards.
4. Preparation of national standards shall be based on the principle of consensus between interested parties. Procedure of preparation, adoption and application of national standards shall be defined by national system for standardization.
5. National standards and amendments to them to state registration.

Article 10. *Technical conditions*

1. Technical conditions shall be elaborated and approved by legal persons or sole entrepreneurs for the certain product, labor or service.

Necessity of working out and approval of technical conditions shall be established by the rules of national system for standardization.
2. Technical conditions and their amendments subject to the state registration.

Article 11. *Indices*

1. Elaboration, adoption, maintenance and application of indices shall be conducted in compliance with the order established by standardization normative documents.
2. International, interstate indices or ones of other countries can be applied in the Republic of Armenia according to the order established by standardization normative documents.
3. Indices and amendments to them subject to the state registration.

Article 12. *Specifications*

1. Specifications shall be prepared and adopted by legal entities proceeded from the necessity of implementation of requirements stipulated by the article 3 of this law, as well as of application thereof with the purpose of manufacture organization and perfection. Specifications of scientific-technical, engineer, nongovernmental and other organizations shall be prepared and adopted on

the bases of data of fundamental and applied investigations and development works and spread and application of knowledge obtained in different fields. Requirements to preparation, adoption, record keeping, amendments making and invalidation shall be established by organizations.

2. Specifications shall not come into conflict with requirements established by technical regulations.

Article 13. Application of standardization normative documents

1. Application of standardization normative documents (excluding technical regulations) shall be decided on the part of legal entities and sole entrepreneurs at the stages of production development, manufacturing, realization, use (exploitation), storage, transportation, reprocessing, as well as of labors fulfillment and services provision.
2. Application of national standards is voluntary.
Application of national standards becomes mandatory if these standards are referred to in technical regulations to be mandatory applied (in exclusive manner).
3. Legal persons and sole entrepreneurs are allowed to import goods into internal market, in the case of mandatory requirements stipulated by technical regulations were fixed in contracts to which they are the party.
4. Legal persons and sole entrepreneurs, to export products or services, shall fix the necessity of the application of standardization normative documents in the contracts to which they are the party, excluding the cases stipulated by the Laws of the Republic of Armenia and other legislative acts.

Article 14. Information on Standardization Normative Documents and their Promulgation, National Database Fund Creation

1. Information on drafted and adopted technical regulations, national standards and indices, as well as registered technical conditions for production and services shall be provided on the side of national body for standardization via its publication.
2. The right to publicize standards of the Republic of Armenia has the national body for standardization.
3. To keep standardization normative documents and ensure information on them, the national database fund of standardization normative documents shall be created according to the procedure established by the Government of the Republic of Armenia, including technical regulations, national standards, indices, technical conditions, international, regional, interstate standards and ones of other countries, standardization rules, etc.
Information on standardization normative documents (excluding technical regulations) or their copies provision shall be conducted on the contractual basis.

Part III.
Management of Standardization Processes

Article 15. State management in the field of standardization

1. State management in the field of standardization in the Republic of Armenia shall be conducted by national body for standardization.
2. National body for standardization shall:
 - a) pursue the state policy in the field of standardization;
 - b) adopt national standards and indices;
 - c) establish organizational-methodological and general technical rules, procedures for standardization works proceeding, interrelations between participants for standardization;
 - d) establish procedure of application of international, regional, interstate standards, national standards of other countries in the Republic of Armenia;
 - e) participate in international, regional, interstate standardization works;
 - f) organize the specialization and qualification of personnel in the field of standardization;
 - g) ensure official information in the field of standardization and provide notification on them to international, regional organizations according to the procedure established by the Government of the Republic of Armenia;
 - h) create and maintain the national database fund for standardization normative documents;
 - i) conduct state registration of national standards and technical conditions.

Part IV.
Financing of Standardization Works

Article 16. Financing of Standardization Works

1. To mandatory state financing shall subject:
 - a) preparation of national standards according to the order of the Government of the Republic of Armenia and foreseen by the annual program for standardization of the Republic of Armenia;
 - b) preparation or participation in preparation of international, regional and interstate standards provided by international, regional and interstate agreements ratified according to the established order;
 - c) fees for participation in the works of international, regional and interstate standardization organizations according to the ratified by established order international agreements, that shall be paid to these organizations.

2. As source for the standardization works financing may serve means accepted for the provision of copies of national standards, indices, as well as means for the preparation of those national standards, preparation of which is not foreseen by the annual program for standardization of the Republic of Armenia and is conducted on the contractual basis.

Part V
Responsibilities for the Infringements of this Law

Article 17. Responsibilities for the infringements of this Law

The infringes of the provisions stipulated by this Law shall bear responsibilities in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Armenia.

Part VI
Closing Provisions

Article 17. Entry into force of this Law

1. This Law shall enter into force since the date of its promulgation.
2. In the case when relevant technical regulations do not exist, till 31 December 2004, mandatory requirements to products, labor, services to ensure safety thereof for environment, life, health, property, as well as to testing methods, uniformity of packaging and labeling thereof, stipulated by technical documents being in the effect at the date of this law coming into force, shall be mandatory observed by legal entities and sole entrepreneurs.