



# REGIONAL STANDARDS

WORK OF CROSOQ AND IDB – MIF CROSOQ PROJECTS  
OVERVIEW

Kenneth Mullin, Executive Secretary of CROSOQ

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# CROSQ mandate from Regional Governments

- ❑ Development and support of the Regional Quality Infrastructure
- ❑ RQI system based on MSTQ concept
  - ❑ Metrology (Science of measurement) applied to basic parameters, such as mass (weighing), length, volume, pressure, etc.
  - ❑ Standards – general term used to describe normative documents used in standardization/ quality management systems. It includes technical specifications, codes of practice and guidance documents



# CROSQ mandate from Regional Governments

- RQI system based on MSTQ concept
  - Testing – most commonly, a laboratory based system of establishing whether products (or services) conform to the specifications established for them. Conformity assessment procedures often embedded in standards documents.
  - Quality – over-arching term (with several different definitions), which denotes the degree to which goods or services meet consumers' expectations and meet the requirements for intended use. In the RQI system, the most important expressions used are *certification* and *accreditation*.



# Scope of IDB – MIF projects

- **Standards development activities aimed at enhancing competitiveness of the SME sector in local and Regional markets; and facilitating market access in extra-Regional markets.**
- **RQI development activities focused on making improvements in the Regional metrology infrastructure and enhancing the credibility of the Region's measurement capability and capacity through international accreditation.**
- **Status of the establishment of the Project Execution Unit for these projects**



# Project updates

- ❑ **Newsletters**
- ❑ **Regional conference**
- ❑ **Consultancy for the development of the Regional Information System**
- ❑ **Focus group for establishing priorities in standards development specifically addressing the needs of the SME sector**



# Highlights of future project activities

- ❑ **Training of business support officials**
  - ❑ **Coaching of sample group of SMEs in the implementation of some selected mandatory Regional standards**
  - ❑ **Completion of comprehensive survey of the status of National Metrology Systems in the Region**
  - ❑ **Identification of laboratory equipment needs, rationalization of the location of Regional metrology laboratories and working out of the logistics to provide the entire Region with access to the means to assure traceability to International metrology standards**
  - ❑ **Development of accreditation system for Regional metrology laboratories**
  - ❑ **Training of metrology technicians**
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# Background to standards development work in Region

- ❑ **Work of the CCMSC (Caribbean Common Market Standards Council)**
- ❑ **Procedures for the development of Regional standards**
- ❑ **Work of the Technical Management Committee, Regional Technical Committees and National Technical Sub-Committees**



# Future focus of Regional standards development

- ❑ Future focus of CROSQ activities (product certification, accreditation)
- ❑ Donor agencies initiatives in support of Regional standardisation