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DATE: 16.09.2017  
SRI LANKA STANDARDS INSTITUTION AUDITORIUM  
COLOMBO, SRI LANKA

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## EU – SRI LANKA TRADE-RELATED ASSISTANCE WORKSHOP ON ESSENCE OF STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT

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Staff members of the Sri Lanka Standards Institution's (SLSI) Scientific and Engineering Standards Division received training, conducted by Geoffrey Visser, a quality infrastructure expert of the United Nations International Development Organization (UNIDO), on the Essence of Standards Development on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at the SLSI Auditorium.

Currently, there are over 1,400 Sri Lankan standards relating to products, materials, processes, and practices. Many standards have been revised to induct the new development of materials, processes and technology. Sri Lankan standards are voluntarily adopted unless promulgated by acts and regulations as compulsory.

In the selection of standards formulation projects, priority is given to standards that facilitate regulatory requirements and internal and external trade as well enhance the international competitiveness of Sri Lankan products with the primary objective of safeguarding the interest of consumers and industries.

During UNIDO's consultations with the directors of the Scientific and Engineering Standards Division, it was understood that SLSI was unable to meet industry demands to formulate new standards and periodically update old standards. Further, we were apprised of the knowledge gap of junior staff members on how to approach standards drafting. Thus, more than 30 staff members of the Scientific and Engineering Standards Division received training on standards formulation with the objective of proactively syncing with market needs.

Geoffrey Visser, who has 20 years of experience in standards formulation in South Africa and contributing to ISO Technical committees, led the workshop. The training was well received and is germane to the present needs of the Scientific and Engineering Standards Division.

The workshop was conducted within the framework of the EU-Sri Lanka Trade Related Assistance project, funded by the European Union.

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**15.09.2017 - Programme:**

- 09:30**      **Importance of Standards**  
Geoffrey Visser
- 11:15**      **How Standards are developed**  
Geoffrey Visser
- 13:30**      **What Standards look like and how we draft them**  
Geoffrey Visser
- 15:15**      **How to go about writing a Standard**  
Geoffrey Visser



Participants at the SLSI Auditorium



Geoffrey Visser leading the discussion



The Director General making the opening Address

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