

# **BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS**

## **MINUTES**

**Sustainability of Built Environment  
Sectional Committee CED 58**

**: Fourth Meeting**

**Thursday, 22 November 2021**

**: 15.00 h to 17.30 h**

**Bureau of Indian Standards, Manak Bhawan, 9 Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg,  
New Delhi 110 002.**

**Chairman:** Prof Monto Mani

**Member Secretary:** Sinam Hudson Singh  
Scientist-D, BIS

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Present: Members**

Prof. Monto Mani (**Chairman**)

Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru

Ms. Akanksha Krishan (Representative)

Bureau of Energy Efficiency, New Delhi

Shri Subha Chakravarty (Representative)

Cement Manufactures Association, Noida

Prof. Rajan Rawal (Principal Member)

CEPT University, Ahmedabad

Dr. Yashkumar Shukla (Alternate Member)

CEPT University, Ahmedabad

Prof. L.S Ganesh (Representative)

IIT Madras, Chennai

### **Invitee**

Dr. Uma Maheswari

IIT Delhi

Prof. Chetan Solanki

IIT Bombay

Shri Swapnil Madhukar Joshi

INFOSYS

### **Item 0 Opening Remarks by the Chairman**

The Chairman Prof. Monto Mani, extended a warm welcome to all the members of the Committee and appreciated the interest shown by them in the objectives and work of the Committee and their contribution to the national standardization effort. The Chairman reflected on prevalent unprecedented global challenges, in terms of climate-change, wide-spread toxicity and disruption of biodiversity and ecosystem services, and risk of further pandemics. The focus on sustainability in/on the built environment thus needs to address both societal and planetary wellness and resilience, leveraging cultural and geographical diversity, traditional wisdom and digitalisation (IT) that has unified the world.

In drafting the code for sustainability, the Chairman pointed out that the role of the built environment needs to change from unrelenting dependence on nature/biodiversity and ecosystem services, to sustained revitalisation of nature/biodiversity, structured and progressive restoration of ecosystem services, aggressive environmental remediation and planetary wellness, while achieving and ensuring equitable societal wellness. The code thus needs to be highly inclusive of multiple stakeholders of the built and the natural environment and integrate new subjects in the course of standardization.

The Chairman reiterated the importance of this committee and its significance, in drafting an operational code, which is sensitive to the country's cultural and geographical diversity, keeping in mind the fact that restoring planetary wellness is fundamental to ensure equitable societal wellness. He emphasized the need to give an overall thrust to standardization work on 'sustainable development' addressing social, economic and environmental sustainability with specific focus on societal and planetary wellness. Such efforts encompasses almost all facets of balanced, safe and inclusive growth allowing the citizens and habitat to develop in harmony and promoting wellness for all. He also referred to the recent whitepaper on 'Transforming India's Built Environment' jointly released by Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Indian Institute of Science and Infosys, which could be a good reference document.

The Chairman expressed the need for forming a number of specific Working Groups for formulating standards on different aspects concerning sustainability of built environment. He also appraised the members that this committee has been inadvertently dormant for a few years and the imminent need for the Committee to take up the entrusted responsibility with renewed vigor and determination. He stressed the importance of active contribution and regular participation of the members in successfully drafting the code. He was also optimistic that the committee would successfully bring in new organizations/stakeholders with diverse expertise so as to adequately cover the scope of the code. With these remarks, he requested the Member Secretary to proceed with the agenda item-wise.

### **Item 1 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Since no comments were received with regards the Minutes of the Third Meeting of the Sectional Committee CED 58 on Sustainability of Built Environment, held on 17 March 2016 and circulated vide letter no. CED 58/A-2.3 dated 31 March 2016, the Committee considered and confirmed the minutes.

### **Item 2 SCOPE AND COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE**

**2.1** The Committee reviewed the present scope of the Committee as given in the agenda of the meeting.

**2.2** The Committee reviewed the composition of the Sectional committee and advised the Member Secretary to remind all organizations to review and submit fresh/updated nomination along with details of their representatives where nomination for Principal or Alternative members are either awaited or need revision or has inadequate attendance.

It was also discussed that since the proposed code is a challenging one, active and sustained participation from the diverse committee members is crucial.

The Chairman further requested the Committee members to recommend the names of persons/organizations/stakeholders whom they are aware of and are working in this area, so that they can be considered for co-option.

**2.3** As informed by the BIS Secretariat, the Committee observed that the various co-option requests have been received through BIS Standardization Portal. The Committee advised BIS to include them in the wide circulation mailing list to enable them to demonstrate their capabilities through inputs on various draft standards in the form of comments/suggestions. Based on inputs received, the Sectional Committees could subsequently review their eligibility for membership (in their personal capacity or of their organization, if they belong to an organization, as the case may be) on the Sectional Committees or Sub-committees/Panels/WorkingGroups thereunder.

**2.4** The Committee noted the decision of the CEDC, in its 25th Meeting held on 23rd June 2021 to withdraw the representation of Shri T. N. Gupta, in personal capacity, Noida, in view of his sad demise.

### **Item 3 ISSUES ARISING OUT OF LAST MEETING**

Regarding Item No. **3.1,3.2** and **3.3** of the Agenda, the Committee noted that the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of CED 58 Sectional Committee is being held after a gap of more than five years and during this intervening period, many members have since retired. Given the fresh perspective on the code on sustainability, and the unprecedented challenges (climate change, environmental disruption/toxicity, ill-health and pandemic), the Committee concurred on renewing the working structure, comprising thematic working groups.

### **Item 4 PROGRAMME OF WORK**

The Committee noted the present position of work under CED 58 as given in **Annex 5** of the agenda.

### **Item 5 INTERNATIONAL STANDARDIZATION**

The Committee noted that India is currently 'Observer (O)' member in ISO/TC 59/SC 17 and also noted the information on the work on sustainability in building construction being done by ISO/TC 59/SC 17 'Sustainability in buildings and civil engineering works'.

The Committee also noted the list of ISO standards developed and under development by the above ISO Technical Committees as given at **Annex 6** of the agenda.

The Committee requested all the members review the ISO standards listed in **Annex 6** of the agenda and to take relevant cognizance of these standards while developing the relevant draft Indian Standards.

## **Item 6 NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR STANDARDIZATION**

The Committee noted the details regarding BIS' Standards National Action Plan (SNAP) which proposes a set of actions that would enable BIS to fulfill the specified objectives and drive the national standardization work and active participation in international standardization. The Committee also considered the key standardization areas (relating to Civil Engineering Department) identified for future standards development, which are listed in **Annex 7** to the Agenda. The Committee concurred on taking due and relevant cognizance of these standards.

## **Item 7 RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF BIS**

The Committee noted the information given in the agenda and agreed to take care of environmental aspects (emphatic on societal and planetary wellness) during development of standards, wherever applicable. The committee also requested members to identify the key areas for formulating standards for new products/thematic areas.

## **Item 8 WORK PLAN OF THE COMMITTEE**

The Chairman made a presentation on salient codes reviewed for their structure and emphasis on diverse environmental, societal and economic considerations. An overview was presented on salient ISO codes/documentation and codes from other countries such as Germany, USA, Australia, Singapore, and The Netherlands. He also emphasized the relevance of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a guiding factors for review and development of standards.

In dealing with sustainability the following points were stressed as relevant:

- Operational definition for sustainability (as applicable to the built environment): planetary and societal wellness could provide the converging theme
- Paradigm shift in the role of the built environment from dependence on nature to restoration of planetary (local and global) wellness
- Resilience to climate change, extreme weather events and pandemics
- Unprecedented and unabated threat from anthropogenic induced toxicity (endocrine disrupting chemicals, microplastics, emerging contaminants, etc.)
- Relevance of traditional knowledge systems
- Leveraging diversity (culture, geographies, etc.)

Five themes were proposed as part of the presentation, viz., Occupant, Buildings, Outdoors, Digital (smart) systems and Ecosystem services (local & Global). These themes, leads for the thematic working-groups and mode of coordination and progress is envisaged to be identified and discussed in subsequent Sectional Committee meeting/s.

The Committee agreed to prepare a work plan for the next five years and decided that this matter may be discussed in the next meeting to ensure progressive and sustained progress in the standardization work under the Committee.

#### **Item 9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Chairman mentioned the need for considering topics such as circularity, net-zero, indoor environment quality, embodied and operational carbon, waste recovery, etc. in connection with sustainability in the built environment.

At this point, after recalling that the agenda was adequately discussed and decided upon, the Chairman thanked all the Members and concluded the meeting.