



The international climate change experts and ISO officers who promoted ISO's climate change-related work at COP15.

In addition to its participation at COP15, ISO undertook a number of actions in 2009 to increase the visibility of International Standards in helping to fight climate change. These actions included a workshop in Paris, France, in March, jointly organized with the International Energy Agency (IEA), and the International Elec-

trotechnical Commission (IEC), where more than 250 private sector experts and public policy makers from all over the world mapped out the most important areas where International Standards are required to support energy efficiency and reduction of carbon emissions.

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The general view that International Standards can promote trade is empirically supported... The OECD, among others, has

shown that about 80 % of all trade is affected by standards. Consequently, it should be more efficient if we have one internationally agreed standard, rather than many differing standards. These facts can also be applied to international climate standards. International Standards in the climate area should in the same way be used as a “common language”, and in that way act as a catalyst for trade.

Climate standards could help to spread climate friendly knowledge and technology, support innovation, enhance knowledge in climate-friendly technology, increase market opportunities and, in the long run, boost economic growth and welfare.

Ewa Björling, Minister for Trade, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, speaking at a conference in Stockholm on “Climate change, trade and standardization – in a development perspective”.