SESEC IV
China Standardisation Newsletter

October – November 2021

Seconded European Standardisation Expert in China
(SESEC)

Index

Takeaways

ETSI Presented during the 2021 New Generation Information Technology Standardisation Forum

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Equal Treatment of Foreign Enterprises in China's Government Procurement

On 13 October 2021, the Ministry of Finance released the Notice on Implementing Equal Treatment Policy of Domestic and Foreign-funded Enterprises in Government Procurement. The document was formulated with the objective of building a unified, open government procurement market system with orderly and fair competition.

China meets Europe: SESEC presented at Hamburg Summit

On 30 November 2021, the Digital Hamburg Summit 2021 took place, with the aim to promote further dialogue between Europe and China. The EU High Representative/Vice President Josep Borrell, the Chinese Vice Premier LIU He and the acting German Federal Minister of Economic Affairs & Energy spoke at the Summit. Jörg Wuttke from EUCCC, Professor JIANG Feng, and Sylvia Schwaag Serger were invited to discuss prospects for EU-China economic cooperation after the pandemic.

China Certification and Accreditation Regulation revision

On 22 November 2021, State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) and Certification and Accreditation Administration of the People's Republic of China (CNCA) organised the revision of the Regulations on Certification and Accreditation, and released the call for comments draft. The deadline for the comment submission is 22 December 2021.

China Fleshes Out Detailed Regulation on Data Security in Specific Industries

On 30 September 2021, the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) released the Measures for the Administration of Data Security in Industry and Information Technology (Call for Comments) to the public, and collected comments until 30 October 2021. This new regulation could have implications for foreign companies operating businesses in China.

China cross-border data transfer administration specified in detail

China's efforts on protecting data security have accelerated in the past two years, and cross-border data transfer seems to be one of the critical control points. Policies on cross-border data management would initiate impact on existing business models, system architecture, and potential scope of financial costs, efforts, and technical adjustments for foreign stakeholders.

China Intelligent Manufacturing Standardisation Guideline

On 17 November 2021, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) and Standardisation Administration of China (SAC) released the final version of the Guidelines for the Construction of the National Intelligent Manufacturing Standard System (2021 Edition). The majority of the document remains unchanged compared with the call for comments released in July 2021. The full text of the Guidelines is available in the annex.

Horizontal Issues

1. ETSI Presented during the 2021 New Generation Information Technology Standardisation Forum

#ETSI #Standardisation

On 21 and 22 October 2021, the China Electronics Standardisation Institute (CESI) and other organizations jointly held the 2021 New Generation Information Technology Standardisation Forum in Shenzhen, with the theme of "Digitalization creates new opportunities; Standardisation helps new development".

According to XU Quanping, Deputy Director of the Standards Innovation Management Department of the State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR), China has established more than 1,300 national technical committees for standardisation, which have issued more than 40,000 national standards; at the same time, more than 76,000 sector standards, 53,000 local standards, nearly 30,000 association standards and more than 2 million self-declared enterprise standards have been issued. In terms of international standardisation, China has signed 98 standardisation cooperation agreements with 55 national and regional standardisation bodies and international organizations. Chinese experts have held the chairmanship and vice chairmanship of 77 ISO and IEC technical bodies, leading the development and publication of 917 ISO and IEC international standards. In the future, the Standardisation Administration of China (SAC) will fully implement China’s Outline for National Standardisation Development.

Luis Jorge Romero, Director-General of the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI), delivered the keynote speech on innovation and standards. In particular, he highlighted how information and communication technology is fundamental to the digital transformation. In addition, some groups of ETSI have launched specific activities to explore and investigate the new technologies that will shape the future; other groups are evaluating the role that ETSI can play in facilitating the process for researchers to convert projects into standards.

During the Forum, experts also introduced China’s future activities and priorities, namely:

- To promote the deep integration of standards with science and technology, and coordinate the development of standards with technological innovation, product research and development, and experimental application.
- To accelerate the establishment of a standards system that meets high-quality development; to strengthen the top-level design of next generation information technology standards, such as artificial intelligence and ultra-high-definition video.
- To participate in international standardisation activities, share Chinese solutions and practical experience, and promote the establishment of a global industrial ecosystem featuring coordinated development and mutual benefit.

2. China meets Europe: SESEC presented at Hamburg Summit

Hamburg Summit #EU-China

On 30 November 2021, the Digital Hamburg Summit 2021 took place, with the aim to promote further dialogue between Europe and China. The EU High Representative/Vice President Josep Borrell, the Chinese Vice Premier LIU He and the acting German Federal Minister of Economic Affairs & Energy spoke at the Summit. Jörg Wuttke from EUCCC, Professor JIANG Feng, and Sylvia Schwaag Serger were invited to discuss prospects for EU-China economic cooperation after the pandemic. The list of the other keynote speakers can be found at https://www.hamburg-summit.com/en/#.

During the panel on standardisation, Dr Betty XU, Director of the Seconded European Standardization Expert in China (SESEC) project, together with Rada Rodriguez from Signify and Jenny XIANG from Brose China, discussed the implications of China's new standardisation strategy for European companies. European companies should take active part in the Chinese standards system, not least because Chinese rules on all levels are set to gain global influence. Multinational companies are recommended to align the standardisation efforts of their headquarters and their China-based subsidiaries. In addition, the harmonisation of standards in the EU must be faster to ensure that the European standards system maintains its leading role.

China and Europe, as driving forces behind the recovery of the world economy, should continue to strengthen pragmatic economic and trade cooperation in the post-epidemic era, jointly promote green and low-carbon transformation, deepen trade and investment cooperation, and maintain a safe and smooth supply chain.

3. SESEC's webinar on China Standardisation Development Outline

#SESEC Webinar

On 18 November 2021, SESEC held its webinar on the interpretation of China's *Outline for the Development of National Standardisation,* with approximately 100 participants from European authorities, Standard Developing Organisations and enterprises.

Dr. Betty XU, the Director of SESEC Project, made a detailed introduction of the background, content and impact of the Outline. The Outline focuses on optimising the standardisation governance structure, enhancing the efficiency of standardisation governance, and promoting high-quality development through standards.

In conclusion, the Outline in general sets a friendly environment for foreign-invested enterprises (FIEs) to participate in standardisation development. The Outline explicitly aims to "ensure the participation of foreign-invested enterprises in the development of standards according to law": this will help FIEs participate in standardisation organisations and development. In addition, the Outline's requirement of "ensuring that products sold domestically are produced on the same production lines, meet the same standards, and are of the same quality

as exported ones" will increase the production transition costs for Chinese local manufacturers, comparing with that of foreign manufacturers.

SESEC is going to hold more online events on the key hot topics. Looking forward to your participation!

4. SESEC Roundtable on China Standardisation Outline Successfully Held

SESEC Roundtable

On 16 November 2021, SESEC successfully organised the online "China Standardisation Policy Exchange Roundtable". The event featured as keynote speakers YU Xinli, Director of China Association for Standardisation (CAS), and Secretary General of China Communication Standardisation Association (CCSA); they analysed the Outline for the Development of National Standardisation, and shared additional insights on standardisation development in China in the field of information and communication.

Specifically, Director YU Xinli introduced the background of the Outline, including international standardisation developments as well as China's standardisation reforms. Director Yu then focused on the core content of the Outline, summarising its framework in a way that facilitated full understanding by the audience – mostly comprised of representatives of foreign companies.

Secretary General WEN Ku briefed the participants on the main work of industry and information technology standards in 2021, as well as on the main tasks of CCSA in implementing the Outline and its standardisation activities. Secretary General Wen also provided an overview of EU-China standardisation cooperation in the field of information and communication.

In answering questions from the audience, Director YU Xinli analysed the impact of the Outline on foreign enterprises, explained the importance of digitisation of standards, and made a detailed explanation of the conversion rate of international standards – which is a key priority issue for foreign enterprises. Secretary General WEN Ku expressed his gratitude to the European enterprises for their attention to China's standardisation development, hoping that foreign enterprises will participate more actively in China's standardisation work and put forward valuable opinions and suggestions.

The SESEC Roundtable helped European standardisation organisations and enterprises to gain a more in-depth understanding of China's standardisation policies and trends, as well as ways to participate in China's standardisation activities – thus promoting further cooperation between Chinese and European industries.

5. SESEC YouTube Channel Launched!

#SESEC YouTube

Today SESEC is proud to announce the launch of SESEC YouTube Channel!

This is your place to find out the latest development of Chinese laws, regulations, policies and standards. Over time it will grow, but for now we have 16 videos from our past webinars. If you were not able to make it there to our webinar, or if you want a refresh on some of the presentations then check out our new YouTube page!

Standardisation

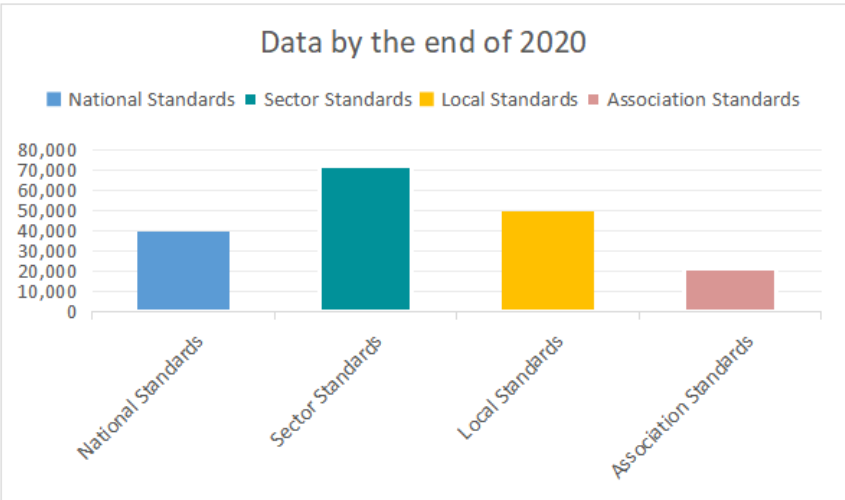
6. China Standardisation 2020: SAC Publishes Development Report

#SAC #Annual Report

On 5 November 2021, the Standardisation Administration of China (SAC) published the Annual Report on Standardisation Development in China (2020). The Report provides a comprehensive summary of China's standardisation work in 2020, covering six main aspects: (i) data overview, (ii) key tasks, (iii) international standardisation, (iv) infrastructure construction, (v) typical cases, and (vi) events.

Data

- National standards: In 2020, 2,252 national standards were approved and issued, of which 99 are mandatory and 2,153 are voluntary. By the end of 2020, there were all together 39,847 national standards in China, including 2,133 mandatory standards and 37,714 voluntary standards.
- Sector standards: In 2020, 8,105 sector standards were put on record, and 2,665 were abolished. By the end of 2020, 71 types of sector standards had been approved and issued, and totally 72,620 sector standards had been put on record.
- Local standards: In 2020, 8,387 local standards were put on record, while 5,411 were abolished. By the end of 2020, 49,334 local standards had been put on record.
- Association standards: In 2020, 1,292 social organizations registered on the National Association Standards Information Platform, and 9,155 association standards were announced. By the end of 2020, 4,334 social organisations had registered on the platform, with 21,350 association standards announced.
- Enterprise standards: By the end of 2020, there were 341,940 registered enterprises; among these, 305,592 enterprises disclosed 1,713,107 standards, covering 2,920,229 products through self-declaration on the platform.
- Technical committees: By the end of 2020, there were 1,330 national technical committees for standardisation, including 545 Technical Committees, 771 Sub-Technical Committees and 14 Standardisation Working Groups.



International cooperation

By the end of 2020, China had assumed the chairmanship and vice chairmanship of 75 ISO and IEC technical bodies and 75 secretariats; it also signed 97 bilateral and multilateral cooperation documents on standardization with 54 national and regional standardization bodies and international organizations, and published 930 foreign versions of national standards.

The Report also highlights that, in the coming years, China will continue to promote standardization reform in accordance with the Outline for National Standardisation Development, encourage foreign companies to participate in standardization work in China, and create a fair atmosphere for both Chinese and foreign enterprises.

Item	Number
Chairmanship and vice chairmanship of ISO and IEC technical bodies	75
ISO/IEC secretariats	75
Bilateral and multilateral cooperation documents on standardisation	97
Foreign versions of national standards	930

The full text, in Chinese, of the Annual Report on Standardisation Development in China (2020), is available at:

http://www.samr.gov.cn/xw/zj/202111/t20211104_336444.html

7. China Standardization Development Strategy published

#Standardisation Outline

On 10 October 2021, the State Council published the *Outline for the Development of National Standardisation*, requiring all regions and departments to implement it. The Outline consists of nine chapters and 35 sections, and the full text is about 8,000 Chinese characters. To promote high-quality development and build a modern country in the new era, it is urgent to further strengthen standardization. This Outline is formulated to promote standardization development as a whole.

The Outline sets goals and blueprints for China's standardization development in the next 15 years. Standards are the technical support for economic activities and social development and are closely related to people's livelihood. In the future, standardization will be promoted in areas such as housing and property services, new energy vehicles, autonomous driving, platform economy and sharing economy.

SESEC make a quick analysis as below:

1. The document in general is in a friendly tune for foreign-invested enterprises on standardization development.
2. It says, “Ensure the participation of foreign-invested enterprises in the standards development according

to laws", which will help European companies participate into the standardization organizations and standard development processes.

3. The outline made the target of increasing the International standards adoption rate to 85%. It will reduce compliance costs for European companies.
4. China is trying to set up regulation reference standards system, which is China learning experiences from European New approach and NFL and will be in favour with European companies who are familiar with this system.

However, there are also some challenges and uncertainties for European Companies,

For example,

1. Average developing time for national standards will shorten to 18 months. It would be more difficult for European Companies to provide more feedback for the standards in time, as sometimes European companies need more internal discussions and coordination.
2. For the association standards in China, European Companies may face more challenges including increased costs and risks in the future association standard competition.
3. China promotes market driven standards, which may cause deviation from ISO/IEC standards, which need to be closely observed by European Companies.

The English translation of this Outline is available here.

Laws and Regulations

8. Equal Treatment of Foreign Enterprises in China's Government Procurement

#Equal Treatment #Government Procurement

On 13 October 2021, the Ministry of Finance released the Notice on Implementing Equal Treatment Policy of Domestic and Foreign-funded Enterprises in Government Procurement. The document was formulated with the objective of building a unified, open government procurement market system with orderly and fair competition; it comes after several rounds of lobbying by European companies and SESEC as well.

The main highlights of the document are summarized as follows：

- Ensuring the equal participation of domestic and foreign-funded enterprises in government procurement

According to the Notice, government procurement should treat products (including services, similarly hereinafter) produced in China by domestic and foreign-funded enterprises equally in accordance with the law. Except for procurement projects involving national security and secrets, all procuring entities should not apply double standards for products produced by domestic and foreign-funded enterprises in government procurement activities. Products produced in China have equal rights to participate in government procurement activities in accordance with the law, regardless of whether they have been produced by domestic or foreign-funded enterprises.

- Implementing the requirements for the equal treatment of domestic and foreign-funded enterprises in government procurement activities

During government procurement processes, procuring entities at all levels should not make discriminatory treatment of domestic enterprises or foreign-funded enterprises, including through early release of information, eligibility check, review, and evaluation of suppliers. Procuring entities should not restrict suppliers because of their ownership form, organization type, equity structure, the nationality of investors, product brand and other irrational reasons. These requirements are essential to guarantee a level playing field for domestic and foreign-funded enterprises.

- Safeguarding the legitimate rights and interests of domestic and foreign-funded enterprises

Domestic and foreign-funded enterprises that believe their legitimate rights and interests were damaged in procurement documents, processes, selection or transactions, may file complaints in accordance with relevant regulations. Financial departments at all levels shall not make different treatment or discriminatory treatment of domestic and foreign-funded enterprises when dealing with complaints, and shall safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of government procurement suppliers.

9. China Certification and Accreditation Regulation revision

#Data Security #Automotive

On 22 November 2021, State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) and Certification and Accreditation Administration of the People's Republic of China (CNCA) organised the revision of the Regulations on Certification and Accreditation, and released the call for comments draft. The deadline for the comment submission is 22 December 2021.

The new Regulations on Certification and Accreditation include provisions on inspection and testing activities and inspection and testing institutions, improving China's certification and accreditation system and ensuring that certification and accreditation services support the development of China's market system.

SESEC made the comparison table of the new Regulation with the latest 2020 version, and translated the draft into English. Both documents can be found in the annex.

Information Security

10. Data Classification Guideline to Be Published in China

#Data Classification

On 30 September 2021, the National Information Security Standardisation Technical Committee (SAC/TC 260) published the *Practical Guideline for Cybersecurity Standard-Guideline on Data Classification and Grading*, collecting public comments from 30 September 2021 to 13 October 2021. The key highlights of the document are:

Important Data & Core Data

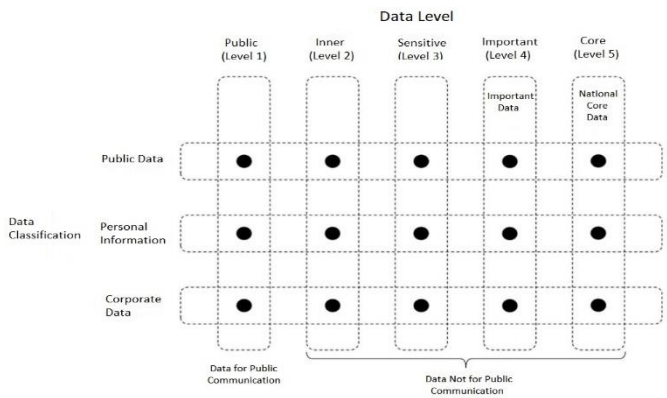
While the *Data Security Law* (DSL) only introduced the concept of "important data" and "national core data", the Practical Guideline provide clear definitions. Specifically, **important data** refers to data that, once tampered with, damaged or leaked, or illegally obtained or used, may endanger national security or public interests. Important data does not include national secrets, personal information or enterprise internal management information; however, personal information of a certain scale may be categorised as important data if affecting national security or public interest. **National core data** refers to data involving national security, the national economy, important people's livelihood and major public interests.

Personal Information

The Practical Guideline provide more detailed conditions for defining personal information, and further divide personal information into three categories: (i) general personal information, (ii) sensitive personal information, and (iii) private personal information. It also provides concrete examples for the classification of personal information, representing a reference for enterprises to process personal information and thus helping them to implement personal information protection in accordance with *Personal Information Protection Law (PIPL)*.

Classification and Grading

To meet the requirements in DSL on data classification, the Guidelines classify all data into three categories and five levels, as shown below:



In general, the Practical Guideline incorporate the principles, framework and rules of data classification and grading, which can provide reference for the competent regulatory authorities and data processors to carry out data classification and multi-level protection.

The Practical Guidelines are standard-related technical documents, formulated and issued by the TC260 Secretariat. They aim to provide standardisation guidance concerning network security laws, regulations, policies and standards. The final version of the Guideline is expected to be released about three months after the closure of the call for comments. SESEC will compare the final document with this draft, and analyse any significant changes.

11. China Fleshes Out Detailed Regulation on Data Security in Specific Industries

#Data Security

On 30 September 2021, the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) released the Measures for the Administration of Data Security in Industry and Information Technology (Call for Comments) to the public, and collected comments until 30 October 2021.

The Measures apply to industrial and telecommunication data processing activities within the territory of the People's Republic of China, and their security supervision. Specifically, industrial data refers to the data generated and collected during the process of R&D, design, production, operations and management, maintenance services and application, in various industries such as the raw material industry, equipment industry, consumer goods industry, electronic information industry, software and information technology service industry and other industries. Telecommunication data refers to the data collected and generated in the operation of telecommunication businesses.

In accordance with the requirements of the Data Security Law, MIIT implements a classified and multi-level management of data, and further divides industrial and telecommunications data into **general data, important data and core data**. General data refers to the data that has minor impact on personal or public interests, while core data refers to the data that will pose a serious threat once the harm is damaged or leaked.

MIIT, as the main regulator of industrial and telecommunications data processing and security protection, will be responsible for formulating relevant rules for data classification, identification and recognition in the field of industry and information technology. It will also formulate a specific catalogue and a record management platform for important data and core data; in addition to basic information, data disclosure and cross-border transfer should also be recorded on the platform.

With regards to **cross-border transfer** of industrial and telecommunication data, the Measures outline specific rules. Important data generated and collected within the territory of China by industrial and telecommunications data processors shall be stored within China; in case of absolute necessity to transfer data abroad, a security assessment must be conducted. Core data shall not be exported.

This new regulation could have implications for foreign companies operating businesses in China. Foreign companies need to pay extra attention to the data they want to transfer to overseas headquarters. For instance, data generated by smart internet-connected vehicles, like cartographic information which might be defined as core data, will not be allowed to be transferred outside China. However, apart from cross-border data transfer, law-abiding, compliant foreign companies in China do not have to worry about this new proposal, as it only targets the illegal use of data or those who seek to misuse sensitive data.

12. China cross-border data transfer administration specified in detail

#Cross-border data transfer

On 29 October 2021, the Cyberspace Administration of China (CAC) released a call for public comments through the Measures on Security Assessment of Cross-border Data Transfer.

With the releasing and implementation of several important laws to establish a better cybersecurity scheme (Cybersecurity Law, Data Security Law, and Personal Information Protection Law), CAC finally issued the Measures three days before the effective date of the Personal Information Protection Law (PIPL). This is not the first time that China set up regulations to administrate cross-border data transfer. The previous two attempts include the Assessment Measure for Cross-Border Transfer of Personal Information and Important Data (released for comments on 13 October 2017), and the Assessment Measure for Cross-Border Transfer of Personal Information (released for comments on 13 June 13 2019). However, neither Measure has been finalized nor implemented.

After two years, China has finally published detailed rules on the data transfer across its borders, completing the operational basis for cross-border data security assessment mentioned in three laws, which has long been a concern for foreign companies. The latest Measures depict security processes and approval materials, along with data scope and industry regulatory bodies for data transfer assessment outside mainland China.

In general, according to the Measures, all data processors, as long as they conduct cross-border data transfer, should carry out data exit risk self-assessment. If the data processor meets any of the following circumstances, it shall also (through the local provincial cyberspace administration) apply for the cross-border data transfer security assessment to CAC:

- Personal information and important data collected and generated by Critical Information Infrastructure Operator (CIIO).
- Important data involved in the to-be transferred batch.
- Data transfer applicant is a handler who deals with or possesses more than one million people's information.
- The applied data involves more than 100 thousand people's information or over 10 thousand people's sensitive information.

China's efforts on protecting data security have accelerated in the past two years, and cross-border data transfer seems to be one of the critical control points. Policies on cross-border data management would initiate impact on existing business models, system architecture, and potential scope of financial costs, efforts, and technical adjustments for foreign stakeholders. First, extensive capital and ongoing expenses would be spent on building up the IT environment and data management for mainland China. Secondly, foreign stakeholders should engage or build a local cybersecurity team (including security governance and security operations) to ensure proper cybersecurity protection and market compliance.

Intelligent Manufacturing

13. China Intelligent Manufacturing Standardisation Guideline

Intelligent Manufacturing

On 17 November 2021, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) and Standardisation Administration of China (SAC) released the final version of the Guidelines for the Construction of the National Intelligent Manufacturing Standard System (2021 Edition). The majority of the document remains unchanged compared with the call for comments released in July 2021.

The Guidelines were first compiled in 2015 and then revised in 2018 by the General Group of National Intelligent Manufacturing Standardization – which is led by the China Electronic Standardization Institute (CESI). CESI is the core driving force of standardization work within China's electronic and information technology sector, providing key support to the formulation of relevant policies and regulations. The standardization activities in intelligent manufacturing led by CESI are the counterparts of standardization organizations such as the International IEC/SyC SM (IEC Systems Committee Smart Energy) and the ISO/TMB/SMCC (ISO Technical Management Board Smart Manufacturing Coordination Committee).

The main contents of this revision include:

- In terms of basic common standards, a "capacity" subsystem was added. It consisted of "capacity evaluation" and "capacity requirements" standards; The "inspection and test" subsystem was also changed from the previous "test items" and "test methods", to" inspection and test requirements", " inspection and test methods" and " inspection and test technologies".
- In terms of intelligent equipment standards, the "identification and sensing" subsystem is divided into "sensors and instruments", and "cognitive and identification equipment"; "additive manufacturing" is changed to "additive manufacturing equipment"; while "inspection and testing equipment" was added.
- In terms of intelligent factory standards, the "intelligent logistics" subsystem was changed to "factory intelligent logistics"; while the "intelligent factory construction" was deleted.
- The "intelligent supply chain" subsystem was added.
- In terms of intelligent service standards, "other new modes" were added, and the relevant branches of "operation and maintenance service" and "network collaborative manufacturing" were modified according to the standard system and revision.
- In terms of intelligent enabling technology standards, two subsystems of "digital twin" and "blockchain" were added; the branch of "artificial intelligence" and "industrial big data" was modified in the light of technology application,
- In terms of industrial network standards, two new branches: "industrial network integration" and "industrial network resource management" was added.

- In terms of industry application standards, the ten key areas of the 2018 edition were modified, by including shipping and marine engineering equipment, building materials, petroleum textile, steel, railway, aerospace, automobile, non-ferrous metals, electronic information, power equipment, etc.

The full text of the Guidelines is available in the annex.

ICT

14. 14th 5-year plan for China information and communications industry

Development Plan #ICT

On 1 November 2021, the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) issued the *14th Five-year Plan for the Development of Information and Communication Industry*, which includes four major parts and 26 development priorities, and describes the development blueprint of the information and communication industry in China. It is a guiding document for the next five years to accelerate the building of a digital China, promote high-quality development of the information and communication industry, guide the behaviour of market players, and allocate government public resources.

Compared with previous five-year plans, this Plan further highlights the functions and positioning of the information and communication industry: it is a strategic, fundamental and pioneering industry to build new national digital infrastructure, provide network and information services, and comprehensively support economic and social development. The Plan has identified 26 development priorities and 21 key projects in five areas. It has for the first time clearly put forward the key tasks of strengthening cross-regional and cross-industry coordination.

When it comes to international cooperation, the Plan calls for deepening international exchanges and cooperation on standards, research and development, investment and governance rules in 5G, 6G, artificial intelligence, and the Internet of Things. China will actively participate in global digital governance, promote the construction and improvement of international cooperation schemes, and contribute Chinese solutions to the world on key issues such as legal rules, standard development, resource management, cybersecurity, and industry regulation. China will actively participate in the formulation of rules for international organisations, encourage Chinese enterprises and public institutions to take an in-depth part in international standardisation activities and jointly develop international standards.

The Plan outlines a broad blueprint for the five-year development of the information and communication industry. The whole industry should follow the goals of the planning guidelines, grasp the opportunities of digital development, face up to difficulties and challenges, gather the strong joint force of high-quality development of the industry, and turn the blueprint into reality.

Energy Efficiency/Carbon Reduction

15. Action plan for carbon emission peak before 2030 put forward in China

Carbon Emission Peak

On 26 October 2021, the State Council released the *Carbon Emission Peak Action Plan before 2030*, which sets out major targets such as increasing the share of non-fossil energy consumption, improving energy efficiency and reducing carbon dioxide emission intensity, and calls for the implementation of "ten actions to peak carbon emissions" throughout the whole process and all aspects of economic and social development.

According to the Action Plan, by 2025, the proportion of non-fossil energy consumption in China will reach 20 percent, energy consumption per unit of GDP will decrease by 13.5 percent from that in 2020, and carbon dioxide emission per unit of GDP will decrease by 18 percent, laying a solid foundation for peaking carbon dioxide emission. By 2030, the share of non-fossil energy consumption in China will reach about 25%, and carbon dioxide emissions per unit of GDP will drop by more than 65% compared with that in 2005, with the goal of peaking carbon emissions by 2030 successfully achieved.

The Action Plan calls for the implementation of "ten actions to peak carbon emissions", including:

- Green and low-carbon energy transition
- Energy saving, carbon reduction and efficiency increase
- Carbon peaked in industrial sectors
- Urban and rural construction carbon peak
- Green and low-carbon transportation
- Circular economy helping reduce carbon emissions
- Green and low-carbon technological innovation
- Consolidated and improved capacity of carbon sinks
- Green low-carbon national action
- Ordered carbon peak in each region

It also makes appropriate arrangements for international cooperation and strengthened policy support.

The tasks set out in the Plan directly relate to the energy sector, demonstrating China's determination to achieve carbon emission peak in the energy sector. For example, the green and low-carbon energy transition action calls for safe carbon reduction, implementing the replacement of renewable energy on the premise of ensuring energy security, and accelerating the construction of a clean, low-carbon, safe and efficient energy system.

16. China to Strictly Regulate Energy Efficiency
#Green Packaging

On 18 October 2021, *Several Opinions on Strictly Regulating Energy Efficiency and Advancing Energy Conservation and Carbon Reduction in Key Areas* was jointly issued by the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) with four other national industries. These other four ministries are the National Energy Administration (NEA), Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT), Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE), and the State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR).

The Opinions specify general goals for China's energy efficiency and conservation work in two phases:

- by 2025, the proportion of energy production that reaches benchmark level is going to exceed 30 percent for key industries. Electricity utilization efficiency for data centres is also not going to exceed 1.5, and that of big data centres to not exceed 1.3.
- by 2030, further improvement is going to be made within key industries' energy efficiency base levels and benchmark levels; providing strong support to carbon peaking goals.

Several key tasks are also articulated in the Opinions:

- setting industrial energy efficiency benchmark standards based on scientific methods
- referring to the admission values and qualification values of current national energy conservation standards
- strictly implementing categorized management
- reducing production capacity for over-capacity industries
- elevating entrance threshold for under-capacity industries
- eliminating backward production technology and products
- advancing energy conservation technology transformation
- strengthening market application of green technology and equipment
- enhancing construction of supporting system
- firm energy efficiency and carbon emission calculation, measuring, reporting, inspection, and evaluation mechanisms
- advancing the green development of data centres

The target key industries and data centres mainly refer to steel, electrolytic aluminium, cement, plate glass, oil refining and ethylene. China will continue to take increasingly more effective measures.

This regulation would have an impact on foreign stakeholders in the mentioned sectors. China's determination on fulfilling the carbon peak and carbon neutrality goals will lead to further development of similar regulations on energy consumption. Rules and administrations on energy-intensive industries are likely going to be stricter to achieve the green transition. Therefore, such sector-relevant companies are suggested to proactively act on the transition in advance to get some market advantage.

Annex

Annex 1-Outline for National Standardization Development

Annex 2-Comparison Table Certification and Accreditation Regulation

Annex 3-Guidelines for the Construction of the National Intelligent Manufacturing Standards System (2021 Version)

Introduction of SESEC Project

The Seconded European Standardization Expert in China (SESEC) is a visibility project co-financed by the European Commission (EC), the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) secretariat and the three European Standardization Organizations (CEN, CENELEC and ETSI). Since 2006, there has been three SESEC projects in China, SESEC I (2006-2009). SESEC II (2009- 2012) and SESEC III (2014-2017). In April 2018, SESEC IV was officially launched in Beijing, China. Dr. Betty XU was nominated as the SESEC expert and will spend the next 36 months on promoting EU-China standardization information exchange and EU-China standardization cooperation.

The SESEC project supports the strategic objectives of the European Union, EFTA and the European Standardization Organizations (ESOs). The purpose of SESEC project is to:

- **Promote European and international standards in China;**
- **Improve contacts with different levels of the Chinese administration, industry and standardization bodies;**
- **Improve the visibility and understanding of the European Standardization System (ESS) in China;**
- **Gather regulatory and standardization intelligence.**

The following areas have been identified as sectorial project priorities by the SESEC project partners: Internet of Things (IoT) & Machine-to-Machine(M2M) communication, communication networks & services, cybersecurity & digital identity, Smart Cities (including transport, power grids & metering), electrical & electronic products, general product safety, medical devices, cosmetics, energy management & environmental protection (including eco-design & labelling, as well as environmental performance of buildings).

SESEC IV China Standardization and Technical Regulation Bimonthly Newsletter

SESEC IV China Standardization and Technical Regulation Bimonthly Newsletter is the gathering of China regulatory and standardization intelligence. Most information of the Monthly Newsletter was summarized from China news media or websites. Some of them were the first-hand information from TC meetings, forums/workshops, or meetings/dialogues with China government authorities in certain areas.

In this Bimonthly Newsletter

In this Bimonthly Newsletter, some news articles were abstracted from Chinese government organizations. All new published standards, implementation or management regulations and notice are summarized; original document and English version are available.

Abbreviations

SAMR	State Administration for Market Regulation	国家市场监管总局
CAS	China Association	中国标准化协会
CCC	China Compulsory Certification	中国强制认证
CCSA	China Communication Standardization Association	中国通信标准化协会
CEC	China Electricity Council	中国电力企业联合会
CEEIA	China Electrical Equipment Industrial Association	中国电器工业协会
CELC	China Energy Labeling Center	中国能效标识中心
CESI	China Electronic Standardization Institute	中国电子标准化研究所
CMDSA	Center for Medical Device Standardization Administration	医疗器械标准管理中心
CNCA	Certification and Accreditation Administration of China	中国国家认证认可监督 管理委员会
CNIS	China National Institute of Standardization	中国国家标准化研究院
CNREC	China National Renewable Energy Center	中国国家可再生能源中 心
EPPEI	Electric Power Planning and Engineering Institute	电力规划设计总院
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission	国际电工委员会
ITEI	Instrumentation Technology and Economy Institute	机械工业仪器仪表综合技术与经济研究所
MEE	Ministry of Ecology and Environment	中国生态环境部
MIIT	Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of People's Republic of China	中国工业和信息化部
MoH	Ministry of Health	卫生部
MoHURD	Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development	住房与建设部
MOT	Ministry of Transport	中国交通运输部
MOST	Ministry of Science and Technology	中国科学技术部
NDRC	National development and reform commission People's Republic of China	中国国家发改委
NIFDC	National Institute of Food and Drug Control	中国食品药品检定研究 院
SAC	Standardization Administration of China	国家标准化管理委员
SGCC	State Grid Corporation of China	国家电网
TC	Technical Committee for Standard Development	标准化技术委员会