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PART II

Statutory Notifications containing Rules and Orders issued by all
Ministries and Divisions of the Government of Pakistan and their Attached
and Subordinate Offices and the Supreme Court of Pakistan

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

NOTIFICATION

Islamabad, the 14th May, 2008

S.R.O. 46 (KE)/2008:

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 26 of the Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority Act, 1996 (VI of 1996), the Federal Government is pleased to make the following rules, namely :-

1. **Short title and commencement.**- (1) These rules may be called the Pakistan Standards Rules, 2008.
2. The shall come into force at once.
2. **Definitions.**- (1).m these rules, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,-
 - (a) "Act" means the Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority Act, 1996 (VI of 1996);

- (b) "Committee" means a Committee constituted under section 8;
- (c) "requirement" means need or expectation that is stated, generally implied or obligatory;
- (d) "specification" means a description of a commodity, process, practice or service by reference to its nature, quality, strength, purity, composition, quantity, dimensions, weight, grade, durability, origin, age or other characteristics or a description of a commodity by reference to any mark or label on the commodity, and includes a glossary of terms, a definition, a symbol and a recommended practice;
- (e) "standardization" means the activity a process keeping in view actual or potential problems, aimed at the achievement of the optimum degree of order in given context;
- (f) "standard specification" means a specification that has been declared to be standard specification pursuant to clause (xvi) of section 8;
- (g) "system" means set of interrelated or interacting elements; and
- (h) "Verification" means confirmation through the provision of objective evidence that specified requirement have been fulfilled.

2. The words and expression used but not defined herein shall have the same meanings as are assigned to them under the Act or general terms for standardization or procedures for assessment of conformity given in the international standardizing bodies or system.

3. Establishment of Pakistan Standard.-The Authority shall establish, Pakistan standards in relation to any article or process and shall amend, revise or cancel the Pakistan standards so established, as may be necessary, by a process of consultation with consumers, manufacturers, technologists, Scientists and officials through duly constituted Committees. While establishing Pakistan Standards, apart from consultation and inputs in the Committees, all the concerned stake holders shall have an opportunity to communicate and express their views.

4. National Standards Committees.-(1) The Authority shall constitute National Standard Committees for activities relating to articles, products or processes as deemed necessary. Each National Standard Committee shall comprise of the following, namely :-

- (a) all chairpersons of the concerned technical committees;
- (b) up to five representatives of concerned government agencies and public sector;

- (c) up to five representatives of manufacturers or their associations;
 - (d) up to five representatives of consumers associations ;
 - (e) up to five representatives of academia and technologists:
 - (f) a representatives of Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry;
 - (g) up to six members to be co-opted, as and when required: and
 - (h) a nominee of the Authority who shall also act as the Secretary of the National Standard Committee.
- (2) The National Standard Committee shall nominate from amongst its members a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.
- (3) The members of the National Standard Committee shall hold office for a period of three years and may be reappointed. if deems fit.
- (4) The quorum of the National Standard Committee shall be one-fourth of the total members including at least two experts on the subject.
- (5) The National Standard Committee shall meet at least once in every three months and at such time and place, to be determined by the Chairman, in consultation with Director-General.
- (6) The Director-General shall ensure that adequate secretarial support shall be provided to the National Standard Committees.

5. Functions of the National Standard Committee.-The National Standard Committee shall perform the following functions, namely:-

- (a) to advise on the subject areas to be taken up for formulation of standards keeping in view the national needs and priorities in their concerned areas;
- (b) to set up technical committees within their areas of activity, define their scopes, appoint their Chairman and members and co-ordinate their activities;
- (c) to approve proposals for work, decide which proposals should be taken up and direct the technical committee to undertake the approved work and to determine the priority to be assigned to the work;
- (d) to advise on matters relating to research and development needed for the establishment of Pakistan Standards or their revision :
- (e) to study the work of international organizations and their committees in standards formulation as related to the area of work of the National Standards

Committees and recommend on the extent and manner of participation in standardization activities at the international level;

- (f) to advise on implementation of established standards; and
- (g) to receive and examine the reports of technical committee and to make recommendations thereon to the Authority.

6. Technical Committee.-(1) The Technical Committees shall be appointed by National Standards Committee or if necessary by the Authority for the preparation of a particular standard or group of standards. They shall include concerned officers of the Authority and representatives of various interests such as consumers, regulatory and other Government bodies, industry, scientists, technologists and testing organizations and may also include consultants, but consumer interests shall, as far as possible be protected. An officer of the Authority who is the member of the Technical Committee shall act as the Secretary of the Technical Committee.

- (2) A Technical Committee may constitute sub-committees or panels or working groups to analyse and examine any specific issue assigned to it and submit its finding to the technical committee.
- (3) Technical Committee, sub-committee or working group may co-opt experts on the issue under consideration subject to the approval of the Authority.
- (4) The Technical Committee, sub-committee or working group, as the case may be, shall meet at such place and time as desired by the Chairman concerned.
- (5) Arrangement for the meetings of Technical Committee, sub-committee or working groups shall be made by the Authority. The Secretary of the concerned committee shall be responsible for arrangements connected with the meeting as and when required by the Authority and shall submit to it copies of minutes of the meetings. If circumstances justify, an outsider may be appointed as a Secretary or a Convener at a meeting of the Technical Committees.

7. Miscellaneous.- (1) Members of the National Standards Committee Technical Committee, sub-committee or working group shall hold office until their successors have been appointed, or until their resignations have been accepted.

- (2) Committees, constituted for special work, may be dissolved on completion of their work.
- (3) Without the previous approval of the Authority, no National Standards Committee or Technical Committee or working group shall publish or communicate to any party or parties outside the Authority, matters relating to the Authority.

8. Procedure for Establishment of Pakistan Standards.- (1) The Authority may, on submission of proposal for establishment of Pakistan Standard in writing, from the stake holder initiate the procedure for establishing of such Pakistan standard.

- (2) The Authority shall transmit the proposal received under sub-rule (1) to National Standard Committee concerned for evaluating its feasibility. The National Standard Committee after evaluating the feasibility, if found it suitable shall undertake further process and in case the proposal is not found feasible it shall return the same to the proposer under intimation to the Authority.
- (3) The National Standard Committee shall then assign the task to concerned technical committee for processing the same for revising, amending, cancelling or establishing Pakistan standard, as the case may be.
- (4) The technical committee shall prepare a draft standard and will circulate the same through print or electronic media or otherwise widely for at least thirty days before the closing date of the receipt of comments amongst all stake holders for their comments :

Provided that if National Standard Committee approves that the proposal in urgent or non-controversial in nature the technical committee shall make recommendations to the National Standard Committee within three months.

- (5) After receiving the comments from the stake holders the technical committee shall formulate draft standard itself or transmit the same to sub-committee or working group, as it deem appropriate, for further examination and evaluation. The technical committee shall after receiving the evaluation of the sub-committee examine the same and finalize the draft standard. It shall then transmit the same to the Chairman National Standard Committee.
- (6) The Chairman National Standard Committee shall circulate the draft standard to the National Standard Committee for comments by giving at least twenty one days notice.
- (7) The National Standard Committee shall either finalize the draft standard and recommend the same to the Authority for establishing the Pakistan standard or return the same to the technical committee for review.
- (8) In case the draft standard is returned to the technical committee the same shall again follow the procedure laid down in sub-rule (4) and (5) and then recommend the same to National Standard Committee which will follow the procedure laid down in sub-rule (7).
- (9) On the receipt of the draft standard the Authority may approve the same to be Pakistan standard or may refer it back to the National Standard Committee for further review.

9. Revision of Pakistan standard.-(1) All Pakistan standards shall be reviewed by the National Standard Committee, at least after every five years or on the recommendations of the Authority, as the case may be.

(2) The Authority may on its own or on the receipt of any proposal for revision of Pakistan standard recommend the same to the National Standard Committee as provided for in sub-rule (1).

(3) The National Standard Committee shall follow the procedure laid down in sub-rules (3) to (9) of rule 8.

10. Withdrawal of Pakistan standard.- (1) Any stake holder may propose in meeting to the Authority the withdrawal or supersession of an established Pakistan standard. On the receipt of such proposal, the Authority shall forward the same to the National Standard Committee.

(2) The concerned National Standard Committee shall follow the same procedure prescribed in sub-rule (3) to (9) of rule 8.

11. Director-General to issue corrigenda.- In case of any typographical errors or such mistakes which do not hit the substance of the Pakistan standard the Director-General may issue corrigenda to rectify the same.

12. Status of Pakistan standard.- Pakistan standards are voluntary and available to the public. Their implementation depends on adoption by concerned parties. However, a Pakistan standard becomes binding if it is stipulated in contract or referred to in a legislation or made mandatory by specific orders of the Federal. Government.

13. Publications.- The Pakistan standards established by the Authority, their revisions and amendments shall be published with Pakistan standard insignia on its title page and copies thereof, in any form as may be determined by the Authority, shall be made available for sale, at such price as may be determined by the Director-General in accordance with the directions of the Board and may be reviewed periodically.

14. Promotion of Pakistan standards.-The Authority may promote standardization and adoption of Pakistan standards by consumers, trade and commerce, industry, Government and other interests, in such manner as may be appropriate.

15. Tentative Pakistan standard.- (1) In case the Authority is of the view that there is an urgent need for establishing a Pakistan standard for an article, product or process, as the case may be it shall transmit such proposal to National Standard Committee alongwith a statement justifying the urgency Involved and a draft of tentative Pakistan standard.

(2) The National Standard Committee shall forward the draft of tentative Pakistan standard to the concerned technical committee. The technical committee shall submit its recommendation, within the time frame specified by the authority, to the Chairman National Standard Committee.

- (3) The Chairman National Standard Committee shall forward the recommendations to the authority who will, if deem appropriate, establish the tentative Pakistan standard or otherwise.
- (4) The established tentative Pakistan standards shall clearly specify the following, namely :-
- (a) need for preparing the tentative Pakistan standards;
 - (b) scope of its application ;
 - (c) period of its validity - the Technical Committee, may decide the period of validity but this shall not exceed two years on a review by the Technical Committee; and
 - (d) the tentative Pakistan standard shall not be used for standard mark.
- (5) Before the expiry of the validity period, the tentative Pakistan standard shall be considered, by the Technical Committee for establishing it as a regular standard. If the Technical Committee is not in favour of its establishment as a regular standard, the tentative Pakistan standards shall lapse after its validity period.

16. **Structure of Pakistan standard.** - Every Pakistan standard shall have the following namely:-

- (a) PS Insignia on the page:
- (b) PS number and reference number, if any;
- (c) Title; and
- (d) Date of issuance.

[No. F.2(46)/2007-PSQCA (IL)]

M.AJMAL SAEED. Deputy
Secretary(Admn.).