ISO/TC 258, ISO Technical Committee for Project, Program, and Portfolio Management, convenes in Seoul, South Korea[1]

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ISO/TC 258, the **Technical Committee** (TC) of the **International Organization for Standardization** (ISO) set up to work with standards in the field of project, program, and portfolio management, convened for the tenth plenary meeting at Seoul, South Korea, on September 23rd … 24th 2019. The plenary participants – 50 representing 21 national standardization bodies – were warmly welcomed to Seoul by Mr **Young Min Park**, the Chairman of the Korean Mirror Committee for ISO/TC 258, and Mr **Sookrae Kim**, Director of the Chemistry and Service Standards Division of **Korean Agency for Technology and Standards** (KATS), the national standardization body of Korea. Subsequent to the TC plenary, the ISO/TC 258 active working groups convened in Seoul on September 24th … 27th.

The opening plenary noted the passing of Mr **JC Kruger** of South Africa, a longtime member of ISO/PC236 and ISO/TC258, and Secretary of WG2. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Mr Kruger.

ISO/TC 258 Seoul plenary meeting participants (photos courtesy Jouko Vaskimo)

ISO/TC 258 main initiatives include Working Group **WG9** working towards a revision of ISO 21500 (which will be called ISO 21502 in the future), **WG10** working towards an overarching ISO standard explaining context and concepts for project, program and portfolio management (which will be called ISO 21500 in the future), and **WG12** working towards Earned Value Management (EVM) implementation guide.

At the time of the Seoul plenary meeting ISO/TC 258 had 36 participating (P) members, 21 observing (O) members, and 11 liaisons.

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Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Latvia, Mongolia, Netherlands, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Russia, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States are current ISO/TC 258 P – members.

Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czech Rep., Egypt, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Kenya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mauritania, Morocco, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Uganda, Uzbekistan are current ISO/TC 258 O – members.

Association for the Advancement of Cost Engineering international (AACEi), **College of Performance Management** (CPM), **Global Alliance for the Project ProfessionS** (GAPPS), **International Project Management Association** (IPMA), and **Project Management Institute** (PMI) are ISO/TC 258 liaison organizations.

ISO/IEC JTC1, Information Technology, ISO/TC20, Aircraft and space vehicles, ISO/TC176/SC2, Quality systems, ISO/TC262, Risk Management, and ISO/TC309, Governance of Organizations are the current liaison committees to ISO/TC 258.

ISO/TC20, Aircraft and space vehicles is the current liaison committee from ISO/TC 258.

Mr **Young Min Park**, the Chairman of the Korean Mirror Committee for ISO/TC 258, was happy to organize the meeting and commented that KATS, the Korean Agency for Technology and Standards, was excited and delighted to host the tenth annual ISO/TC 258 plenary in Seoul.

"I'm now happy to hear that many members say comfortable during the meetings and enjoyable with the social events. It was an important project for us and we set target to make every participants comfortable and enjoyable during the meeting and life in Seoul. Shall I say the project was successful?

It was a big challenge to me to make it successful as did in other cities during the past years, because I must resolve many critical issues at the planning stage, such as finding financial sponsors, gathering supporters for the preparation and actual meetings and make all resources into one team. Besides the meeting date was fixed and not negotiable but could not define scope until financial & human resources are available. Thus there were many potential risks.

This was one example of project where everybody can adopt ISO PPP standard and I emphasized everybody in the team to use the standard concept during the whole project life cycle. And therefore we will have a project close meeting for collecting lessons learned with "Wehayo!" bravo for celebrating project success."

Mr Park may be contacted at YMPark99@gmail.com .

ISO/TC 258 plenary sessions were run by Mr **Steven Fahrenkrog**, ISO/TC 258 Chairman, and by Mr **Karl Best**, ISO/TC 258 Committee Manager, both appointed by the **American National Standards Institute** (ANSI).

In the photograph (from left to right): Mr Karl Best and Mr Steven Fahrenkrog

Mr Fahrenkrog commented "It was great to be back in Asia for this Plenary of ISO/TC 258 in Seoul, South Korea. We are starting our first implementation guide as a TC as well as continuing our update effort of the first standard developed for PPPM, ISO 21500.

The day and one half plenary meeting at the beginning of the week followed by WG meetings seemed to work well. However, there were several comments from delegations suggesting a desire to go back to a Monday-Friday format. The Chairman's Advisory Group (CAG) will review comments from the delegations about our plenary format later this year or early next year to decide how we will organize for the plenary in The Netherlands in 2020.

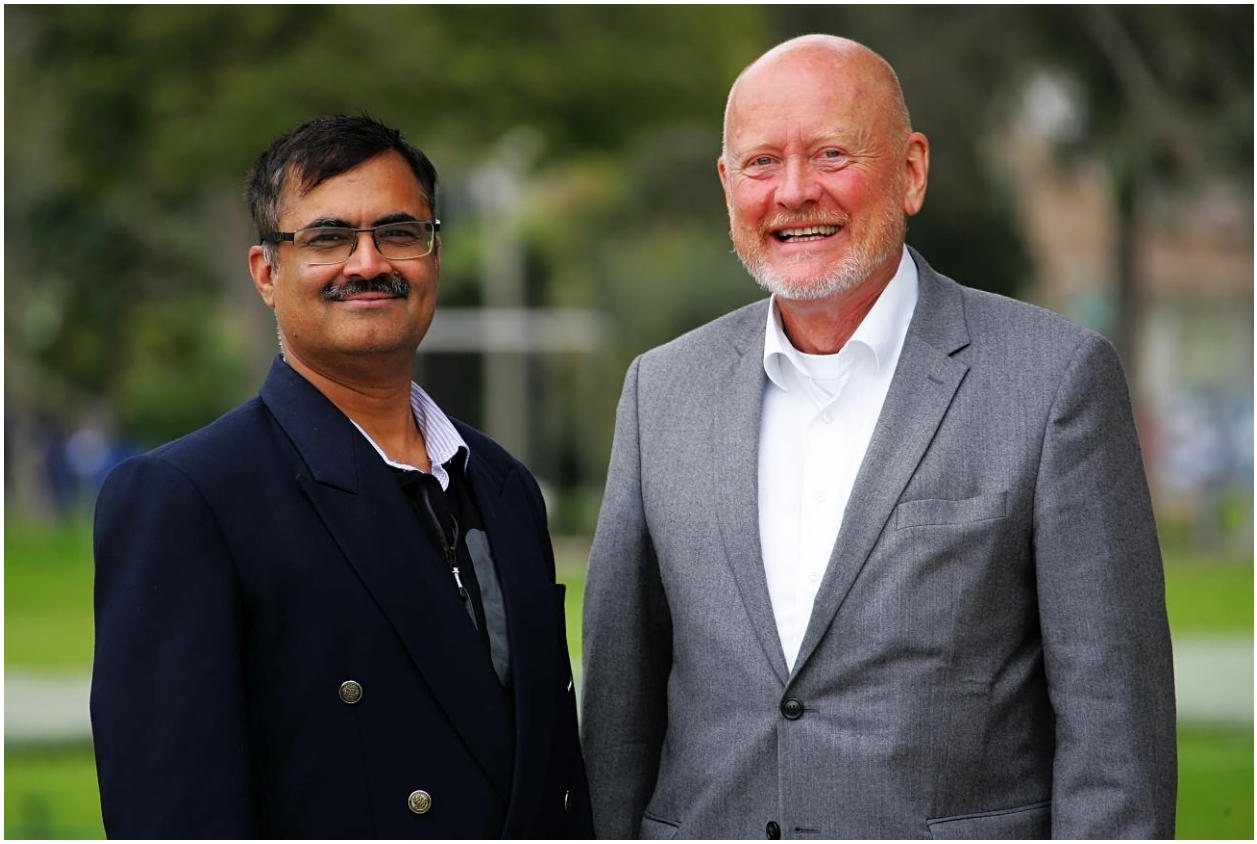
Mr Young Min Park, the Korean Mirror Committee, and the entire KATS team are congratulated on the wonderful way they arranged the conference and our social events. It was very nice to get an appreciation for the Korean culture. We look forward to meeting in Delft, The Netherlands in 2020." Mr Fahrenkrog can be contacted at SLFahrenkrog@gmail.com , and Mr Best at Karl.Best@pmi.org .

ISO/TC 258 WG9 – working towards a revision of ISO 21500 – sessions were run by Mr **Peter Milsom**, ISO/TC 258 WG9 Convenor, (Canada), and Mrs **Jo-Anne Harrison**, ISO/TC 258 WG9 Secretary (Australia). ISO 21502 is anticipated to be published by ISO as an International Standard in July 2021.

In the photograph (from left to right): Mr Peter Milsom and Mrs Jo-Anne Harrison

Mr Milsom was very pleased with the WG9 sessions, and commented: "This was WG9's fourth face to face session, and we continued our tradition of going above and beyond. We had some significant challenges coming into this working group session with over 1000 comments to adjudicate. We were very fortunate though to have over 20 leading subject matter experts from around the world contributing to the standard. Special thanks to our hosts for the excellent location and the very generous facilities provided to support our unique needs. WG9 dealt with a number of new challenges, and once again successfully agreed on the go forward strategy and approach. We are aiming to provide a new 2019 draft of the standard in October, and we will be looking for a host to sponsor our next session in March 2020. As always, we are looking for subject matter experts to join their national ISO mirror-committees and contribute to the next Guidance on project management." Mr Milsom can be contacted at Peter-Milsom@outlook.com, and Mrs Harrison at Joanne.Harrison@silaprojects.com.au .

ISO/TC 258 WG10 – working towards an overarching ISO standard explaining context and concepts for project-, program- and portfolio management – sessions were run by Mr **Helmut Berger**, ISO/TC 258 WG10 Convenor, (Austria), and Mr **Hemant Anand** ISO/TC 258 WG10 Secretary (Canada). ISO 21500 is anticipated to be published by ISO as an International Standard in July 2021.



In the photograph (from left to right): Mr Hemant Anand and Mr Helmut Berger

Mr Berger and Mr Anand were happy with the WG10 sessions, and commented: "We experienced really productive days here in Seoul. Thanks to our host for providing the infrastructure which helped us splitting into subgroups for effective organization of working. In our project plan for the development of new ISO 21500 the goal for the Seoul meeting was to finalize working draft 2 and start a Committee Draft (CD). The work group met this goal! The group members performed as a harmonious team, creating a real good atmosphere. We will now proceed working in national mirror-committees and meet virtually several times to adjudicate the comments received from various mirror committees" Mr Berger can be contacted at H.Berger@cs-i.at and Mr Anand at Hemant.Anand.ca@gmail.com .

ISO/TC 258 WG 12 – working towards Earned Value Management (EVM) implementation guide – sessions were run by Mr **Kym Henderson**, ISO/TC 258 WG12 Convenor, (Australia), and Mr **Yang Xiao**, ISO/TC 258 WG12 Secretary (China). ISO 21512 is anticipated to be published by ISO as an International Standard in July 2022.

In the photograph (from left to right): Mr Kym Henderson and Mr Yang Xiao

Mr Henderson and Mr Xiao were happy with the WG12 sessions, and commented "This was WG12's first face to face session, and the working group team has formed and achieved significant progress in Seoul, Korea. Consensus was achieved on a 2 ½ year delivery schedule for the ISO EVM Implementation Guide and the meeting objective of transitioning from project initiation to content development was largely achieved.

The Dragon City Seoul location and facilities provided by our KATS hosts were excellent and the hospitality of the Korean people has been exceptional.

While WG12 has achieved significant progress, much work remains to be done. Content development on Working Draft 1 has commenced with a face to face review meeting scheduled in London, United Kingdom in May 2020 for a review of content and decision on the next steps. We are looking for more subject matter experts to join their national ISO mirror-committees and contribute to the development of this important Guide." Mr Henderson can be contacted at Kym.Henderson@gmail.com and Mr Xiao at Xiao.Yang.Jason@foxmail.com .

Representatives from three organizations in liaison with ISO/TC 258 participated in the ISO/TC 258 Seoul event:

Mr **Gordon Kranz**, representing the **College of Performance Management** (CPM), commented "CPM is excited to become a Liaison to the ISO TC258 organization to help support its goal to further the professional implementation of Project, Program, and Portfolio Management across the world. CPM is also pleased to be an active participant in support of TC258 Working Group 12 which is tagged with the task of developing an Earned Value Management Implementation Guide grounded on the principles in the ISO 25808:2018 Standard. The welcoming attitude of the TC258 country delegates, officers, and participants combined with the venue provided by KATS have made this a most pleasant experience. CPM, which is an educational and best practice sharing organization for practitioners of Integrated Performance management, will benefit greatly from our continued relationship with ISO TC258." Mr Kranz can be contacted at GKranz@mycpm.org .

Professor Dr **Byung-ryong Moon**, representing **International Project Management Association** (IPMA), commented "I was fairly excited to attend the ISO/TC258 as an observer on behalf of IPMA.

In the light of the IPMA which aims to contribute to the enhancement and strengthening of individual and organizational competences, TC258's key agendas have been identified as a result of efforts to lay the groundwork and provide directions for the future.

The contributions and collaborations of the member countries demonstrated at this plenary session and working group confirmed that IPMA have plentiful excellent partners for the further activities.

I would like to express my gratitude to all participants, particularly Mr Steven Fahrenkrog Chairman, Mr Karl Best committee manager and Mr Jouko Vaskimo making every effort for this Newsletter." Professor Moon can be contacted at BRMoon@korea.ac.kr .

Mr **Marvin Nelson**, representing **Project Management Institute** (PMI), commented "PMI is pleased to participate in the work of ISO/TC258 as a Category A liaison organization. PMI is committed to advancing global consensus on project, program and portfolio management on behalf of our constituents around the world. This 10th plenary session was notable for the contributions of many member countries. PMI is firmly committed to the work of ISO/TC 258 and has worked to deepen our collaborative relationship and participation in the work as a liaison organization and by sponsoring subject matter experts to the working groups. PMI thanks and appreciates our Korean host for the excellent arrangements." Mr Nelson can be contacted at Marvin.Nelson@pmi.org .

Korean Agency for Technology and Standards (KATS) is the Korean national standardization body, and the formal member of ISO.

KATS focuses on boosting national economic growth and being a platform toward knowledge-based society through development of strategic policies for evolving relationship between standards and technology, along with the relationship between standards and industry. KATS also seeks to create more convenient and safe environments via standardization.

Furthermore, KATS strives to adopt a new paradigm for standardization: KATS develops and implements a new bottom-up approach aimed at strengthening support for stakeholders from private sector to participate more actively in standards development process. And by reinforcing support for standardization activities for enterprises, KATS strives to create a business-friendly environment.

KATS – representing all the ministries in the field of standardization as National Standards Body of the Republic of Korea – plays a key role in international and regional standardization organizations such as ISO, IEC and PASC.

For further information please navigate to www.kats.go.kr/en/main.do .

International Organization for Standardization (ISO) is the largest global developer and publisher of International Standards.

ISO is a network of the national standards institutes of 164 countries, one member per country, with a Central Secretariat in Geneva, Switzerland, that coordinates the system. ISO is a non-governmental organization that forms a bridge between the public and private sectors. On one hand, many of its member institutes are part of the governmental structure of their countries, or are mandated by their government. On the other hand, other members have their roots uniquely in the private sector, having been set up by national partnerships of industry associations.

ISO enables a consensus to be reached on solutions that meet both the requirements of business and the broader needs of society.

For further information please navigate to www.iso.org/iso/home.html .

About the Author

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Jouko Vaskimo is an International Correspondent and Senior Contributing Editor for ***PM World*** in Finland. Jouko graduated M.Sc. (Tech.) from Helsinki University of Technology in 1992, and D.Sc. (Tech.) from Aalto University in 2016. He has held several project management related positions with increasing levels for responsibility. Jouko holds a number of professional certificates in the field of project management, such as the IPMA Level C (Project Manager), IPMA Level B (Senior Project Manager), PMP, PRINCE2 Foundation, and PRINCE2 Practitioner. Jouko is also a Certified Scrum Master and SAFe Agilist. Jouko is a member of the Project Management Association Finland, a founding member of PMI Finland Chapter, and the immediate past chairman of the Finnish IPMA Certification Body operating IPMA certification in Finland. Since October 2007, he has been heading the Finnish delegation to ISO/TC 258. Jouko resides in Espoo, Finland and can be best contacted at jouko.vaskimo@aalto.fi . For further information please navigate to www.linkedin.com/in/jouko-vaskimo-6285b51 .