

#### Message from the President

Dear Colleagues,

As we celebrate IFAN's 50th anniversary, it is a fitting moment to reflect on the significant strides we've made over the past year. Our journey has been marked by strengthened partnerships, impactful initiatives, and a renewed commitment to empowering standards users worldwide.

Key Highlights from the Past Year:

- **Enhanced Global Collaboration:** We have deepened our ties with ISO, IEC, CEN-CENELEC, and other key stakeholders. Our active participation in global forums such as the ISO Annual Meeting, IEC General Meeting, CEN-CENELEC Annual Meeting, COP 29, and others has allowed us to elevate the voice of standards users.
- **Celebrating 50 Years of Impact:** Our 50th-anniversary celebrations were a resounding success, highlighted by a week of meetings in Paris, including IFAN's International Conference, Members' Assembly, working group meetings, a board meeting, and interactions with local standards users. Additionally, we launched a social media campaign and received heartwarming video messages from friends and colleagues worldwide.
- **Expanding Our Reach:** We welcomed many new members this year, both national and corporate. We also launched an Individual Membership program, allowing individual professionals to actively participate in IFAN's mission.
- **Active Working Groups:** Our working groups have been instrumental in driving progress, producing valuable documents and recommendations that benefit standards users.

Looking Ahead: A Vision for the Future - Your Voice Matters:

As we embark on the next chapter of IFAN's journey, we encourage all members to actively participate in IFAN's initiatives. Your insights, expertise, and engagement are crucial in shaping the perspective of standards users. We invite you to join our Working Groups, initiate and attend webinars, share your feedback on social media, and voice your needs and concerns to help us better serve our members.



IFAN President, Vered Oren

By working together, we can ensure that standards users continue to have a powerful voice in addressing global challenges and driving positive change. In the coming year, we will focus on empowering standards users by organizing webinars and workshops to address specific industry needs, bridging the gap between users and developers, fostering closer collaboration between IFAN and international standardization bodies, and facilitating joint workshops and conferences for dialogue and knowledge sharing, among many other initiatives.

We wish you a happy and successful year ahead!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Vered Oren".



# IFAN Week 23-27 September 25

Celebrating 50 Years of Standards Excellence

The year 2024 marked IFAN's 50th anniversary and we decided to go back to Paris where IFAN was established in 1974 and celebrate our achievements.

IFAN's 50th Anniversary Week in Paris was a resounding success! The event brought together members from around the world to celebrate our organization's rich history and discuss the future of standardization.

IFAN's week was organized and sponsored by AFNOR Group (French Standardization Association) and Acanor (French Association of STANDARDS users).

## Key Highlights:

- 16th International Conference: The conference featured thought-provoking presentations on a variety of topics, including:
  - The Value of Standards Users participation in standardization,



- Standards for women



- Sustainability
- Climate change and Standards for Technology & AI.

All the presentations can be viewed on IFAN's [YouTube Channel](#)

- Members' Assembly: Members had the opportunity to share their perspectives and collaborate with colleagues from different regions.  
\*Read separate article in this newsletter
- Board Meeting and Working Groups: Productive discussions and decisions were made during board meetings and working group sessions.
- Networking and Social Events: The week was filled with opportunities to connect with fellow members and enjoy social gatherings.
- Meeting with local Standards Users: IFAN was invited to meet with members of ACANOR (French National Standards Users group)

Further information on IFAN's LinkedIn page, [here](#)



# 51<sup>st</sup> Members Assembly

Paris, 25 September 2024

The President opened the meeting with a warm welcome to all attendees, expressing excitement, especially with the presence of two past Presidents, Neil Reeve and Dave Felinski. The previous day featured heads of ISO, IEC, and CEN-CENELEC. Gratitude was extended to AFNOR for hosting the event, to Laurent Oberle for the 50th Anniversary celebration invitation, and to Christine Kertesz and Andrea Beddard-Smith IFAN Secretary. She noted the importance of thanking everyone at the start, while everyone is attentive. Acknowledgment was also given to the Board members for their monthly meetings and contributions, and special thanks to Martin Conrads, the Treasurer, as well as past Board members and Valerie Grant for their valuable help. The President also presented the IFAN 50th Anniversary video, which can be viewed online.

The President reported on various activities and developments:

- **Visibility and Engagement:** The President noted increased recognition of IFAN, with more exposure through events and social media, particularly LinkedIn. They experienced a significant rise in followers and engagement, proving the effectiveness of their strategy.
- **New Members:** IFAN welcomed five new individual members, a new National Member from Zimbabwe, and a new corporate member, Manageo Conseils.
- **Tributes:** A tribute was paid to Keith Wilson, a dedicated member who served on the IFAN Board and various working groups.
- **Meetings and Collaborations:** Ongoing efforts include meetings with ISO to discuss membership growth and collaborations to enhance visibility and support developing countries with standards.
- **Education and Training:** The importance of educating about standards at the university level was highlighted, with efforts to translate educational materials into French.

- **Awards and Recognition:** The George Garel Award was presented to Ross Wraight for his significant contributions.
- **Future Plans and Discussions:** Suggestions for a resource center, representing IFAN at COPULCO, and potential partnerships with organizations like CASCO and DEVCO were discussed.

Overall, the President emphasized the importance of listening to users, increasing engagement, and continuing to build relationships and resources to support standards users globally

## National Members reports

Lois Ngonyamo from NSUSZ reported on Zimbabwe's experience with standards:

1. **Strategy and Branding:** NSUSZ designed a new logo and conducted strategy meetings, capturing their mission and values in photos.
2. **Conference Participation:** NSUSZ attended various conferences, discussing the importance of standards, and published these events on social media. They also presented their strategic plan to the Zimbabwe Standardization Body.
3. **Membership Drive:** Efforts are underway to attract new members, with presentations at the AGM and a Quality Conference in Zimbabwe generating significant interest.





# 51<sup>st</sup> Members' Assembly report continued

4. Board and Workshops: The Board meets quarterly, and they communicated regularly via email. They also participated in the Research for Innovation & Industrialization winter workshop.

5. Educational Outreach: NSUSZ presented at universities, explaining the role of standards to chemistry students.

6. Support and Collaboration: They received support from VO, who provided contacts and resources from ISO and IEC, and discussed collaboration on educational initiatives.

7. Future Plans: NSUSZ plans to continue building their organization and fostering relationships to enhance their efforts in standards education and promotion.

- Educational Initiatives: New group aims to educate about standards at universities. Shared insights on helping developing countries with standards.
- Resource Development: Discussion on developing a resource centre. Collaboration with CASCO and DEVCO noted.
- Commonwealth Standards Network: Shared history and potential use of the network as a channel to reach 53 countries' standards bodies.
- Conferences and Awards: Suggestions to represent IFAN at COPULCO. George Garel Award presented to RW.
- Membership and Workshops: New form of membership introduced. Reports on various working groups and conferences, focusing on digitalization and standards.
- Standardization Promotion: Activities include participation in World Standards Day, focus on AI in standards, and developing educational tools.
- International Collaboration: Efforts to connect with ISO for greater visibility and supporting standards education globally. Research and outreach in standard systems highlighted.



After the Members' Assembly, current and past IFAN Board members meet up for dinner.

## Summary of National Members' Activities:

- Reports and Meetings: Written reports were noted. Upcoming meeting with ISO in November to discuss IFAN membership growth.
- Translation and Visibility: Efforts are underway to translate the Education & Training Guide into French and increase visibility by collaborating with other national bodies.



# ANP Conference 2024

By Martin Conrads

## ANP Gemeinschaftssitzung mit 43. KNP

The German Standards User Group ANP organizes every two years a conference. This year, the ANP Gemeinschaftssitzung mit 43. KNP (ANP Community Meeting with 43. Conference Standards Practice) was held on 9. and 10. October 2024 at Schaeffler Technologies AG &Co. KG in Herzogenaurach.

The title of the conference was „Nachhaltigkeit durch Digitalisierung und Normung“ (Sustainability by Digitalization and Standardization).

The organization of the conference was in the hands of the Bavarian ANP group which is led by Mrs. Steffi Reiff from Siemens Amberg. The conference was open for everyone and free of charge.

Schaeffler welcomed the 160 participants in its modern Conference Center.

Mr. Rainer Eidloth from Schaeffler held the Keynote.

Second speaker was Mr. Christoph Winterhalter, CEO of DIN, who informed about actual developments in the international standardization.

Then 5 presentations followed, which informed about:

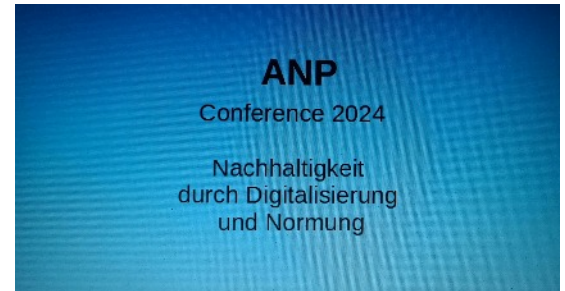
- Product Liability in EU Legislation
- Environmental Standards for Services
- Recycling of Plastics
- Product data: Compliance, Life Cycle and Obsolescence
- Digital Product Passport

The first day ended with a Network Dinner and in parallel, the participants were invited to play Standards related games like an Escape Room Game where knowledge about standardization helps to find the way out.

On the second day, the following presentations were held:

- PFAS and Obsolescence
- Sustainability in ECLASS 14.0
- The new EU Machine Directive
- Digitalization in the Standardization at Schaeffler
- Manufacturing-X
- Compliance- and Sustainability-Rating

The last session was held in the Fishbowl Format and different questions about standardization and digitalization related to sustainability were discussed.



The feedback to the event was very positive. Especially the perfect organization and the practical level of the presentations were appreciated.

The next ANP Conference will take place in autumn 2026. The date, place and title will be defined in spring next year.

## News from the IFAN Board

The IFAN Board is pleased to announce that Mr Nicolas Fleury will be joining the IFAN Board from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 following his election by the IFAN Membership.



For further information on IFAN:

IFAN Publications: [www.ifan.org/ifan-publications](http://www.ifan.org/ifan-publications)

Contact IFAN: [ifan@ifan.org](mailto:ifan@ifan.org)

