

Good Regulatory Practices Workshop

**Colombia: The use of transparency and
participation mechanisms – The local
experience**



Ministry of Commerce,
Industry and Tourism
Republic of Colombia

Geneva, March 2008

Colombia: The use of transparency and participation mechanisms - The local experience

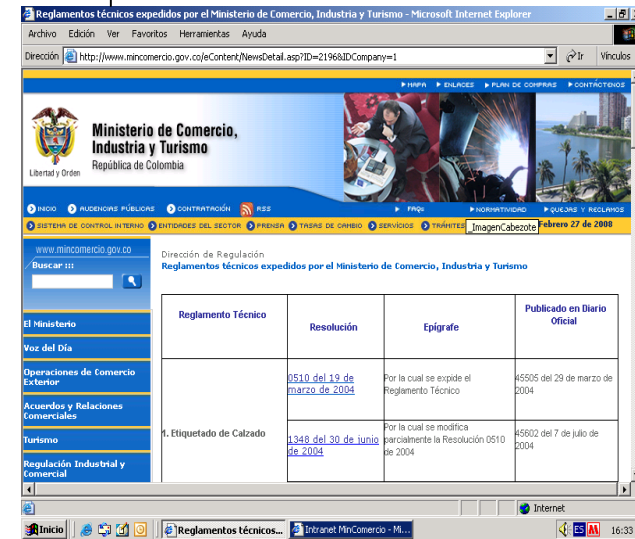
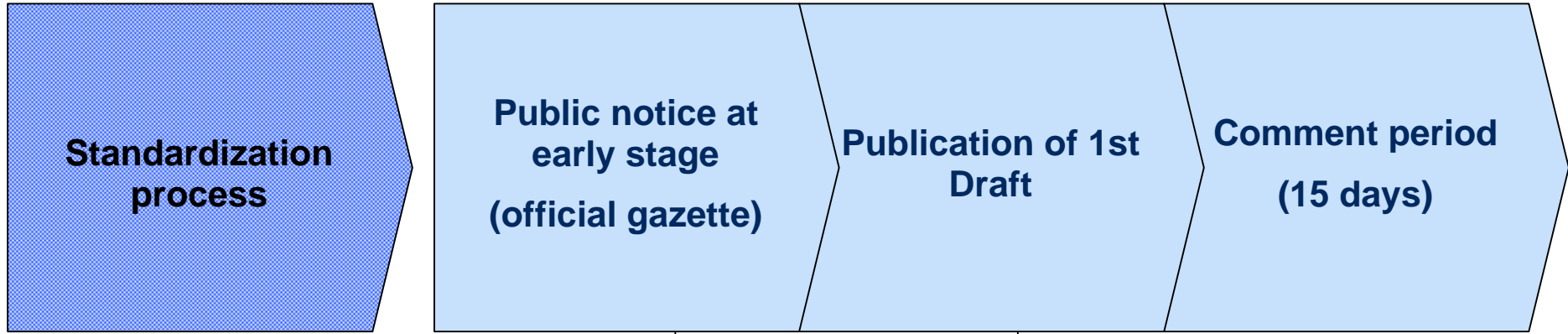
- **Transparency and participation mechanisms**
- **Benefits and difficulties found**
- **New strategies and international cooperation**

Transparency and participation mechanisms

Ministerio de Comercio,
Industria y Turismo
República de Colombia



New technical regulation procedure



Transparency and participation mechanisms

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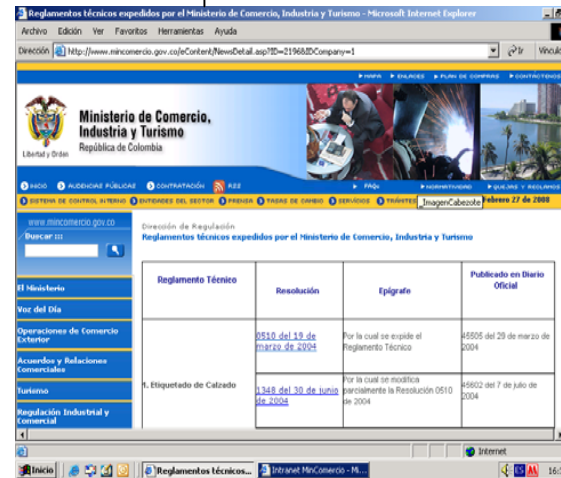


Publication of draft
technical regulation
at website
(+ updates)

Public hearings
(as necessary)

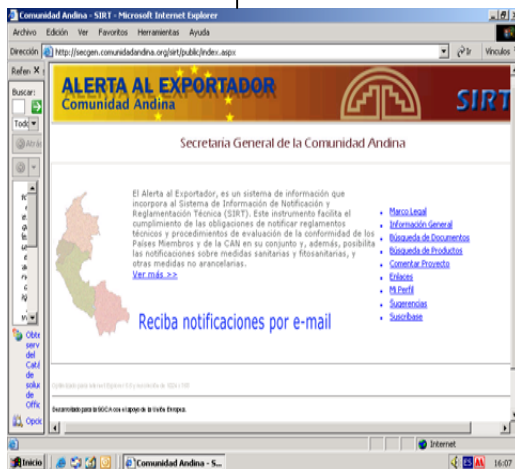
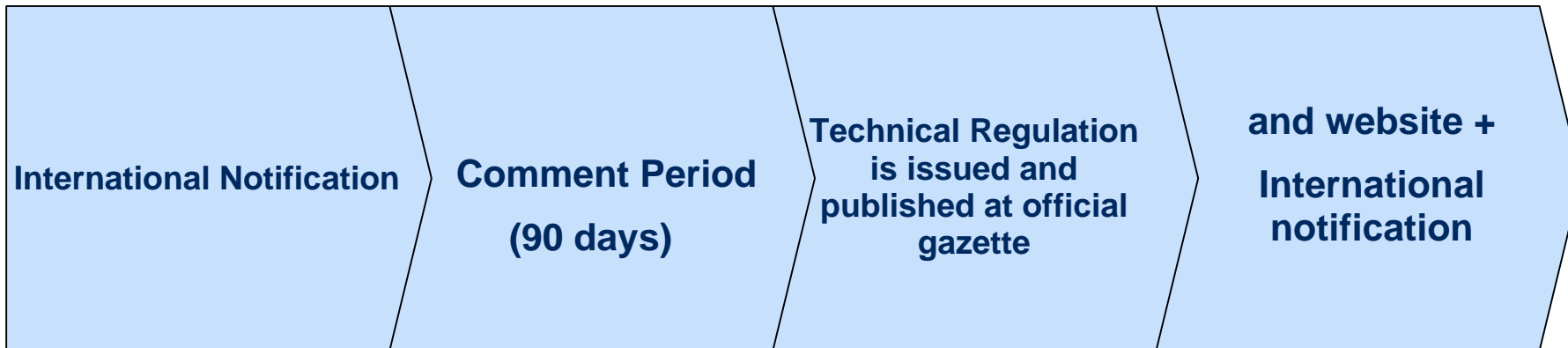
Publication of
Final Draft

Comment period
(10 days)



Transparency and participation mechanisms

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Benefits and difficulties



Benefits

- Transparency has given legitimacy to government action
- Transparency has organized the work of government
- Consultations have made interested groups aware of international notification, early notice, etc
- Consultations have help with the implementation of Technical Regulations
- Consultations have helped with the clarity of the text
- Consultations have avoided major problems affecting trade

Benefits and difficulties



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Difficulties

- Good regulatory practices have not been defined
- Not all the government entities use good regulatory practices
- Updating the website is time consuming
- Not all affected parties attend public hearings or know about them
- Not all interest groups are equal
- Interested parties are not aware of the available info
- Consulting with interested parties takes time and effort
- Consultations have not prevented all difficulties, leading to subsequent amendments of Technical Regulations
- Sometimes consultations have been used as a tool to restrict competition

New strategies

- Print a good regulatory brochure for regulators and interested parties



- Celebrate a regulators' forum to discuss the drafting a good regulatory practice guide
- Share the experience with other Andean Community regulators
- Provide a better Web service ("Alerta Exportadora")
- Improve technical and regulatory capacity for regulators



International cooperation

- Regulators' forum
- Regulators' guide
- Andean regulators' meeting
- "Alerta Exportadora" web page

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Information

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