

# ISO COPOLCO Plenary

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**Context-** India is facilitating the 44th release of the ISO COPOLCO Plenary in New Delhi from 23-26 May 2023. This occasion is coordinated by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS).

## **How does ISO COPOLCO Plenary work?**

- ISO COPOLCO is the Board of trustees on Customer Strategy, a council of the Global Association for Normalization (ISO).
- It encourages consumer participation in the standardization process and ensures that standards are developed with consumer requirements in mind.
- **Significance:**
  - The ISO COPOLCO Plenary has a significant impact on the lives of people all over the world by shaping global standards.
  - The event helps countries that are ISO members work together and makes plans to speed up the development of standards.
- **Importance:**
  - The occasion means to address difficulties and great practices for buyer commitment, feasible prospects, and legitimate systems for purchaser security.
  - High-level speakers, such as ministers and prominent figures, can use it to discuss consumer-related issues.

## **What is ISO?**

- It is a global organization for the development of standards made up of representatives from member nations' national standards organizations.
- Except for electrical and electronic engineering, which is managed by the IEC, it creates and publishes standardization in all technical and nontechnical fields.

- ISO authoritatively appeared in 1947.
- **Headquarters:**
  - Switzerland's Geneva
- **Official languages:**
  - Russian, French, and English
- **Members:**
  - 168 national standards bodies are members of ISO, a non-governmental international organization that is independent.
- **India's Contribution to International Standards:**
  - India was a founding member of ISO and actively participated in international standardization efforts.
  - The BIS fills in as the Public Principles Group of India and takes part in worldwide and local normalization drives.
  - BIS is a member of ISO, the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), and regional standards bodies like Pacific Area Standards Congress (PASC), and the South Asian Regional Standards Organization (SARSO) within the framework of IBSA.

### **How does the Bureau of Indian Standards work?**

- BIS is the Public Standard Collection of India for the amicable improvement of the exercises of normalization, stamping and quality affirmation of products.
- It was established by the BIS Act of 1986, which took effect in December 1986. In 2017, a new BIS Act of 2016 took effect.
- Under the direction of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, BIS provides the national economy with benefits related to traceability and tangibility in a variety of ways, including:
  - Giving safe dependable quality products.
  - Limiting wellbeing risks to customers.
  - substituting imports and exports.
  - through standardization, certification, and testing, control over the proliferation of varieties and other items.