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**Cover letter: Draft International Standard on Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems (ISO 45001) under Vote**

Dear colleagues,

The International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) will release a ballot for a Draft International Standard (DIS) on Occupational health and safety management systems on 19 May. All of the national standard bodies (NSBs) that belong to the ISO will again be eligible to vote on this DIS until 13 July. Should this DIS be approved, it would result in an international standard that would replace the British standard OHSAS 18001 and other similar standards that are now in at least 127 countries.

The ITUC has been closely following this DIS throughout various stages of its development and has raised concerns on previous versions to its affiliates. While the ITUC recognises that the current draft features some improvements from previous versions, we continue to have serious concerns over some of the contents of this new draft. We would encourage our affiliates to voice these concerns and to influence, to the extent of their capacities, the decision of their respective NSBs to vote 'no' unless these concerns are adequately taken into account.

You may find in attachment a letter explaining the ITUC's major concerns on the draft DIS, as well as a completed ISO commenting template.

Yours sincerely,



General Secretary

Encl.

- ITUC letter with major comments
- ISO commenting table
- List of national standardisation bodies