

ANNA Working Group 2 (ISIN Quality and Guidelines)

The International Securities Identification Number (ISO 6166) is the recognized global standard for unique identification of financial instruments. The WG2 is focused on topics related to the guidance on ISIN allocation and also in charge of the periodical review of the ISIN allocation rules, which are compiled in a live document named ISIN Uniform Guidelines. This document develops and interprets the ISO 6166 ensuring its alignment. WG2 is committed to achieve the ANNA objectives to contribute to the ISO Standards development process, to work for the benefit of the financial industry and ensuring timeliness, accuracy and quality in the application of standards that can be used by all nations and their markets. ANNA's federated operating model, combined with local presence and the NNA's global expertise in the area of standardization and instrument identification, position the ANNA membership as an essential factor towards the successful implementation of the ISO 6166 Standards.

During the year there were various topics represented by the ANNA members wherein assistance was sought related to the guidance on ISIN allocation. One of the prime areas of focus and discussion was to enhance the ISIN Uniform Guidelines for allocating ISINs for 'tokens'. WG2 had extensively discussed the topic and is of the view that ANNA should come up with guidelines for issuance of ISIN for digital assets due to increasing demand from the market. With this context, in the month of March, 2019 a survey was conducted among NNA members to understand the practice prevailing in their respective jurisdiction for tokens and the formation of the Technology Task Force. The survey results were very promising, 83% of the respondents were agreed to the creation of a "Technology Task Force" (TF22) for Identification and impact assessments of these digital technologies; while 51% of the respondents will consider participating in this Taskforce. After reviewing the survey result, WG2 have decided to conduct one more round of survey targeting to those NNA members who are already issuing ISIN code for tokens to understand the practices followed by such NNA members while allocating ISINs/Identifiers for tokens in their respective jurisdiction. Apart from this, various other topics were also extensively discussed among the working group members over emails and conference calls. Working group had taken into consideration various practicalities and implications related to these topics before formalizing the working group approach in handling and implementation of it.

Among the matters discussed were:

- CFI and FISN Guidelines to be maintained by WG2
- ISIN allocation for tokens
- Amendments to Consequences of Corporate Actions – Redemption
- Amendments to Financial Instruments other than Securities - Stock Dividends
- Use of Dummy ISIN
- Addition of new chapters in ISIN Uniform Guidelines, that is: ISIN Code Structure, ISIN Documentation and LEI & ISIN linkage

The ISIN Uniform Guidelines are regularly updated and presented to the ANNA membership at General Meetings for their approval.

WG2 is currently composed of the Numbering Agencies from different countries such as Argentina, China, Euroclear, Germany, India, Italy, Luxembourg, Spain, Switzerland, UK and USA. WG2 is committed to providing assistance to all ANNA members to resolutely work on various concerning matters towards adopting uniform and clear rules for the ISIN allocation.

Lastly, WG2 encourages all ANNA members to contact the WG2 if they have any queries or need any assistance with regards to ISIN allocation matters.

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