



OUR JOURNEY, IN THEIR WORDS

Celebrating **25 years** of being the environmental voice in standards.





Barbara BONVISSUTO

Director for Construction, Machinery and Market Surveillance, DG GROW
European Commission

*Since starting as policy officer in the Commission 25 years ago, until today as director in charge, among others, of standards policy, I have appreciated the **fruitful collaboration with ECOS** that has developed and deepened over the years. I highly value the **constructive dialogue and solutions-oriented approach** of ECOS, that fights to ensure that standards incorporate the environmental dimension while also factoring in the realities of the Single Market.*

*In the Commission, we have built a **very close collaboration with ECOS** as the recognised European stakeholder organisation to represent environmental interests for EU standardisation. I am looking forward to further continue this partnership and contribute together to develop ever better, faster and greener standards.*



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Sergio MUJICA
Secretary General
ISO

On behalf of ISO, warm congratulations to ECOS on your 25th anniversary!

*From biodiversity to the circular economy, sustainable raw materials to clean energy, **ECOS represents the voice of environmental sustainability in standards** development. You work tirelessly to raise awareness of market needs for crucial environmental standards and **build a more inclusive standardization system.***

***ISO deeply values our longstanding partnership** with ECOS. The environmental expertise you provide across ISO technical committees and our committee on consumer policy, COPOLCO, is central to our strategic sustainability efforts.*

We look forward to many more years of advancing global environmental sustainability together!



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Anna CAVAZZINI

Member of the European Parliament

*Big challenges lie ahead of us: in a time of geopolitical instability and economic insecurity I believe a **fast transition to a circular economy is more needed than ever**. It will make the EU economy more resilient. By setting clear guidelines for product design, material use, and waste management, standards can help minimize waste and make the most of resources.*

***Your environmental voice in standardization has been and will continue to be crucial in this**, for example in the upcoming Circular Economy Act.*



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Robert NUIJ

Head of Unit

**Directorate-General for Energy, European
Commission**

*I have had the pleasure of working with ECOS since many years, and throughout this entire period, our relationship has been **consistently constructive and impactful.***

*ECOS has played a crucial role in advancing environmental priorities within standardisation and policymaking, particularly in areas such as **ecodesign, energy labelling, and buildings.** Their strong contribution to **improving inclusiveness and transparency in standardisation processes** has been especially valuable, helping to ensure that sustainability considerations are meaningfully integrated. Their **expertise and collaborative spirit** have effectively contributed to more ambitious and responsible policies across Europe.*

Congratulations to the entire ECOS team on this remarkable 25-year milestone!



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Cinzia MISSIROLI

Acting Director General
CEN and CENELEC

*Collaborating with ECOS over the years has been both **inspiring and impactful**. Your commitment to strengthening the environmental ambition has consistently **elevated the work of CEN and CENELEC**, ensuring sustainability is a driving principle, not an afterthought. ECOS brings **expertise and a constructive spirit** that helps translate environmental priorities into meaningful technical progress.*

*As we look toward the future and the goals of the EU Green Deal, we **value ECOS as a vital partner in translating climate ambitions into technical reality**. We are proud of our shared history and look forward to many more years of building a sustainable, resilient Europe together.*



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Paolo FALCIONI
Director General
APPLiA

Congratulations to ECOS on 25 years of impactful work at the intersection of policy, sustainability, and innovation.

*Over the years, **ECOS has played an important role in shaping balanced, evidence-based discussions** that support both environmental ambition and practical implementation. From the perspective of the home appliance industry, this **constructive engagement has been invaluable in driving progress** toward more efficient, sustainable products for European consumers.*

We look forward to continuing this collaboration in the years ahead.



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Lars FOGH MORTENSEN

Circular Economy, Production and
Consumption Expert
Full member, Club of Rome

*It has been a **tremendous pleasure to work closely together** with ECOS for almost a decade.*

*The knowledge on both content and policy of ECOS management and staff is **second to none**. I have on many more occasions than I can remember **benefitted from exchange of ideas, data, knowledge, and policy** with ECOS to the mutual benefit of the EEA and ECOS.*

Our collaboration started on circularity and sustainability of plastics and textiles. It has since evolved also to circular business models, circular economy in general, systems thinking, sustainability and wellbeing.



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Caroline LHUILLERY

Standardization Project Manager
Committee Manager of ISO/TC 331 Biodiversity
AFNOR

As Committee Manager of ISO/TC 331, Biodiversity, and previously Secretary of working groups in ISO/TC 190, Soil Quality, I have consistently valued the contribution of ECOS partners.

*Their inputs are **technically robust, challenge both content and direction, and bring essential environmental integrity into standardization processes.** Their persistence over time, combined with a strong ability to mobilise experts, **ensures that ambitious, science-based approaches are effectively upheld** - helping to prevent any form of greenwashing. Their voice is not only constructive but clearly heard.*



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Jon ECHANOVE
Secretary General
SBS

*Standardisation is one of the most effective tools for promoting best practices and ensuring the consistent implementation of technical and legislative requirements. Over the past 25 years, **ECOS has played a crucial role** in ensuring that environmental requirements are properly addressed and discussed.*

*At SBS, we understand the challenges of amplifying the voices of underrepresented stakeholders and therefore deeply value ECOS's unique contribution. Throughout the years, **ECOS has proven to be a reliable partner in building a stronger and more inclusive standardisation system.***

We look forward to the next 25 years of continued collaboration and shared achievements.



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Arlene BLUM

PhD, Founder and Executive Director
Green Science Policy Institute

*The Green Science Policy Institute congratulates ECOS on your 25th anniversary. The work ECOS and our Institute did together to **prevent an estimated 1.6 billion pounds of unnecessary and harmful flame retardants** in electronics cases worldwide annually is one of our Institute's most impactful accomplishments.*

*in 2008, Ralf Lottes the Secretary General of ECOS and our Institute, working together, succeeded in stopping a most unfortunate electronics standard. During the next 18 years, we have very much **appreciated working with ECOS outstanding team** towards better electronics standards and healthier products, people, and planet.*



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Juan ORTIZ
Director General
ECODES

*ECODES and ECOS have been **building an increasingly strong collaboration** around topics such as methane emissions, ecodesign, construction, and other areas - sharing knowledge, building alliances, and strengthening technical capacities.*

***ECOS' expertise in standardisation** is especially valuable, as the successful implementation of climate and environmental policies depends on having solid technical foundations and using standards as an effective tool to improve public policies related to the green transition.*

*For national organisations like ours, **having the support of ECOS in Brussels, now and in the future, is of great value.***



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Anyssé KENFACK

President
ACDESPE

Nous sommes **heureux de faire partie de la grande famille du réseau ECOS** depuis près de deux ans. Cette collaboration nous a permis de **renforcer significativement nos connaissances sur les standards** environnementaux. L'organisation conjointe d'un webinaire sur le greenwashing en mars 2025 a contribué à **mettre en lumière des approches concrètes** pour promouvoir l'intégration des normes environnementales et lutter efficacement contre le greenwashing.

À l'occasion de son 25^e anniversaire, nous souhaitons plein succès au réseau et réaffirmons notre engagement à œuvrer ensemble, notamment sur la transparence climatique, la décarbonation des infrastructures et l'intégrité des marchés du carbone.



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Francisco FERREIRA

President
ZERO

*On the occasion of ECOS' 25th anniversary, ZERO warmly recognises the **essential role that standards and standardisation play in advancing sustainability**. Sound standards help ensure that products are safer, more resource-efficient, durable and aligned with environmental and climate objectives. They are also crucial for **turning public policy into practical results**, supporting innovation, transparency and accountability across markets.*

*As a **long-standing member of ECOS**, ZERO values the organisation's work in **bringing environmental expertise into standardisation processes and helping shape more sustainable rules for the world**. Strong standards are **building blocks of a fairer and more sustainable future**, where ECOS has been playing a major role.*



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Laetitia VASSEUR

Co-founder and Executive Director
HOP

HOP is truly delighted to collaborate within the ECOS network.

*This partnership has strengthened HOP's ability to connect with committed organisations across Europe and to **bring the voice of environmental NGOs into the standardisation commission** of France's leading standards body, where ECOS's technical support has been invaluable.*

*We deeply value the shared ambition that defines our relationship, as **ECOS plays a key role in advancing stronger environmental standards**, and this anniversary highlights their commitment to promoting more durable, repairable, and environmentally responsible products.*



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Karin LEXÉN

Secretary General
Swedish Society for Nature Conservation

*ECOS is a **highly valued stakeholder in standardisation**, consistently working to put environmental sustainability at the heart of standards development.*

*Their **support and contribution** to our Circular Economy Conference “Make Circular Economy the Standard” reflected both their **strategic insight** and their strength as a collaborative partner.*



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Barbara METZ

CEO

Deutsche Umwelthilfe

*For 25 years, ECOS has been an **outstanding partner and a driving force** for ambitious environmental policy in Europe.*

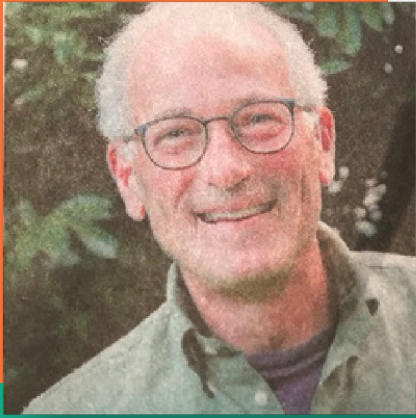
*Combining deep technical expertise with strategic vision, ECOS has helped **turn complex EU processes into tangible progress**—from advancing reuse systems in packaging rules and strengthening WEEE, to safeguarding environmental criteria in the Construction Products Regulation. Together, we have also promoted green public procurement, improved lifecycle standards for EV batteries, and pushed for more durable electronics.*

*Their **credibility, persistence, and collaborative spirit** ensure that environmental priorities are firmly embedded in European legislation—and we look forward to continuing this joint effort to further strengthen environmental laws in the years ahead.*



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Ralph HALLO

President 2000-2005

European Environmental Bureau

*I was, if memory serves, just in office as EEB President when ECOS launched as a separate organization, independent from the EEB. The credit for its conception and creation goes primarily to Karola Taschner, the EEB's long-serving policy staff, who recognized the **need for an organization to participate in the process of standard setting** at EU level and advocate for strong environmental standards. Persistence paid off and ECOS came to be. In the 25 years since it has **demonstrated its value over and over again** and grown in staff and scope accordingly. This work is never done and **continues to be as necessary** as it first was.*

Wishing ECOS a happy birthday and an ongoing impact!



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Agustín REYNA
Director General
BEUC

*BEUC enjoys close collaboration with ECOS, especially in the **area of Ecodesign**, where we jointly work on an EU-funded project, Ecodesigned4LIFE. ECOS has been particularly adept in **raising awareness about the environmental relevance of repair** vs. replacing products and effectively contributed to the development of repairability requirements across different products groups, like smartphones and other electronics.*

*This has helped to **improve the availability of spare parts and repair instructions**, as well as ensuring **products are designed to be repairable**. We very much look forward to continuing this excellent working relationship with ECOS in the future.*



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Stephen RUSSELL

Director-General
ANEC

*ANEC applauds ECOS on its silver jubilee. A fellow Annex III organisation, we must **commend ECOS's peerless contribution to nurturing and strengthening environmental expertise**, both within the European Standardisation System and further afield.*

*During its 25 years, **ECOS has become instrumental in ensuring European standards drive the green transition** effectively, while upholding the highest principles of public interest, fairness, and international outlook. Our **numerous collaborations** have highlighted the vital role of civil society in shaping robust and market-relevant standards.*

We can only look forward to continuing our partnership in championing standards that deliver real benefits for consumers, society, and the environment.



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Guido DE JONGH

Advisor
ETUC

*Since its early days, I have been working with ECOS – at that time a very small organisation. Over the years, I saw ECOS grow and gain credibility. At the age of 25, it is a **respected organisation**, in Brussels and beyond. The skilled ECOS staff and their experts know the “world of standards”. Therefore, they make the difference in technical standard setting: they negotiate, provide expertise, influence and **shape the technical standards for tomorrow’s world, for a better and sustainable world.***



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Susan McGARRY

Director of Public Affairs and Sustainability
Ecocem

*Ecocem is **proud to work with ECOS**, particularly through its membership of both the Alliance for Low-Carbon Cement and Concrete (ALCCC) and the Buy Better to Build Better (BBBB) Coalition.*

*The expertise and analysis that ECOS provides to policymakers and industry players is **essential to ensuring the implementation of strong environmental principles and the development of robust standards and product regulations at EU level.***

We look forward to continuing to work collaboratively with ECOS and its Coalitions to advocate for technical standards, policies and regulations to support low-carbon construction materials.



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Henrique PACINI

Programme Lead
UNCTAD SMEP

*Working with ECOS through the SMEP programme has been a valuable institutional collaboration for UNCTAD. Together, we **helped advance practical support to Kenya, Nigeria and Ghana** on standards for plastic biodegradation and compostability at a crucial moment. Misleading labels and unsubstantiated claims about plastic alternatives risk undermining national environmental policy, regional harmonization efforts such as the East African Community single-use plastics bill process, and the global INC negotiations.*

***ECOS' Nairobi presence has strengthened locally grounded engagement** with Member States and standard setters. This work is essential for a responsible material transition and for enabling **credible, trade-supportive markets** for plastic alternatives globally.*



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