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FOREWORD

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards institutes (ISO Member Bodies). The work of developing International Standards is carried out through ISO Technical Committees. Every Member Body interested in a subject for which a Technical Committee has been set up has the right to be represented on that Committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work.

Draft International Standards adopted by the Technical Committees are circulated to the Member Bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council.

Prior to 1972, the results of the work of the Technical Committees were published as ISO Recommendations; these documents are now in the process of being transformed into International Standards. As part of this process, International Standard ISO 3 replaces ISO Recommendation R 3-1954 drawn up by Technical Committee ISO/TC 19, *Preferred numbers*.

The Member Bodies of the following countries approved the Recommendation :

Australia Austria Belgium Chile Denmark Finland France Germany Hungary

India Israel Italy Mexico Netherlands New Zealand Norway Portugal South Africa, Rep. of Spain Sweden Switzerland United Kingdom U.S.A. U.S.S.R. Yugoslavia

No Member Body expressed disapproval of the Recommendation.

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