

10 December 2008



Distinguished Guests, Mr PresidentTucu

Ladies and gentlemen, Friends of European Standards

It is an honour for me to be here at this very special event, celebrating not just one, but two important landmarks in Romanian standardization.

I am delighted to be here to represent the Secretary-General, Gaston Michaud and on behalf of CEN, the European Committee for Standardization, and, personally, as someone who is deeply committed to the cause of European standardization.

80 years of national standardization activity is an important - and impressive - achievement; as we all know, prosperity and stability move forward with standardization. In addition, the 10-year anniversary of ASRO is an accomplishment to celebrate, being an engine of Romania's move into the European Union. Both milestones are cause for celebration, and cause for congratulations.

This year is (still) 2008, which means eighty years ago it was 1928. Europe and the world have changed immeasurably in that time -especially in terms of technology and political landscape. What is particularly striking is the way that international cooperation (aided by technology) is bringing us all closer together. Especially on the European continent, and especially over the past 18 years.

Standards play an important role in removing trade barriers, and are a collaborative effort par excellence. For 80 years standardization in Romania has helped lay the foundation for a successful, prosperous country, and helped it lay a strong foundation for European Union Membership.

ASRO has been a member of CEN and CENELEC since 2004, this national membership was the conclusion of concerted institutional efforts. But of course, CEN and CENELEC membership could also be seen as one of the milestones on Romania's journey to membership of the European Union. On 1 January 2007, that too came about.

Being a member of our European standardization family means, by definition, that ASRO is dedicated to the open, effective, efficient development of standards in a spirit of co-operation with all stakeholders. We have seen the evidence that ASRO and its representatives have upheld these values, and we appreciate this commitment of ASRO as a member of the CEN family.

We know that this will continue, and strengthen over time.

In conclusion, CEN's congratulations go to each and every person involved in this event. That means for everyone, whether stakeholders or ASRO colleagues, you all deserve to share in this celebration tonight.

Before we move along in the programme, I would like to ask the ASRO President/Mr Tucu if he will accept this small gift from CEN, on the occasion of the 10th Anniversary of ASRO, and of 80 years of Romanian standardization.

We look forward to many more years of co-operation with ASRO and your continued active involvement in the European Standardization System. The few years ahead look particularly challenging for us, and we shall value the support of all our members, especially the newest ones.

Thank you,

*Mesaj transmis din partea CEN (European Committee for Standardisation), de către dl. John Ketchell, director „Innovation and Business Development”.*