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Decisions from 68th CEN/BT TCMG – 170th CLC/BT

Since the last issue of the BT Newsletter in December 2021, the CENELEC/BT has met once, on 8 February 2022, and the CEN/BT TCMG has held one meeting, on 10 March 2022 (virtual meetings).

We are pleased to report here on the main outcomes of crosscutting nature discussions resulting from those meetings, as well as on the latest decisions of transversal nature taken by correspondence (until 16 March 2022).

Best regards

Cinzia MISSIROLI

Director Standardization & Digital Solutions – Secretary of the Technical Boards

Common CEN-CENELEC matters

Strategic and policy matters

Standards in support of innovation and research

The newly issued CEN-CENELEC Guide 39 'The role of standards in support of Technology Transfer' has been developed to highlight the role of standards in promoting innovation in the marketplace and covers 3 main aspects:

Firstly, it is clarified that, while standards become more relevant where a technology matures, they also support all stages of innovation. Secondly, various ways are described to connect innovation and standardization, with explicit focus on the CWA, which is often used in the context of EU-financed Research & Innovation projects. Thirdly, attention is given to Intellectual Property Rights (both patents and copyright) and how standardization co-exists with IPRs.

CEN-CENELEC Guide 39 is available on the [CEN and CENELEC website](#).

Decision ref: CEN/BT C253/2021 & CLC/BT D170/C073, applicable from 2022-01-19

Contact person: Mr Luc VAN DEN BERGHE (lvandenbergh@cencenelec.eu)

Standards in support of climate change adaptation

As a complement to [CEN-CENELEC Guide 32](#) 'Guide for addressing climate change adaptation in standards', the CEN-CENELEC Coordination Group on Adaptation to Climate Change has developed a Tailored Guidance Document 'How to include climate change adaptation in European infrastructure standards', specifically designed for standards writers of CEN and/or CENELEC infrastructure standards.

The Guidance document will be available shortly on the [CEN and CENELEC website](#).

Decision ref: CEN/BT C019/2022 & CLC/BT D171/C038, applicable from 2022-02-23

Contact person: Ms Andrea NAM (anam@cencenelec.eu)

Processes and operational matters

The new normal

The pandemic restrictions of the last two years have fostered the digital transformation of our way of working and collaborating, and today virtual and hybrid meetings become standard fare. To address this fundamental change, a Guidance Document on 'The new normal' has been developed and endorsed by the BTs, with the objective to ensure efficient meetings, whether virtual, hybrid or face-to-face. The idea is to review it after one-year experience, based on the feedback received from the Technical Bodies.

The Guidance Document will be made available shortly to the Technical Body Officers.

Decision ref: CEN/BT C048/2022 & CLC/BT D171/C089

Contact person: Ms Nooshin AMIRIFAR (namirifar@cencenelec.eu)

Joint Advisory and Coordination Groups – Report to BTs

As a follow-up of previous discussions at BT level on the obligation for Joint Advisory and Coordination Groups to regularly report to the BTs, a template for such reports has been developed and endorsed; it is available on the [CEN](#) and [CENELEC](#) BOSS pages.

Decision ref: CEN/BT C033/2022 & CLC/BT D171/C061, applicable from 2022-03-09

Contact person: Ms Catherine VIGNERON (cvigneron@cencenelec.eu)

Cooperation with Annex III Organizations

As European Partners of CEN and/or CENELEC, the so-called Annex III Organizations¹ as per Regulation (EU) 1025/2012 have the right to participate in the technical activities of common interest, as well as to access the necessary working documents.

To secure the above right in a systemic way and ensure proper participation of the Annex III Organizations in the CEN and CENELEC technical work, the BTs agreed to give them access to normative references and watermarked versions of published European standards via a tailor-made download cart in Projex online.

CCEM is currently working on the implementation of the necessary IT solution.

Decision ref: CEN/BT C257/2021 & CLC/BT D171/C020, applicable from 2021-01-26

Contact person: Ms Deborah WAUTIER (dwautier@cencenelec.eu)

Cooperation with EC/EFTA

Standardization activities in the frame of the EU Strategy on Standardization, including AUWP for European Standardization

The recently released [EU Strategy on Standardization](#) emphasizes the strategic role of Standards in the Single and Global market, supporting Europe's competitiveness and strategic autonomy and contributing to a resilient green and digital transformation, and identifies a series of priorities ('urgencies') in order to achieve these objectives.

The EC has reflected these priorities in the activities expected from the ESOs in the [Annual Union Work Program for European Standardization](#). The analysis of the document showed that the listed priorities and items seem to be in line with CEN and CENELEC's objectives and interest. Specific topics will require additional information from the EC on the timing and content in order to be able to provide a targeted effective response of standardizers. To this end, the sectoral Project Managers will follow the legislative and technical developments in their sectors and coordinate with the technical bodies and the EC services.

Contact person: Sectoral Project Manager in charge of your Technical Body

Harmonized Standards: Assessment framework and budget

After several months coping with a restrictive budget for HAS assessments (limiting the Consultants' activities to sole assessment of candidate hENSs), CEN and CENELEC were notified in February that no further assessment would be processed within the current HAS contract due to the exhaustion of the budget, noting that a call for tender for a new sub-contractor was launched in December 2021.

¹ ANEC (The European Consumer Voice in Standardisation), ECOS (The Environmental Coalition on Standards), ETUC (The European Trade Union Confederation) and SBS (Small Business Standard).

Seizing the momentum CCMC provided the EC with a series of recommendations towards an improvement of the HAS system, to be considered in the frame of the future contract. The EC has integrated most of the recommendations in the tender (e.g. improving the horizontal and vertical consistency, the conditional compliance, ...). The new contract is expected to be in place by May and the HAS Consultants' activities will be resumed thereafter.

Furthermore, an interim solution has been agreed with the EC for addressing assessment requests during the interval period between the two HAS contracts, involving all parties (use by TCs of a self-assessment checklist for evaluating candidate hENs, sending of lists of candidate hENs by CCMC to EC sectoral units for assessment).

A webinar was organized on 2022-03-08 to provide guidance to TCs on how to proceed during the transition period, and to present the novelties of the upcoming contract. Should you have missed it, you can still watch the recording available on the respective [CEN](#) and [CENELEC](#) expert sites.

Contact person: Sectoral Project Manager in charge of your Technical Body

Harmonized Standards in the Machinery sector

To address one of the common reasons for lack of compliance of harmonized Standards under the Machinery directive i.e. issues with the informative Annex Z, the CEN-CENELEC Sector Forum on Machinery has developed guidance and instructions for TCs for preparing such Annex, which have been validated by the European Commission.

The BTs ask the relevant Technical Committees of the Machinery sector to comply with those instructions, which are now available on the [CEN](#) and [CENELEC](#) BOSS pages.

Decision ref: CEN/BT C036/2022 & CLC/BT D171/C076, applicable from 2022-03-16

Contact person: Ms Joanna FRANKOWSKA (jfrankowska@cencenelec.eu)

Standardization Requests

Since the issue of the last BT newsletter (December 2021) CEN and/or CENELEC have received the following Standardization Requests:

- Standardization Request on **Fertilizers** (M/564 Amd 1), amending C(2020)612, in support of Regulation (EU) 2019/1009.
CEN/TC 223 'Soil improvers and growing media', CEN/TC 260 'Fertilizers and liming materials' and CEN/TC 455 'Plant biostimulant' will develop the requested deliverables.

Decision ref: CEN/BT C231/2021, applicable from 2021-12-07

Contact person: Ms Alessia GAETANI (agaetani@cencenelec.eu)

- Standardization Request on **Accreditation and conformity assessment** (M/580) in support of Regulation (EC) 765/2008.
The execution of work has been to be allocated to CEN-CLC/JTC 1 'Criteria for conformity assessment bodies' with the contribution of CEN-CLC/BTWG 16 'Strategic Advisory Body on Environment (SABE)'.

Decision ref: CEN/BT C246/2021 & CLC/BT D170/C069, applicable from 2021-12-22

Contact person: Mr Marc-Antoine CARREIRA DA CRUZ (mcarreira@cencenelec.eu)

CEN-only matters

Processes and operational matters

Standards in support of accessibility

To support Technical Bodies in the drafting of deliverables that are readable by the widest possible audience, the CEN Strategic Advisory Group on Accessibility (SAGA) has developed guidelines to create an accessible Word document and to convert an already-accessible Word document into PDF, so that the PDF file maintains the same accessibility level. These guidelines should be available shortly on the CEN BOSS.

Decision ref: CEN/BT C040/2022, applicable from 2022-03-16

Contact person: Ms Christina THORNGREEN (cthorgreen@cencenelec.eu)

CENELEC-only matters

Processes and operational matters

Supersession information in CENELEC deliverables

The CENELEC BT confirmed that

- the full string of the supersession information, including the partial supersession (provided that it is communicated by technical bodies), is to be added on the title page of CENELEC deliverables
- a generic sentence relating to the supersession information of the main standard is to be included in the European Foreword, to read 'This document supersedes EN NNNNN:YYYY and all of its amendments and corrigenda (if any)'
- this practice will be implemented by 2022-03-31, upon availability of the necessary IT tools.

In order to have correct data displayed on the title page, Technical Body Officers are kindly reminded to provide the supersession information to CCMC when circulating drafts to procedures.

Decision ref: CLC/BT D170/003, applicable from 2022-03-31

Contact person: Mr Gonçalo ASCENSAO (gascensao@cenelec.eu)

Committee Internal Vote (CIV)

The CENELEC BT has validated a template to be used as mandatory supporting document for all CIVs launched from 2022-03-01 onwards (available on the [CENELEC BOSS](#) under 'Technical Work').

A dedicated webinar was organized on 2022-02-25.

Should you have missed it, you can still watch the [recording](#).

Decision ref: CLC/BT D170/004, applicable from 2022-03-01

Contact person: Sectoral Project Manager in charge of your Technical Body

Cooperation with IEC - Frankfurt Agreement

Exemptions from parallel procedures

The CENELEC BT is closely monitoring the implementation of the Frankfurt Agreement. At each meeting, an updated review of IEC publications exempted from parallel procedures is presented: a first part lists permanent and temporary exemptions, while a second part indicates those IEC documents that are used as such in Europe. The Permanent Delegates are invited to check beforehand with the relevant Technical Bodies whether the status mentioned is still correct and to inform CCMC of any needed modification. This document remains a key tool in order to apply the Frankfurt Agreement properly. The Exemption list is available on the [CENELEC BOSS](#).

Considering the discussions at the 170th BT meeting regarding the use and interpretation of the list of exemptions from parallel procedures, CCMC was requested to organize a webinar on the Frankfurt Agreement, with a focus on the exemptions, for Technical Body Officers and national stakeholders. The webinar will be scheduled before the 171st BT meeting.

Decision ref: CLC/BT D170/006, applicable from 2022-02-08

Next CEN and CENELEC BT meetings

2022-05-04 – 95th CEN/BT

2022-05-05 – BTs common session

2022-05-06 – 171st CLC/BT

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