



AFSEC

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN CENELEC AND AFSEC**

Concluded between

CENELEC –
Comité Européen de la Normalisation Electrotechnique
Avenue Marnix 17
B-1000 Brussels

Referred to hereafter as CENELEC,

and

AFSEC – African Electrotechnical Standardization Commission
Private Bag x13
Halfway House
Midrand
South Africa 1685

Referred to hereafter as AFSEC

Hereafter referred to individually as 'the Party' or collectively as 'the Parties'.

Whereas,

- **CENELEC** is one of the three officially recognised European Standards Organizations (ESOs) whose main objectives are to foster innovation and competitiveness, through the production of voluntary electrotechnical European standards, removing technical barriers to trade and contributing to the welfare of European citizens.
- **AFSEC** is the continental Electrotechnical Standardization Commission officially recognised by the African Union (AU) member states for the promotion, development and application of harmonised standards to
 - facilitate increased access to electricity;
 - increase the efficiency of the industrial processes;
 - facilitate the trade on the African continent; and
 - contribute to the improvement of the health and safety of persons and to the protection of the environment.
- The Parties wish to remove technical barriers to trade; to improve economic, scientific and technical exchanges; to ensure the compatibility and interchangeability of supplied products/services and their safety to human life, health and private property; and to promote environmental protection.

- The Parties have expressed their mutual desire to strengthen their cooperation in the field of standardisation and are, for that purpose, signing the present Memorandum of Understanding.

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is to establish the relationship between **CENELEC** and **AFSEC** in order to reinforce the cooperation in all matters relating to electrotechnical standardization so as to facilitate

- a) the exchange of goods and services between the countries of the EU and EFTA and the countries belonging to the African continent , and
- b) the interconnection of the electrical networks of Europe and Africa.

ARTICLE 1 **Objectives of the MoU**

The Memorandum of Understanding between **AFSEC** and **CENELEC** has been drafted with the following objectives:

1. To encourage communication between the organizations through exchange of information and documentation;
2. To promote mutual understanding of the roles of each organization in their respective regions, their involvement in the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and their use of international standards;
3. To promote knowledge of standards development activities of each organization;
4. To adopt a complementary approach to the standardization process in areas of mutual interest;
5. To achieve and promote standardization, through the maximum adoption or harmonized adaptation of international standards;
6. To avoid duplication wherever possible;
7. To have access to translated standards and related documents when available;
8. To increase the level of African expertise in the matter of European electrotechnical standardization;
9. To increase the level of European expertise in the matter of African electrotechnical standardization.

ARTICLE 2 **Cooperation Modalities**

CENELEC and AFSEC shall organise regular meetings, e.g. once a year, in order to exchange views and to co-ordinate, as far as possible, their positions on matters of common interest.

CENELEC and AFSEC shall respectively assign a contact person in their organisations, who will be in charge of the operational aspects of the MoU, keeping the contacts on behalf of the Parties, organising the yearly meetings and ensuring the follow up of the decisions taken by the Parties.

CENELEC shall invite, in accordance with its statutory rules, the AFSEC representatives to attend the CENELEC General Assembly meeting with an observer status.

AFSEC shall invite, in accordance with its statutory rules, CENELEC representatives to attend the AFSEC General Assembly meeting with an observer status.

ARTICLE 3 **Information exchange**

AFSEC and CENELEC agree to regularly exchange information on standards through:

- The exchange of institutional documents (that is to say, the CEN / CENELEC Internal Regulations and Guides, AFSEC Rules);
- The exchange of relevant working programmes and/or the establishment of joint working groups in areas of common interest.
- The taking of appropriate measures to facilitate the exchange of technical documentation and information, and
- The provision of standards and technical documents relating to standardization adopted or to be adopted by AFSEC or any of its members to be specified, being translated into French, Portuguese and Spanish, through UTE (French National Committee), IPQ (Portuguese National Committee) and AENOR (Spanish National Committee) on a case by case basis, whenever available.

In order to facilitate and develop exchanges of information between the two organizations, both parties agree to make every effort to develop a direct gateway between their websites at www.cenelec.eu and www.afsec-africa.org .

ARTICLE 4 **Knowledge Transfer**

CENELEC (including any of its members) can offer training and capacity building of staff and the members of **AFSEC** on matters relating to their activities, and/or standardization work.

AFSEC (including any of its members) can offer training to staff and members of **CENELEC** on matters relating to their activities.

Such training and capacity building may be held at mutually agreed venues in Europe or in Africa.

In this context, and once agreement is reached with the continental organization, any member of **AFSEC** can approach **CENELEC**, or one of its members, for training or capacity building purposes on specific topics.

CENELEC may conduct seminars in cooperation with its members on the basic

values of regional standardization. The seminars will be organized by **CENELEC** in collaboration with **AFSEC** and will be targeted at relevant stakeholders of both parties.

ARTICLE 5

Guidelines for the distribution and sales of CENELEC publications

Without prejudice to the provisions of Guide 10, should AFSEC members wish to adopt CENELEC ENs as a national standard, the guidelines outlined in the CEN-CENELEC Guide 10 shall prevail, notwithstanding any clauses that may contravene any existing agreement between AFSEC and IEC.

ARTICLE 6

General Terms and Conditions

CENELEC and **AFSEC** recognize that the implementation of activities under the Memorandum of Understanding depends on the availability of adequate funding. However, both organizations will take the necessary actions to find solutions.

AFSEC and **CENELEC** agree to regularly review this Memorandum of Understanding to ensure it meets its stated objectives.

The **AFSEC** Executive Secretary and **CENELEC** Director General are responsible for the implementation of this agreement. Regular reports will be submitted to both councils.

This MoU will be published in English and French. In case of different interpretation, the original English version prevails.

Any reference in this Agreement to any provision of CEN-CENELEC Guides or rules shall be intended as a reference to that provision as amended, re-enacted or extended at the relevant time.

The Parties shall resolve amicably any problem arising under or relating to the interpretation or implementation of this Cooperation Agreement.

All Parties may agree to modify this Agreement anytime by written amendment signed by their authorised representatives.

ARTICLE 8

Commencement and Termination

This Agreement shall come into force at the signature of the last Party. It will remain in effect until either party request its termination. A six months' notice shall be given in writing.

Signed on behalf of AFSEC.....Melbourne.....Date.....25/10/11

AFSEC President



Kantana Janda

Signed on behalf of CENELEC.....D. Dossett.....Date.....25/10/2011

CENELEC President , Mr David Dossett