Timely European standards for a Green and Digital, Single and Global Market

Workshop of 3 October 2023: Presenting the TF outcomes

By representatives of the Task Force with EC, EFTA, CEN, CENELEC and ETSI

Why was the Task Force established?

In order to

- **Enable strategic alignment** of policy needs, business priorities and standardization

- **Support sound planning** of expected actions (codified in AUWP)

- **Overcome obstacles** for a timely development of harmonized standards and their smooth citation in the Official Journal of the European Union

- **Ensure common understanding** on roles, responsibilities and requirements

- **Improve data** quality and interoperability between ESOs and Commission

- **Having at hand the same set** of information and guidance documents

- **Increase capacity building** of all involved parties

Task Force 'Timely European standards for a Green and Digital, Single and Global Market'

Composition

Co-Chairs:
EC: DG GROW
ESO: CEN & CENELEC

DG GROW
DG CNCT
DG ENER
DG SANTE
DG DEFIS
DG MOVE

European Commission

EFTA

cen

CENELEC

ETSI

Main achievements   I

➢ **High level process** to engage all stakeholders for identification and handling of priority topics (via HLF, Alliances, AUWP, etc.)

➢ **Agreements and common understanding** on roles, responsibilities and ways of work when drafting **a Standardization Request (SR)**

  ➢ Extensive consultation

  ➢ Clarity on legal requirements

  ✓ NEW ad hoc SR checklist!

  ✓ Role of CoS secretariat in case of persistent issues with other DGs

Main achievements   II

➤ **Improvement of development process** for hENs
  - ✓ Introduction of ESO Quality Check
  - ✓ Addressing compliance aspects earlier in the process
  - ✓ Possible use of ESO-EC-HAS 'Concerted meeting' to solve controversies between ESO TBs and Consultants

➤ **Same criteria** for (self-)assessment of standards for ESOs and EC consultants or EC officers
  - ✓ NEW common EC-ESO checklist for hEN!

➤ **Agreements on assessment** and assessment outcomes
  - ✓ Commission services are ultimate responsible for compliance and decision on (non-)citation
    - ✓ any request for clarifications can be addressed to Commission
    - ✓ any challenge with consultants can be reported to Com
  - ✓ A lack of compliance from assessment is not a reason for rejection, if accompanied by track changes or table summarizing how the issues were addressed

Main achievements   III

➢ **Availability of new HAS platform** & funds for data interoperability

➢ **More frequent offering of standards** in view of citation (awaiting IT improvements for a seamless offering)

➢ **Impulse for each Party to improve its way of working and communicating!**

Links to the two checklists

Both checklists will be part of the *Toolbox for common guidance*, when ready. In the meantime, they can be easily accessed via CEN and CENELEC BOSS pages (under 'Forms and templates'/ 'Tecnhical work):

➢ Checklist for drafting Standardization requests
https://boss.cen.eu/media/BOSS%20CEN/formtemp/draft_sreq_checklist.docx

➢ Checklist for hENs (self-)assessment
https://boss.cen.eu/media/BOSS%20CEN/formtemp/checklist_hens_2023.docx

The ESOs-EC Task Force has closed its work….

… start of the implementation of all actions!

Implementation of identified measures and expected benefit

What and how Parties are implementing

Moderator: Alberto Simeoni

- **Federico Musso, European Commission 'Standards policy' Policy Officer**
- **Gudrun Rognvaldardottir, EFTA Senior Officer**
- **Luis Romero Saro, ETSI Director General**
- **Frederic Vaillant, CLC Vice President Technical**

Scope of the Task Force EC/ESOs

- The Task Force was set up to find jointly agreed solutions to eliminate bottlenecks in standardisation, to maximise efficiency of processes on both sides, to better anticipate future standardisation needs and to clarify respective roles and interactions. Work took place in a very collaborative and solution-oriented spirit.

- Among the different tools developed to improve the standardisation workflow, some are particularly relevant from an operational point of view:

  ➢ The Checklist for the preparation of Standardisation Requests – implemented since a few months

  ➢ The common Checklist for the self-assessment by the ESOs and the assessment by the Commission and the consultants working for the Commission of draft harmonised standards – implemented since 01/10/2023

  ➢ The re-development and integration of the IT-tools within the Commission and between Commission and ESOs – on-going work

  ➢ Systematic training programmes and events

Checklist for Standardisation Requests

- The first experiences with this checklist are positive. It gives structure to the consultations between ESOs and Commission services and ensures that all relevant aspects are discussed and clarified at an early stage.

- It documents the exchanges and respective comments, and the way specific points were solved and agreed.

- We will monitor and evaluate the use of this checklist, and if needed clarify with a guidance how it should be used by both sides.

European Commission

Self-assessment by the TCs/ESOs

- The common checklist to assess draft harmonised standards has replaced the assessment report template, effective 01.10.2023.

- It will be used by both sides, for self-assessment (ESOs) and EC/HAS Consultants assessment, allowing to also register the response of the TCs to the assessments.

- Art. 10(5) of the Standardisation Regulation states that "*The Commission <u>together with the European standardisation organisations</u> shall assess the compliance of the documents drafted by the European standardisation organisations with its initial reques*t."

- So far though, due to lack of resources, ESOs usually relied on the assessments done by the HAS Consultants, which however assess the draft standards on behalf of the Commission.

- Now, the ESOs will introduce a systematic self-assessment of draft harmonised standards. For this purpose, they will use the Part A of the new checklist, which is an element that did not exist in the previous assessment report template.

The parts of the checklist to be used by the HAS Consultants

- The parts of the checklist to be used by the HAS Consultants are based on the assessment report template in terms of content.

- New Part B.1 broadly corresponds to the old cover page (with some small changes).

- Part B.2 reflects exactly the Part A.1 of the old template and is used to provide the overall outcome of the assessment.

- Part B.3 is the most changed element, even though more in terms of structure than in terms of content. We eliminated duplications and redundancies and improved some formulations for clarity.

- We changed systematically the system of indicating findings: now the whole new Part B.3 uses the three-options system previously used only in Part B of the old template (positive language).

Implementation - CEN & CLC I

▶ Governing bodies created a specific Project under strategy 2030 on 'Timely citation' (P1)

▶ Set up of a structure to provide quality checks on draft deliverables before assessment
  ➢ Budget secured
  ➢ Team ready

▶ BT approval and implementation within Cen and CENELEC of the new checklist for drafting Standardization requests.
  ➢ Processes and forms adapted, SRAHG informed.
  ➢ In use as of June 2023 for all draft SReq which have been shared by the Commission just before the EC inter-service consultation

Note: Concerning SReq, but not directly related to the checklist. Result so far of the new better consultation by EC on SReq: since 2022 all SReqs have been accepted by Cen and Cenelec without major issues

Implementation - CEN & CLC II

▶ **Definition and approval from BTs of innovative processes on SR execution as agreed in the ESO-EC TF Timely Delivery**

➢ Innovative process for homegrown standards has been defined in details and approved by BTs on 19 Sept.

➢ to be implemented for NWI launched as of 1 October 2023

➢ training, recording and material available

▶ **Definition of a process to perform the quality check on draft deliverables before assessments**

➢ Process defined

➢ Applicable to all ongoing projects upon request of Technical bodies for draft before Enquiry and Formal vote

▶ **BT approval and implementation within CEN and CENELEC of the new checklist for hEN**

➢ Voluntary use by TBs until 1 October

➢ Mandatory within the Innovative process from 1 October 2023
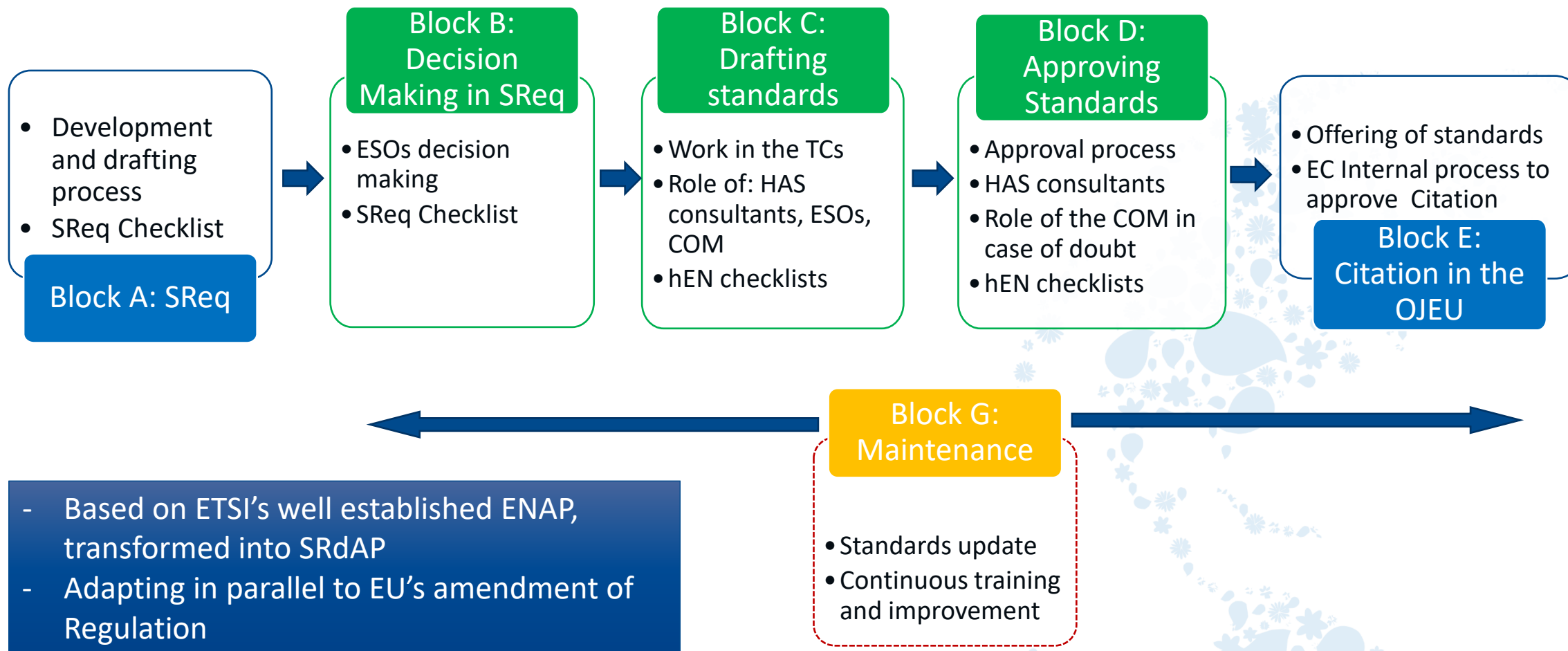
Implementation - CEN & CLC III

▶ Discussion with ISO and IEC to improve process when drafting standards in parallel under Vienna and Frankfurt Agreement

▶ Agreement with DG Energy to join the principles of the innovative process and align as much as possible with HAS consultants for Ecodesign related deliverables

▶ Expectation that regular meetings will take place between EY and CCMC and the structured dialogue CEN-CLC with the Commission will tackle every unrespect of the commitment

▶ For the 'Toolbox for common guidance' we are discussing with GROW H3 (Standards policy) how to organise, store and make accessible all materials.

Implementation - CEN & CLC IV

List of **2023** trainings:

1. [2023-09-25 Webinar 'Innovative process for homegrown harmonised standards (hENs)'](#)

2. [2023-07-07 Webinar 'Matrix of responsibilities for requesting common modifications to IEC standards and the inclusion of Annex Z/(ZA) in IEC Standards'](#)

3. [2023-06-30 Webinar 'Measures to comply with new EU Reg. 2022/2480 amending EU Reg. 1025/2012'](#)

4. [2023-06-29 Webinar 'Harmonized standards under CPR: CPR Acquis, Fast-track and standardization request development process'](#)

5. [2023-06-23 Webinar 'Presentation of the new EC/HAS ESOs Common checklist'''](#)

6. [2023-05-26 Webinar 'Standardization Request for the Machinery Regulation, a smooth transition from the Directive to the Regulation'](#)

7. [2023-05-16 Webinar 'The functioning of the HAS system, interactions with HAS consultants and best practices'](#)

8. [2023-01-24 Webinar 'Harmonized Healthcare Standards'](#)

Improving operational matters

Understanding each step in the process

Block A: SReq
- Development and drafting process
- SReq Checklist

Block B: Decision Making in SReq
- ESOs decision making
- SReq Checklist

Block C: Drafting standards
- Work in the TCs
- Role of: HAS consultants, ESOs, COM
- hEN checklists

Block D: Approving Standards
- Approval process
- HAS consultants
- Role of the COM in case of doubt
- hEN checklists

Block E: Citation in the OJEU
- Offering of standards
- EC Internal process to approve Citation

Block G: Maintenance
- Standards update
- Continuous training and improvement

- Based on ETSI's well established ENAP, transformed into SRdAP
- Adapting in parallel to EU's amendment of Regulation

Questions?

Additional questions can be addressed to:

policy@cencenelec.eu

Thank you

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