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European Standardization Organizations

Webinar on Inclusive Standardization

Enhancing the involvement of societal stakeholders and SMEs in the standard development process



Webinar moderator



Els SOMERS

Project Manager

Public Relations

CEN and CENELEC

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Question and Answer

You 04:36 PM
When is the next session?

Type your question here...

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- ▶ Please note this webinar is recorded for future reference

Your speakers



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- ▶ Inclusion of the European Standardization System
- ▶ Annex III Partner Organizations
 - ▶ Who are they and who do they represent?
 - ▶ What **value** do they bring to the CEN and CENELEC System?
 - ▶ What are their **rights** and obligations within the CEN and CENELEC system?
 - ▶ What is the *Opinion Mechanism*?
- ▶ Guest presentation: **ANEC** – The European consumer voice in standardization
- ▶ Guidance to **foster inclusive** drafting processes & environments

Inclusiveness of the ESS



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- ▶ An **Inclusive** CEN and CENELEC System to be the preferred choice for standardization in Europe is one of the 5 goals identified in the **CEN and CENELEC Strategy 2030**
- ▶ Participation of **Societal Stakeholders and SMEs in European standardization**, complementing their participation at national level → **Specific partnerships with CEN and CENELEC**
- ▶ CEN-CENELEC commitment to inclusiveness reinforced by
 - ▶ EU Regulation 1025/2012 on European Standardization
 - ▶ EU Standardization Strategy (2022); High Level Forum; etc.



Effective participation



“European Standardization Organizations shall encourage and facilitate an appropriate representation and effective participation of all relevant stakeholders, including SMEs, consumer organizations and environmental and social stakeholders in their standardization activities’ (article 5). ”

European Regulation (1025/2012) on European Standardization

The 4 'Annex III' organizations

Consumers



Environment



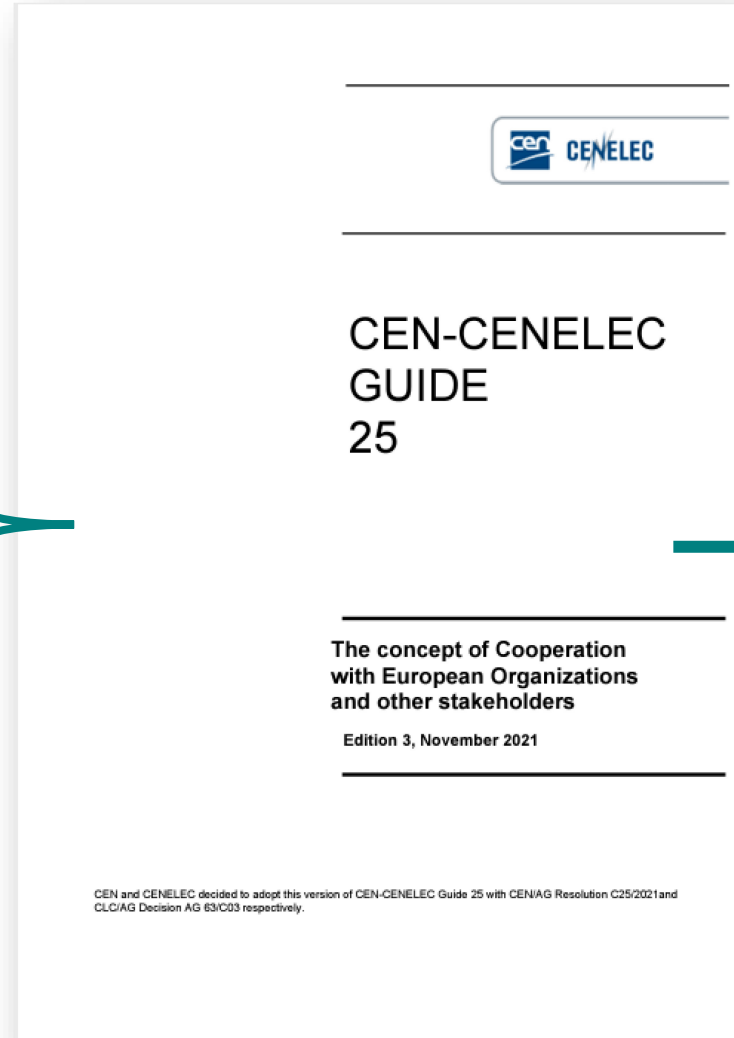
Workers



SMEs



CEN and CENELEC Cooperation with 'Annex III' organizations



2 Areas of Cooperation

- ▶ Participation in the **Governing bodies** and their working or advisory groups
- ▶ Participation in **Technical Committees** and other technical bodies

[Link to Guide 25](#)

The European consumer voice in standardization



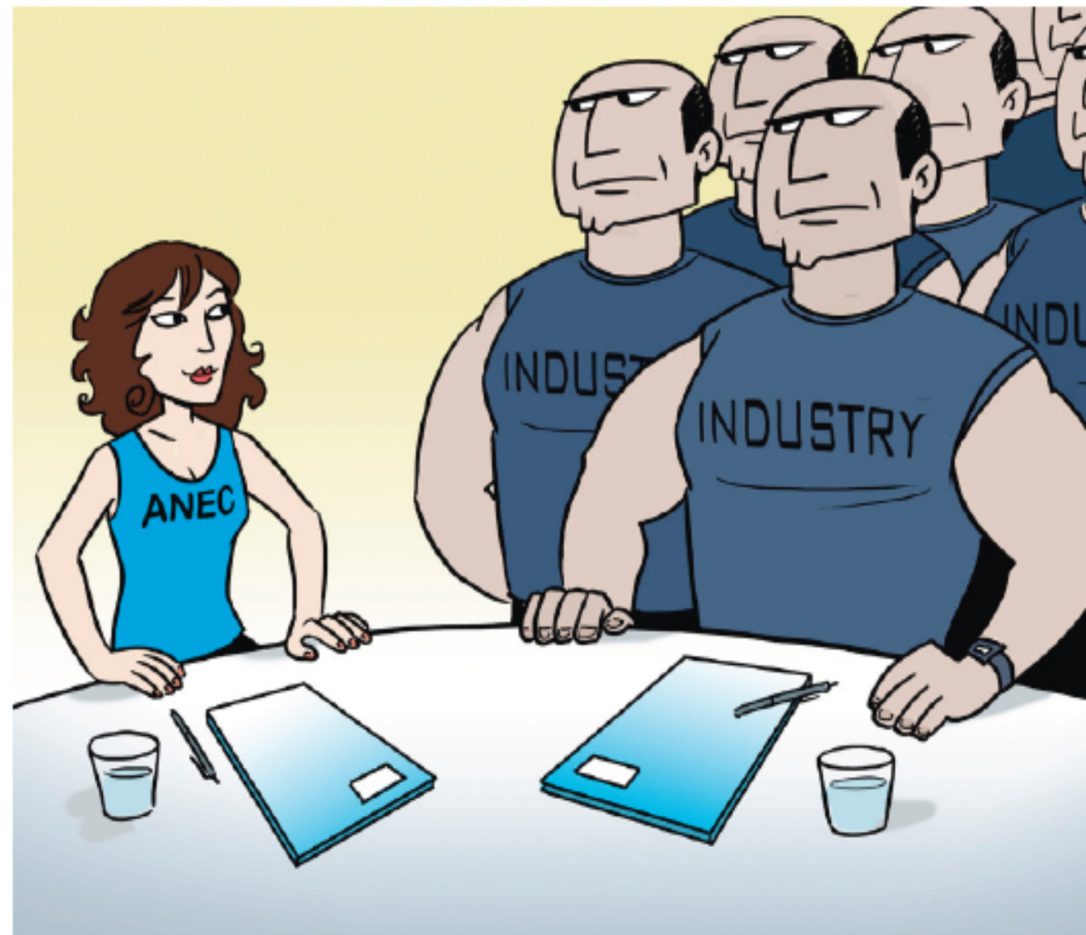
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has provided the collective
European consumer voice
since 1995:

**'The European
Association for the Co-
ordination of Consumer
Representation in
Standardisation'**

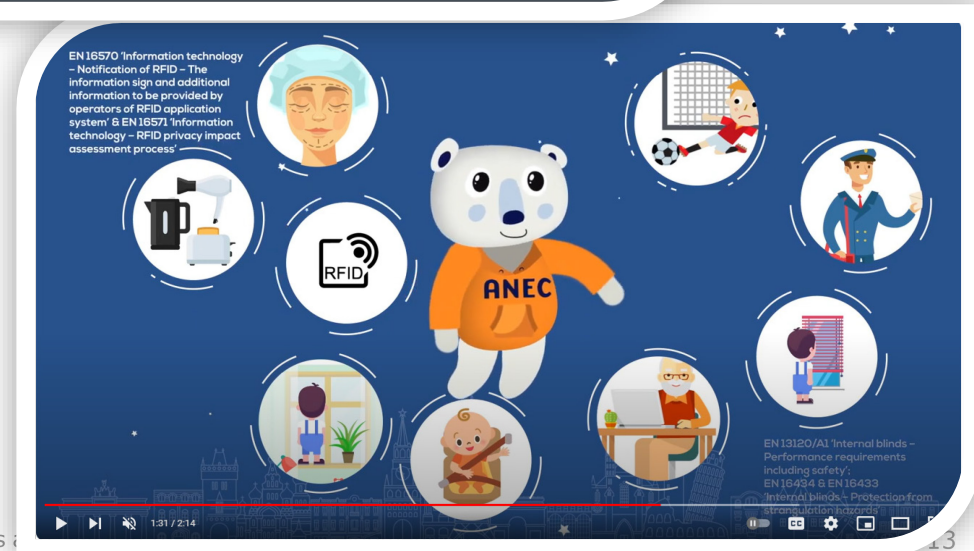
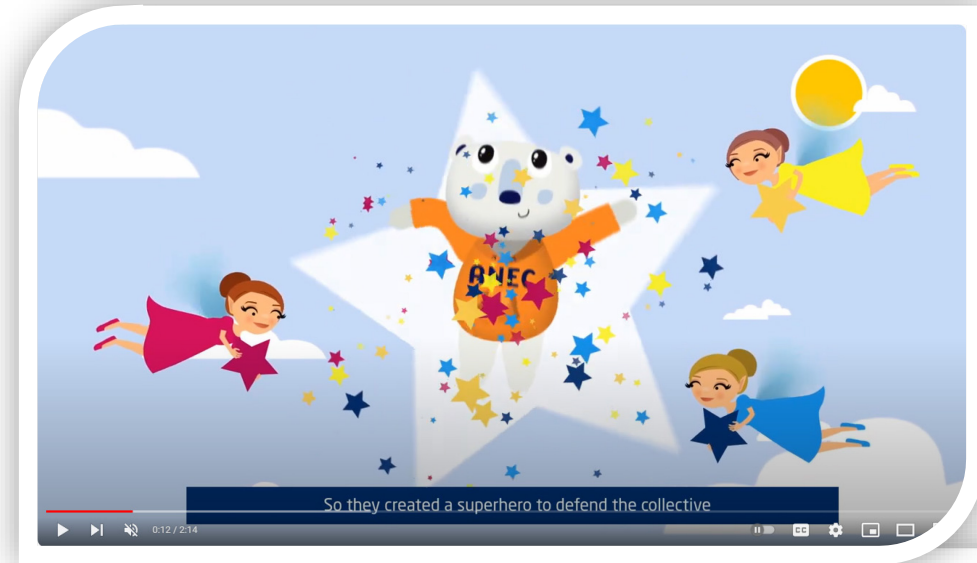
*(or 'The European consumer
voice in standardization')*



- Aims to represent and defend the European consumer interest in a **continuum** of consumer protection and welfare
 - ✓ the development and revision of European **policies & laws** related to standards, consumer protection & welfare (often in liaison with BEUC)
 - ✓ (key mission) of **standardization** (governance & technical levels of CEN, CENELEC & ETSI; sometimes technical level in ISO & IEC; UNECE, with CI)
 - ✓ the **use of standards** (conformity assessment, accreditation, market surveillance & enforcement)
- In 2023, ANEC participated in over **149 technical bodies** of CEN, CENELEC & ETSI, and in over **25 technical bodies** of ISO & IEC; ANEC attended **350 meetings** and sent **332 sets of comments** on draft ENs.

ANEC's mission

- Check out ANEC introductory video for more information:



ANEC Activities & Priorities



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- ▶ ANEC is an independent, private and not-for-profit association (AISBL).
- ▶ Membership mirrors CEN-CENELEC (34 countries) with national consumer organizations in each country nominating a national representative to the ANEC General Assembly (31 countries).
- ▶ Relies on funding from the EU (95%) and EFTA (5%) for its core mission.
- ▶ Seven areas of priority:

Accessibility

Child
Safety

Domestic
Appliances

Digital
Society

Traffic &
Mobility

Services

Sustainability

ANEC Participation



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- ▶ Partner Organization of
- ▶ Partner Organization of
- ▶ Full member of
- ▶ Past member of
- ▶ Observer in ISO/COPOLCO
- ▶ Member of many EC expert groups



Participation at Technical Level

| | CEN | CENELEC |
|------|-----|---------|
| ANEC | 168 | 58 |
| ECOS | 202 | 93 |
| ETUC | 63 | / |
| SBS | 195 | 20 |

Annex III organizations in partnership with CEN-CENELEC

- ▶ Have access to working documents & **normative references**
- ▶ Can participate in any TC **without restriction**
 - ▶ TC: Observer
 - ▶ WG: Expert
- ▶ Can comment at ENQ and during Formal Vote
- ▶ ***Only for Societal Annex III:** can Submit Opinion on draft standards

The Opinion mechanism

In addition to commenting, ***Societal Annex III*** ^{*} in cooperation with ANEC.

- ▲ Right to submit an **Opinion** at:
 - ▲ Enquiry
 - ▲ Formal Vote
- ▲ Opinion is expected to be:
 - ▲ Used **positively**
 - ▲ Used when actively **participating**
 - ▲ **Constructive** for TC to take on board
- ▲ Opinion is not part of the ballot:
 - ▲ Outcome vote: **not** affected
 - ▲ National delegation principle: **not** affected



445

Jan. 2017

Dec. 2023

Opinions submitted

Favourable

Not
Favourable

The Opinion mechanism - Digitalized

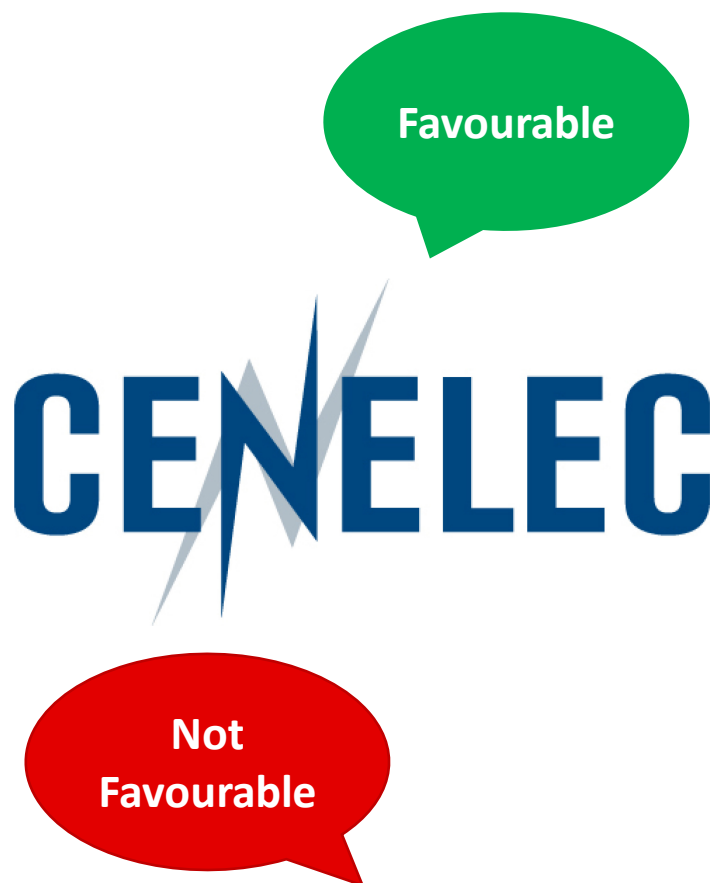
→ *See detailed process on [CEN BOSS](#)*

1. SSOs submit Opinion [on eBalloting platform](#) (filled-in template) → Submitted Opinion will be **visible** for all voters, including the TC/SC Chairperson and Secretary, while the ballot is open.
2. Upon closing of the ballot, the Opinion result table is integrated into the 'results page' (new dedicated table) + CCMC attaches the filled-in template to the 'Voting Results' file and uploads it on Projex-Online (CEN).
3. The Opinion needs to be considered together with all the comments submitted during Enquiry, or – if submitted at FV - during the first occasion the TC/SC has, which will in most cases be its next meeting.
→ **The TC/SC decides on the follow up to be given to the Opinion** (especially if not-favourable) **and informs CCMC** of decision.

→ *Dedicated recorded [training](#) on the [CEN digitalized process](#)*



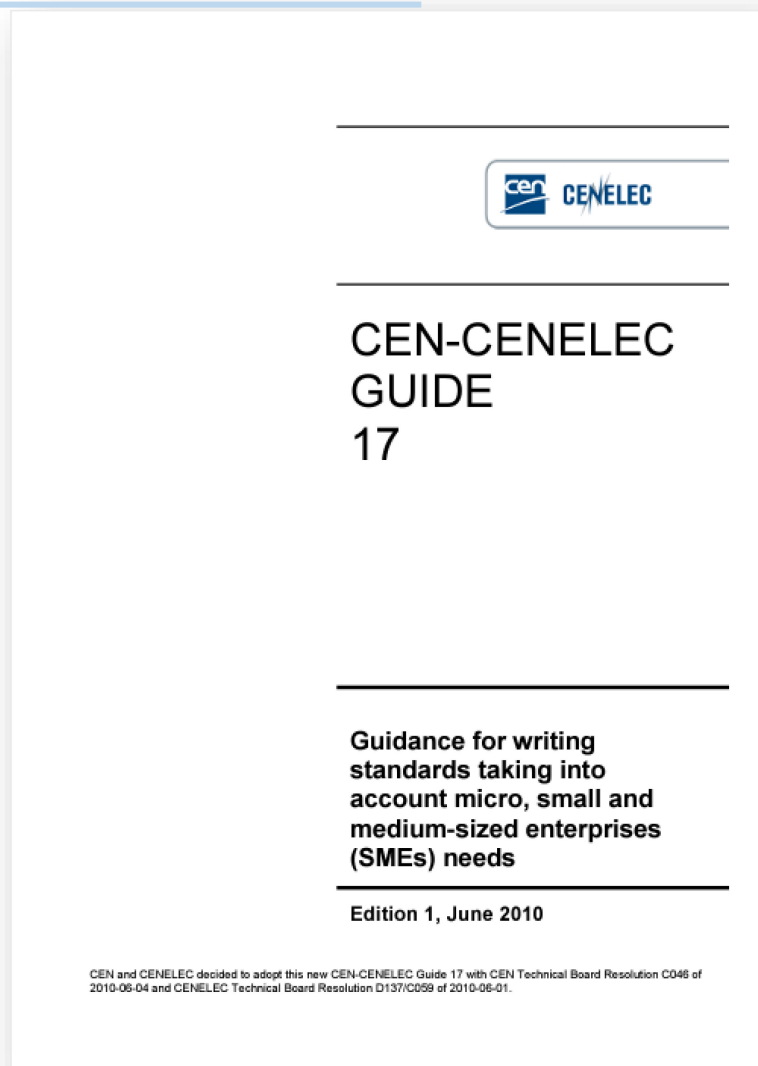
The Opinion mechanism



→ **See detailed process on [CENELEC BOSS](#)**

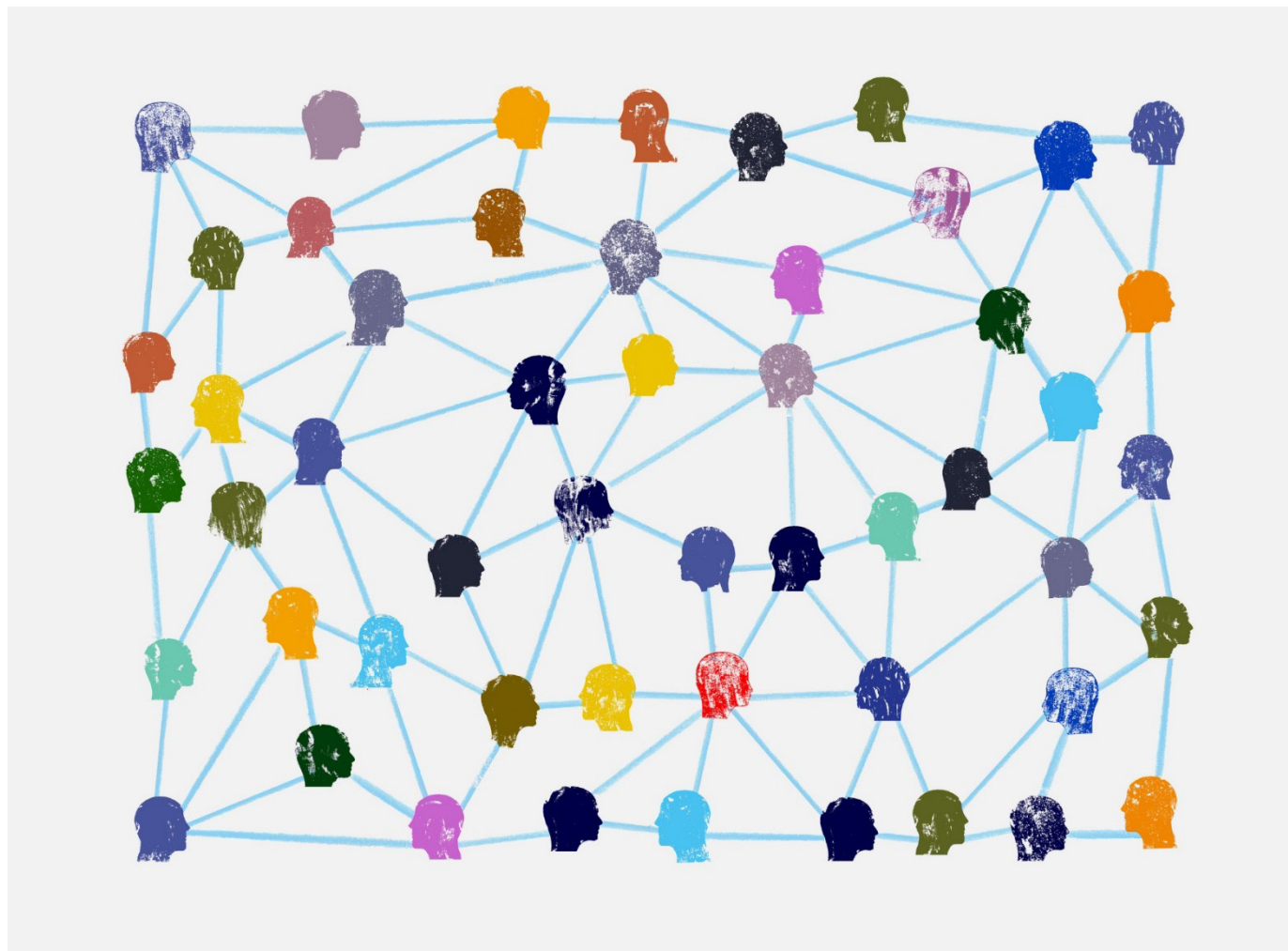
1. SSOs → CCMC
2. CCMC → TC Secretary & Chair
3. **TC Secretary uploads** it on the CLC Collaboration Tool
4. **TC Secretary informs** the **TC for consideration** of the Opinion
 - together with all submitted comments (ENQ)
 - At first occasion, most likely next meeting (FV)
5. **TC agrees** on the follow up → CCMC

Digitalization of CLC Mechanism in progress – pending IEC IT development.



- ▶ Guidance for standard-drafters on **relevant issues to consider when drafting standards to ensure inclusion of SMEs** in the market and avoid distortion of fair competition.
- ▶ The guide is relevant to all involved in **WGs, TCs & national** (mirror) committees → **Checklist**
- ▶ Tips on issues to consider during preparation of NWI, preparation and development of a standard, structure and presentation of content,...

The added-value of Inclusiveness



Fostering inclusive drafting processes & environments

- ▶ Remember the different **rights & obligations** of the different stakeholder categories
- ▶ Use the **tools and processes** at your disposal to ensure enhanced participation of all stakeholders
 - ✓ *If an expert from an Annex III organization joins your TC, CCMC has to add them in the **Global Directory** in order to give **access to documents** (not 'their NSB/NCs' as they do not belong to a country)*
 - ✓ *There are specific rights and obligations for Annex III organizations in the **CEN-CLC IR2** and **CEN-CLC Guide 25** and the Partnership Agreements*
 - ✓ **Opinion Mechanism:** TC/SC Secretary have a role to play to ensure dissemination of the opinion in the CEN and CLC environments (*see previous slides*)
 - ✓ **Code of conduct** of experts
 - ✓ **Guidelines** on '**New normal**' for effective virtual, hybrid or Face-to-Face meetings
- ▶ Actively seek for participation of diverse expertise and profiles → aim for **balanced composition**
- ▶ Ensure **equal opportunities for participation**: consensus building is made with everyone involved



Collaboration with Annex III Partners: not only technical



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- ▶ Participation in the **Governing bodies** and their working or **advisory groups** (*General Assemblies, Administrative Boards, Policy Groups, Technical Boards, International TFs,...*)
- ▶ Dedicated **contact points** at CEN-CENELEC Management Centre
- ▶ 2 **dedicated high-level groups**: SME-WG + Societal Stakeholder Group (SSG)
- ▶ Joint **Policy actions and messages**
 - ✓ E-learning tool
 - ✓ Webinars & events
 - ✓ Communication campaigns (*CEN-CENELEC Strategy 2030; World Standards Day; SME Week;...*)
- ▶ ...



Supporting tools for Annex III Partners



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www.standards4all.eu

Supporting tools for Annex III Partners



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Societal Stakeholders

- ▶ [Societal Stakeholders' **Toolbox**](#)
- ▶ [**Brochure** Civil society - Improving, strengthening and legitimising the European standardization system](#)
- ▶ [Effective participation of Societal Stakeholders in Standardization **CEN BOSS/CENELEC BOSS**](#)

SMEs

- ▶ [CEN-CENELEC Guide 17: **Guide** for Standards writers taking into account SME's needs](#)
- ▶ [SME **toolbox** of Solutions ; **National SME Helpdesks**](#)
- ▶ [**LinkedIn** 'SMEs and Standards'](#)
- ▶ [**Video** Standards, business tools for SMEs](#)
- ▶ [Tools for NSBs/NCs in support of SMEs participation at national level](#)

Key takeaways

- ▶ 4 “**Annex III organizations**” representing SMEs and Societal Stakeholders in the European Standardization System (*ANEC, ECOS, ETUC, SBS*)
- ▶ Same **rights** as **CEN-CENELEC European Partners** ([Guide 25](#)), and more...
 - ▶ **Right to comment** at ENQ and FV
 - ▶ **Right of opinion**
 - ▶ **Same rights** than other experts in **WGs**
- ▶ **Inclusiveness, transparency & openness** of the system make **better standards**
- ▶ Use the **existing materials and tools** at your disposal to foster **inclusive drafting environments** and processes

Question time



Question time

► Use the Q&A panel to submit your questions

Question and Answer

You 04:36 PM

When is the next session?

Type your question here...

☐ Send anonymously

Send



European Standardization Organizations

Thank you for your participation!

Upcoming webinars

2024-07-02 – [Webinar for Standard Drafters – All about Publications](#)