

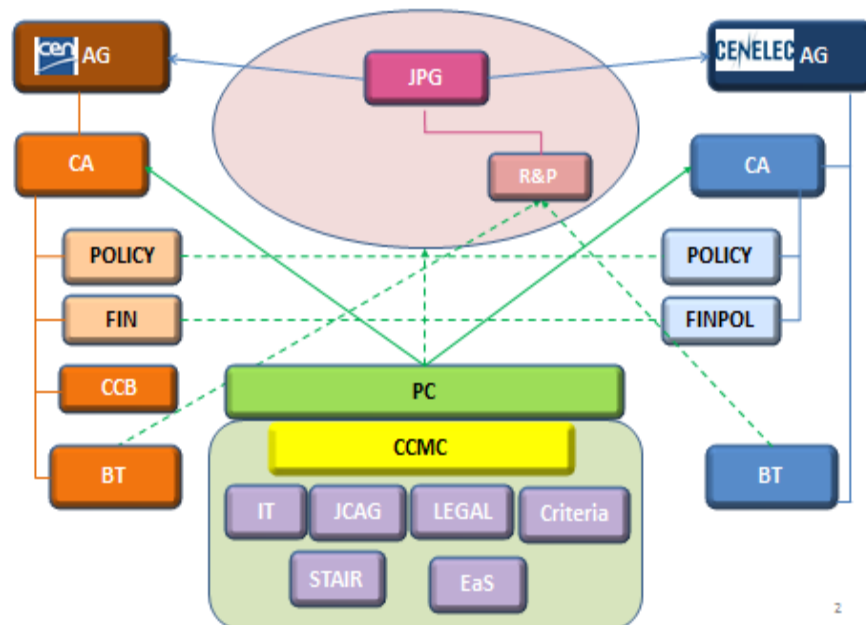
Consultation of national and European stakeholders in CEN and CENELEC

Background

The CEN and CENELEC Ambitions to 2020 call for improvements to the European Standardization System (the System) and its sustainability. To address these ambitions and in recognition of the importance of managing interactions with stakeholders on areas of technological convergence across CEN and CENELEC, strategic actions have been identified relating to the optimisation of the governance structure and the effectiveness and efficiency of standards development.

In early 2015, national members of CEN and CENELEC came together to identify improved ways of working collaboratively in order to further build upon the strength of the System and the value that this system provides to European stakeholders.

CEN-CENELEC 2015 Governance Structures



From the outset, it was agreed that CEN and CENELEC must remain separate, independent organizations, reflecting their respective close relationships with ISO and with IEC enabling support of European industry on the global stage. Members identified a range of areas for development:

- CEN and CENELEC together constitute a 'system', centred on the 'EN brand' to which they jointly contribute and as such a coordinated approach is essential. Improving the system efficiency should be a priority.

- The needs of the CEN and CENELEC stakeholders are similar and in many cases identical, but are not always being met.
- The common factor of the 'EN brand' requires a high degree of practical co-operation and a very clear positioning of the two organizations in the market with all stakeholders.
- CEN and CENELEC should build on the achievements of recent years to reduce duplication of resources and activity for all stakeholders within the System.

The 'STEER' project (System Effectiveness and Efficiency Review) was launched in May 2015, which concentrated on improvements aimed at achieving the following major objectives:

- Stakeholder relationships:
 - Establishing effective new relationships with industry (*Objective 1*) and with the European Commission (*Objective 2*),
 - Improving direct links with industry at both the technical policy and strategic policy level (*Objective 3*), and
- Efficiency: Reducing duplication of resources and activity and enhance coordination at all levels and for all stakeholders within the System (*Objective 4*).

Detailed work on the project was entrusted to three working groups (WG): Governance, Technical and Financial under the direction of a steering group (SG) chaired by the Vice Presidents Policy of CEN and CENELEC. A range of proposals to meet these objectives were presented to the CEN and CENELEC Administrative Board (CA) meetings in March 2016. The CAs agreed that the outputs of the WG discussions should be used as a basis for a wide stakeholder consultation.

Proposals

Outputs from WGs 1 and 2 (Governance and Technical):

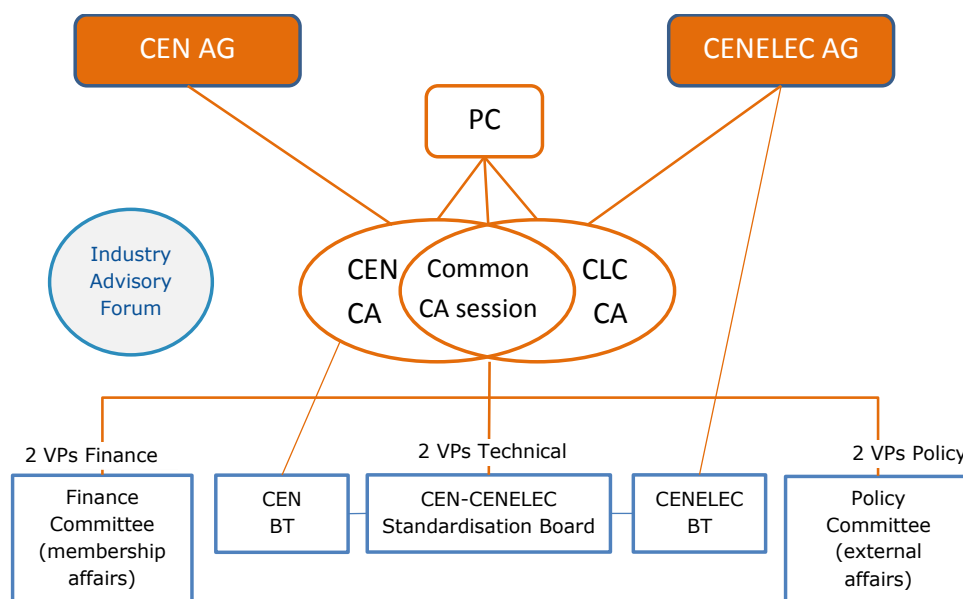
- A new governance framework for the cooperation of the two organizations. Highlights of the proposed model include the retention of the CEN/General Assembly (CEN/AG) and CENELEC/General Assembly (CENELEC/AG) and the retention of the CEN/Administrative Board (CEN/CA) and CENELEC/Administrative Board (CENELEC/CA).

The model recommends structuring the CEN/CA and CENELEC/CA meetings around common sessions to discuss common issues [*Objectives 2 and 4*]. Common issues would focus on those areas where a coordinated CEN and CENELEC message is important; for example the approval of new members, the position on European Commission (EC) seconded experts in other countries, EC/EFTA matters and Joint Presidents Group issues. The Presidential Committee (PC) would provide guidance and leadership and decide upon common and non-common topics, based on input from joint structures feeding into those discussions (e.g. Policy, Finance). The model also proposes an Industry Advisory Forum feeding into the CA structures and

enabling a two-way conversation with industry on policy issues [*Objectives 1 and 3*].

- A CEN-CENELEC Standardization Board coordinating all strategic matters relating to the standardisation work of both organizations [*Objectives 2 and 4*], for example, European Commission requests that cover converging technologies relevant to both organizations, Annual Union Work Programme on ICT standardization, changes to the Internal Regulations and modifications to the standards development process.
- The possibility, where appropriate and by general agreement of all those affected, of forming sector structures that would include direct industry representation and have specific responsibilities delegated by the Technical Boards (e.g. allocation of secretariats, appointment of chairmen, monitoring of work programmes and their progress) [*Objectives 1 and 3*].

Proposed new model of CEN and CENELEC governing structure



Questions

1. Industry Advisory Forum

Do you see advantage in a joint CEN-CENELEC Industry Advisory Forum, advising the CEN and CENELEC Administrative Boards (CA) on industry perspectives, priorities, economic and technological developments?

Yes

No

Comments

2. Joint sessions of the Administrative Board (CA) meetings

Do you see advantage in joint sessions of the Administrative Board (CA) meetings to decide on matters of common interest (e.g. finance, relationship with major external stakeholders such as the EC)?

Yes

No

Comments

3. Joint Advisory Groups to the Administrative Boards (CA) (Finance, Policy, etc)

Do you see advantage in the advisory groups to the CEN and CENELEC Administrative Boards (CA) (including finance and policy) each being combined as common to both organisations?

Yes

No

Comments

4. Joint Standardization Board

Do you see advantage in a joint CEN-CENELEC Standardization Board to decide all matters relevant to both organisations relating to the management of the technical work programme

Yes

No

Comments

5. Sectorization

Do you see advantage in introducing sector structures in CEN and CENELEC, populated by industry stakeholders, with delegated powers from the Technical Boards?

Yes

No

Comments

6. Further proposals

Do you have any further proposals for improving the overall efficiency and effectiveness of CEN and CENELEC?

Annex A – Explanation of terms used within this consultation paper

CEN

CEN, the European Committee for Standardization, is an association that brings together the National Standardization Bodies of 33 European countries.

CENELEC

CENELEC is the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization is an association comprised of 33 Members who are the National Committees of European countries. CENELEC is responsible for standardization in the electrotechnical engineering field.

European Standardization System (ESS)

CEN, CENELEC and ETSI make up the ESS and have been officially recognized by the European Union and by the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) as being responsible for developing and defining voluntary standards at European level.

STEER

CEN / CENELEC System Effectiveness and Efficiency (STEER) is an initiative established as a result of discussions amongst CEN and CENELEC members on the issues facing the CEN and CENELEC systems. The STEER initiative has sought to understand these issues and develop solutions in order to improve system effectiveness and efficiency in the future in three key areas (Policy, Technical and Financial).

CEN Administrative Board (CA)

The Administrative Board (CA) manages and administers CEN's business by directing the work and coordinating the actions of all CEN bodies with the aim of executing the decisions taken by the General Assembly. It also takes steps it deems essential for the achievement of its goals in its dealings with national, European or international authorities as well as any other persons or any other organizations.

The Administrative Board, which normally meets three times per year, comprises the CEN Officers (i.e. the President, three Vice-Presidents Policy, Technical & Finance) and nine Board members. All are appointed by the General Assembly. The CEN-CENELEC Director General acts as the secretary of the Board.

The Administrative Board, is empowered by the General Assembly to manage the technical work by delegation to the Technical Board.

CENELEC Administrative Board (CA)

The Administrative Board (CA) manages and administers the Association's business. In addition, it prepares the agendas of the General Assembly, with inclusion of proposed recommendations, and ensures subsequently the correct execution of the decisions taken by the General Assembly.

The Administrative Board comprises ex officio the CENELEC Officers (i.e. the President, three Vice Presidents - amongst whom a Vice President Finance - and the President Elect) and up to nine Board members. The members of the Administrative Board are appointed by the General Assembly.

The Officer status is primarily required for representation purposes, i.e. for the President to

represent CENELEC, for the Vice Presidents and the President Elect to represent CENELEC by delegation or in behalf of the President. The other Board members participate in, and contribute to the important tasks entrusted to the Administrative Board.

CEN General Assembly (AG)

The General Assembly is the supreme governing body of CEN and determines the CEN policy. The General Assembly is composed of the delegations from the National Standards Bodies (NSBs) of each of the member countries of CEN and of selected CEN partners, who attend the AG as observers (such as: Affiliates, Partner Standardization Bodies, CENELEC, ETSI, ISO, European Partner Organizations, the European Commission and the EFTA Secretariat).

The General Assembly is chaired by the CEN President and meets twice a year. Extraordinary General Assembly meetings may also be convened by the CEN President. Voting rights are restricted to the CEN National Members.

CENELEC General Assembly (AG)

The General Assembly (AG) is the supreme governing body of CENELEC. It is chaired by the President, and has the full power of decision within the organization. The General Assembly determines the CENELEC policy and is composed of the delegations from the National Committees of each of the member countries of CENELEC.

The ordinary General Assembly meets once a year during the first six months. Upon invitation by the President, Extraordinary Assemblies may be convened each time the interests of the Association require it.

Industry Advisory Forum

Proposal of the STEER initiative to recognise Industry as the principle stakeholder of standardization and affording industry stakeholders the opportunity to be engaged in the setting of long-term policy based on technology, economic, and EU-policy trends. The Industry Advisory Forum would feed into the CA structures and enable a two-way conversation with industry and the CEN and CENELEC CAs. Such forums would meet annually and membership would be made up of European Industry Associations and national industry association representatives as appropriate.

CEN Technical Board (BT)

The CEN Technical Board (BT) controls the full standards programme and promotes its speedy execution by the Technical Committees (TC), the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre (CCMC), and other bodies.

Its key responsibilities are to advise on all matters concerning the organization, the working procedures, coordination and planning of standards work, to approve CEN technical policies and strategies, to examine and decide on proposals for new projects.

CENELEC Technical Board (BT)

The CENELEC Technical Board (BT) is responsible for controlling the standards programme and promoting its speedy execution by the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre (CCMC), Technical Committees (TCs) and other bodies.

The functions of the Technical Board are to decide on all matters concerning the organization, working procedures, coordination and planning of standards work. This includes the monitoring and controlling the progress of standards and to examine and decide on proposals for new projects.

CEN-CENELEC Standardization Board (CEN-CENELEC SB)

The proposed CEN-CENELEC Standardization Board (CEN-CENELEC SB) would be responsible for common, non-sector specific, horizontal issues, including: overall standardization policy (Internal Regulations, standards development process; strategic planning of the overall standards work programme by addressing new, innovative, horizontal or cross-cutting fields and programmes of standardization; decision on the establishment of non-sector specific Technical Committees as well as other non-sector specific technical bodies and their assignments to either CEN or CENELEC.

The proposal is that membership of the Board will consist of the Vice Presidents Technical of CEN and CENELEC, representatives of all CEN and CENELEC members and Observers (EC, EFTA, Annex III, industry associations, etc.).

Sector structures

Sector structures (if needed), their Terms of Reference, membership and the delegation of decisions are to be agreed by the CEN/BT, CENELEC/BT and the CEN-CENELEC Standardization Board. Sector Structures will only be established if needed and if there is a clear indication of demand by the sector stakeholders. It is intended that such committees will reflect real industry sectors and a broad and active engagement of industry and other relevant stakeholders.