



2023 Report

to the European Commission on the
CENELEC implementation of EU
Regulation 1025/2012 on European
Standardization as amended by EU
Regulation 2022/2480

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Annual Report for 2023	3
Art 24 (1 a) Application of articles 4, 5, 10, 15 and 17	4
Art 4: Transparency of standards	4
Art 5 Stakeholder participation in European standardisation	6
Art 10: Standardisation requests to ESOs	10
Art 15 and Art 17: Financing and financing arrangements.....	12
Art 24 (1 b): Representation of SMEs, consumer organisations, environmental and social stakeholders in NCs.....	13
Representation at policy level	13
Representation at technical level	14
Art 24 (1 c) Representation of SMEs.....	14
Art 6 (1): NCs to encourage and facilitate the access to standards	14
Art 6 (2): Exchange of best practices by NCs.....	20
Art 6 (3): NCs' Annual reports for SMEs.....	21
Art 24 (1 d) Use of IT tools in the standardization system.....	22
Use of ICT tools by CENELEC: 2023 improvements	22
Use of ICT tools by NCs	23
Art 24 (1 e): Cooperation between NCs and CENELEC	24
Annex 1: List of abbreviations and acronyms	30
Annex 2: CENELEC members' websites	31
Annex 3: Transparency of work programmes	32

The Annual Report for 2023

The present report is prepared by the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC) as a self-standing document pursuant to Art 24 of Regulation (EU) 1025/2012 (hereby referred to as "the Regulation"). It is the 11th annual report of its kind submitted by CENELEC after the entry into force of the Regulation on 1 January 2013.

The objective of the document is to reply to the legal requirements of Art 24 (1) of the Regulation, by following the structure of that article. It thus contains five main chapters addressing:

- (1) the application of Articles 4, 5, 10, 15 and 17 of the Regulation,
- (2) the representation of small and medium enterprises (SMEs), consumer organisations and environmental and social stakeholders in national committees,
- (3) the representation of SMEs on the basis of the national committees, i.e. the CENELEC members' annual reports,
- (4) the use of ICT in the standardisation system
- (5) the cooperation between the national committees and European standardization organisations.

In addition to the requirements of Art 24 (1) of the Regulation, Art 3 of the Regulation requires transparency of the work programmes of the NCs. Consequently, Annex 3 of this report includes information on the annual work programmes of which in Art. 3 of Regulation 1025/2012.

Much of the data input for this report was gathered through an online survey sent to the members of CENELEC, i.e. the National Committees (NCs), during January 2023. All website links mentioned in this report were valid and active as per January 2024.

Art 24 (1 a) Application of articles 4, 5, 10, 15 and 17

Art 4: Transparency of standards

Art 4 (1) Draft standards and deliverables upon request

Art 4 (2) Replies to and consideration of comments

Art 4 (3) Consultation with the ESOs and the EC

CENELEC

Art 4 (1): CENELEC provides draft European standards or European standardization deliverables to the other ESOs (CEN and ETSI), or to the EC, or to the EFTA Secretariat on request. Moreover, the EC and EFTA Secretariat have permanent access to CENELEC's (draft) standards.

Art 4 (2): CENELEC replied to, and took due account of, all comments received from the other ESOs, the NCs, and EC/EFTA, as foreseen in CEN and CENELEC Internal Regulations.

Art 4 (3): CENELEC was not consulted on any national draft, as no comments were received in NCs in application of that article of the Regulation.

CENELEC National Committees

The National Committees of CENELEC apply Art 4 of Regulation 1025/2012 as shown in the table below, as a way to guarantee transparency on the national draft standards. In addition, it should be noted that CENELEC members apply an additional notification process prior to starting national work, which is called the [Vilamoura procedure](#) [see Annex 3 Art 3 (6)] which not only increases transparency but also may derive national work to European (CENELEC) and International (IEC) levels when there is a wide interest on the topic.

Action	Result	Remarks
Art 4 (1): National drafts requested	5 draft	---
Of which National drafts provided	4 draft	80% of the drafts were available at the moment of being requested, and thus provided. Only one draft national standard was not provided because the project was cancelled.
Art 4 (2): Comments received	0 comment	No comment received
Comments timely replied and taken into account	0	---

Action	Result	Remarks
Art 4 (3): Comments indicating that their draft standard would have a negative impact on the internal market	0 comment	---
Consultations of ESOs and EC before adopting the national drafts	N/A	---

Source: Data provided by NCs.

Art 4 (4 - a) Access to draft national standards

According to Art 4 (4 - a) of the Regulation, NCs shall ensure access to draft national standards in such a way that all relevant parties, in particular those established in other Member States, have the opportunity to submit comments.

All NCs make available draft national standards to all requesting parties and have put in place ways to receive comments.

Most of the NCs have decided to implement online commenting platforms. Another CENELEC member has planned to develop a similar platform.

Action	Result	Remarks
Online platform available	26 platforms (76,5%)	Compared to last year, one NC more has an online platform
Online platform planned or under development	1 platform (2,9%)	1 NC with plans for online commenting platforms in 2024

Source: Data provided by NCs.

In addition, some CENELEC Members publicise the draft standards on the website and provide on request access to them, and receive comments, via e-mail or through a protected platform.

Art 4 (4 - b): Involvement, active or passive, of other NCs

According to Art 4 (4 - b) of the Regulation, NCs shall allow other NCs to be involved passively or actively, by sending an observer, in the planned activities.

All CENELEC members welcome the involvement, either active or passive, of other NCs in their planned national standardization activities. During 2023, the following number of delegations from NCs participated either actively (i.e. receiving documents and sending observers to the meetings) or passively (i.e. receiving documents and making comments by correspondence) in the committees of other NCs:

In 2023, we notice that the active and passive involvement slightly decreased.

Item	Active involvement of another NC	Passive involvement of another NC
Requests	8	11
Access rate	100%	100%

Source: Data provided by NCs. Some data provided does not distinguish between CENELEC and CEN.

CENELEC Guide 8 contains guidelines promoting the collaboration between the NCs. The guide is available at this link: https://boss.cenelec.eu/media/Guides/CLC/8_cenelecguide8.pdf

Art 5 Stakeholder participation in European standardisation

Art 5 of the Regulation addresses stakeholders' participation in European standardization. The first paragraph of the article focuses on the participation of the European stakeholder organizations mentioned in Annex III of the Regulation, i.e. organizations representing SMEs, consumers, environmental and social interests in standardization. The second paragraph of article 5 of the Regulation takes into account other stakeholders such as market surveillance authorities in the Member States, research facilities of the EC, undertakings, research centres, universities and other legal entities.

Art 5 (1) Participation of Annex III organizations in CENELEC

Art 5 (1) of Regulation points out that the organizations recognized under Annex III have an important role to play in the representation of relevant stakeholders in European standardisation.

During 2023, CENELEC has encouraged and facilitated an appropriate representation and participation of the European Association for the Coordination of Consumer Representation in Standardisation (ANEC), the European Environmental Citizens Organisation for Standardisation (ECOS) as well as the Small Business Standards organization (SBS) both at policy and technical level. This report will first lay out the participation in CENELEC at policy level and secondly the participation in CENELEC at technical level.

At policy level, ANEC, ECOS and SBS have access to the following Governing and Policy Groups and decisions:

- CENELEC General Assembly
- Reception of CENELEC AG decisions by correspondence
- High level open meetings
- Other CENELEC or CEN-CENELEC Working Groups (WG), advisory groups, task forces, platforms and other groups dealing with issues having a political or corporate relevance, where such participation is envisaged in the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the group, or upon Chair invitation, such as the CEN and CENELEC Joint Policy groups.

In addition, the 3 organizations are members of ad-hoc dedicated long-standing CEN-CENELEC WGs are:

- ANEC and ECOS participate in the CEN-CENELEC **Societal Stakeholders Group** (SSG), that met on 24 March 2023;
- SBS participates in the CEN-CENELEC **Working Group for SME** (SME-WG), together with CEN-CENELEC members and other SME-related European organisations (see also section 6.2). The meeting took place on 24 March 2023.

Both Groups are chaired by CENELEC Vice-President Policy and report to the CEN-CENELEC Presidential Committee as evidence of the relevance of these matters for CEN and CENELEC.

Furthermore, in 2023, in the framework of the EU Standardization Strategy, CEN and CENELEC jointly worked with ANEC, ECOS, ETUC and SBS on developing a Joint Action Plan to address Annex III recommendations for CEN-CENELEC inclusive governance review. The Action Plan was further discussed in several subsequent discussions, the first short-term actions were implemented by the different responsible organizations, and mid- to long-term actions were agreed to be continued in 2024 and beyond, in line with subsequent work in the HLF workstreams. Concrete improvements to the CEN-CENELEC Guide 22 on membership criteria to address inclusiveness will also be implemented in 2024.

Other measures have been implemented in close cooperation with Annex III organizations to improve their participation and contribution to European standardization:

- **Opinion on (final) draft standards:** Since the 1st January 2017, the Societal Stakeholder Organizations (SSOs) ANEC, ECOS and ETUC have the right to submit an Opinion on (final) draft standards during the enquiry and voting stage of the draft standard. The opinion, in addition to the already existing right to submit comments on a standard under development, gives these SSOs the opportunity to express their views on a given standard and its potential impact on society. CENELEC Technical Bodies are committed to consider this Opinion and to provide feedback to the submitter, and in particular for “not favourable” opinions. In 2023, CENELEC received 17 Opinions (11 favourable, 6 not favourable).
- **Availability of an eLearning course for societal stakeholders:** CEN and CENELEC together with ANEC, ECOS and ETUC developed an eLearning course for societal stakeholders, covering consumers’, environmental and social interests in standardization. The course targets not only standards-writing organizations, but also consumers, environmental organizations and trade union. It was launched on 12 October 2018 at the occasion of World Standards Day and explains how standards benefit these stakeholders, how their interests are addressed and how their voice is considered in standards development at European but also national and international levels (www.standards4all.eu).

In 2023, CEN and CENELEC, in cooperation with the societal Annex III organizations, continued the promotion of the course at events, webinars and trainings, as well as on social media. The tool has proven to be relevant and successful with a constantly growing participation rate every month, reaching over 21.000 total visit sessions in 2023.

At technical level, representation and participation of Annex III organizations are encouraged in the following fields (as required in the Art 5 (1) lit. a - e):

- (a) The proposal and acceptance of new work items;
- (b) The technical discussion on proposals;
- (c) The submission of comments on draft and final draft standards;
- (d) The revision of existing European standards or European standardization deliverables;
- (e) The dissemination of information of, and awareness-building about, adopted European standards or European standardization deliverables.

The European stakeholders' organizations complement at European level the participation of SMEs, consumers, environmental and social stakeholders, participating in the national delegations and/or in the mirror national committees and Working Groups (for details of this participation, please refer to the section on Art 24 (1 b) of the Regulation in this report).

Annex III organizations have access to all the stages of standards' development as prescribed above. They participate also as observers in the meetings of the CENELEC Technical Board (CENELEC/BT), and they receive all documents, both for the meetings and for the weekly dispatch by correspondence, like the BT Members. They also have been granted observership in technical committees (TCs) and subcommittees (SCs), as well as participation in WGs. Through their particular partnership status, they have access and are encouraged to directly participate in all the above-mentioned stages.

In addition, the Annex III organizations have been granted online access to all European normative references, further facilitating their effective contribution to the standardization process. During 2023, ANEC, ECOS and SBS received accesses to participate in the following technical bodies:

Technical bodies	ANEC	ECOS	SBS
TOTAL	58	93	20
BT	yes	yes	Yes
AG	yes	yes	Yes
TC	11	18	2
SC/SR	/	1	/
WG	35	61	9
CEN and CENELEC Joint TC	8	5	6
Miscellaneous groups (Sector Fora, Coordination group, ad-hoc Groups, etc.)	2	6	1

Art 5 (2): Representation of other stakeholders in standardization

Art 5 (2) of the Regulation states that the ESOs shall encourage and facilitate appropriate representation, at technical level, of undertakings, research centres, universities, and other legal entities in certain circumstances.

Representation at technical level can take place through CENELEC directly or through NCs. In the latter case, it should be noted that national delegations participating in CENELEC TCs or SCs are open to undertakings, research centres, universities and other legal entities. They can also participate by representation through experts in working groups in the corresponding NC.

At the level of CENELEC various ways of representation are illustrated hereinafter.

Research community and liaisons with CENELEC technical bodies

CEN and CENELEC actively promote the concept of 'Project Liaison' to facilitate interaction between researchers and standardization communities. The liaison enables a research project representative to participate as an expert in the relevant meetings of the TCs and WG thus contributing to and being aware of the technical work.

During 2023, 1 new project liaisons was started: Adra-e (CEN-CLC/JTC 21 'Artificial Intelligence').

Groups on research and innovation

All activities related to research, innovation and standardization fall under the responsibility of the joint CEN-CENELEC BTWG 3 'STAIR - Standardization, Innovation and Research'.

In 2023 CEN and CENELEC continued their close cooperation with EURAMET in contributing metrology research needs resulting from their standardization activities to the European Partnership on Metrology. All CEN and CENELEC Technical Committees were approached to inform on their metrology research needs. Selected research needs will be considered for calls for proposals to be published by EURAMET in 2024.

In preparation of calls for proposals to be launched in 2024, by the end of 2023, 22 needs were submitted to EURAMET as input to the Metrology Partnership - Normative Call 2024. These needs were also collected through the same process from OIML, from WELMEC and from our international counterparts ISO and IEC.

The needs for metrology research communicated to EURAMET in the context of our cooperation are presented on [Normative Call 2024 S1 \(metpart.eu\)](https://metpart.eu)

CEN-CENELEC Research helpdesk

The CEN-CENELEC Management Centre continued to maintain a dedicated helpdesk to support research projects in their interaction with standardization [Horizon Europe - CEN-CENELEC \(cencenelec.eu\)](https://horizon-europe.eu).

Cooperation with the Joint Research Centre of the EC (JRC)

The Putting-Science into Standards workshop, the annual foresight initiative in collaboration with JRC, took place on 12-13 December 2023 on "Circular Technologies for construction industry". More information about the workshop can be found on [this page](#). Putting-Science-Into-Standards (PSIS) initiatives aims at bringing together stakeholders from research, industry and standardization community to facilitate the identification of emerging science and technology areas that could benefit from standardization activities to enable innovation and promote industrial competitiveness. The next PSIS workshop is planned for 18-19 March 2024 on the topic of Molten Salt Reactors.

Art 10: Standardisation requests to ESOs

In 2023, CENELEC accepted eight standardization requests issued by the European Commission, of which six were also accepted by CEN.

As reported in the table below, CENELEC has provided to the EC a timely reply - within one month of receipt of the standardization request - in 100% of the cases as foreseen in Art. 10 (3) of Regulation 1025/2012.

Number	Title	Accepted	Within 1 month
M/585 Amd1	radio equipment in support of Directive 2014/53/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council in conjunction with Commission Delegated Regulation	Yes	Yes
M/591	railway products in support of Directive (EU) 2016/797	Yes	Yes
M/592	energy labelling of electronic displays to support the application of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2013 and ecodesign requirements for electronic displays to support the application of Commission Regulation (EU) 2019/2021	Yes	Yes
M/593	Artificial Intelligence	Yes	Yes
M/594	ecodesign and energy labelling requirements for household washing machines and household washer-dryers in support of Regulation (EU) 2019/2023 and Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2014	Yes	Yes

M/595	gas appliances and fittings in support of Regulation (EU) 2016/426 of the European Parliament and of the Council	Yes	Yes
M/596	equipment and protective systems intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres in support of Directive 2014/34/EU (ATEX) of the European Parliament and of the Council	Yes	Yes
M/600	ecodesign requirements for household tumble dryers, amending Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/826, and repealing Commission Regulation (EU) No 932/2012 and Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/2534 of 13.7.2023 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1369 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to energy labelling of household tumble dryers and repealing Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 392/2012	Yes	Yes

It is to be noted that in compliance with EU Regulation 2022/2480, applicable as of 9 July 2023, the Standardization requests that were launched for BT(s) approval after that date (ie. from M/595), were all approved with both counts – EEA Members only and all Members – in line with Clause 6.4.4 of CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations Part 2 (Clause 6 on 'Voting policy' of IR2 was adapted by CEN and CENELEC Technical Boards in May 2023 to ensure compliance with EU Regulation 2022/2480).

SRAHG: an early consultation of relevant stakeholders for a timely reply to the European Commission

Following a decision of CEN and CENELEC Technical Boards (BTs), for each draft Standardisation Request from the EC, an Ad-hoc Group (so-called SRAHG) is setup in order to ensure prompt coordination between, and input from, all relevant stakeholders including Technical Board Members, Partner Organizations, Liaisons as well as other relevant parties, including ISO and IEC representatives. It allows the timely submission of CEN and/or CENELEC contribution to the European Commission and development of a consensus view about acceptance/refusal of a standardisation request for submission to the Technical Boards. Ultimately, it helps CEN and/or CENELEC to be in the position to provide a timely reply to the EC when the formal Standardization request is issued.

In 2023 the following Standardisation Request Ad Hoc Groups were created:

- 1) SRAHG 'Digital Product Passport' (January 2023)
- 2) SRAHG 'AMD EN IEC 63000' on Hazardous substances in electrical products (February 2023)
- 3) SRAHG 'Tumble dryers' (March 2023)
- 4) SRAHG 'AMD 2 Fertilizers' (April 2023)
- 5) SRAHG 'AMD 2 MDR-IVDR' (May 2023)

- 6) SRAHG 'Electric motors' (May 2023)
- 7) SRAHG 'AMD Batteries' (June 2023)
- 8) SRAHG 'Machinery' (July 2023)
- 9) SRAHG 'Ambient Air' (July 2023)
- 10) SRAHG 'CRA' on Cyber resilience Act (August 2023)
- 11) SRAHG 'Precast concrete' (September 2023)
- 12) SRAHG 'Structural metallic products' (September 2023)
- 13) SRAHG 'AMD Explosives for civil use' (October 2023)
- 14) SRAHG 'Climate adaptation' (November 2023)
- 15) SRAHG 'Eco phones' (December 2023)

Actions to improve processes for the standardization requests

Following the setup in 2021 of the ESOs-EC Joint Task Force on 'Timely European standards for a Green and Digital, Single and Global Market', a better way of working in the drafting of the SReqs has been agreed between the ESOs and the Commission and an ad-hoc SReq checklist has been introduced to identify and address all possible critical elements that could jeopardise the feasibility of the SReq (see paragraph 24.1(e)).

Art 15 and Art 17: Financing and financing arrangements

The financing of European Standardization is governed by Chapter V of the Regulation (Art 15 to Art 19). While Art 15 itemises what actions may receive Union financing, Art 17 specifies how financing may be granted.

The following two tables show standardization activities for which Union financing was received in 2023 (Art 15 of the Regulation). At the same time, they provide an overview on the way of financing (Art 17 of the Regulation). The first table shows operating grant funding in the sense of Art 17 (2 - b) while the second table shows financing on the basis of grant agreements, so called grants for actions as stipulated in Art 17 (2 - a).

For the operating grants and grant agreements signed until 31 December 2020, the cooperation objectives, administrative and financial conditions applied were defined within the Framework Partnership Agreement 2014 signed between the EC and CEN, and EC and CENELEC on 24 June 2014, its first amendment of 25 August 2015 and the second amendment signed on 21 December 2020, as required by Art 17 (5) of the Regulation.

Since 1st January 2021, the operating grants are governed by a new Framework Partnership Agreement. The Operating Grant 2023 was signed between the EC and CEN, and EC and CENELEC on 28 April 2023.

The grant agreements are agreed under the Single Market Programme (SMP) Regulation.

The **Operating grants** are agreements that aim at supporting CEN and CENELEC as ESOs by providing co-financing on CCMC's total operational eligible costs for EC & EFTA). The Regulation refers to operating grants in Art 17 (2 - b).

Related to art. of the Regulation 1025	Type of agreement	# Proposals	Total amount submitted to EC/EFTA	# Contracts	Total amount committed by EC/EFTA	Amount available for National Standardisation Bodies/Committees	Amount available for CCMC operational costs	EC DG/Agency in charge	EC co-funding part	# National Standardisation Bodies/Committees involved
OPERATING GRANTS		1 CEN-CENELEC	€3.098.840	2	€3.098.840	€0	€3.098.840	GROW	€2.920.000	N/A
Art. 15 (1 d) & Art. 17 (2b)	CCMC operational costs	-	€3.098.840	-	€3.098.840	N/A	€3.098.840	-	€2.920.000	N/A

Table: Funding of Operating Grants - Source: CEN – CENELEC

Grant agreements are grants provided by the EC to support specific standardization related activities: the **translation grants** aim at co-financing the cost for translating standards into languages of the European Union other than the three official languages at CENELEC (English, French, German). The **action grants** aim at co-financing the development of some standards requested by the EC/EFTA and are referred to in Art 17 (2 - a) of the Regulation.

Since April 2021, DG GROW delegated the management of the grant agreements to the European Innovation Council and SME Executive Agency (EISMEA). The submission process of the proposals is tributed on the call for proposals launched by EISMEA.

Related to art. of the Regulation 1025	Type of agreement	# Proposals	Total amount submitted to EC/EFTA	# Contracts	# Contracts under Standardization requests	# Contracts not under Standardization requests	Total amount committed by EC/EFTA	Amount available for National Standardisation Bodies/Committees /Consultants	EC DG/Agency in charge	EC co-funding part	# National Standardisation Bodies/Committees involved
GRANT AGREEMENTS		21 CEN 1 CENELEC	€9.899.938	13 CEN 2 CENELEC	1	14	€6.334.189	€5.342.035	-	€6.017.479	
Art. 15 (1 a) & Art. 17 (2a)	Action grants (normative work)	8 CEN	€3.219.987	9 CEN	-	9	€4.181.931	€4.181.931	DG GROW/EISMEA	€3.972.835	5
Art. 15 (1 c) & Art. 17 (2a)	Action grants (prenormative work)	5 CEN	€1.431.343	1 CEN	1	-	€466.468	€466.468	DG GROW/EISMEA	€443.144	4
		-	€0	1 CENELEC	-	1	€246.079	€246.079	DG GROW/EISMEA	€233.775	1
Art. 15 (1 e) & Art. 17 (2a)	Action grants (translation of european standards)*	-	€0	-	-	-	€0	€0	DG GROW/EISMEA	€0	-
Art. 15 (1 g) & Art. 17 (2a)	Action grants (promotion of the European standardisation system)	8 CEN	€5.120.680	3 CEN	-	3	€1.311.783	€319.629	DG GROW/EISMEA	€1.246.194	2
		1 CENELEC	€127.928	1 CENELEC	-	1	€127.928	€127.928	DG GROW/EISMEA	€121.532	1

Table: Funding of Grant Agreements - Source: CEN - CENELEC

Art 24 (1 b): Representation of SMEs, consumer organisations, environmental and social stakeholders in NCs

Art 24 (1 - b) of the Regulation requires detailed information on the representation of SMEs, consumer organizations, environmental and social stakeholders at national level. In analogy to information on their representation on the European level as required by Art 5 (see above), the following section distinguishes between participation in NCs at policy and technical level for each of the categories.

Representation at policy level

The following table shows participation of the Art 24 (1 b) organisations in NCs at policy level. These figures cannot be taken as isolated data, as CENELEC members devote important resources to encourage and facilitate an appropriate representation and effective participation of all relevant stakeholders.

Stakeholder groups	Number of NCs where stakeholder groups are represented	Comparison with 2021
SME	31 (91,2%)	(same)
Consumer	22 (64,7%)	(same)
Environmental	21 (61,8%)	(same)
Social	19 (55,9%)	(+1)

Source: Data provided by NCs

There are several ways by which CENELEC National Committees promote and allow the participation of these stakeholder groups at policy level, for instance, participation in the General Assemblies, Administrative Board, Executive Boards, Board of Directors, and other Standing/Policy/Strategic Advisory committees. Some of these Policy or Strategic committees are generic (i.e. covering all stakeholder groups) or specialised (SMEs, consumer, environmental, social).

Representation at technical level

During 2023, CENELEC members have been committed to facilitate an appropriate representation and effective participation of SMEs, Consumers, Environmental and Social interests in standardization in the different national (and/or mirror) committees.

Stakeholder Group	National technical bodies considered relevant for representation by NCs / total technical bodies	National technical bodies with interests represented / national technical bodies considered relevant for Stakeholder Groups by NCs
SME	74,1%	80,0%
Consumer	12,7%	57,6%
Environmental	8,1%	43,8%
Social	10,5%	69,4%

Source: Data provided by NCs.

Art 24 (1 c) Representation of SMEs

Art 6 (1): NCs to encourage and facilitate the access to standards

This section will first provide examples of activities, carried out by some NCs to promote access of SMEs. Subsequently, it will follow the structure of Art 6 (1) from a to f of the Regulation. It contains examples of good practices applied by CENELEC members. It should be emphasised that the list of possible activities from a) to f) in Art 6 (1) is indicative.

Access to standards and standardisation:

- Special licence fees for standards of interest to SMEs

- Edition of specific publications (e.g. guides) and publication of national standards with specific interest to SMEs
- Substantial reduction of the price of standards for all stakeholders compensated by higher number of standards' library subscriptions following SMEs' demand
- Packages of standards and online standards reading services at reduced prices for all (incl. SMEs)
- Incentive scheme for SMEs: grants provided for participation as national experts in Technical Committees
- Provision of targeted services (free or at a low price) to SMEs such as subscription to 'news on recently published standards' and online reading of standards.
- Ad-hoc section of NC website on *forthcoming standards* where every month information is published about important and popular draft standards, which are to be published in the coming months. Information is provided on the expected date of publication, the standard's scope, withdrawal of other related standards, responsible TC, etc.
- Free ad-hoc consultancy services to SMEs providing required clarifications or expert opinions on the application of particular standards. It facilitates SMEs in their understanding of the standards they work with, for which they get a support from internal and external experts.
- Translation of standards: some NCs translate many of the European standards into their national language(s). In some cases, international standards are also translated.
- Provision of on-site access to standards libraries which may contain published national, European, international and foreign standards and standardization documents.
- Some members delegate the secretariat of national committees to sector federations or associations, which draw together SMEs and other specific stakeholders, thus contributing to the dissemination of standards and promoting participation in their development.
- Establishment of a separate unit called 'The Innovation Lab' to investigate how barriers to participation in the standardization process can be eliminated.
- Annual agreement for a special subscription scheme with the Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry where the beneficiaries are SMEs registered in the "Company Registry and Official Receiver".
- Upon request SMEs can use the organization's Vocational Training Center at special rates for their training or meeting needs.
- Due the pandemic situation some NCs have increased the number of free of charge workshops and seminars by improved informatic tools. These tools have permitted the increase of the number of people to follow workshops and seminars.
- Development of a fast-track standard product with the National Specifications, that can be used to produce a standard product in a short lead time and within the quality requirements.
- Possibility for SMEs to become member of a national mirror committee by paying the 'committee fee'. Micro companies with less than 10 employees get a 50% reduction of the committee fee.
- Satisfaction survey launched to SMEs on available facilities

- Commission for SMEs initiating working groups for solving issues on different subjects (e.g. Monitoring tool, competence profile of SMEs experts, role of SMEs in standardization, facilitation of structures and processes for SMEs, European strategy, etc...)
- Technical committees scrutinized every quarter to look at the current participant and potential interested parties, including SMEs.
- Cooperation with Language council to facilitate the emergence of a common national language within the field of electronically engineering.
- Promotion of Student theses encouraging standardization process.
- Free participation of dedicated forum (electronic area, electrified transport infrastructure, etc...)
- Establishment of a new pricing model which entails reduced rates for micro-SMEs and independent entrepreneurs.
- Free membership in special cases to potential experts (students, pensioners, teachers, etc...)
- New Sales Policy established easing the accessibility to Standards
- New interactive forms developed to facilitate the formalities related to Technical committees membership
- Special label 'Appropriate for SMEs' indicated for every project on Website

Dissemination of information:

- Training module - free of charge sessions - developed for stakeholders interested in standardization (incl. SMEs) aiming at increasing their awareness of standards and standardization and encouraging their participation to the standardization process.
- Training (in cooperation with industry and associations): online seminars, conference, webinars, SME Helpdesks, special portals for SME, SME consultants, etc.
- Educational programme about Standardization activities, with dedicated module to raise awareness and attract participants (including SMEs) to standardization activities, and also CE marking, CEN, CENELEC, ISO and IEC activities
- Twinning seminar with NCs, Small Business Standards (SBS) and Chamber of Commerce
- Special events relevant for SMEs: innovation contests and awards for students, start-ups and scale-ups
- Debate sessions to present new standardization initiatives
- Workshops/events - free of charge - for new work items targeted to SMEs/Societal stakeholders
- Meetings, open to all stakeholders, to raise their awareness of ongoing work before processing standards drafts
- Participation and presentation in trade fairs on the voluntary standardization system and importance of participation of SMEs in standardization.
- Information meetings with entrepreneurs about the benefits of standardization
- Promotion in an ad-hoc section in websites of the video 'Standards, business tools for SMEs' (<https://www.cencenelec.eu/get-involved/small-and-medium-enterprises-smes/smes-and-standards/success-stories-and-best-practices/>)

- Publications: monthly or quarterly newsletters, standardization reports, magazines, press releases, dedicated web sites and toolboxes, links on third party web sites, workshops, brochures, articles professional, social networks (Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, etc.)
- Special sections of NCs' newsletters dedicated to SMEs. These include novelties in standardization, present, popular, new and important standards and aim at attracting new participants to the standardization process
- Business information centre providing information in national languages and 'on the spot' information on published national, European and international standards and offering copies of all national and European standards
- Sector-specific information services on standardization projects
- Publication of a video made in collaboration with SBS (and also translated into national language) to promote the participation of SMEs in Standardization
- New website section related to 'Compliance with EU Regulation 1025/2012'

Networking and building partnerships:

- Commercial and institutional agreements (partnership/membership) signed with SME associations.
- Agreement with representative associations for a wider distribution of standards to electrical project developers
- Cooperation (a/o agreements) with professional and industry associations particularly relevant for or representing SMEs
- Memorandum of Understanding with chambers of commerce, where SMEs are well represented
- SME contact person providing specific support
- Travel compensation by the NCs to participants coming from SMEs to facilitate access to technical committees.
- Signature of collaboration protocols with representative Trade Associations with a predominantly SMEs composition for the promotion and technical knowledge and for economic facilitations to the benefit of operators
- Organization of a young professional workshop aiming at raising awareness of Standardization
- Participation in the European SME week
- Participation of CEPYME and SBS in events

Sharing of best practices between members:

- Participation of NSBs and NCs in the CEN-CENELEC SME Working Group
- Special cooperation agreements between NCs of different countries
- Joint workshops or working groups of NCs from different countries
- Staff visits to other NCs in view of further improving the standardization processes and IT tools
- Regional NC fora to exchange best practices
- Joint events organised by two or more NCs
- Memorandum of Understanding (and bilateral agreements) signed between some NCs for exchanging best practices (incl. an obligation related to SMEs).

Art 6 (1 - a): Identifying, in their annual work programmes, the standardisation projects, which are of particular interests to SMEs;

58,8% of the NCs identify standards projects which are of particular interest to SMEs in the following ways (a way does not exclude the others):

- 26,5% of the NCs identify the standards in their annual work programme;
- 38,2% identify them through their website;
- 26,5% identify them through dedicated mailings.

To be noted that some of the above NCs identify projects through a mix of the three means.

Some other interesting practices identified in one or several NCs:

- Sending of quality managers (and/or internal assessors) to the newly created CEN-CENELEC group 'Experts' feedback' to scout for best practices
- NC role dedicated ('Innovation broker') to raising awareness on the value of standardization for ensuring market acceptance of innovation products
- Participation in formalized fora with NCs at Technical Board (BT) and Administrative Board (CA) level
- NC meeting facilities offered to SMEs (and their associations) at a discount price
- Identifying potential SMEs and encouraging them to become active members of NCs

Network of NCs, having either the same size, speaking the same language or from the same geographical area, to exchange best practices (e.g. European Forum for Standards Distribution (EFSD), Baltic Standards Forum, Nordic Cooperation (NOREK), etc...)

- Exchange of practices during European Standards Organizations (ESOs) meetings, working groups or workshops
- Participation to ERASMUS+ and Horizon Europe programme, one of its aims being the exchange of best practices
- NC contact point responsible for answering queries from other NCs on how it interacts and engages with SMEs
- NC participation in funded (sectoral) study visits to other NCs
- Free participation to the standardization process and offer with the help of ANEC many free services in the field of standardization (incl. trainings, standards analysis, specific standards watch)
- Activity in the different strategic groups, projects, workings groups and task forces.
- Establishment of a new commenting system, providing facilities to submit comments for Published standards

Art 6 (1 - b): Access without membership

SMEs have access to NCs without obligation to become member of the NC in 33 NCs. Hereinafter follows a list of details in respect of SME access without membership.

- 79,4% provide direct participation in national technical committees
- 47,1% provide specific assistance to SMEs, while 100% has a contact point (e.g. SME helpdesk (<https://www.cencenelec.eu/get-involved/small-and-medium-enterprises-smes/smes-and-standards/local-support-for-smes/>))
- 44,1% provide an online support
- 67,65% provide consultation of texts of standards

- 79,4% provide assistance for commenting on drafts

Art 6 (1 - c): Free access or special rates in standardisation activities

SMEs benefit from free access or access at a special rate to participate in standardization activities in the majority of NCs (91,2%). The following enumeration provides further details in this respect:

- 55,9% of NCs provide SMEs with free access to all standardization activities
- 17,7% provide SMEs with special rates for participating in national technical committees
- 26,5% provide SMEs with special rates for workshops
- 32,4% provide SMEs with special rates for attending training sessions
- 17,7% provide SMEs with special rates for the use of logistics (meeting rooms, promotional material, etc.)
- 47,1% provide SMEs with special rates to discount prices to members/subscribers (EN standards)

Art 6 (1 - d): Free access to draft standards

100% of CENELEC members offer free access to draft standards. More specifically (one modality does not the exclude the others):

- 79,4% of NCs facilitate draft standards to be consulted at their premises (e.g. library)
- 82,4% of NCs provide online access to draft standards
- 20,6% of NCs send drafts by e-mail, or proactively send drafts to identified stakeholders for comments, or have different libraries all over the country to access drafts and other measures.

Art 6 (1 - e): Abstracts of standards available free of charge

100% of the NCs make available abstracts of standards free of charge. In particular (one modality does not the exclude the others):

- 91,2% provide this access through their website
- 11,8% provide a link to the CENELEC website
- 23,5% provide it upon request by email
- 11,8% provide other access, such as through the standards database, through a web store or similar.

Art 6 (1 - f): Special rates for standards or bundles at a reduced price

79,4% of the NCs provide access to standards or bundles at a special rate and 1 Member (2,9%) is planning to provide this access during 2024. In more detail (one modality does not the exclude the others):

- 64,8% provide the special rates for bundles, and/or
- 29,4% for the provision of standards.

Art 6 (2): Exchange of best practices by NCs

Art 6 (2) of the Regulation requires NCs to exchange best practices aiming to enhance the participation of SMEs in standardisation activities and to increase and facilitate the use of standards by SMEs. There are various forms of exchange of best practices and of increasing and/or facilitating the use of standards respectively. These are outlined hereinafter.

SME Working Group (SME-WG)

CEN and CENELEC national Members, together with Small Business Standards (SBS) as well as other SME-related European organisations and EC and EFTA representatives, participate in the CEN-CENELEC SME Working Group that serves as a forum for the exchange of information, national experiences and best practices to further support and encourage the participation of SMEs in the ESS. It aims at supporting the further participation of SMEs and their increased use of European standards.

In 2023, the SME-WG particularly focused on ensuring continuous exchanges on National and European activities about SMEs and inclusiveness, and provided support to SBS proposal to the High-Level Forum workstream via the input gathered by the SME-WG Ad-hoc group.

Other platforms: Several NSBs have dedicated forum, workshops or joint collaboration activities with other NSBs to exchange best practices that are often, but not exclusively, based on geographical or linguistic proximity. A kept-up-to-date inventory of all CEN and CENELEC Members' SME initiatives' is available on CEN-CENELEC website.

SME Helpdesks

National SME Helpdesks are one-stop service points to introduce SMEs to the benefits of standardization and to the business tools required to access the European Standardization System. Each NSB member of CEN or CENELEC have set up a SME Helpdesk. Those local helpdesks provide support in their respective languages and tailored to the situation in the country. More information can be found on the CEN and CENELEC dedicated pages for SMEs at the following link:

<https://www.cencenelec.eu/get-involved/small-and-medium-enterprises-smes/smes-and-standards/local-support-for-smes/>

SME Toolbox

The CEN-CENELEC SME Toolbox of Solutions is available on the website <https://www.cencenelec.eu/get-involved/small-and-medium-enterprises-smes/tools-for-smes/>. The toolbox leads SMEs through a journey to better understand how using standards can benefit their business, how they can identify the standards relevant to them and how to get support from their national CENELEC member in order to shape the content of future standards.

Art 6 (3): NCs' Annual reports for SMEs

Pursuant to Art 6 (3) of the Regulation NCs shall send annual reports to the ESOs regarding measures relating to SME's access to standards (including the aforementioned Art 6 (1) and Art 6 (2) of the Regulation). The NCs shall publish those reports on their websites.

The following table lists the CENELEC member's URL to these reports.

Organisation	Comments
AFNOR	https://www.francenormalisation.fr/gouvernance/comites-consultatifs/
ASRO	https://www.asro.ro/en/smes-portal/
BDS	https://bds-bg.org/en/bds-activities-to-support-smes-in-2023_p5474.html
BSI	https://www.bsigroup.com/en-GB/small-business/
CEB-BEC	https://www.ceb-bec.be/files/Reg1025_Art-63_CEB-BEC_SME_Report_Jan2024.pdf
CEI	https://www.ceinorme.it/governance/
CYS	https://www.cys.org.cy/o-organismos/diakymvynisi-etairiki-ypefthynotita
DKE	www.dke.de/KMU
DS	https://www.ds.dk/da/om-standarder/hjaelp-til-smv-er-og-ivaerksaettere
Electrosuisse	https://www.switec.info/de/wto-enquiry-point/kmu-portal/
ELOT	https://elot.gr/typopoiisi-kai-mikres-kai-mesaies-epiheiriseis-mme
EVS	https://www.evs.ee/images/uploaded/SME_Raport_2023.pdf
HZN	http://www.hzn.hr/default.aspx?id=504
ILNAS	https://portail-qualite.public.lu/content/dam/qualite/fr/publications/normes-normalisation/information-sensibilisation/activites-normalisation-pme/rapport-pme-v-1.pdf
IPQ	https://www.ipq.pt/normalizacao/organismo-nacional-de-normalizacao/enquadramento-europeu-e-internacional/regulamento-europeu/
ISRM	https://isrm.gov.mk/en/small-and-medium-size-enterprises_p1117.html
ISS	https://iss.rs/en/izveshtaji-o-radu-instituta_p4.html
IST	https://stadlar.is/taktu-thatt/
LST	https://lisd.lrv.lt/media/viesa/saugykla/2024/1/tINmpg4HuP0.pdf
LVS	https://www.lvs.lv/en/page?slug=work-programme
MCCAA	https://mccaa.org.mt/Section/Content?contentId=1274
MSZT	http://szabvanykonyvtar.mszt.hu/ https://prod.mszt.hu/hu-hu/tanusitas/hirek/2020/10/ginop-1211-20
NEC	Go to https://www.nen.nl/normontwikkeling and scroll to the heading 'Het MKB & normontwikkeling' and then click on the words 'In dit jaarverslag'.
NEK	https://www.nek.no/standarder/om-standarder/
NSAI	https://www.nsai.ie/standards/supporting-standards/supporting-smes/
OVE	https://www.ove.at/medien-pr/jahresberichte/aktueller-jahresbericht/
PKN	https://www.pkn.pl/sites/default/files/sites/default/files/imce/files/Raport%20z%20dzia%C5%82alno%C5%9Bci%20PKN%20na%20rzecz%20M%C5%9AP.pdf
SEK	www.elstandard.se/smaforetag/
SESKO	https://sesko.fi/en/getting-involved/sme-and-standards/
SIST	https://www.sist.si/standardization/care-for-smes/current-news-for-smes
TSE	https://www.tse.org.tr/standart-hizmetler/
UNE	https://www.une.org/normalizacion_documentos/Pymes_2020.pdf
UNMS SR	https://www.unms.sk/stranka/139/zapojte-sa-a-spolupracujte/
UNMZ	http://www.unmz.cz/urad/zpravy-o-cinnosti-uradu

Source: Data provided by NCs

Art 24 (1 d) Use of IT tools in the standardization system

Use of ICT tools by CENELEC: 2023 improvements

Online Standards Development

In line with the CEN & CENELEC Strategic Goal 2 CEN and CENELEC are investing in the development of a user-friendly digital platform for the efficient, collaborative authoring of standards. Expected benefits include greater transparency, higher quality and easier/faster drafting.

The Online Standards Development project focusses on providing a more modern, consistent, seamless and integrated working environment to Technical Bodies, NSBs/NCs and central secretariats. Along with ISO and IEC, CEN and CENELEC launched the first major release in October 2020 with selected pilot groups who have been drafting their standards directly within the FontoXML-based tool; additional pilot groups have progressively been onboarded since launch and several groups have now submitted their deliverable to CCMC after drafting it entirely within the new tool. Feedback from the pilot groups has been positive and constructive, and is being incorporated into regular releases. In 2023, commenting functionality was redesigned and piloted by ISO and IEC; CEN and CENELEC adaptations are required ahead of piloting it in support of the public enquiry phase in 2024.

SMART Standards

The CEN & CENELEC Strategic Goal 2 is dedicated to providing state-of-the-art digital solutions to our customers. This includes rolling out a suite of new technologies, including machine-readable and interpretable formats and other standard formats that meet the needs of industry.

In this context, the SMART Standards project explores how to provide machine readable standards to users, with a holistic approach encompassing a SMART editor for experts to draft standards, the information model, processes, governance, commercial and IPR topics as well as technical tools; the framework should be available to drafting bodies by the end of 2024. In 2023, a provider for the SMART editor solution was engaged, a first set of customisations made and a small pilot was run. Activities continue to benefit from collaboration with ISO's SMART project and IEC's SG 12 on Digital Transformation and Systems Approach.

Harmonized Standards (HAS) – Consultant assessment platform

A new platform was developed to facilitate the assessment by the consultants or European Commission desk officers of the standards candidates for citation in the OJEU was launched in December 2022.

Several change requests have been implemented in 2023 to facilitate the exchanges.

Harmonized Standards (HAS) – Data/documents exchange with the European Commission

A dialog was initiated, and recurrent meeting have been set-up to improve the exchange of data and documents with the European Commission (in the context of the future Commission's eNorm platform).

In 2023, an API was developed to provide an access to the CEN and CENELEC documents to the European Commission services.

In 2024, the focus will be on the development of events API to notify the European Commission services of the key stages (including the offering for citation in OJEU) of a harmonized standard's development.

Adapt IT tools to the new 1025 regulation amendment

The Amendment to the Regulation (EU) 1025/2012 introduced a systematic double-counting when decisions are taken related to:

- (a) decisions on the acceptance, refusal and execution of standardisation requests;
- (b) decisions on the acceptance of new work items;
- (c) decisions on the adoption, revision and withdrawal of European standards or European standardisation deliverables.

In 2023, The applications CEN eBalloting, CLC eVoting, CEN and CLC Vote Calculator have been modified accordingly.

Meeting Registration System

In the past the handling of technical body meeting was completely handled manually via Email, generating an extra workload for the TC secretaries but being prone to human errors or lack of visibility.

In 2023 a specific IT solution called "Meeting Registration System" (MRS) was developed in collaboration with IEC to enable TBs' secretaries/convenors to manage their meeting, including the creation of the committee meeting, meeting information management and handle participants registration and approval by members.

New Work Item delegation

This project aims at providing a tool allowing the delegation of the vote for New Work Item (NWI) approval and Preliminary Work Item (PWI) activation to the CENELEC TCs. This application will:

- Facilitate the online creation of the NWI proposal by the TC secretary
- Integrate with the CCMC workflow for the CCMC PM approval
- Automatically generate the related ballot

The development started in 2023 Q1 and is planned to be launched in 2024 Q1.

Use of ICT tools by NCs

In addition to the text provided above and the data given in Art 4 (4 - a) Access to draft national standards, the data regarding of ICT tools is provided in the table below.

IT Tool	Available	Planned
Data management system	91,2%	5,9%
Experts management system	100,0%	-
Document management system	91,2%	-
Web sites	97,1%	-
Web store for standards	88,2%	2,9%

CENELEC members' websites are reported in Annex 2.

Art 24 (1 e): Cooperation between NCs and CENELEC

Some examples of cooperation between CENELEC and NCs have been already given under the previous paragraphs, for instance within the SRAHGs (see page 13) and in the SME-WG mentioned in Section Art.6 (2) of this report. Other examples are provided below:

Cooperation for the reporting on the Regulation

As in the preceding years, collaboration amongst national members and the CCMC for the present report is always very active. The 'RegRep Group', a group consisting of representatives of the CEN and CENELEC members, has continued meeting with active participation and contribution of the members, that have provided the required data for fulfilling the reporting requirements of the Regulation.

The last meeting took place on 1 December 2023 under the convenorship of the CENELEC Vice President Technical.

ESOs-EC Task Force on Timely European standards for a Green and Digital, Single and Global Market (ESOs-EC TF)

The ESOs-EC Task Force - setup in 2021 upon initiative of DG Grow and the ESOs and composed of representatives of the ESOs, EFTA secretariat, DG Grow, Connect, Energy, Sante, Move and Defence and space- has continued to work hard throughout 2023 on two workstreams:

- Workstream 1 on the Alignment of European policies, business priorities and standardization on strategic sectors, to cover high-level interactions between the EC and ESOs at the very early stage of the preparation of the EU work programme (including the role of the High-Level Forum),
- Workstream 2 on the Improvement of operational matters in order to facilitate the citation of hEN on the OJEU.

4 TF meetings were held in 2023 for which CCMC provided the secretariat and during which the members of the Task Force managed to agree on the following:

- ✓ Improvement to the process for the drafting of the Standardization Requests (SReq)
- ✓ Definition and use of a new checklist for SReq to identify critical elements before final voting in CoS
- ✓ Introduction of a Quality check on hENs performed by ESOs secretariats (CCMC)
- ✓ Following the running of several pilots, a new (innovative) process for the SReq execution, both for homegrown hENs (approved by CEN and CENELEC BTs in May 2023) and for hENs in parallel with ISO/IEC (then approved by BTs in February 2024)
- ✓ Definition and use of a new unique common checklist to assess the hEN during their development to be used by the ESOs, the EC and their consultants
- ✓ Agreement on a more frequent ESO offering and clear timeline of the final assessment from the EC in view of citation
- ✓ Commitment also from DG ENER to align with newly defined processes for hENs under their responsibility (eg. Eco-design)
- ✓ Improvements to EC and ESOs IT tools to enhance data exchange and interoperability.
- ✓ Definition of KPIs to measure the success of the measures implemented by the ESOs and the EC.

BTWG 12 on European standards and the EU legislative framework

CEN-CENELEC BTWG 12 was created by CEN and CENELEC Technical Boards to provide advice to both BTs on issues related to mandated work, i.e. harmonised-standards-related matters.

It has been the mirror group for CEN and CLC for the activities of the above-mentioned Task force. It held 5 meetings in 2023, during which representatives of NSBs/NCs were made aware of the figures related to the citation of standards, including main issues, and could put forward proposals for improvements in view of final BTs approval.

In terms of trainings, CCMC provided 13 ad-hoc sectoral trainings to help Technical Bodies draft harmonized Standards (hENs), considering the specificities of the legislative framework. 94% of the participants expressed their commitment to apply the principles presented and to align their way of working, thereby improving the quality of hENs. On top of those sectoral trainings, deep-dive webinars were given to Technical Bodies to explain the novelties brought by the above-mentioned innovative process.

Last but not least, as CEN and CENELEC standardization work is closely linked to their international counterpart organizations', the EC-ISO-IEC-CEN-CENELEC Brainstorming Group further worked towards the alignment of European and international standards in support of the Single Market, agreeing notably on an innovative process for the development of harmonized Standards developed in parallel with ISO and IEC, and discussing the EC access to ISO and IEC standards for the purpose of managing EU legislation.

BTWG 14 Rules & Process for timely compliance to new (EU) Reg 2022/2480

During 2023, ad hoc meetings of CEN-CLC/BTWG 14 'Rules & Processes', with an active participation of BT members of most NSBs/NCs, were dedicated to identify all those measures allowing CEN & CENELEC to be timely compliant with the new (EU) Reg. 2022/2480 amending (EU) Reg 1025/2012.

The proposed solution, which was afterwards confirmed via an ad-hoc decision of CEN and CENELEC Technical Boards, provided that for the subjects covered by the Amendment:

- ✓ A systematic double counting of the votes is to be done, i.e., systematically display
 - i. the outcome of the voting of all Members
 - ii. the outcome of the voting of Blue-type Members
- ✓ In case of discrepancies, the final decision is to be taken by the Blue-type Members after discussion in the relevant BT(s).

The European Commission, present at the CEN and CENELEC Technical Boards' meeting of May 2023, confirmed that the decision would meet the provisions of EU Reg. 2022/2480.

Research, development and innovation

Examples of cooperation between the national standardisation bodies and European standardisation organisations in the research and innovation sector are the following:

- The activities of **CEN-CENELEC BTWG 3 STAIR** (see also 5.2) that is composed of the interested CEN and CENELEC members and their national stakeholders, and representatives from the European Commission (DG RTD, DG CONNECT and DG JRC regularly attend the meetings). In 2023, STAIR met on 6 March and 27 October.
- The fifth edition of the CEN-CENELEC **Standards+Innovation Awards** was presented as part of the event 'Making research results work for society' organized by the European Commission, DG RTD on 26 October 2023. The following winners have been announced: Project award: D²EPC (Next generation Dynamic Digital EPCs for Enhanced Quality and User Awareness), nominated by CYS; Individual researcher/innovator award: Elsa Batista, nominated by IPQ; Young researcher award: Sweta Malik, nominated by NSAI.
- CEN and CENELEC collaborated with the national standardization bodies in the 'Tour des Capitales' organized in the frame of the awareness-raising campaign on knowledge valorization promoted by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Research & Innovation following the adoption of the EC Recommendation on a Code of Practice on Standardisation in the European Research Area. CEN and CENELEC delivered training sessions on the Code of Practice in Vilnius on 6 June (in collaboration with LST), in Lisbon on 15 November (in collaboration with IPQ) and in Athens on 30 November (in collaboration with ELOT).

Governance review

A review of the governance of CEN and CENELEC started in early 2022, with objective to improve the efficiency of the CEN and CENELEC governance, making better use of available resources, to establish a leaner decision-making process and to ensure transparency and clarity while aiming for inclusion from the Members' perspective. To support the process following principles has been agreed:

- The Boards (ex-CAs) are the heart of the governance of CEN and CENELEC.
- Minimum 1 CEN Board Member and 1 CENELEC Board Member – must be part of the Standing and advisory Committees.
- "Experts" participating in the Standing and Advisory Committees are nominated by NSBs/NCs and it is possible to include employees and experts from industries/other stakeholders – affiliated with NSB/NC.
- The establishment of Standing and Advisory Committees shall be initiated by the Boards and the ToRs to be defined by the Boards.
- The CEN and CENELEC Boards mandate the Presidents and Vice-Presidents to work together on the common activities of the two organizations as a 'Presidential Committee', based on a strictly defined delegation of responsibilities.

A series of workshops took place in 2022 and 2023 to ensure extensive consultation and as broad as possible feedback from Members. In a follow up CAs developed short-term and longer-term actions to drive the implementation plan, which was approved by the PC in February 2023 prior to its presentation to the CAs for approval on 22-23 March 2023. During the CAs meeting of 21 November 2023 the updated Governance Review - CAs proposal has been approved and presented to all members at the dedicated webinar on 17 January 2024. The purpose of the webinar was to ensure the Members' feedback on the revision process and give Members an opportunity to ask questions related to all aspects of the governance review. The target is to achieve agreement on the complete governance review by June 2024 to have a possibility to present to AGs at the 2024 Annual Meeting. The review would require amending the statutes and internal regulations of CEN and CENELEC, depending on the governance model which will eventually be retained.

Membership Relations & Monitoring Committee (MRMC)

The MRMC has been set up to manage the system of assessment of the criteria for CEN and CENELEC membership (in line with EU Regulation 1025/2012). These criteria are featured in the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations Part 1D - and in Guide 22 for organizational aspects. The MRMC ensures the effective follow-up of the outcomes of the assessment reports conducted by member organizations. It further coordinates and disseminates good practices among them.

The MRMC reports to both General Assemblies through the Presidential Committee. Its chair is appointed for a renewable 4-year term. The 4 MRMC members are appointed for a 3-year term, renewable once. The Director General attends MRMC meetings as an observer with advisory role. The MRMC meets three times per year (January, April and September).

The Membership Relations and Monitoring (MRMC) decided during its September 2023 meeting to review the criteria for CEN and CENELEC membership described in CEN-

CENELEC Guide 22 (Guide on the organisational structure and processes for the assessment of the membership criteria of CEN and CENELEC). That process will be synchronised with the revision of Regulation (EU) 1025/2012 and implementation of the FiMo Report findings and is planned for 2024. The objective is to deliver a revised set of criteria for membership, ensuring a smooth and effective management of coherent internal or peer assessor's assessment activities. Furthermore, the revision process will also address some of the recommendations made by the Annex III organizations in their letter for an improved governance sent to CEN and CENELEC in December 2022. These points for improvement were identified through 2023 in the frame of the work of the SME-WG and Societal Stakeholder Group (SSG).

The updated CEN-CENELEC Guide 22 will be submitted for approval by the CEN and CENELEC General Assemblies.

A webinar open to Members' internal assessors, peer assessors and Annex III organizations will take place in 2025 to present the main changes and improvements introduced.

EUROPEAN POLICY HUB (EPH)

The informal CEN and CENELEC '**European Policy Hub**' (EPH), started in October 2018 - bringing together standardization policy/ public affairs staff members of the NSBs and NCs for a regular exchange on shared European files. This group reports its activities to the CEN and CENELEC Policy Groups.

EPH aims at promoting a flow of information that can facilitate efficient monitoring and engagement with current EU legislative initiatives, as well as supports targeted consultations of Partners and/or other stakeholders.

This combined effort for 'reactive policy outreach' is supported by the CEN and CENELEC Management Centre, exchanging with CEN and CENELEC Partners, European Institutions, and/or other stakeholders to target policy input on standardization issues. Throughout 2023, the EPH met on bi-weekly basis, online and twice in-person. These meetings were complimented with several ad hoc working group meetings, meetings with stakeholders on the Construction Products Regulation, reaching agreements on the CSRD and EFRAG, several meetings with the European Parliament on the Artificial Intelligence Act (AI), public responses to about 11 different consultations, events and workstreams with the High Level Forum on Standardization, and working with both the Spanish and Swedish Council Presidencies.

The list of position papers includes:

- European Health Data Space,
- Ecodesign for Sustainable Products,
- Critical Raw Materials Act,
- Evaluation Regulation 1025/2012,
- Construction Products Regulation (CPR),

- Net Zero Industry Act,
- Toy Safety Regulation,
- Standard Essential Patents (SEP),
- European Media Freedom Act.

Annex 1: List of abbreviations and acronyms

ANEC	European Association for the Coordination of Consumer Representation in Standardisation (one of the Annex III organisations)
BRIDGIT	Project: "Bridge the Gap between Research and Standardization"
BT	Bureau Technique, French for "Technical Board"
CCMC	CEN-CENELEC Management Centre
CEN	European Committee for Standardization
CENELEC	European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization
CIP	Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (EC)
EC	European Commission
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
ECOS	European Environmental Citizens Organisation for Standardisation (one of the Annex III organisations)
EN	European standard
EPH	European Policy Hub
ESO	European Standardization Organization
ETSI	European Telecommunications Standards Institute
ETUC	European Trade Union Confederation (one of the Annex III organisations)
EU	European Union
ICT	Information and communications technology
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
IT	Information Technology
JIS	Joint Initiative on Standardisation
JRC	Joint Research Centre (EC)
MRMC	Membership Review and Monitoring Committee
NC	National Committee (In CENELEC the national standardisation bodies in the sense of Art. 2 (10) of the Regulation are typically referred to as national committees.)
NSB	National Standardisation Body
PC	Presidential Committee
PrEN	Draft (preliminary) European standard
RDI	National contact for Research, Development and Innovation
SBS	Small Business Standards (one of the Annex III organisations)
SC	Sub-Committee
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
SSG	CEN-CENELEC Societal Stakeholder Group
TC	Technical Committee
ToR	Terms of Reference
URL	Uniform Resource Locator
WG	Working Group

Source: CENELEC Members

Annex 2: CENELEC members' websites

CENELEC NCs of EU Countries	
Austria	OVE Austria Austrian Electrotechnical Association www.ove.at
Belgium	CEB-BEC Belgium Comité Electrotechnique Belge/Belgisch Elektrotechnisch Comité www.ceb-bec.be
Bulgaria	BDS (БИС) Bulgarian Institute for Standardization (BDS) / Български институт за стандартизация (БИС) http://www.bds-bg.org/en
Croatia	HZN Croatian Standards Institute / Hrvatski zavod za norme www.hzn.hr
Cyprus	CYS Cyprus Organisation for Standardisation / Κυπριακός Οργανισμός Τυποποίησης https://www.cys.org.cy/en/
Czech Republic	ÚNMZ Czech Office for Standards, Metrology and Testing / Úřad pro technickou normalizaci, metrologii a státní zkušebnictví http://www.unmz.cz/
Denmark	DS Danish Standards Foundation / Fonden Dansk Standard www.ds.dk
Estonia	EVS Estonian Centre for Standardisation / Eesti Standardikeskus https://www.evs.ee/
Finland	SESKO Finland Finnish Electrotechnical Standards Association www.sesko.fi
France	AFNOR- Comité Electronique Français www.afnor.org
Germany	DKE Germany German Commission for Electrical, Electronic and Information Technologies of DIN and VDE www.dke.de
Greece	ΕΣΥΠ/ΕΛΟΤ Hellenic organization for Standardisation (ELOT) / Εθνικό Σύστημα Υποδομών Ποιότητας/Αυτοτελής Λειτουργική Μονάδα Τυποποίησης ΕΛΟΤ http://www.elot.gr/
Hungary	MSZT Hungarian Standards Institution / Magyar Szabványügyi Testület http://www.mszt.hu
Ireland	NSAI National Standards Authority of Ireland http://www.nsai.ie/
Italy	CEI Italy Comitato Elettrotecnico Italiano http://www.ceinorme.it/it
Latvia	LVS Latvian Standard / Latvijas standarts https://www.lvs.lv/en
Lithuania	LST Lithuanian Standards Board/ Lietuvos standartizacijos departamentas https://lsd.lrv.lt/en/
Luxembourg	ILNAS Luxembourg Institute of standardisation / Organisme luxembourgeois de normalisation https://portail-qualite.public.lu/fr.html
Malta	MCCAA The Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority (MCCAA) / L-Awtorita' ta' Malta għall-Kompetizzjoni u għall-Affarjiet tal-Konsumatur http://www.mccaa.org.mt/en/home
Netherlands	NEC Royal Netherlands Electrotechnical Committee / Stichting Koninklijk Nederlands Elektrotechnisch Comité www.nen.nl
Poland	PKN Polish Committee for Standardization / Polski Komitet Normalizacyjny http://www.pkn.pl/en
Portugal	IPQ Portuguese Institute for Quality / Instituto Português da Qualidade https://www.ipq.pt/

Romania	ASRO Romanian Standards Association / Asociația de Standardizare din România http://www.asro.ro/
Slovakia	UNMS SR Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing / Úrad pre normalizáciu, metrológiu a skúšobníctvo Slovenskej republiky http://www.unms.sk/?home
Slovenia	SIST Slovenian Institute for Standardization / Slovenski inštitut za standardizacijo http://www.sist.si/index.php
Spain	UNE Spanish Association for Standardization / Asociación Española de Normalización www.une.org
Sweden	SEK Svensk Elstandard www.elstandard.se
CENELEC NCs of EFTA Countries	
Iceland	IST Icelandic Standards / Staðlaráð Íslands https://www.stadlar.is/english
Norway	NEK Norway Norsk Elektroteknisk Komite www.nek.no
Switzerland	Electrosuisse Switzerland Association for Electrical Engineering, Power and Information Technologies www.electrosuisse.ch
CENELEC NCs of Countries outside EU and EFTA	
Republic of North Macedonia	ISRSM Standardization Institute of the Republic of North Macedonia / Институт за стандардизација на Република Северна Македонија http://www.isrsm.gov.mk/
Serbia	ISS Institute for Standardization of Serbia / Institut za standardizaciju Srbije http://www.iss.rs/en
Türkiye	TSE Turkish Standards Institution / Türk Standardları Enstitüsü https://en.tse.org.tr/
UK	BSI British Standards Institution http://www.bsigroup.com/en-GB/

Source: Data provided by NCs

Annex 3: Transparency of work programmes

Art 3 (1): Establishment of the work programme of CENELEC

Information about CENELEC draft standards and standardization deliverables is available online at the following link:

https://standards.cen.eu/dyn/www/f?p=204:79:0::::FSP_LANG_ID:25&cs=11F6C9A43C0C00A2469F97432CECBF708

This dynamic Work Programme is complemented by the annual publication giving an overview of the main standardization developments and strategic priority areas for 2024: [CEN-CENELEC Work Programme 2024](#)

Art 3 (2): Information indicated in the work programme

As required by Art 3 (2) of the Regulation the information included in CENELEC's work programme complies with the requirements of that article. It 1) includes the title of the matter designating the subject, it 2) specifies the stage attained and it 3) indicates the references of any international standards taken as a basis.

Art 3 (3): Scoreboard for the work programmes

Country	Organisation	Link
CENELEC work programme		
Belgium	CENELEC	https://wp2024.cencenelec.eu/
CENELEC NCs of EU Countries		
Austria	OVE	https://www.ove.at/ove-standardization/elektrotechnische-normung-oesterreich/ove-standardization-news/
Belgium	CEB-BEC	https://www.ceb-bec.be/files/work_programme_BEC_Jan2024.pdf
Bulgaria	BDS	https://bds-bg.org/en/bds-work-programme-for-standardization_p213.html
Croatia	HZN	https://www.hzn.hr/default.aspx?id=350
Cyprus	CYS	https://www.cys.org.cy/en/protypa-typopoiisi/standardisation-work-programme
Czech Republic	UNMZ	http://www.agentura-cas.cz/plan-narodnich-praci
Denmark	DS	https://www.ds.dk/en/about-danish-standards/work-programme-and-smes
Estonia	EVS	https://www.evs.ee/en/standards-programme
Finland	SESKO	https://sesko.fi/osallistuminen/ajankohtaiset-lausunnot-ja-aanestykset/seskon-kansallinen-standardointiohjelman/
France	AFNOR	https://norminfo.afnor.org/
Germany	DKE	https://www.dke.de/arbeitsergebnisse
Greece	ELOT	https://elot.gr/elot-typopoiisi-kai-programma-typopoiisis
Hungary	MSZT	https://www.mszt.hu/Portals/0/Dokumentumok/2024/Szabvanyositasi_terv_2024%20I_%20felev.pdf
Ireland	NSAI	https://www.nsa.ie/standards/standards-committees/new-projects-under-development/
Italy	CEI	https://static.ceinorme.it/ceinorme/ProgrammaNormazioneNazionale.pdf
Latvia	LVS	https://www.lvs.lv/en/page?slug=work-programme
Lithuania	LST	https://lstd.lrv.lt/media/viesa/saukykla/2024/1/8WRzqJQviSE.pdf
Luxembourg	ILNAS	https://portail-qualite.public.lu/dam-assets/fr/documentations/normes-normalisation/participer-normes-nationales/ilnas-oln-A006/ilnas-oln-a006-programme-travail.pdf
Malta	MCCAA	https://mccaa.org.mt/Section/Content?contentId=1242
Netherlands	NEC	https://www.nen.nl/informatie-normcommissieleden - scroll down on this page and go to the header 'Nieuwe trajecten' and then click on 'Bekijk het nationale werkprogramma (NEN)'. https://pzn.pkn.pl/tc/#/work-program
Poland	PKN	
Portugal	IPQ	https://www.ipq.pt/normalizacao/plano-de-normalizacao/
Romania	ASRO	https://www.asro.ro/en/the-national-standardisation-programme/
Slovakia	UNMS SR	https://www.normoff.gov.sk/stranka/123/plan-technickej-normalizacie/
Slovenia	SIST	https://www.sist.si/standardization/work-program
Spain	UNE	https://www.une.org/normalizacion_documentos/programa_de_trabajo_normalizacion.pdf
Sweden	SEK	www.elstandard.se/standarder/helsv_projekt.asp
CENELEC NCs of EFTA Countries		
Iceland	IST	https://www.stadlar.is/library/Skrar/Verkefnaskr%a1%20Sta%b0lar%a1%b0s%202024.pdf
Norway	NEK	https://www.nek.no/standarder/arbeidsprogram/
Switzerland	Electrosuisse	https://www.switec.info/de/nationales-arbeitsprogramm/
CENELEC NCs of Countries outside EU and EFTA		
Republic of North Macedonia	ISRSM	https://isrsm.gov.mk/en/download/file/page-section/369
Serbia	ISS	https://iss.rs/sr_Cyrl/download/page-section/document/13026
Türkiye	TSE	https://intweb.tse.org.tr/Standard/Versiyon/IsProgrami.aspx
UK	BSI	https://standardsdevelopment.bsigroup.com/

Source: Data provided by NCs

Art 3 (4): Notification to the ESOs, NCs and the European Commission

Art 3 (4) of the Regulation requires that no later than the time of publication of its work programme, each ESO and national committee has to notify the existence thereof to the other ESOs and national committees and to the EC. In 2023, CENELEC and its Members complied with this requirement.

In this context the preceding scoreboard for the work programmes is relevant because it allows for an easy access to the NCs' work.

Art 3 (5): Primacy of work items at European level

In 2023, no member of CENELEC has objected to a subject in their work programme being considered at European level. Hence, the members of CENELEC complied with the requirement of Art 3 (5) of the Regulation which effectively attributes a standstill effect to European standardization items at the national level.

The CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations contains information on who may initiate proposals for new work items at European level (see also <http://boss.cen.eu/reference%20material/Guidancedoc/Pages/TCNewWI.aspx>):

- the CENELEC Members;
- the CENELEC technical bodies;
- the EC or EFTA Secretariat;
- international organisations;
- European trade, professional, technical or scientific organisations.

Art 3 (6) Standstill entailed by work items at European level

This clause of the Regulation prohibits NCs from taking actions that could prejudice the object and purpose of an intended harmonisation. After publication of a new harmonised standard, all conflicting national standards must be withdrawn. CENELEC has been promoting the concept of standstill for many years even before the existence of the Regulation. It is part of the CEN-CENELEC [Internal Regulations - Part 2](#). Considering that Art 3 (6) refers to the case when a harmonized standard exists, or is under preparation, CENELEC and its members have in fact a stricter policy regarding any action that could prejudice the existing or intended harmonization at European level.

Additional voluntary requirement applied by CENELEC NCs

For CENELEC, in addition to standstill, applies the "[Vilamoura notification procedure](#)", as an early detection mechanism of possible work items with potential interest for several national committees, or with potential interest to be transferred into the European standardization.