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Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Joint Meeting of the RID Committee of Experts and the
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Bern, 10-11 September 2020 and Geneva, 14-18 September

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Standards

Revised procedure of cooperation with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) and the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC)

Transmitted by the European Committee for Standardisation (CEN)*, **

Introduction

This document is based on ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/122/Add.2 as amended by ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/130 Annex III. The changes are proposed to reflect the appointment of a Standards Advisor in place of the CEN Consultant and to modify the procedures to take account of the standards which skip the Formal Vote. The duties of the CEN Consultant relating to the adoption of general purpose standards have been transferred to the Working Group on Standards in order to involve a greater pool of general technical knowledge. There are also minor corrections to improve accuracy. New text is underlined and deletions are struck through.

Proposal

1. Definitions

For the purpose of these procedures the following definitions apply:

* 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect.20) and Supplementary, Subprogramme 2).

** Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2020/52.

1.1 Dedicated standards

EN or EN ISO standards related to existing RID/ADR/ADN requirements and developed specifically in relation to the regulations on the transport of dangerous goods in RID/ADR/ADN.

For dedicated standards, the Joint Meeting has expertise in evaluating compliance with RID/ADR/ADN requirements and influencing the contents of the standards without having to consult other sectors (such as for standards on the design, construction, testing of pressure receptacles and tanks as well as some packaging standards).

~~Typically, standards established under the European Commission Mandate M/086 fall under this category.~~ These dedicated standards include the following sentence in the foreword:

"This standard has been submitted for reference into the RID and/or in the technical annexes of the ADR."

Examples:

- Basically all standards on the design, construction, inspection and testing ~~and marking~~ of pressure receptacles and tanks;
- Some packaging standards.

Dedicated standards are subject to the procedures outlined below and are reviewed by the Working Group on Standards for compliance with the requirements of RID/ADR/ADN.

1.2 General purpose standard

A standard which has been developed outside the domain of the transport of dangerous goods by experts in other fields.

General purpose standards support the understanding of the requirements of RID/ADR/ADN, their uniform application and the achievement of harmonized results in measurement, inspection and testing. In most cases, general purpose standards have no potential to conflict with the requirements of RID/ADR/ADN.

Examples:

- Standards on the establishment of the physical properties of dangerous goods;
- Standards on the mechanical properties of materials and their testing;
- Standards on the chemical and physical compatibility of filling substances and construction materials;
- Freight container standards;
- Standards on the equipment of vehicles and personnel.

General purpose standards are subject to the procedures outlined below and shown in the attached chart.

1.3 Standards Advisor

The Standards Advisor is appointed by the Joint Meeting to provide assessments of the compliance of draft CEN-CENELEC standards with the RID/ADR/ADN.

2. Procedures

2.1 Procedure for dedicated standards development

Step 1

The European Committee for Standardization (CEN) and the European Committee for electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC) will develop standards according to the CEN/CENELEC rules. ~~The CEN-CENELEC consultant~~ will advise the Joint Meeting on new work items and of work in progress in CEN-CENELEC which will result in standards intended to be referenced in the RID/ADR/ADN. The delegations to the Joint Meeting from countries which are CEN-CENELEC members can contribute technical comments to their National Standardization Bodies during the CEN-CENELEC (§ 3 months) enquiry period.

Step 2

Draft standards ready for the enquiry stage will be uploaded together with the assessment of the ~~CEN-CENELEC Consultant~~ Standards Advisor to a password protected CEN website specific to the next session of the Joint Meeting under "DISPATCH X¹" accessible only to the members of the Joint Meeting Working Group on Standards and to the delegates of the Joint Meeting. Members who have access to the website will be automatically informed every time a document is uploaded.

The members of the Working Group on Standards may comment on the compliance of the standard with the RID/ADR/ADN. Their comments will be sent to ~~the CEN-CENELEC consultant~~ CEN-CENELEC Management Centre and the Standards Advisor to be compiled in an information document for the next session of the Joint Meeting. Together with his assessment it will be subject to discussion by the Working Group on Standards.

Since, in the absence of technical comments, the Formal Vote stage may be skipped, the Working Group on Standards shall indicate its acceptance of standards at this stage if compliance with RID/ADR/ADN has been agreed.

Step 3

As soon as the standard is ready for the Formal Vote or if the Formal Vote has been skipped, a copy will be uploaded to the CEN website accompanied by the Standards Advisor's ~~CEN-CENELEC consultant's~~ assessment which shows how the Joint Meeting's comments have been taken into account. Members who have access to the website will be alerted each time a document is uploaded.

Comments on the standard's compliance with the RID/ADR/ADN should be sent to ~~the CEN-CENELEC consultant~~ CEN-CENELEC Management Centre and the Standards Advisor. The ~~CEN-CENELEC consultant~~ Standards Advisor shall evaluate the comments received within one month from the date of circulation of the document. If they are deemed valid, the launching of the CEN Formal Vote may be postponed until any problem revealed has been resolved. Comments received after one month has elapsed will not delay publication but any consequential changes in the standard will be processed by initiating a revision or amendment.

Step 4

The Joint Meeting will take the decision to refer to CEN-CENELEC standards based on the delegates' study of the Formal Vote text or text for publication and taking into consideration

¹ Consecutive number of the dispatch.

the recommendations of the Standards Advisor ~~CEN Consultant~~ and of the Joint Meeting Working Group on Standards.

The uploading of standards as mentioned under steps 2 and 3 shall be completed eight weeks before the session of the Joint Meeting.

2.2 Procedure for references to standards as a result of harmonization with the United Nations Recommendation on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations

The Ad hoc Working Group on the Harmonization of RID/ADR/ADN with the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods will advise the Joint Meeting about any references to new or revised international standards which may be part of amendments to the Model Regulations intended to be transferred to RID/ADR/ADN.

Generally it is taken that these standards are compliant with the Model Regulations. In case a participant of the Joint Meeting² questions the compliance of these standards with the requirements of RID/ADR/ADN, the Joint Meeting may ask the Working Group on Standards to assess their compliance. The text of the standard will be provided by the participant² who has raised the concerns together with the reasoning for the concerns.

2.3 Procedure for references to general purpose standards

2.3.1 Procedure for new references to European general purpose standards

If a participant of the Joint Meeting² asks for the inclusion of an additional general purpose standard, the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre will upload a copy of the draft FprEN standard on the dedicated CEN webpage mentioned above under a separate entry “For information”.

Member States may comment on the compliance of the standard with RID/ADR/ADN which shall be sent to the Working Group on Standards ~~CEN-CENELEC consultant~~ who will submit a judgement on compliance with RID/ADR/ADN to the Joint Meeting.

2.3.2 Procedure for revised references to European general purpose standards

Based on a system of systematic review of European standard references in RID/ADR/ADN, the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre will advise the Joint Meeting regularly in its paper on work in progress in CEN about any referenced EN and EN ISO standards which have been revised.

Together with this information, the Working Group on Standards ~~CEN-CENELEC consultant~~ will describe the extent and nature of the revision and its potential to conflict with RID/ADR/ADN. If a participant of the Joint Meeting² queries its judgement in writing, these comments will be added to the compiled comments by participants of the Joint Meeting² on dedicated standards to be discussed by the Working Group on Standards. The CEN-CENELEC Management Centre will then upload a copy of the draft FprEN revised standard on the dedicated CEN webpage mentioned above under a separate entry “For information”.

² Participant in the sense of Rule 1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Joint Meeting of the RID Committee of Experts and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (WP.15) (RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting) contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/112/Add.2.

3. System of comprehensive documentation and review of references to standards in RID/ADR/ADN

The CEN-CENELEC Management Centre will support the secretariat of UNECE/WP.15 in setting up and updating a database of all standards included in RID/ADR/ADN.

4. Terms of reference and working procedures of the Joint Meeting Working Group on Standards

The terms of reference of the Working Group are restricted to commenting as to whether a standard complies with the requirements of the RID/ADR/ADN. Technical comments will be transmitted to the relevant Technical Committees of CEN-CENELEC.

- The Joint Meeting will request participants² to nominate their experts, to assign them to the Working Group and nominate a Chair;

- The Standards Advisor ~~CEN consultant~~ will collaborate with the Working Group;

- Meetings of the Working Group on Standards will be held at the same time as the Joint Meeting, but outside its working hours. Working group sessions will begin on the first Monday of the meeting and will conclude not later than the Wednesday. The Chair may, exceptionally, call meetings at other times;

- The Working Group may also use telephone/video conferences (“telecons”) organized by CEN-CENELEC in advance of the Joint Meeting sessions. CEN-CENELEC will provide members of the Working Group and experts nominated by the participants of the Joint Meeting² with the necessary information and the agenda of those meetings.

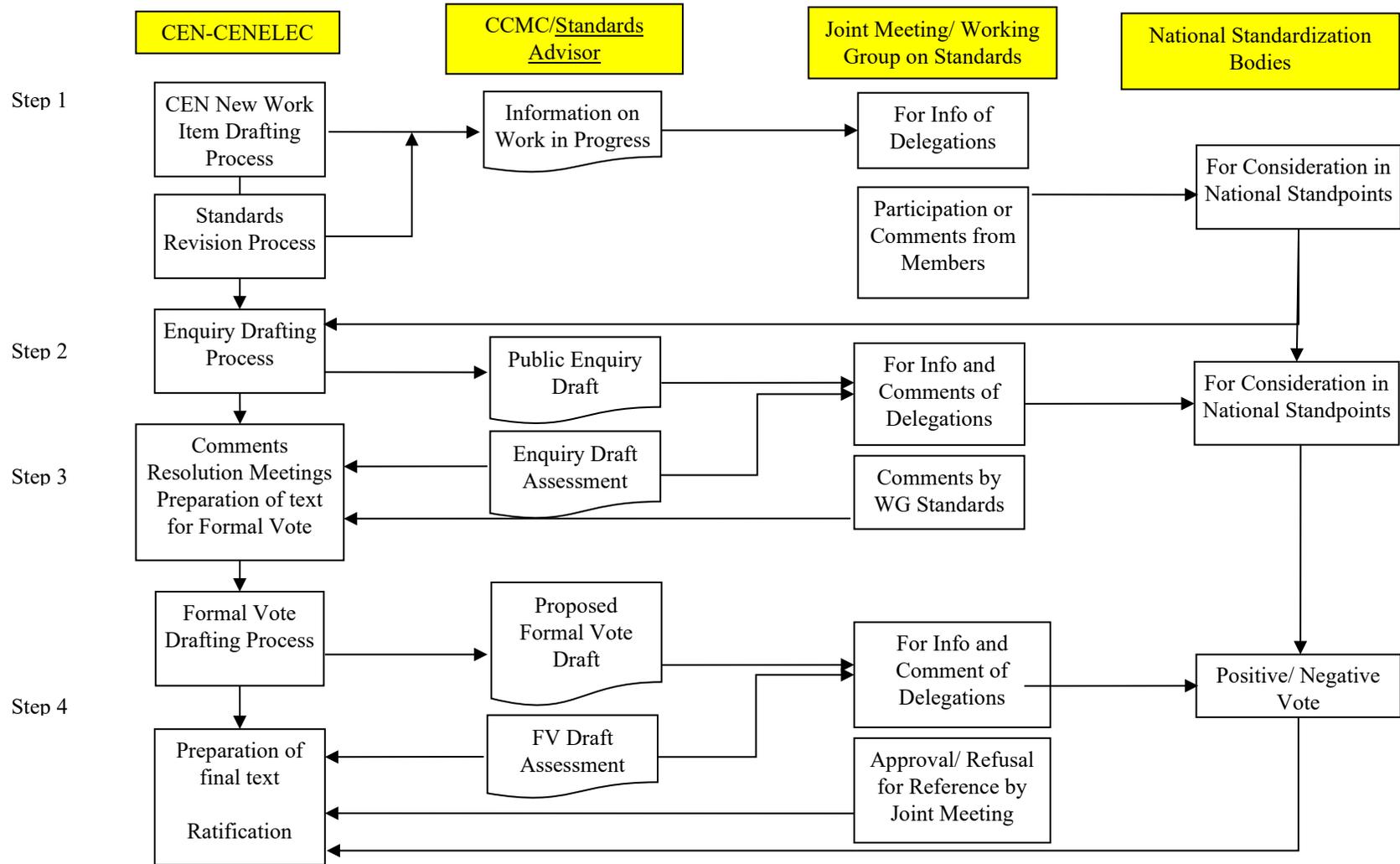
- Telecons may be arranged by the Chair at any time between the sessions of the Joint Meeting, however not later than 4 weeks ahead of the next session of the Joint Meeting.

- The results of the telecons will be documented and the Chair will introduce the report(s) to the Joint Meeting. If specific expertise is required, any unresolved or new issues put forward at the beginning of the session may be dealt with by a telecon during the session week.

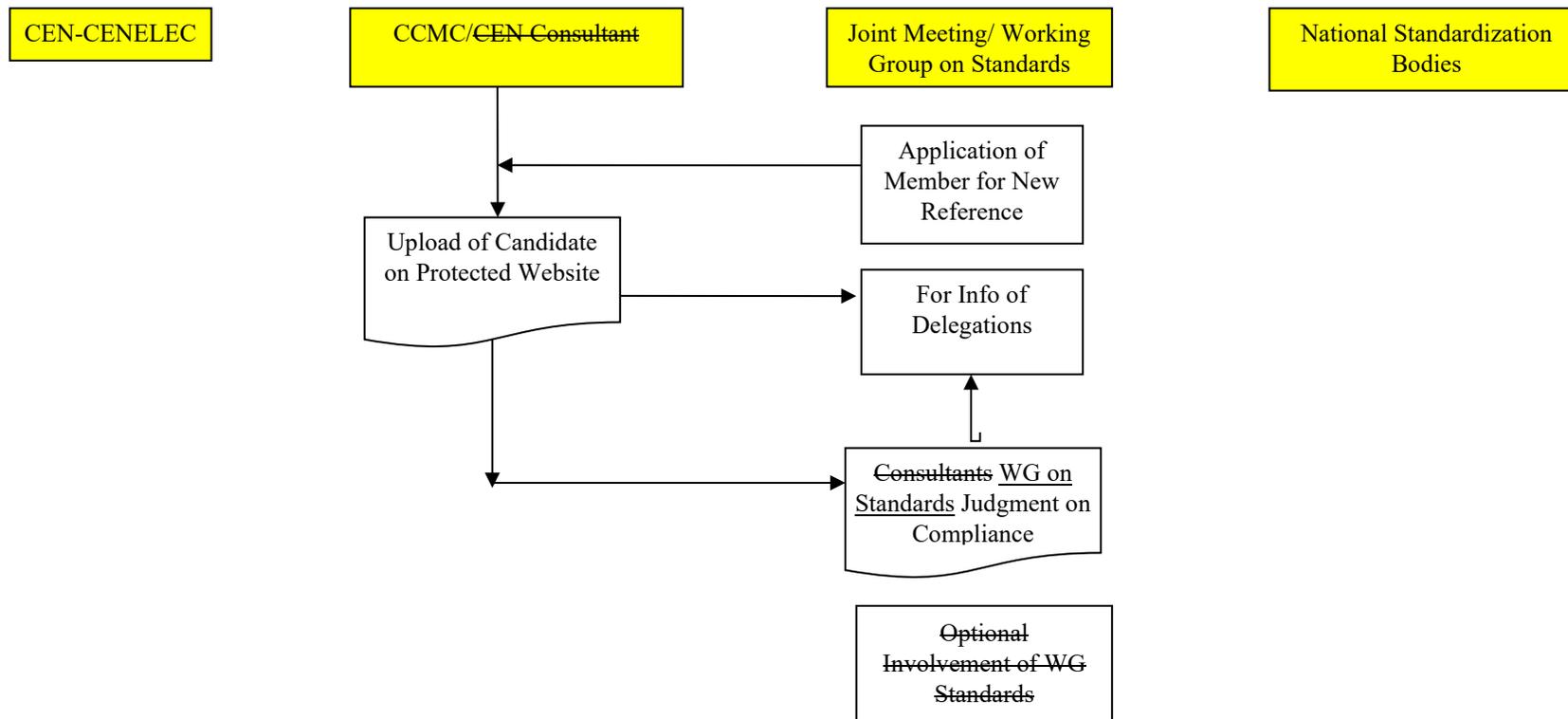
- The Chair will report to the plenary on the evaluation of the standards’ conformity with existing regulations and submit proposals on new or amended references to standards in RID/ADR/ADN;

- The Joint Meeting will include on its agenda an item under which the Chair of the Working Group will report to the Joint Meeting.

Process flow-chart for the adoption of European dedicated standards in RID/ADR/ADN (revision April 2020)



**Process flow-chart for the adoption of new references to European general purpose standards in
RID/ADR/ADN (revision April 2020)**



Process flow-chart for the adoption of revised European general purpose standards in RID/ADR/ADN
(revision April 2020)

