



→ Non-mandatory forms offered by CEN for consensus building in EU RTD Projects

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# What is a Standard?



→ It is a document

- voluntary in application
- established by all interested parties
- reflecting consensus
- approved by a recognized body
- for common and repeated use

→ National Standards (e.g. BS, DIN, NF, AS)

→ International Standards (i.e. ISO, IEC)

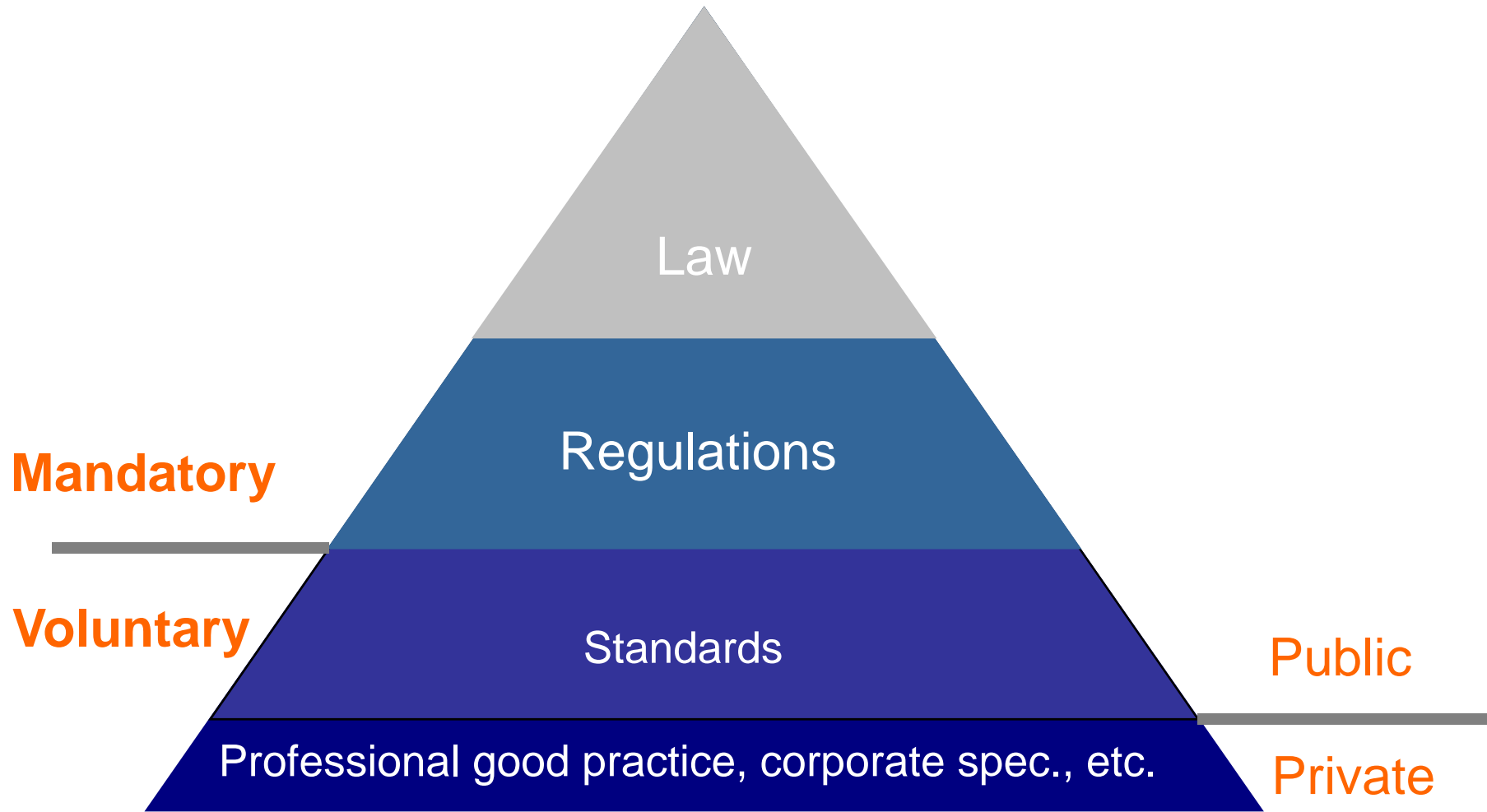
→ European Standards (i.e. EN)



# Why standardize?

- Standardization is voluntary, not something laid down by regulators
- It fosters progress and innovation
- It helps to disseminate awareness and knowledge
- It helps all stakeholders, including:
  - industry at large
  - small and medium-size enterprises
  - public authorities a regulators and also as standards users
  - academia and the research community
  - consumers, etc etc

# Standards, regulations and private specifications





# Why have European Standards?

- To build the Single European Market
- To enable innovation coming from European research results
- To strengthen regional competitiveness in a global economy
- To export European knowhow
- To ease access to the Single European Market
  - Accession of new Members to the EU
  - Removal of technical barriers between Members
- To provide an alternative for better regulation:
  - 'Self regulation' by the market and best practice benchmark
  - A co-regulation approach in Europe since 1985

# The European Standardization System



## → CEN

European Committee for Standardization



## → CENELEC

European Committee  
for Electrotechnical Standardization



## → ETSI

European Telecommunications  
Standards Institute





## Sectors

- CHEMISTRY
- CONSTRUCTION
- CONSUMERS
- ENERGY
- ENVIRONMENT
- FOOD
- HEALTHCARE
- HEALTH AND SAFETY
- HEATING, COOLING, VENTILATION
- INFORMATION SOCIETY
- e-BUSINESS
- MATERIAL
- MECHANICAL ENGINEERING
- METROLOGY
- SECURITY & DEFENCE
- SERVICES
- TRANSPORT



# A few facts and figures...



- 30 National Members
- 7 Associate Members
- 16 Affiliates, 1 Partner Standardization Bodies
- 2 Counsellors: EC, EFTA
- 1 Management Centre (Brussels), hub of the association and source of information and guidance:
  - More than 13300 available publications
  - 1/4 identical to ISO standards (Vienna Agreement)
  - 1/6 'harmonized standards' (co-regulation approach)
  - Production in 2008: 1144 documents



## ... More facts and figures



### → CEN Technical activity

- ± 1 800 committees and groups
- ± 500 European professional organizations
- > 60 000 national experts
- CEN Affiliates can participate as observers
- ISO observers under the Vienna Agreement

### → Timeframe to develop a European standard

- In principle no more than 36 months
- With derogation, up to 54 months
- But it is possible in 16 months



## New standards initiatives in CEN – two main approaches

- European Commission and EFTA – in general in the form of a “mandate”:
  - A formal request to us to prepare a standard (or a series thereof)
  - Mandates are endorsed by EU Member States (Directive 98/34/EC)
  
- The market takes the initiative: industry, public authorities, European professional associations, consortia

# Different tools for CEN consensus



## → The European Standard (EN)

- Formal procedures : TCs with national delegations, may support legislation, national enquiry and formal vote, withdrawal of competing national standards required (3 years)

## → The Technical Specification (TS)

- Faster procedures : do not undergo the full EN process

## → The CEN Workshop Agreement (CWA)

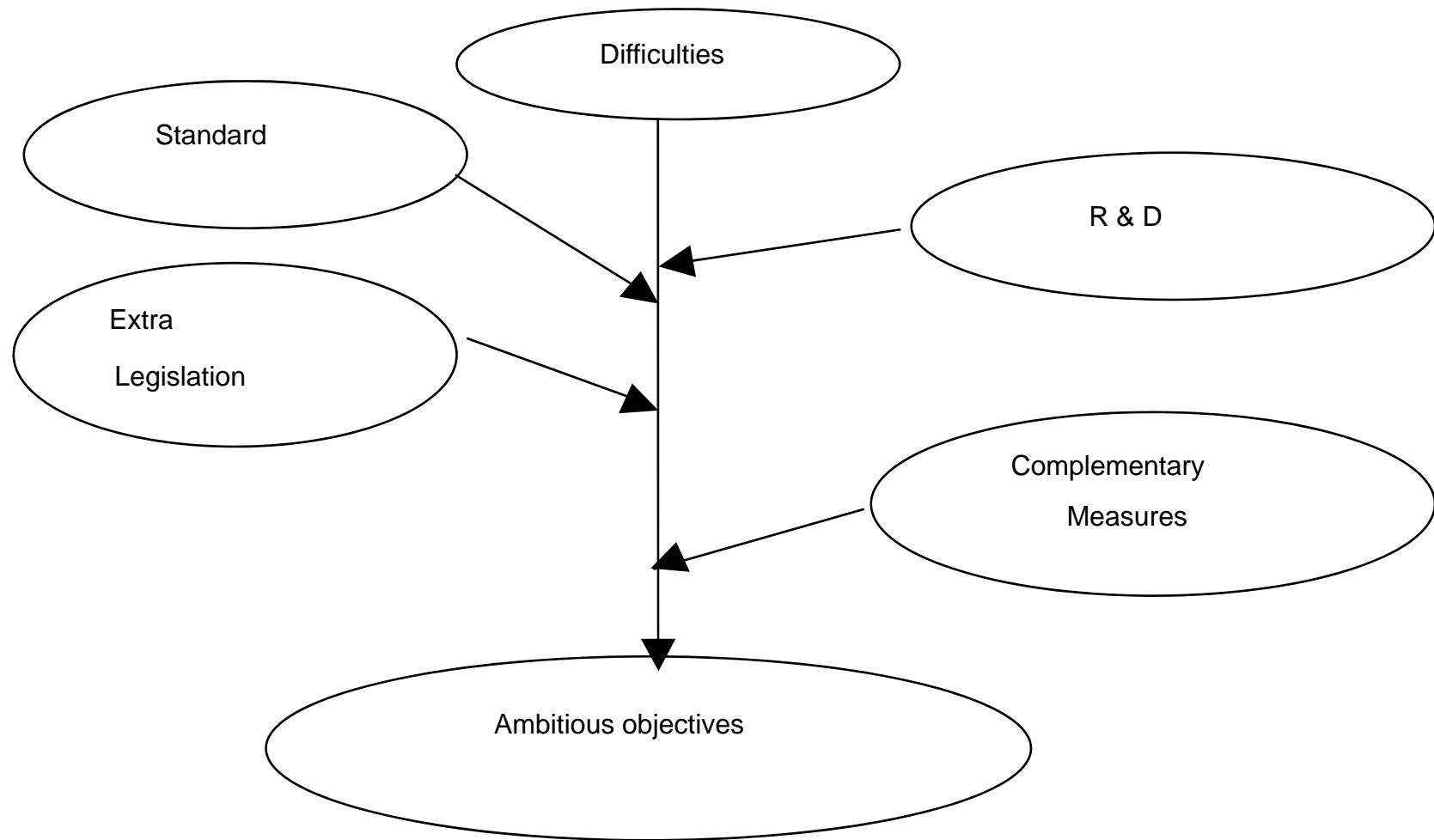
- Lighter procedures : ideal in particular to support innovative and fast evolving technologies, and to ensure rapid exploitation of research results (duration : 5 to 18 months)

## Our messages



- CEN is willing to assess with you the possibilities for best collaboration on all issues requiring harmonization
- This can involve the relevant TCs and CEN Management Centre as well as CEN National Members. A “liaison status” can be granted to European Federations, to reinforce your influence in these CEN/TCs
- Activity also takes place in CEN Workshops

# The Integrated Approach





## The use of research-linked standardization (I)

- A) Systematic use of the “INTEGRATED APPROACH” to maximise the impact for applied research : research and standards are TOOLS to reach useful OBJECTIVES !
  
- B) The analysis of needs for standards must therefore take place case by case



## The use of research-linked standardisation (II)

- C) Need for best interface between the “standardisers” and the researchers, but gifted researchers should mainly do research!
- D) Standards can ensure a wider dissemination of the output of research
- E) Involving CEN will benefit your research proposals : consider also all the structuring benefit since this forces the partners to look into the future exploitation of the results !



Thank you for your attention!

→ CEN is ready to help !!!

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