

The Eurocodes, history and present

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A short story of the Eurocodes

1971-1976	Public procurement Directive (1971) – Appointment of a steering committee to examine the feasibility of developing a common European set of technical documents covering the design of a wide range of construction works.
1976 –1990	Drafting of the first set of technical documents under the Commission’s authority : the Eurocodes – International inquiry (1980) – Unique Act and New Approach (12/07/1986) – Construction product directive (CPD - 1989) – Transfer to CEN.
1990 - 1998	Conversion, by CEN, of the first Eurocodes into provisional European standards (ENVs)
1998 – 2006	Conversion of the provisional European standards ENV into European standards EN
2007 - ∞	Maintenance and evolution of the Eurocodes

Objectives of the Eurocodes

The Member States of the EU and EFTA(1) recognise that Eurocodes serve as reference documents for the following purposes :

- * as a means **to prove compliance of building and civil engineering works with the essential requirements** of Council Directive 89/106/EEC, particularly Essential Requirement N°1 – Mechanical resistance and stability – and Essential Requirement N°2 – Safety in case of fire ;
- * as **a basis for specifying contracts** for construction works and related engineering services ;
- * as **a framework for drawing up harmonised technical specifications for construction products (ENs and ETAs)**

(1) EFTA : European Free Trade Association (Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, Liechtenstein)

Objectives of Eurocodes (cont.)

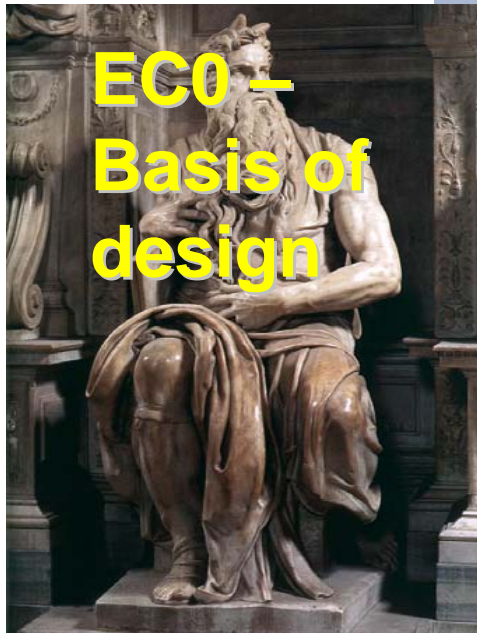
In addition, the Eurocodes are foreseen to :

- **improve the functioning of the single market for products and engineering services by removing obstacles arising from different nationally codified practices for the assessment of structural reliability ;**
- **improve the competitiveness of the European construction industry and the professionals and industries connected to it, in countries outside the European Union.**



THE EUROCODES

Building the Future in the Euro-Mediterranean Area



**EC0 –
Basis of
design**



EC1 - Actions



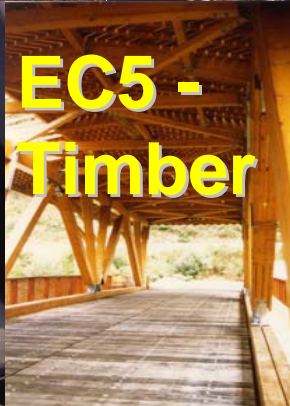
**EC2 -
Concrete**



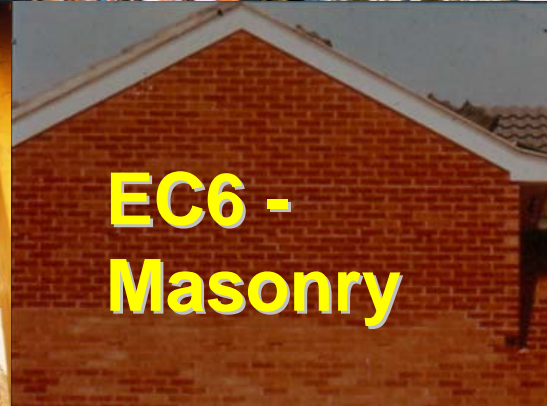
**EC3 -
Steel**



**EC4 –
Composite
steel-
concrete**



**EC5 -
Timber**



**EC6 -
Masonry**



**EC7 -
Geotechnics**

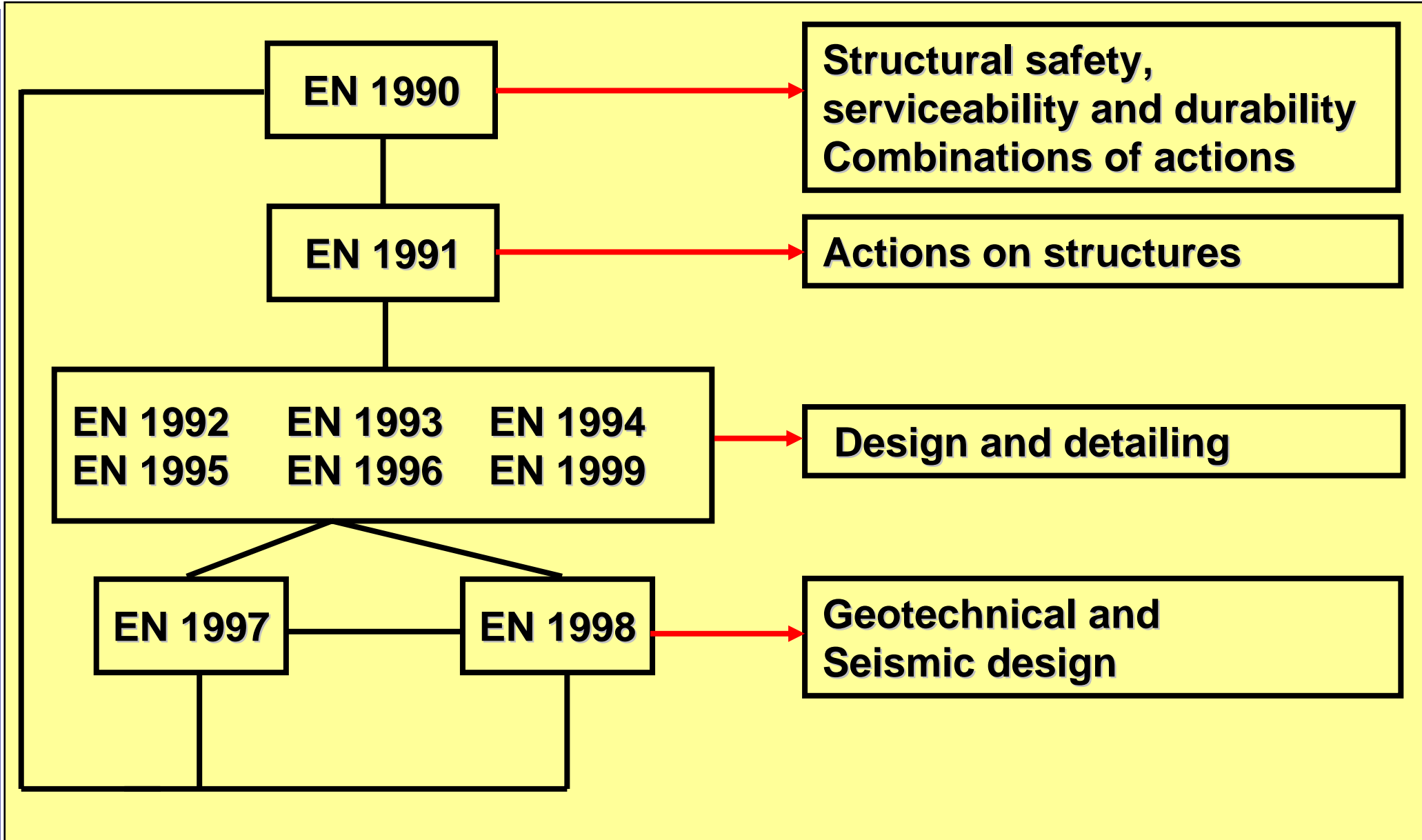


**EC8 -
Earthquakes**

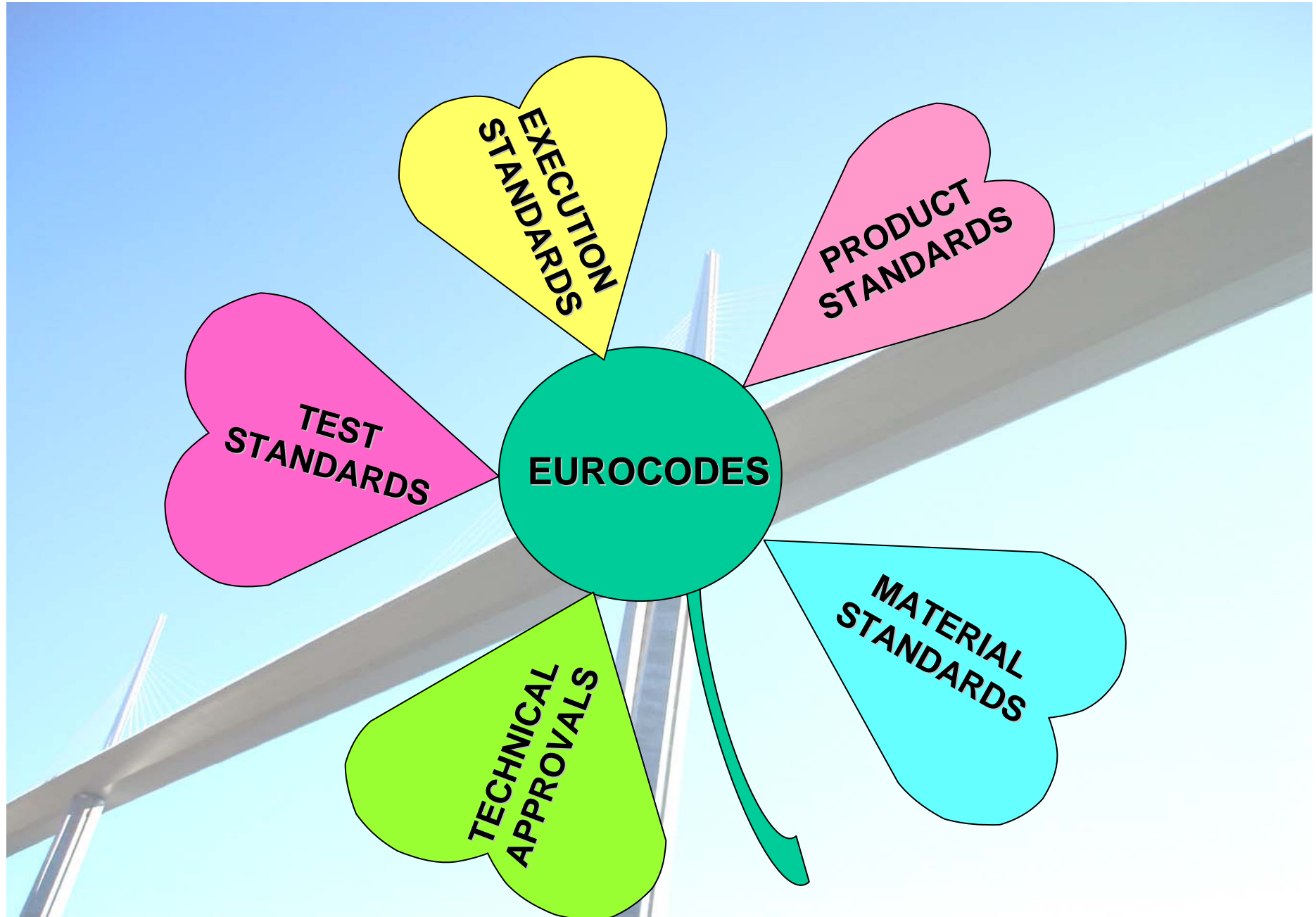


**EC9
Aluminium**

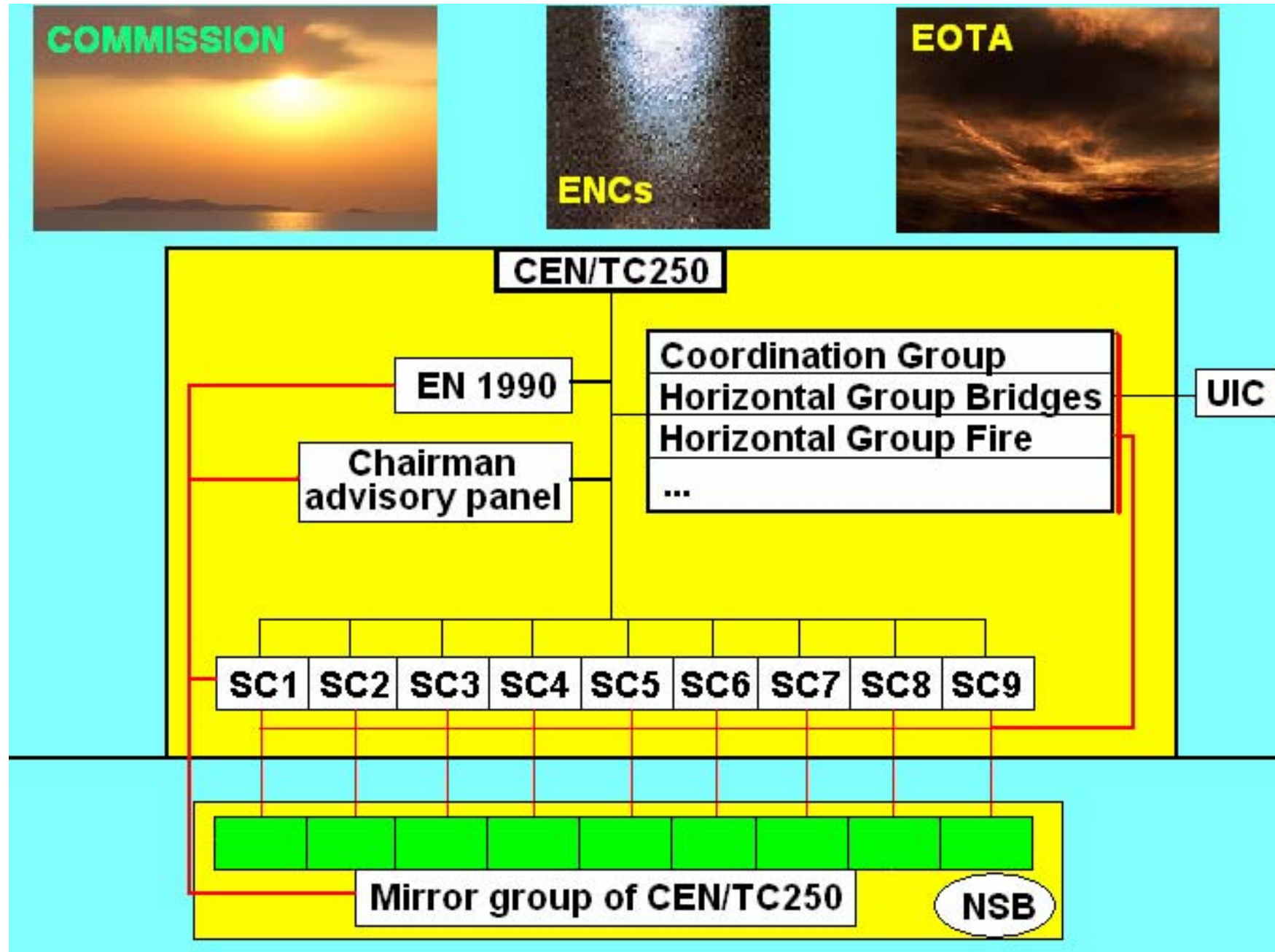
LINKS BETWEEN THE EUROCODES



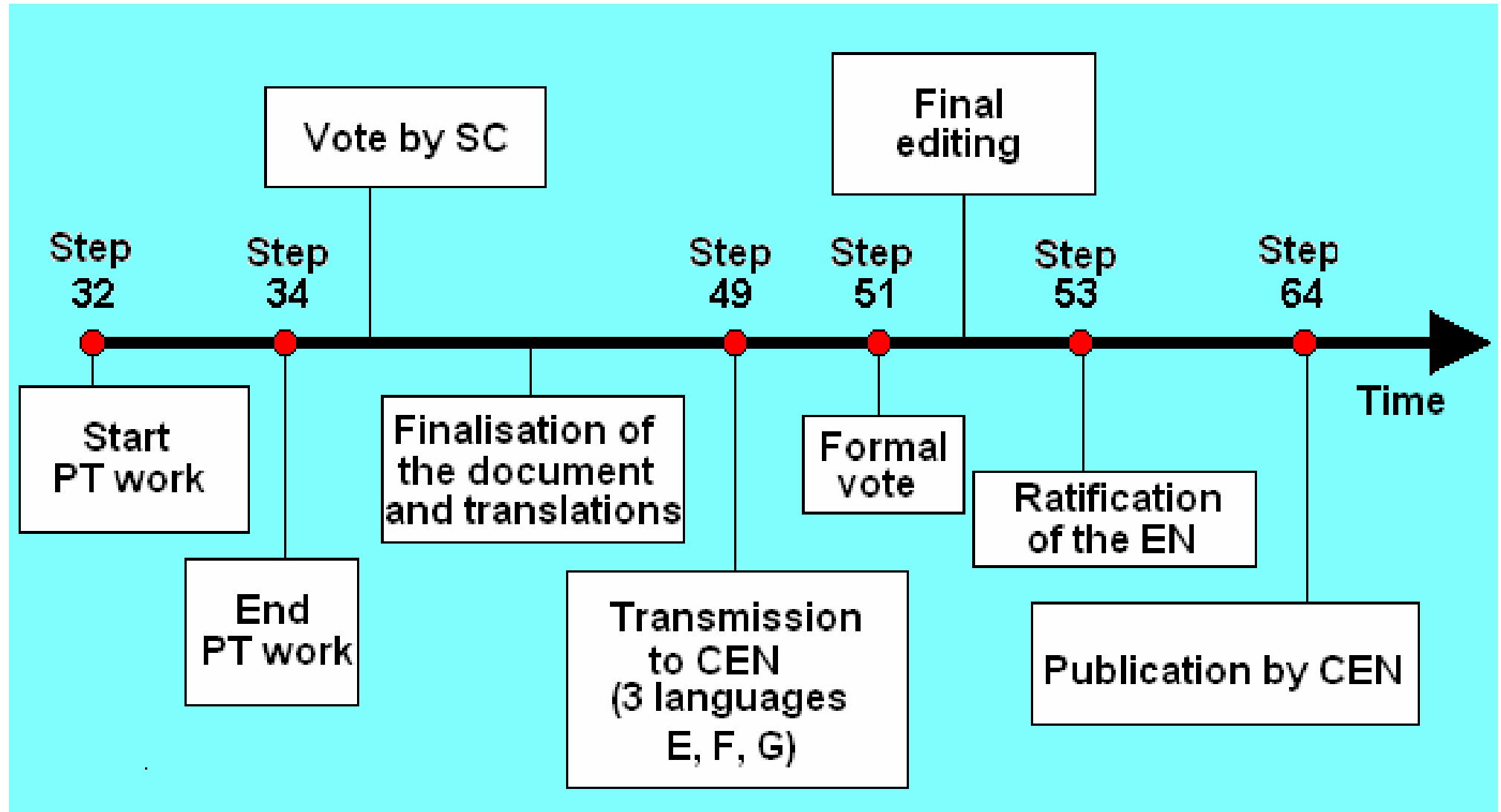
The environment of the Eurocodes

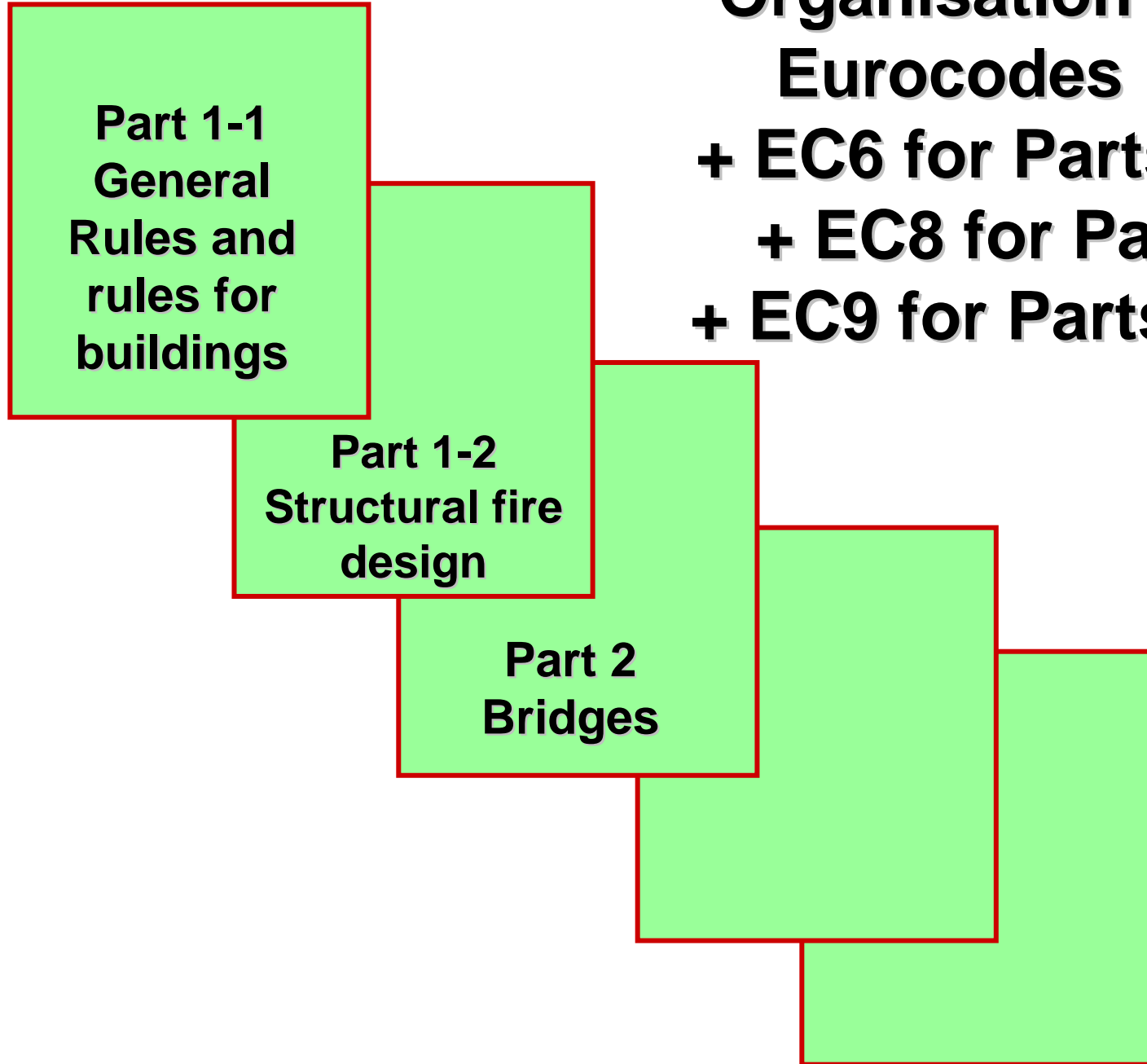


The Environment of CEN/TC250



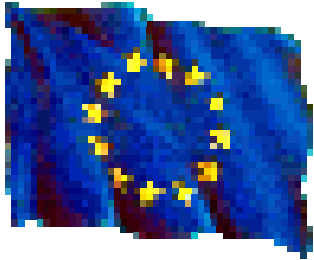
From birth to publication of an EN Eurocode Part



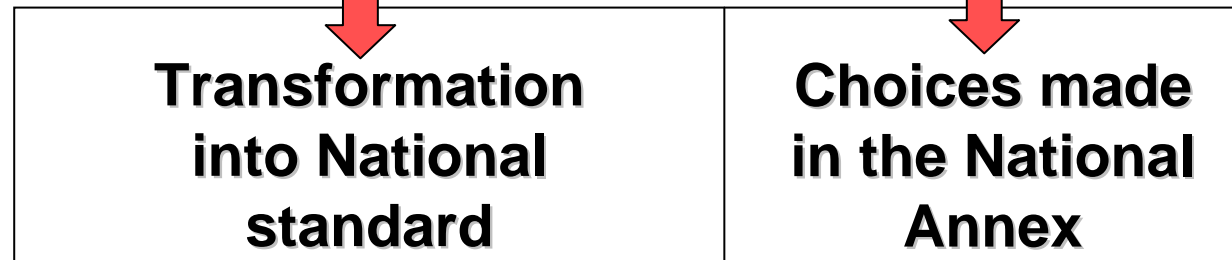
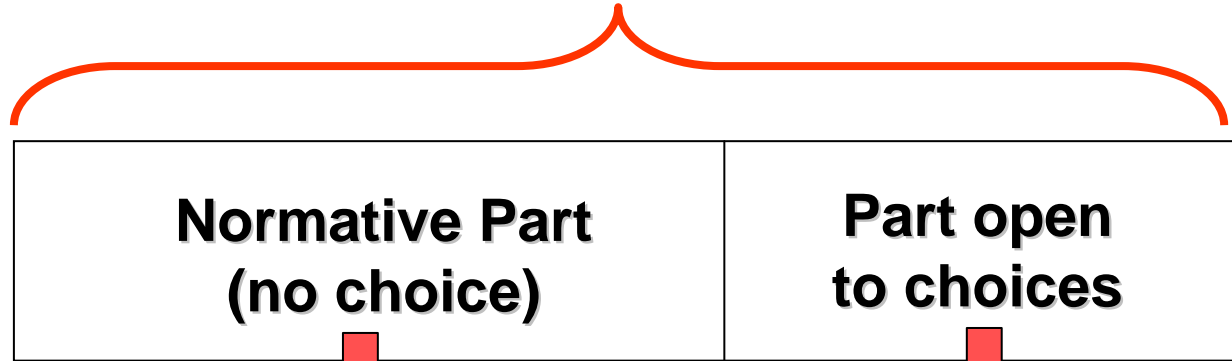


Organisation of Design
Eurocodes : 2-3-4-5
+ EC6 for Parts 1-1 & 1-2
+ EC8 for Parts 1 & 2
+ EC9 for Parts 1-1 et 1-2

IMPLEMENTATION OF EUROCODES (1)



Eurocode EN 199n-p



(National) EN 199n-p

**Choices for the
individual project,
national guidance, etc.**



IMPLEMENTATION OF EUROCODES (2)

The National annex may only contain information on those parameters which are left open in the Eurocode for national choice, **known as Nationally Determined Parameters**, to be used for the design of buildings and civil engineering works to be constructed in the country concerned, i.e. :

- values and/or classes where alternatives are given in the Eurocode,
- values to be used where a symbol only is given in the Eurocode,
- country specific data (geographical, climatic, etc.), e.g. snow map,
- the procedure to be used where alternative procedures are given in the Eurocode.

It may also contain

- decisions on the application of informative annexes,
- references to non-contradictory complementary information to assist the user to apply the Eurocode.



COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION (2003/887/EC) OF 11/12/2003 on the implementation and use of the Eurocodes for construction works and structural construction products

Abridgement of the recommendation

- 1.- The Eurocodes are a suitable tool :
 - to check mechanical resistance and stability
 - to give a presumption of conformity with Essential Requirements 1, 4, 2 of the Directive 89/106/EEC**
- 2.- NDPs should be laid down**
- 3.- The use of recommended values is encouraged as far as possible and NDPs should be notified to the Commission**
- 4.- The Commission may request changes of NDP values to reduce divergence from recommended values**

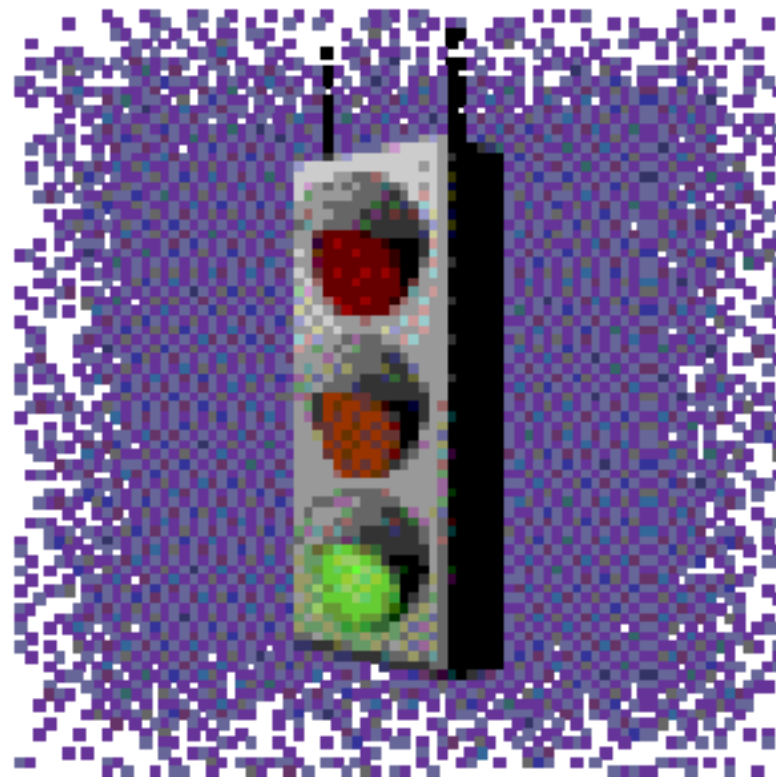
COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION (2003/887/EC) OF 11/12/2003 on the implementation and use of the Eurocodes for construction works and structural construction products

Abridgement of the recommendation (cont.)

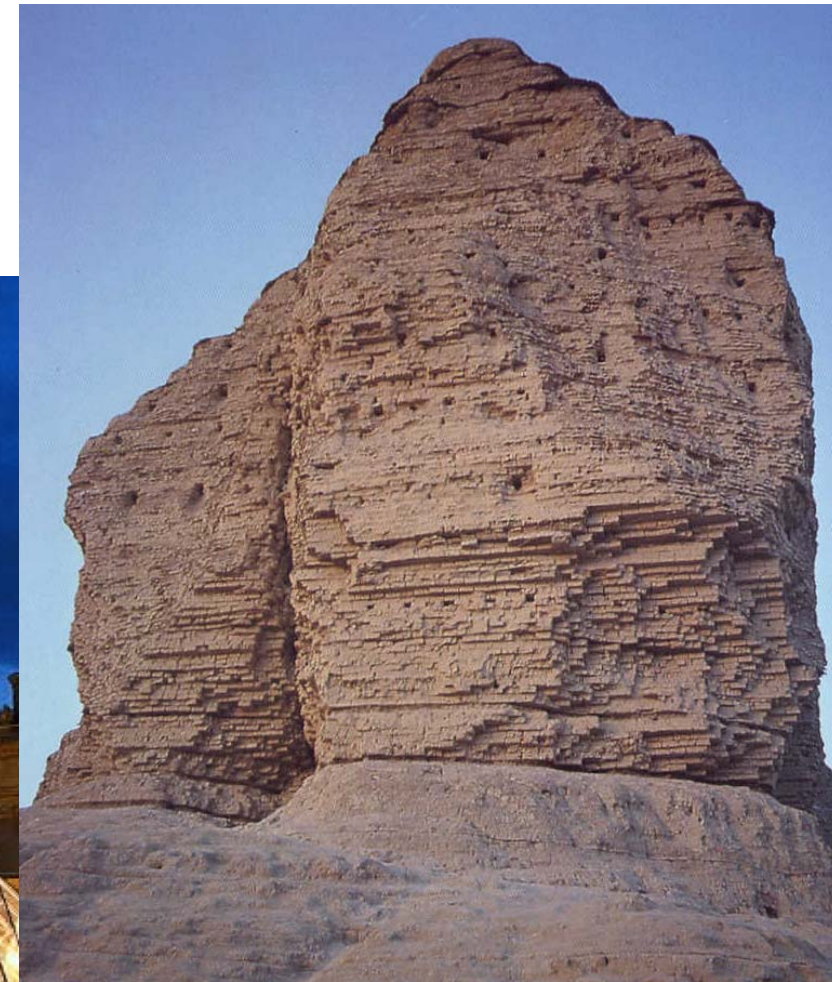
- 5.- Reference to Eurocodes in the national provisions on structural construction products (in the absence of technical specifications) is encouraged.**
- 6.- Research is encouraged in cooperation with JRC for the evolution of Eurocodes, in particular in the fields of fire and earthquake resistance.**
- 7.- Promotion of instruction in the use of the Eurocodes is encouraged.**



The present situation : we are ready !



The main qualities of the Eurocodes ...



**... their
technical
soundness and
their
transparency**



Thank you for your attention

