



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL III
INDUSTRY

Directorate B: legislation and standardization; telematics networks
Unit III/B-2: standardization

M/074

MANDATE TO CEN/CENELEC FOR THE ELABORATION OF A PROGRAMME FOR MEASUREMENT STANDARDS FOR CERTAIN TYPE OF HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES

I. MOTIVATION.

1. This programming mandate is related to Council Directive 92/75/EEC⁽¹⁾ which lays down the legal basis for a compulsory system of energy labelling and information provision for certain household appliances, so permitting consumers to choose more energy efficient appliances.

Article 9 of that Directive makes provision for the adoption, by the Commission, of implementing directives, which are to lay down (cf. Article 12) the measurement standards and methods to be used to ensure that the information described above are determined and declared by the suppliers of the products on a homogeneous basis, which allows for the comparison of the different appliances on the market. This implies that the coming into force of the framework directive 92/75/EEC and its implementing directives, may follow on from the adoption, or revision of the necessary European standards.

Certain existing European, and International standards provide a basis for obtaining this information, but new or revised standards are required to ensure that all appliances of the same type are measured on a comparable basis. These new or revised standards must provide measurement methods for consumption of electric energy, other forms of energy and other essential resources and for supplementary information, which are representative, reproducible, and which allows methods of checking whether sample appliances conform with declared values.

(1) OJ N° L 297, 13.10.1992,p.16

2. To date the Commission has adopted a first implementing directive (Directive 94/2/EC of 21 January 1994, OJ L 45 of 17/2/94) concerning electric refrigerators, freezers and their combinations, while three other implementing directives concerning washing machines, driers and dishwashers are in preparation. Four standardization mandates have recently been given to CEN and CENELEC concerning these appliances.
3. As well as the appliances mentioned above, directive 92/75/EEC lists the following types of appliances:-
 - Ovens (including cookers),
 - Water heaters and hot water storage appliances,
 - Lighting sources,
 - Air-conditioning appliances (in particular individual appliances).

The addition of further household appliances is allowed under Article 9 of the above directive.

4. In order to define how the consumption of energy and other information may be measured, CEN/CENELEC must be asked, as a first step, to adopt a programme of standardization for the appliances quoted in paragraph 1.3.

As directive 92/75/EC foresees the possibility (cf. Article 9 b) of adding to the list of appliances to be labelled, it seems appropriate to ask the European Standardization bodies to include suggestions for such additions in their response to this programming mandate.

5. As part of the Community policy on the protection of the environment, the Council adopted regulation n° 880/92 on 23 March 1992. This provides for introduction of a Community environmental label for consumer goods. The present programming mandate should take account of the framework set out in this regulation for the definition of criteria for the attribution of an Eco-label for the relevant products.

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE MANDATED WORK.

1. Work to be done.

By this mandate, the Commission asks CEN and CENELEC to elaborate a complete and coherent programme setting out the necessary European measurement standards, needed to implement directive 92/75 in respect of the appliances given in paragraph 1.3.

CEN/CENELEC are also requested to make suggestions of those appliances that could be added to the list in the above mentioned directive, and which could be the subject of measurement standards.

2. Contents of the programme.

For each measurement standard the programme shall at least include:

- The type of household appliance covered;
- The title of the standard;
- A summary of the proposed contents;
- A short description of the characteristics which will be subject to the measurement methods, or which will be required for these measurements;
- the base metrological specifications and the measurement methods to be used;
- A list of the reference documents including, for example, International, European and National standards;
- The body which will be responsible for the standardization work, giving a clear division of work between the European, and International bodies.
- Reference to relevant items of other programmes and/or for standardization mandates.

3. Consistency with existing programmes.

The programme shall take account of other relevant existing or planned International standardization programmes.

It shall also take account of other relevant existing or planned European activities, including in particular those relating to the 'Low Voltage' directive (73/23/EEC), the 'Gas Appliance' directive (90/396/EEC) and the other 'new approach' directives such as the directive on efficiency requirements for new hot water boilers (92/42/EEC).

III. EXECUTION OF THE MANDATE.

1. Generalities.

Interested parties (notably Community and EFTA national authorities, industry, workers, consumers and control bodies, distributors, retailers, consumers and users) shall be given the opportunity to participate in the work

2. Calendar.

CEN and CENELEC shall give the Commission the programme described above by 31 December 1994.