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DIN contribution on Annex N (The Normative Referencing of Specifications other than International Standards in JTC 1 International Standards - Guidelines for JTC 1 SCs)

The current wording in the introduction to Annex N is ambiguous as on one hand it clearly asks that **all** standards need to normatively reference externally developed standards in a consistent way (“...it is necessary to establish such references in international standards in a consistent way which ensures the quality of international standards established by JTC 1 as well as the proper treatment of IPR issues ...”) on the other hand Annex N may be understood to apply only for International Standards developed in the 'normal' five stage process (“... One of the cases is described in this document, namely where an International Standard (IS) is developed by a JTC 1 Subcommittee, using the five stage process. Other cases will be considered later ...”).

DIN suggests that Annex N will be modified in such a way that it can be applied to all used for all types of development processes so that the above mentioned objective of consistent referencing can be achieved for all ISO/IEC International standards. If National Bodies agree to this suggestion, DIN is willing to provide a revised 'harmonised' text for Annex N.

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