



Notification Number: 2008/42/F

Draft Decree on standardisation

Date received : 30/01/2008
End of Standstill : 02/05/2008
Issue of comments by : Commission, Germany

Message

Message 002

Communication from the Commission - SG(2008) D/50207
Directive 98/34/EC
Translation of the message 001
Notification: 2008/0042/F

No abre el plazo - Nezahajuje odklady - Fristerne indledes ikke - Kein Fristbeginn - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Καμμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - Does not open the delays - N'ouvre pas de délais - Non fa decorrere la mora - Neietekmē atlikšanu - Atidėjimai nepradedami - Nem nyitja meg a késések - Ma' jiftaħ il-perijodi ta' dawmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Nao inicia o prazo - Neotvorí oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Määräaika ei ala tästä - Inleder ingen frist - He ce предвижда период на прекъсване - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare.

(MSG: 200800207.EN)

1. Structured Information Line

MSG 002 IND 2008 0042 F EN 01-02-2008 31-01-2008 F NOTIF 01-02-2008

2. Member State

F

3. Department Responsible

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3. Originating Department

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4. Notification Number

2008/0042/F - X00M



5. Title

Draft Decree on standardisation

6. Products Concerned

All products and services

7. Notification Under Another Act

d) Directive 2006/123/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 on services in the internal market

8. Main Content

The draft Decree organises the French standardisation system with regard to the development of standards applicable in France. It defines the role of each of the parties concerned: the system will be coordinated by the French Standardisation Association (AFNOR), and technical negotiations on the standards will be carried out by the sectoral standardisation offices approved by the public authorities. A procedure for regularly evaluating the activities of the standardisation offices is put in place. The sale of standards on behalf of the entire French standardisation system will now be the responsibility of a single body that will compensate the parties involved in the system as a function of their contribution to drafting the standards.

As a contribution to funding the French standardisation system, a fee will be charged for certifying goods and services to attest conformity with reference documents based on French standards. This provision supplements notifications 2007/0590/F and 2007/0591/F.

As with the aforementioned notifications, this notification also applies on the basis of Article 15(7) of Directive 2006/123/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 on services in the internal market.

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

As standardisation is an activity performed in the general interest, it is vital to provide a framework for performing the activities assigned to the parties involved in the French standardisation system on behalf of the public authorities. This is the purpose of the approval procedure for standardisation office, which aims to ensure, by means of regular evaluation, that they are in fact meeting the obligations incumbent on this in the general interest. These obligations include, in particular, involving all the stakeholders, such as consumer representatives, trade unions and SMEs, in the standardisation work, and taking account of their interests when drafting standards.

The certification of goods and services is a voluntary procedure, in which a third party verifies conformity with a pre-established reference document. The reference document is drawn up by the certifying bodies, and describes the characteristics with which the certified product or service must comply. These characteristics may be defined specifically for that reference, or adopt recognised specifications such as those included in the standards. References to standards rather than to specific characteristics with no official standing give the certification greater visibility, a benefit which businesses make use of commercially. It is proposed that the French standardisation system could benefit from some form of payment for this added value that the standard gives to the certification. This contribution will be used to develop new standards, which can in turn be used for certification. This measure is not a barrier to trade, as the fee will not apply to product or service certifications that do not refer to standards, or that refer to foreign standards.



10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

Articles L 115-27 to L 115-33 of the Consumer Code, as notified under number 2007/0590/F

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

No

12. Grounds for the Emergency

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13. Confidentiality

a) No

14. Fiscal measures

a) Yes

15. Impact assessment

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16. TBT and SPS aspects

TBT aspect (Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade)

b) No

i) This draft is not a technical regulation or a conformity assessment procedure pursuant to Annex 1 to the TBT Agreement.

SPS aspect (Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures)

b) No

i) The draft is not a sanitary or phytosanitary measure pursuant to Annex A to the SPS Agreement.

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION
GROWTH DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Single Market for goods
Prevention of Technical Barriers

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