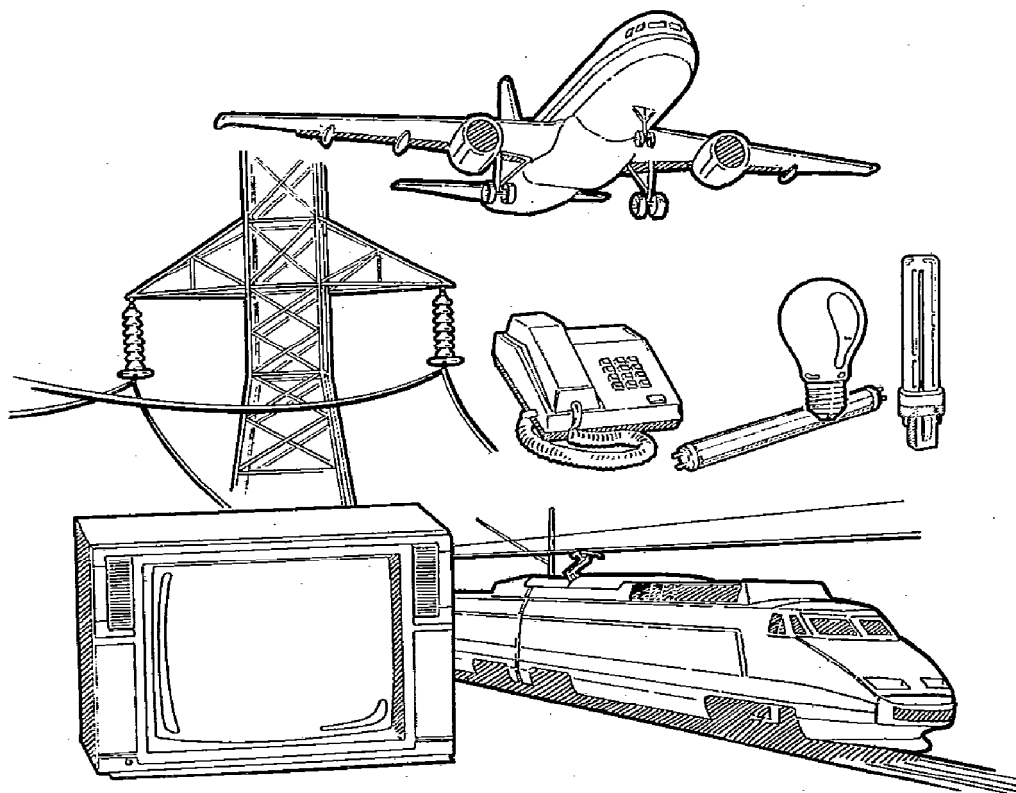


ELECTROTECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR EUROPE

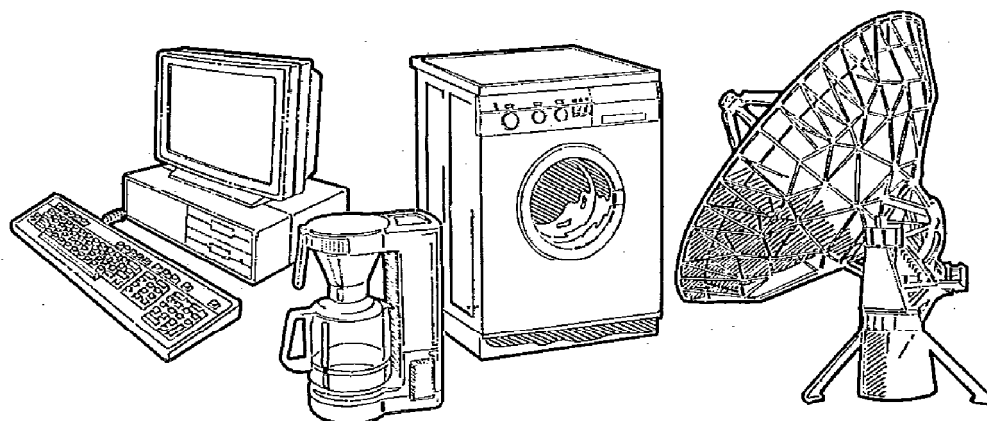


CENELEC

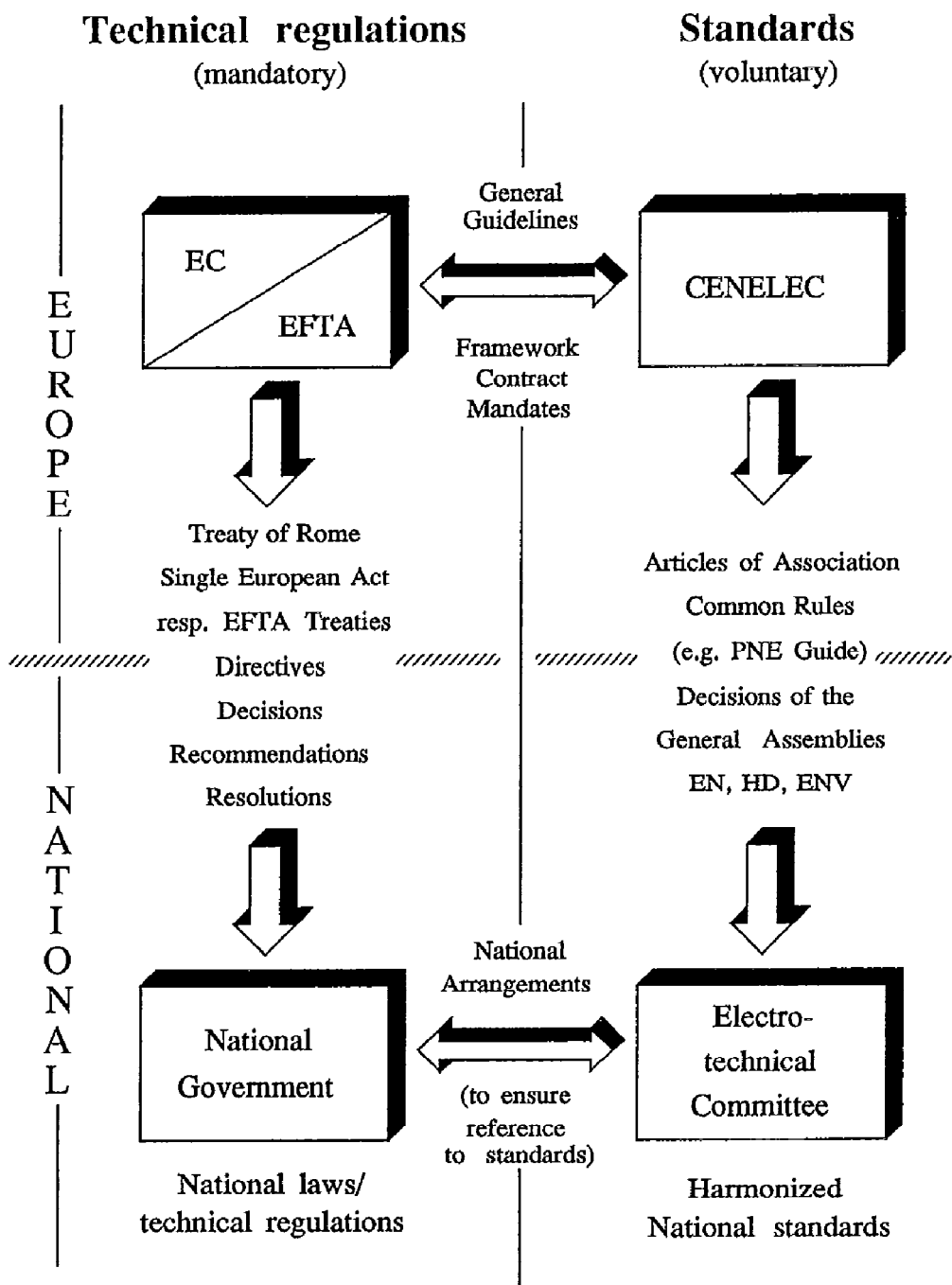
Electrotechnical Standards for the European Economic Space (EC and EFTA)



CENELEC



WHY STANDARDS FOR EUROPE ?



CENELEC

STANDARDS AND TECHNICAL REGULATIONS: THE EUROPEAN NETWORK

Main purpose of CENELEC

CENELEC aims at the preparation of a coherent set of voluntary electrotechnical standards as a basis for the creation of the **Single European Market / European Economic Space** without internal frontiers for goods and services inside Western Europe.

In this context, standards prepared and adopted by common agreement

- constitute an important means for establishing conformity with the relevant essential requirements, for instance as regards safety;
- are an essential tool for trade;
- may be an important reference for public procurement.

Priority areas for electrotechnical standardization in Europe are areas

- where there are market needs for European Standards;
- where barriers to trade for goods and services are to be removed;
- where they are directly or indirectly related to EEC directives and EC or EFTA standardization mandates.

New Approach

A resolution of 7th May 1985 of the European Council formally endorsed the principle of reference to European standards within the relevant European regulatory work, thereby paving the way to a New Approach in the philosophy of regulations and standards in Europe.

Instead of preparing individual EEC directives aimed at removing isolated problems connected with identified barriers to trade, the Commission will prepare directives to cover technical areas required for the operation of a unified internal market. The principle of reference to European Standards prepared by CEN and/or CENELEC for all detailed technical requirements is a central part of this process.

This fundamental policy has been endorsed by the European Free Trade Association (EFTA).

Which European countries are represented ?

Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom.

CENELEC

MAIN PURPOSE

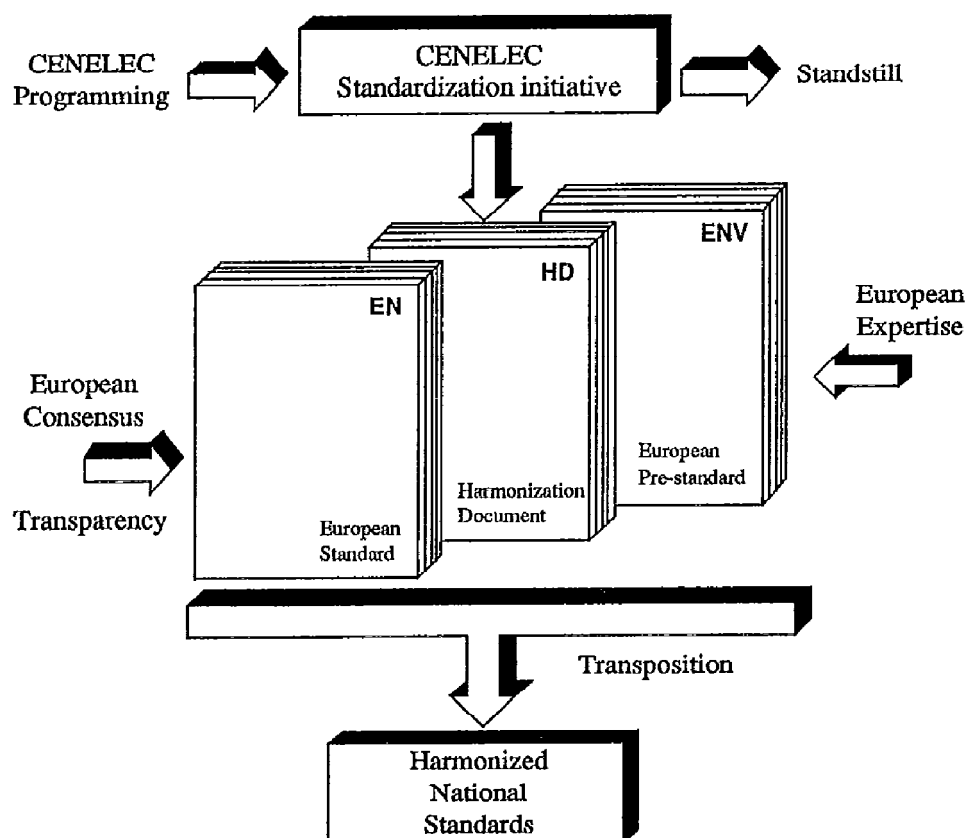
CENELEC, the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization

CENELEC, a non-profit-making technical organization set up under Belgian law, is composed of the National Electrotechnical Committees of 18 countries in Western Europe, which (except for Iceland and Luxembourg) are also members of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC).

CENELEC works separately from, but in close collaboration with its sister organization CEN, the European Committee for Standardization which deals with non-electrotechnical matters.

Standardization activities were started with a first consultative meeting in December 1958, and continued in early 1959 by an official meeting of delegations from the national Electrotechnical Committees of the six Common Market member countries, operating under the name of "The Group of Six". In 1963 the name was changed into CENELCOM.

In line with the enlargement of the Common Market in 1973, CENELCOM was amalgamated with CENEL, an organization of 13 National Electrotechnical Committees from EC and EFTA countries and changed its name into CENELEC.



CENELEC
WHAT IT IS

Transparency within the preparation of European Standards

Standardization applies a *consensus* process: all interested parties throughout the CENELEC countries by the means of an open "public" enquiry and appropriate participation are consulted in order to achieve the widest possible acceptance of the technical solution proposed in a new European standard: manufacturers, users, testing stations, governments, consumers, academia, etc.

CENELEC provides the ideal forum for the establishment of consensus on standards with immediate benefit for European industry and trade as well as the protection of consumers and environment.

The CENELEC harmonization work to establish ENs, HDs or ENVs is based as far as possible on international work results of the IEC, although standards or draft standards from other sources may be used where appropriate. Such an international document may be endorsed without any change to its text, or may be modified as found necessary in order to meet the European market needs for products and/or services.

Standstill Agreement

Once CENELEC has selected an international standard or any other useful document as a reference document and submits it to the agreed Procedure, all National Committees have to stop all national work on the subject.

The members shall not publish during a given period a new or revised national standard which is not completely in line with a CENELEC standard in existence or under preparation. They shall not take any other action which could prejudice the intended harmonization.

The same procedure applies when the AG or BT decide to initiate new work on a specific item within a technical body of CENELEC.

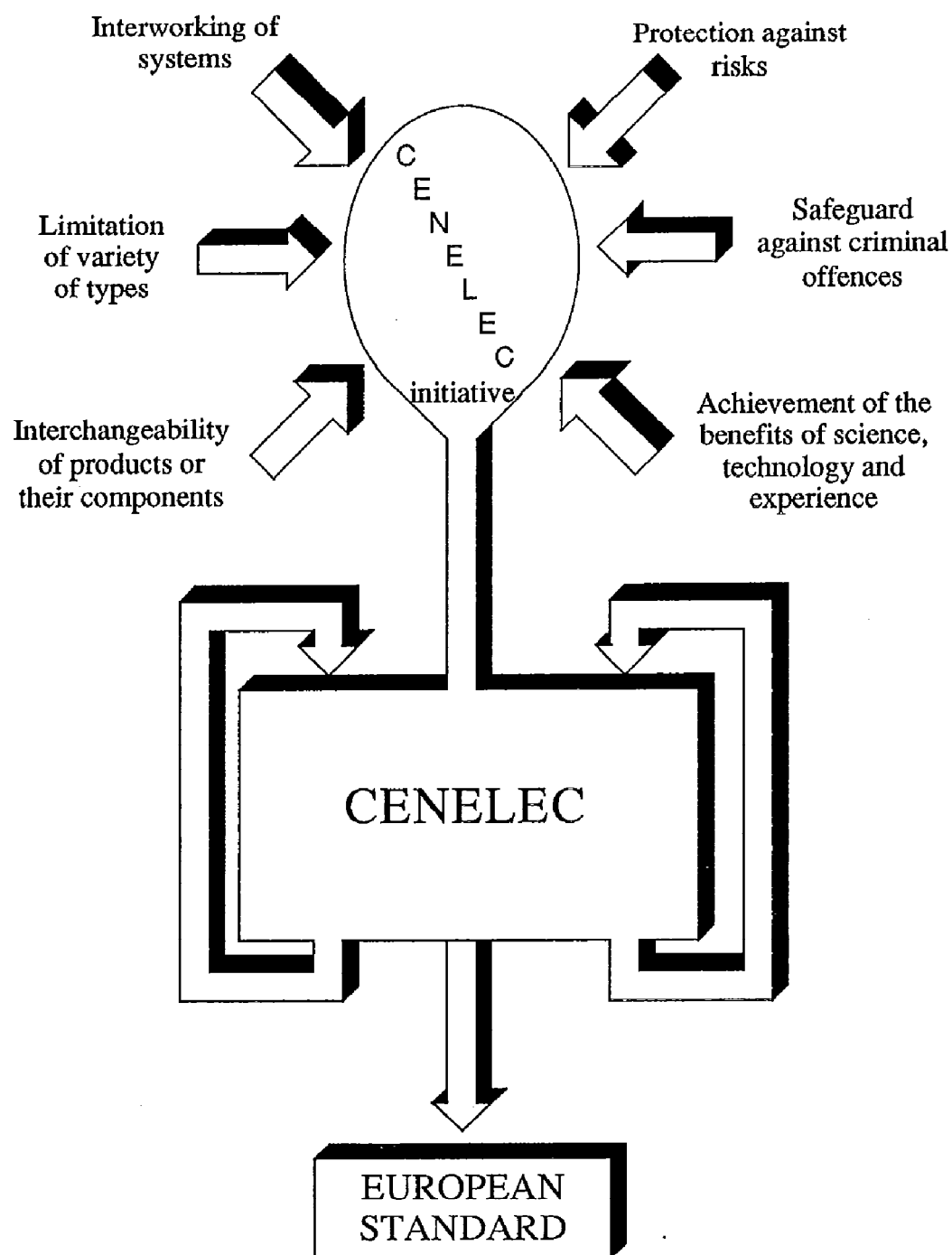
Transposition

After a formal positive voting result the Standards are ratified by the CENELEC Technical Board. All National Committees are then obliged to implement the CENELEC Standards.

Uniform implementation in all 18 member countries is to be ensured by each CENELEC member in compliance with the CEN/CENELEC Common Rules for standards work.

CENELEC

THE HARMONIZATION PROCESS



CENELEC
MAIN AREAS OF EUROPEAN
ELECTROTECHNICAL STANDARDIZATION

Areas of work

CENELEC work aims at covering the entire area of electrotechnical standardization with a coherent set of CENELEC standards, taking into account the interrelationship between all technological applications.

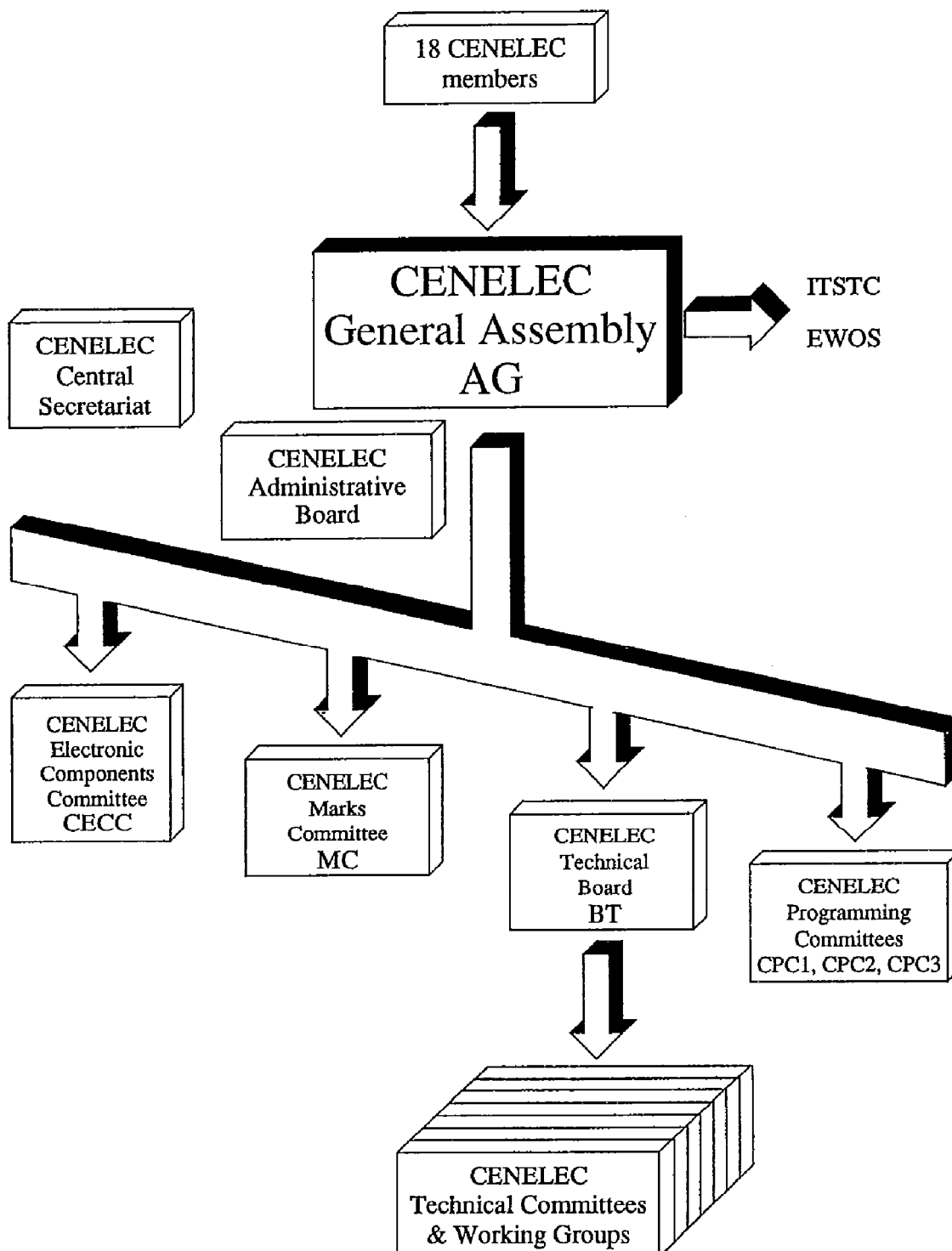
The priority areas for CENELEC standardization work are those which determine the free movement of goods and services and/or are directly or indirectly related to EEC Directives and EC or EFTA standardization mandates.

These are mainly:

- the scope of the EEC Directive 73/23/EEC, known as the "Low Voltage Directive", which covers all equipment, both domestic and industrial, designed for use with rated voltage between 50V and 1000V AC and 75V and 1500V DC;
- the scope of other specific EEC Directives for electrical equipment, such as electromedical equipment, electromagnetic compatibility (including radio interference), equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres, measuring instruments including electronics, safety of machines, and for public procurement purposes;
- specific proposals by CENELEC members for the preparation of relevant European Standards;
- agreed EC or EFTA mandates for standards for electrical equipment, either to prepare initial standards which are urgently required at European level or to provide standardization solutions in areas where the free movement of goods and services has to be guaranteed and/or trade barriers are known or likely to arise from conflicting national requirements;
- agreed EC or EFTA mandates for standardization of information technology equipment, in close collaboration with CEN and ETSI within the framework of ITSTC;
- agreed EC or EFTA mandates aiming at the creation of all standards needed for the free movement and/or certification of electronic components.

CENELEC

**MAIN AREAS OF EUROPEAN
ELECTROTECHNICAL STANDARDIZATION**



CENELEC
GENERAL STRUCTURE

General Assembly

The General Assembly (AG) is the governing body of CENELEC. It has the full power of decision within the organization. It is composed of the official delegations from the national Electrotechnical Committees of each of the 18 countries represented within CENELEC.

Technical Board

The Technical Board (BT)

- co-ordinates all technical activities, which include the selection of international standards for consideration as Reference Document;
- sets up and monitors operations of the CENELEC Technical Committees and Working Groups.

The BT is formed by one permanent delegate from each of the 18 CENELEC members.

Technical Committees and Working Groups

These bodies are responsible for the preparation of standards within their scope. They are composed of national delegations designated by the different CENELEC members.

Programming Committees

In 1986, the CENELEC General Assembly set up three Programming Committees:

- CPC 1 - basic electrotechnology,
 - CPC 2 - electrical power equipment,
 - CPC 3 - electrical consumer goods and control equipment,
- composed of people from a higher managerial level.

These CPCs generate guidance and recommendation to the CENELEC General Assembly, with their follow-up being normally entrusted to the Technical Board.

Besides the CPCs, CECC and ITSTC (the CEN/CENELEC/ETSI Information Technology Steering Committee) have their own specific programming functions within their area of competence.

Marks Committee

The CENELEC Marks Committee deals with problems of mutual recognition of national Marks of Conformity for electrical products and with general questions concerning specific certification schemes.

Other sectorial activities are currently being started or under preparation, some of them such as information technology (IT) in co-operation with CEN.

CENELEC

GENERAL STRUCTURE