**Source: ETSI Director-General**

**Title: Terms of Reference of CEN-CLC-ETSI Joint Technical Body eAccessibility (formerly Joint Working Group)**

**Agenda item: 4**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Decision | **x** |
| Discussion |  |
| Information |  |

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| Late submission |  |

**Document for:**

# 1 Decision/action requested

***The Board is invited to approve the revised Terms of Reference of CEN-CLC-ETSI Joint Technical Body on eAccessibility.***

# 2 References

- CEN CENELEC ETSI Cooperation Agreement [Partnership Agreements View - Agreement View (etsi.org)](https://portal.etsi.org/webapp/AgreementView/AgreementDetail.asp?AgrID=14)

- [CEN Technical Bodies - CEN/CLC/ETSI/JWG eAcc (cencenelec.eu)](https://standards.cencenelec.eu/dyn/www/f?p=205:7:0::::FSP_ORG_ID:855949&cs=1E4D1604D14C923D402E4962C66AD84D4)

- Revision of Mode 5 of the CEN-CLC-ETSI Cooperation Agreement approved by ETSI Board **D-B135/9** for joint technical work between ETSI and CEN and/or CENELEC [[BOARD(21)135\_012](https://docbox.etsi.org/board/2021_Board/2021_12_02_OR_BOARD%23135/BOARD%2821%29135_012_New_Mode_5_for_joint_technical_work_between_ETSI_and_CEN_and.docx)]

# 3 Rationale

The CEN-CLC-ETSI Joint Working Group on eAccessibility was created in 2010 in response to a Mandate (M/376) from the European Commission in support of European accessibility requirements for public procurement of products and services in the ICT domain. This mandate led to the development of the EN 301 549 among other deliverables, and it is now terminated.

Over the past 10+ years, the JWG eAccessibility has been used for coordination between the ESOs and for cooperation with relevant stakeholders, e.g. industry representatives, public authorities (i.e. procurers), people with disabilities and older people and their representative organisations, accessibility experts, consumer organisations.

The EC has drafted a new Standardization Request relative to the implementation of the European Accessibilty Act which should be adopted and notified to CEN CENELEC and ETSI soon (expected in the September 2022 timeframe). A final draft of this Implementing Decision on a standardisation request to the ESOs as regards the accessibility requirements of products and services in support of Directive (EU)2019/882 was sent to the Committee of Standards for voting on 23 June 2022, closing the commenting period.

During the consultation period, CEN CENELEC and ETSI had the opportunity to provide comments on the draft but also to prepare for its execution. The revision of the ToR of the JWG eAccessibility was necessary to be ready for this upcoming Standardization Request.

The new ToR are provided in page 3 and 4 of the present contribution. The main changes from the initial ToR are as follows:

* The Joint Working Group eAccessibility is renamed Joint Technical Body eAccessibility for consistency purposes.
* The scope no longer refers to Mandate M/376 but to the technical scope of work.
* The election process of officials has been spelled out, in line with the newly revised Mode 5.
* A section (6) on the Accessibility of the Standardization process has been added to the ToR.
* The ToR includes the mode 5 revision as its Annex A, which will be updated once the Mode 5 is formally approved by the JPG.

The following decision to approve these changes was taken at the last meeting of CEN-CLC-ETSI JWG eAccessibility

Hence, the Board is invited to approve the revised ToR of CEN – CLC-ETSI JTB eAccessibility (as provided on pages 3 and 4 below).

**DECISION 2/2022taken by CEN-CENELEC-ETSI JWG eAccessibility on *2022-06-22***

Subject: Terms of Reference of the CEN-CLC-ETSI JWG eAccessibility.

The CEN-CENELEC-ETSI JWG eAccessibility,

* Considering the work carried out by the ad-hoc group drafting v1.0 of the new Terms of Reference (ToR) of the JWG (see N593).
* Considering the outcome of round of comments on v1.0 (see N595).
* After reviewing v1.1 (see N597) at the 2022-06-22 meeting.
* Agrees version v1.2 (see N601) of the ToR. This version is approved conditioned to the ratification by the Joint Presidential Group of the new Mode 5. If, as expected, the new version of Mode 5 is ratified by the JPG (expected date, 2022-06-29), Annex A of version v1.2 of the ToR will be revised in order to include the final version of Mode 5.

*END OF DECISION.*

# 4 Consequences and implications

*VOID.*

# 5 Issues for discussion

*VOID.*



# Terms of Reference (ToR)

# CEN-CENELEC-ETSI Joint Technical Body eAccessibility

1. **Proposal, v1.2. Version agreed at the 2022-06-22 JWG meeting. DOCUMENT N601**
2. **Title**

CEN-CENELEC-ETSI Joint Technical Body (JTB) eAccessibility.

1. **Scope**

To develop standardisation documents common to CEN, CENELEC and ETSI in the field of the accessibility of ICT products and services.

1. **Status**

The CEN-CENELEC-ETSI Joint Technical Body (JTB) eAccessibility is a Joint Technical Body (JTB) according to the provisions of the CEN-CENELEC-ETSI Basic Co-operation Agreement, Annex 2, Mode 5.

NOTE 1 The 2022 version of Mode 5 approved by the CEN-CLC-ETSI Joint Presidential Group is given in Annex A of this document.

NOTE 2 The secretariat will inform the Joint Technical Body (JTB) whenever the Co-operation Agreement between the ESOs is modified.

[editorial note: Annex A to be updated after the JPG decision – to be done after 2022-06-29]

1. **Rules for standards works**

The works of the CEN-CENELEC-ETSI Joint Technical Body (JTB) eAccessibility are under the Mode 5 of collaboration referenced in clause 3 of this document, with the specificities described in points 5 and 6 below.

1. **Chair and Vice-Chair election process**

The Mode 5 of collaboration referenced in clause 3 of this document states the following: “The appointment of the JTB Chair shall be organised by the JTB secretariat according to the rules and procedures of the ESO it is affiliated with, except for the provision that exist in the present document and that take precedence. The appointment of the JTB Chair shall be endorsed by the JTB and the JPG following the principle described in Article 1 (i.e. on the basis of a consensus established between the positions of the Technical Boards of the European Standardisation Organisations (ESOs) involved).”

According to DECISION 4/2021 taken by CEN-CENELEC-ETSI JWG eAccessibility on 2021-09-23, the process to elect Chair and Vice-chair(s) of the JTB eAccessibility is the following:

1. The secretariat opens the call for candidates within the JTB (3 weeks).
2. The secretariat makes all nominations known to the JTB participants (members + observers).
3. The secretariat considers all proposals and tries to reach consensus on a candidate, for nomination by the JTB’s members, approval of the CEN and CENELEC Technical Boards and ETSI Board, and final endorsement by the Joint Presidential Group (JPG).
4. Once the Chair has been appointed, the same process applies for Vice-Chair(s).

This procedure is compatible with the one described in Mode 5 of collaboration.

1. **Accessibility of the standardisation process**

The CEN-CENELEC-ETSI Joint Technical Body (JTB) eAccessibility is committed to inclusion and a high level of accessibility in communication, proceedings, meetings, venues and documents, as well as reasonable accommodation to JTB participants.

**Annex A (to the ToR) - Renewed Mode 5 collaboration**

*This Annex will include the new Mode 5 once approved by the JPG.*