



**Embargoed until after EP plenary vote on 11 September 2012**

**ANEC, ECOS and ETUI press release on the adoption of the  
Standardisation Regulation**

**“Standards have to meet societal stakeholders’ needs”**

***ANEC, ECOS and ETUI welcome today’s adoption of the Standardisation Regulation<sup>1</sup> by the European Parliament. We applaud the commitment of the Parliament to support the continued financing of the public interest in the private European Standardisation System, and to set expectations for the strengthening of the voice of societal interests in the standards development process. We urge the Council to concur.***

ANEC Secretary-General, Stephen Russell, commented, “European standards are a foundation on which the Single Market has been built over the past 20 years. But the three European Standardisation Organisations<sup>2</sup> are private associations in whose work the societal interest may not be naturally represented. We commend the Institutions on recognising the value that societal stakeholders can bring to the development of European standards, particularly noting the will of the Single Market Act to extend the formal use of European standardisation to the field of services, as well as to broader European public polices”.

ECOS Secretary-General, Laura Degallaix, remarked, “As societal stakeholders tend to be absent from the standardisation process in most Member States, the role of ANEC, ECOS and ETUI in complementing the voice of private sector interests in the elaboration of European standards is essential. But we are at a disadvantage in terms of financial support and influence. We trust the new Regulation will help us in our mission to achieve standards that encourage environmentally-friendly and sustainable solutions; that aim to improve consumer protection and welfare; and that underpin health and safety in the workplace”.

On behalf of ETUI, Stefano Boy added, “Although we congratulate the Parliament on what it intends to achieve through the Regulation, we must work to ensure its expectations are taken on board by the European Standardisation Organisations. We call for ANEC, ECOS and ETUI to be allowed a more effective participation in CEN, CENELEC and ETSI. This is needed to meet the clear wish of the Regulation for the associations representing the societal stakeholders to be strengthened in their role. We believe it implies the creation of a distinct category of membership with appropriate rights and obligations”.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://tinyurl.com/3e3mulh>

<sup>2</sup> European Committee for Standardization (CEN) [www.cen.eu](http://www.cen.eu);  
European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC) [www.cenelec.eu](http://www.cenelec.eu);  
European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) [www.etsi.org](http://www.etsi.org)

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