



Press Release

#Access4All: Let's make it happen with standards!

**Contact Person: Chiara Giovannini (+32 (0)2 743 24 70)
ANEC-PR-2014-PRL-015
2 December 2014**

On the eve of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (3 December), ANEC welcomes the publication of a new version of Guide 71 *Guide for addressing accessibility in standards* by the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO), the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to which we contributed¹. We also welcome that the three International organisations, together with their European (CEN/CENELEC/ETSI) and national counterparts, have dedicated this week to promote the role of standards in increasing accessibility².

"Since its beginning in 1995, ANEC has worked to achieve standards that meet the needs of all consumers, irrespective of age or abilities. Many years ago, we were initiators of the previous version of Guide 71, developed to help standards-makers develop standards that would result in accessible products and services. We have now contributed to the revision of this landmark document which we trust will be used by a new generation of standardisers", said Stephen Russell, ANEC Secretary-General. "We now expect ISO/IEC Guide 71 to be adopted as a European Guide in order to ensure consistency of approach at the European and international levels".

"We are also delighted to see the [#access4all](#) campaign, aimed at explaining how standards can improve accessibility for people with disabilities and older people. From standards on accessible lifts to ergonomics, from wheelchairs to web-sites - all activities ANEC participates in - let's make access for all a reality!" he added. ENDS

¹ <http://goo.gl/5tb1O>

² [#access4all](#)

About ANEC

ANEC is the European consumer voice in standardisation, defending consumer interests in the processes of technical standardisation and conformity assessment, as well as related legislation and public policies.

ANEC was established in 1995 as an international non-profit association under Belgian law and is open to the representation of national consumer organisations in 33 countries.

ANEC is funded by the European Union and EFTA, with national consumer organisations contributing in kind. Its Secretariat is based in Brussels.



Raising standards for consumers

**European association for the coordination of consumer representation in standardisation
aisbl**

Avenue de Tervuren 32, box 27, B-1040 Brussels, Belgium

Tel.: +32 2 743 24 70 / Fax: +32 2 706 54 30 E-mail: anec@anec.eu

EC Register of Interest Representatives: Identification number 507800799-30

www.anec.eu

www.facebook.com/ANEC.Standards.

@anectweet



ANEC is supported financially by the European Union & EFTA © Copyright ANEC 2014

This document may be quoted and reproduced, provided the source is given.