



ISO/IEC Directives Supplement

Procedures specific to IEC



Annex SC (normative)

Inclusion of text concerning particular conditions existing in certain countries (exceptions)

An IEC National Committee may provide a statement to be included in an International Standard, informing the user of the standard of particular conditions existing in its country.

NOTE 1 It is important to note that this statement is purely informative. Any statement of compliance with the standard requires compliance with the normative elements of the standard. The contents of an "in some countries" clause may become normative requirements in a regional/national adoption of the standard in the region/country concerned. Such an adoption is a modified (MOD) version of the IEC standard.

The inclusion of the statement does not need the approval of the relevant technical committee or subcommittee, or of its chairman or secretary. However, every effort shall be made to find solutions that would make statements regarding particular conditions unnecessary.

NOTE 2 It is preferable that the officers and other members agree to the statement provided by a National Committee. However, in the end it is the National Committee concerned that decides on the statement. If the officers or other members disagree with the statement proposed, there is room for discussion to determine clearly what it is that gives rise to an "in some countries" clause, and possibly make accommodation on both sides, to result in either elimination of the need for the statement, or a document with an acceptable statement. The onus is on the TC/SC officers to identify a situation and make best efforts to resolve it.

Any possible misuse of the clause that cannot be resolved by the chairmen and secretaries of TC/SCs should be brought to the attention of the Standardization Management Board for decision.

NOTE 3 If, after serious discussions with the National Committee concerned, the TC/SC officers feel that there is misuse of the clause, they should refer the matter to the Standardization Management Board.

A statement by a National Committee shall be given prior to the circulation of a final Draft International Standard (FDIS) for voting, preferably at a meeting of the relevant technical committee or subcommittee, or, at least, after consultation with its chairman and secretary.

NOTE 4 The final point at which a National Committee can request the inclusion of an "in some countries" clause is on receipt of the voting report of the CDV. Before the FDIS text is sent to Central Office, the officers will need to address the statement and, either concur with it, or enter into discussions with the National Committee submitting the statement, referring the matter, if necessary, to the Standardization Management Board.

Two cases of particular conditions are distinguished:

- a) *conditions of a permanent nature, such as mains voltages, mains frequencies or climate*: a statement regarding such a situation shall be included in the body of the draft International Standard with reference to the country or group of countries concerned;
- b) *differing practices of a less permanent nature*: a statement regarding such a situation shall be included in the foreword or in an informative annex, with a note in the foreword referencing it, of the draft International Standard with reference to the country or group of countries concerned.

It is the prerogative of a National Committee to declare whether a given national situation is case a) or case b).

NOTE 5 It is the submitting National Committee that has final say as to where to place the "in some countries" clause.

When voting on a draft International Standard containing one or more statements regarding particular conditions existing in certain countries, National Committees that are not concerned shall not take the existence of such statements as a reason for a negative vote.

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NOTE 6 National Committees are reminded that they cannot vote on such a statement provided by another National Committee. This reinforces the concept of each National Committee having full authority over statements concerning conditions in its country.