



# **Standards to accompany the EU Fertilisers Regulation:**

**What is needed? What priorities?**

**How CEN TCs organize the work?**

- **Brief introduction of Afaïa**
- **Standards in the EU fertilisers regulation: What is needed? What priorities?**
- **How CEN TCs organize the work?**
- **Time/delay : the other critical issue**
- **Next steps**

# 1. Brief introduction of AFAÏA

French federation of producers of :

- **Growing media and mulches**
- **Organic & organo-mineral fertilizers**
- **Biostimulants**

**4 key actions to serve our members**

- **Represent the industry**
- **Promote and communicate** about members products and commitments
- **Regulatory monitoring**
- **Be a meeting point** around organic-based products



# 1. Brief introduction of Afaïa

Other engagements :

Strong commitment in Circular Economy:



Strong engagement at European level, Afaïa is associate member of 3 European federations



Strong engagement in standardization:

- At EU level (CEN) : Presidency and members activity for TC223 and TC455, participation to TC260
- At French level, BN Ferti



## **2. Standards in the EU Fertilisers Regulation**

**What is needed ? => ALL !**

**New text is based on “New approach” (no method inside, method reference will be listed in annex). Conformity assessment based on harmonized EU standard.**

**One parameter ⇔ one harmonized EU standard**

**Parameters are very diverse, depending of the product function category (PFC) (+ some CMC) :**

- Quality traits : nutrient content...
- Quantity (except mass) : volume for GM, quantity of micro-organisms...
- Safety parameters : heavy metals content, pathogens, HAPs...
- Sampling
- Efficiency (validation of claims) : for biostimulants
- Very specific criteria like “self-heating factor” (compost), “residual biogas potential” (digestate), “final degradation products” (nutrient polymers)...

**Then: parameters X PFC => 240 items (standards to create)**

## 2. Standards in the EU Fertilisers Regulation

**What priority ? All have to be done !**

**Current situation : no any harmonized EN standard exist in the scope of fertilisers. What is an harmonized EN standard ?**

*'harmonised standard' means a European standard adopted on the basis of a request made by the Commission for the application of Union harmonisation legislation (art. 2c)*

**Ref, RCE 1025/2012 :**

**A variable situation, depending of parameter and product :**

Current standard	Work to be done	Examples	Difficulty
EN standard exists	Transform to « harmonized » EN (ZA annex)	GM, soil improvers standards, most of mineral fertilisers...	Easy
Existing EN standard on a close matrix	Choose the best basis, adapt and test	Organic fertilisers. Pathogens (for all PFCs)	Moderate
Nothing	Create from scratch	Claims for biostimulants	Difficult and long

### 3. How CEN TCs organize the work?

3 TCs are involved :

CEN/TC	Scope	Approx # of harmonized standards to create	Key issues (examples)
TC223	Soil improvers and growing media (+composts, digestates)	45 (some are common to both)	Physical parameters : existing EN Lack of methods for pathogens, and « new » parameters (inorganic arsenic...)
TC260	Fertilisers and liming materials (and relative topics)	155	Existing EN methods for most of parameters for mineral fertilisers and liming materials. <u>Critical situation for organic and organo-mineral</u> : no EN method exist on those matrixes
TC455	Plant biostimulants	32	Nothing exist Chemical parameters : base from TC223 or TC260 methods <u>Claims</u> : the critical issue

### 3. How CEN TCs organize the work?

---

**In each TC, the workload is already shared between WGs:**

- **6 WGs in TC223**
- **5 WGs in TC455**
- **TC260 : 1 WG dedicated to organic and organo-mineral fertilisers, splitted in sub-WG**

**In practice : A lot of standards will be very similar, differences are**

- **The formal scope (matrix)**
- **Ring test (laboratory) on each matrix**

**=> Possibility for common work between TCs. « copy/paste » the texts**

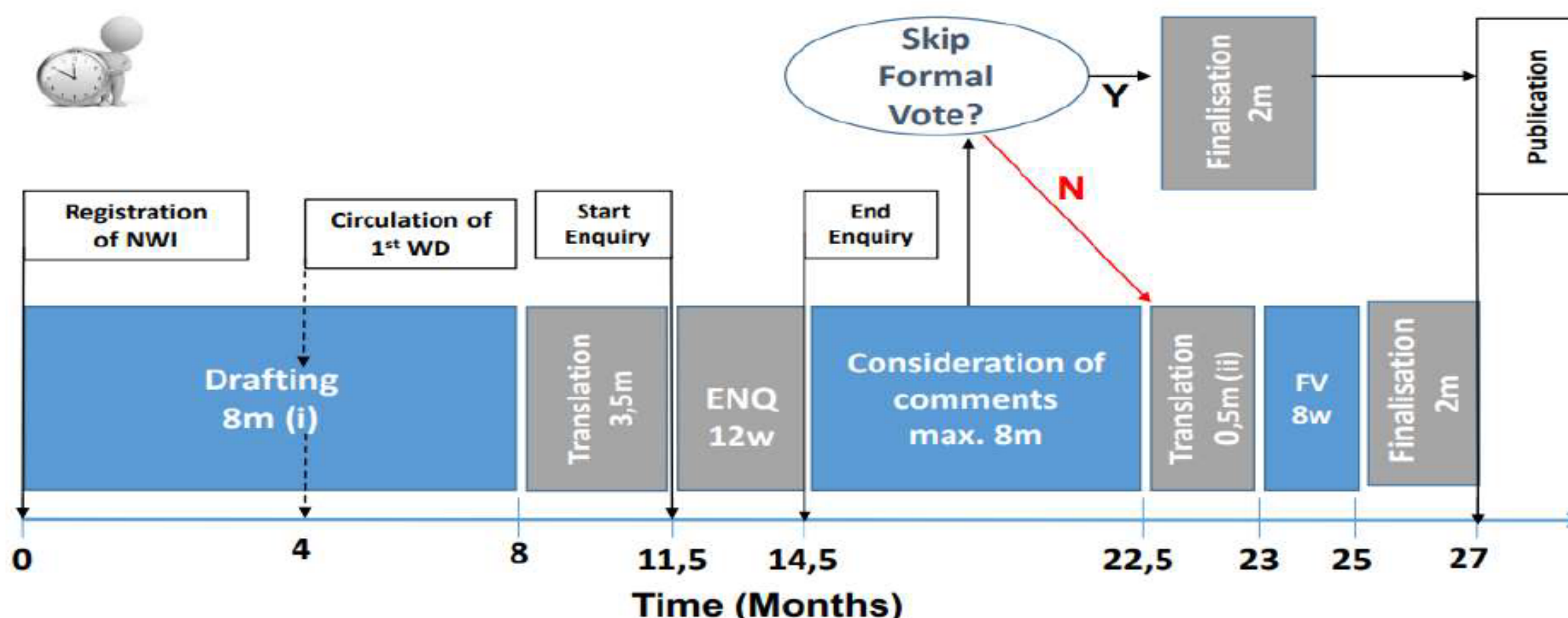


## 4. Time, the critical issue

A key point to remember : new regulation will apply from 2022 !

But standardization  
is a long process...

Detailed timeframe:  
from new work item to publication



<sup>i</sup> Possibility to be extended to 12 months

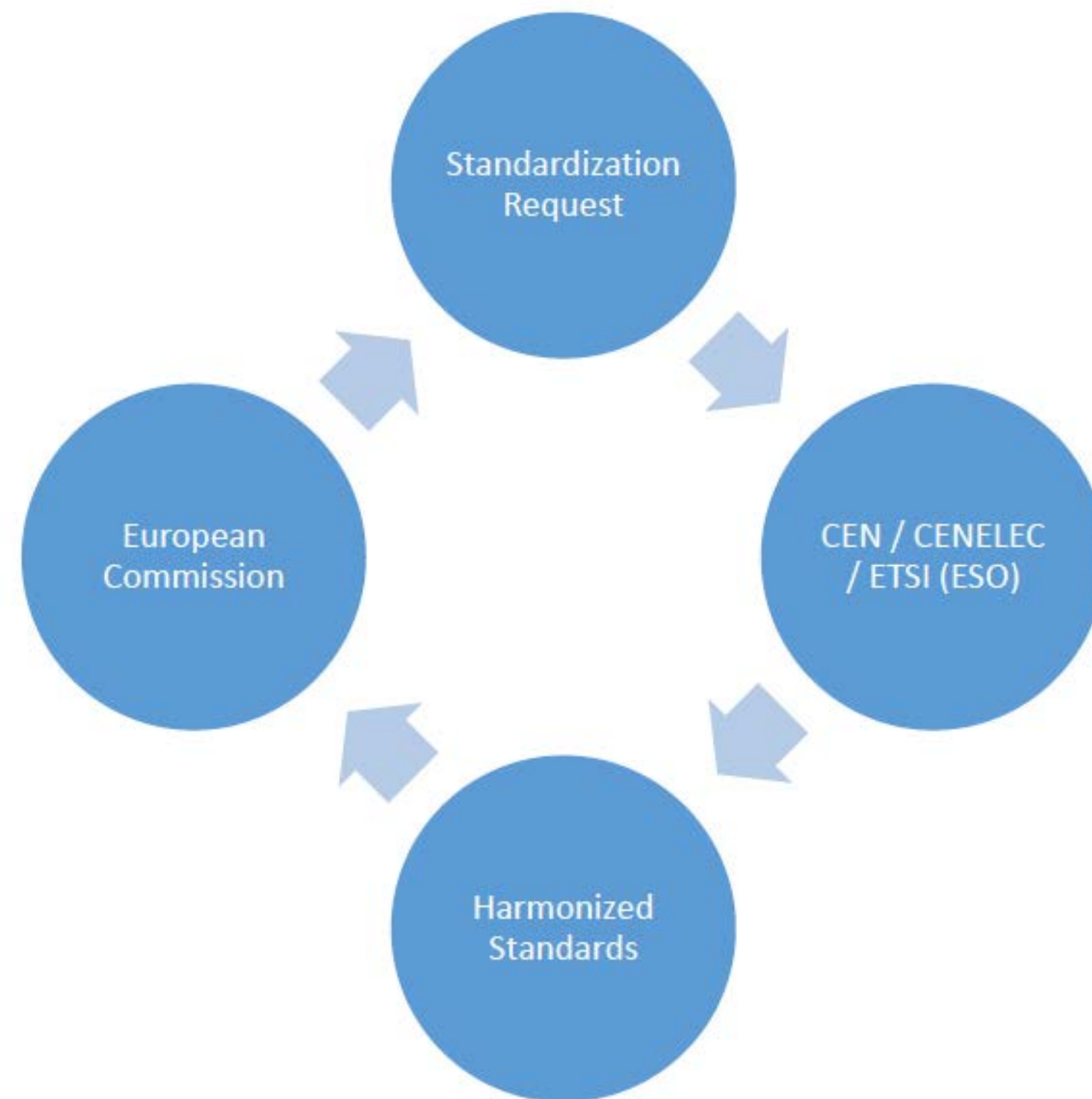
<sup>ii</sup> Translation previous to Formal vote is optional. If translation is necessary 1,5 months need to be added

CEN/TC 223 meeting  
© CEN-CENELEC – 08 April 2019

Solutions :

- **Begin ASAP !**
- Begin to work even before the official request (via **PWI**) : done by TCs for major issues
- Develop first TS (Tech. Spec., skip the ring test), before true EN.
- Use first « common specifications » ?

## 5. Next steps



CEN and CENELEC Workshop – 2018-07-12

A **Standardization Request** is being prepared, from European commission (DG Grow) to CEN.

Draft SR is circulated and reviewed by COM and CEN/TCs. (includes list of EN standards to create and/or TS)

In parallel, cost estimation is made by TCs

SR will bring the final list of standards to do... and money to support the work !

September ?



**Thanks for your attention**

[laurent.largant@afaia.fr](mailto:laurent.largant@afaia.fr)

[www.afaia.fr](http://www.afaia.fr)

[www.biostimulants.fr](http://www.biostimulants.fr)