INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

COUNCIL BOARD (CB)

SUBJECT Implementation of the Copyright Policy & Implementation Guidelines

ORIGIN Central Office

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Following the approval by Council of the IEC Copyright Policy in August 2020 and noting the approval by Council Board of the Implementation Guidelines, the Copyright and Database Rights Ad Hoc Group (CDAHG) has continued its work on the wording of the notification and is now finalizing the notice text. The external IEC legal counsel on copyright is at the National Committees disposal, as required, to discuss any specific national situations. In parallel, Central Office has been preparing the necessary amendments to the IT tools. The intention is to launch the implementation activities in Q1/2021. Further information regarding the specific launch date of the copyright checkbox on IEC IT tools and approach to contact the external IEC legal counsel regarding any specific national conditions will be shared with National Committees via an Administrative Circular in January 2021.

ACTION CB members are invited to note the activities underway to support the implementation of the IEC Copyright Policy.

PROCESS Following the approval of the IEC Copyright Policy, Central Office and the external legal advisor on copyright have instigated a number of activities to prepare for the launch of the implementation activities in Q1/2021. National Committees will be maintained fully informed of the progress and plans via an Administrative Circular in January 2021.

BACKGROUND With the support of the IEC external legal advisor on intellectual property, the Council Board Copyright and Database Rights Ad Hoc Group (CDAHG) developed a comprehensive approach to strengthen IEC copyright protection. Care was taken to elaborate a proposal that is sufficiently flexible to take into account existing national approaches and local requirements, without creating extensive administrative burden on NCs or IEC CO.

The Copyright Policy was approved by Council, and the Implementation Guidelines were approved by Council Board. Legal advice is currently being sought regarding database rights. In parallel the
copyright notice text is being finalized and the IT department is evaluating the effort to implement it.

Considering the implementation of the approach, the IT department will set up a system allowing experts (usually nominated by their NCs) to accept terms & conditions (copyright policy, patent policy, privacy policy) and, if needed, seek exception (see Copyright policy implementation process in attachment). In addition, the IEC community counts around 2000 experts from organizations having liaisons with IEC TCs.

The implementation date of the project is to be confirmed after evaluation from the IT department.

ATTACHMENT
1. Copyright policy implementation process

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ATTACHMENT TO DOCUMENT CB/1143/INF

Copyright policy implementation process

- First time only (Data included in EMS: name, country, email)
- Expert has to confirm his/her status (self-employed or employee)
- Customized text - Options:
  - Default is General;
  - Only where exception exists & based on expert data
  - Country Specific Exception; or
  - Company/Organization Specific Exception
  - If "No" exit to manual "exceptions" process;
  - email expert;
  - inform IEC CO
  - No access to tool until resolved
  - If "Yes" and self employed, straight to last step

- If expert is employee then ask for manager name, email address, other contact details; GDPR acceptance
- Standard "Affirmation" text or if under an Exception requiring notice to manager then agreed notice
- If delivery failure inform CO & expert

- Allow expert access