

African Electrotechnical Standardization Commission (AFSEC)

AFSEC Numbering System when adopting Electro-Technical Standards

**Approved at the AFSEC management
committee, 3 September 2024, Kigali**

The Numbering System to be used by AFSEC when adopting Electro-Technical Standards

Introduction

The development and implementation of African policies on Standards, Measurement, Conformity Assessment and Accreditation will support the realization of Africa's Economic integration and environmental sustainability and subsequently reduce technical barriers to trade aiming to promote intra African trade.

To further strengthen the harmonization of Standardisation work in Africa, a unified standards numbering system for the Continent is essential.

This guideline defines the methodologies for the development of a Standards numbering system for AFSEC in support of harmonization, adoption and publication of African standards.

In this guideline, AFSEC refers to the agreements signed with standards international institutions such as IEC, IEEE, CENELEC...etc.

According to the Regional Adoption Agreement that was signed in November 2022 between AFSEC and IEC & its associated amendments, and referencing to the ISO/IEC guide 21 – 1/2 which is used as benchmark for compliance of this numbering system, as well as the agreement which was signed with IEEE in 2019, The numbering system will be applied in AFSEC Catalogue.

Ultimately, the numbering system of standards will support the Quality Infrastructure in Africa by having unique standards adopted/adapted , and will thus assist with the implementation of the AfCFTA TBT (annex6), uniquely identifiable related to the African continent needs.

AFSEC Numbering of adopted Electro-technical Standards

The AFSEC principle of numbering system is to have a prefix in front of the existing international standards number (either identical or modified adoption) or a New Number for those which are locally produced or not equivalent to the international Standard.

Countries who adopt the AFSEC documents can subsequently add their prefix in front of the AFSEC Standard.

1. For Identical or Modified Adoption of International Standards:

The AFSEC Number will consist of AFSEC prefix followed by the same reference no as the published standard (i.e. AFSEC IEC 6xxxxx.....)

When an AFSEC member adopts the AFSEC standard their unique prefix can be added in front of AFSEC (e.g. EG AFSEC IEC 6xxxxx.....)

A Foreword message and endorsement notice will be included with the standards that will be adopted by AFSEC.

The Foreword message will include:

1. The AFSEC standard that has been reviewed by the ATC and that it is recommended for adoption as a harmonized AFSEC Standard and is related to a specified International standard.
2. The names of AFSEC members, at the year of the adoption
3. That this document has been prepared under the mandates given to AFSEC according to the agreements with the international Standard Institutions
4. That AFSEC is member of the subcommittee on implementation of AfCFTA- Annex6, Annex 6 “Technical Barriers to Trade” which focus on facilitating Trade mentioning that: “State parties will adopt the standards as endorsed by both AFSEC and ARSO”.

The Endorsement Notice in case of “Identical Adoption” will include:

1. This Regional standard was given the AFSEC number: **AFSEC IEC (Type) 6xxxx-xxx-xxx:Year,**
2. This standard was adopted as **“Identical Adoption”** to the specified International standard, without any modifications.
3. The AFSEC members are bound to adopt this standard within 12 months, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn latest by 6 months.
4. This International standard exists in the specified languages, and were given the AFSEC number as mentioned above.

The Endorsement Notice in case of “Modified Adoption” (in IEC Agreement Only) will include:

1. This Regional standard was given the AFSEC number: **AFSEC IEC (Type) 6xxxx-xxx-xxx:Year,**
2. This standard was adopted as **“Modified Adoption”** to the specified International standard, it contains **Technical Deviations** included in details in the below table and is referencing to ISO/Guide 21-1:2005.
3. The AFSEC members are bound to adopt this standard within 12 months, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn latest by 6 months.
4. This International standard exists in the specified languages, and were given the AFSEC number as mentioned above.