

**No. 13921**

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**MULTILATERAL**

**Convention on the application of standards of the Council  
for Mutual Economic Assistance. Concluded at Sofia  
on 21 June 1974**

*Authentic text: Russian.*

*Registered by the Secretariat of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, acting  
on behalf of the Parties, on 28 April 1975.*

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**MULTILATÉRAL**

**Convention relative à l'application des normes du Conseil  
d'aide économique mutuelle. Conclue à Sofia le 21 juin  
1974**

*Texte authentique : russe.*

*Enregistrée par le Secrétariat du Conseil d'aide économique mutuelle, agissant au  
nom des Parties, le 28 avril 1975.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

## CONVENTION<sup>1</sup> ON THE APPLICATION OF STANDARDS OF THE COUNCIL FOR MUTUAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

The Governments of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Hungarian People's Republic, the German Democratic Republic, the Republic of Cuba, the Mongolian People's Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic,

Guided by the principles of co-operation among the member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA), by the objectives of the Comprehensive Programme for further strengthening and improving co-operation and developing socialist economic integration among the member countries of CMEA and by a desire to increase further the effectiveness of economic, scientific and technical co-operation,

Proceeding from the fact that the timely establishment of progressive technical norms and requirements and their application to the objects of co-operation is of the greatest importance,

Taking into account the fact that considerable experience has already been accumulated within CMEA in drafting and applying normative technical documents on standardization,

With a view to increasing the role of such documents in co-operation among countries,

Having in mind the decision of the twenty-eighth session of CMEA to adopt the Regulation on Standards of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, which determines the procedure for the elaboration and adoption of CMEA standards,

Have agreed as follows:

**Article I.** 1. The States Parties to the Convention shall ensure that compulsory and direct application of CMEA standards elaborated and adopted by the

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 27 March 1975 in respect of the States indicated hereafter, i.e. 90 days after the date of deposit of the fifth instrument of ratification with the Secretariat of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, in accordance with article III(2):

<i>State</i>	<i>Date of deposit of the instrument of ratification</i>	
Hungary .....	16	September 1974
German Democratic Republic .....	23	September 1974
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics .....	1	October 1974
Poland .....	23	December 1974
Mongolia .....	27	December 1974

Subsequently, the following States deposited their instruments of ratification with the secretariat of the Council for mutual Economic Assistance, to take effect after 90 days from the date of such deposit, in accordance with article III(3):

<i>State</i>	<i>Date of deposit of the instrument of ratification</i>	
Bulgaria .....	20	January 1975
(with effect from 19 April 1975.)		
Czechoslovakia .....	24	February 1975
(with effect from 24 May 1975.)		

Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, according to its established procedure, in contractual relations concerning economic, scientific and technical co-operation among the States with a view to increasing the effectiveness of co-operation by means of standardization and shall also ensure the compulsory application of CMEA standards in their national economies with a view to further developing technical progress in each country.

2. Compulsory and direct application of a CMEA standard in contractual relations concerning economic, scientific and technical co-operation among the States Parties to the Convention, in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article, shall be understood to mean the compulsory application of a CMEA standard to an object of co-operation through reference to it in documents establishing contractual relations (agreements, accords, contracts).

3. Contractual relations shall be understood to mean relations arising in the course of the implementation of multilateral and bilateral economic, scientific and technical co-operation among the States Parties to the Convention and their economic organizations on the basis of agreements, accords and contracts relating to specialization and co-operation in industry, reciprocal deliveries and trade among the States Parties to the Convention, scientific research, design and experimental work, contractual, building, assembly, transport and forwarding services, and other similar relations arising in the process of co-operation.

4. The competent national organs and economic organizations of the States Parties to the Convention shall apply CMEA standards in the preparation, conclusion and implementation with CMEA of agreements, accords and contracts relating to specialization, co-operation, reciprocal deliveries and trade among the States Parties to the Convention and to other forms of co-operation, observing all the norms and requirements of CMEA standards.

In the case of the delivery of materials, components, assemblies and articles which have been manufactured under licence, reference may be made in the contract documents to other normative technical documents in accordance with the requirements of the licences concerned.

Where no CMEA standards exist, normative technical or other documents shall be used according to the national legislation of the States Parties to the Convention which are parties to the agreements, accords and contracts.

5. Deviations from the norms and requirements established in CMEA standards to which reference is made in agreements, accords and contracts shall be permitted, subject to the consent of the parties to the relevant agreements, accords and contracts.

Authorization for deviations from CMEA standards in contractual relations shall be granted within the States Parties to the Convention by the organizations directly participating in the adoption of CMEA standards which are empowered by the Governments of those States to grant such authorization.

The substance of the deviations from the norms and requirements of CMEA standards shall be specified in the agreements, accords and contracts.

6. The application of a CMEA standard in the national economies of the States Parties to the Convention in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article shall be understood to mean either the direct application of a CMEA standard as a national standard without alteration or adaptation or the introduction of the CMEA standard into national standards, provided that the indicators of the national standards correspond fully to the indicators of the CMEA standard.

In such cases the States Parties to the Convention shall be entitled, in their national standards, to establish higher manufacturing quality indicators than those of CMEA standards, provided that they fulfil the requirements of interchangeability and technical compatibility.

National standards prepared on the basis of a CMEA standard must be certified as conforming to the CMEA standard.

7. Deviations from a CMEA standard applicable in the national economies of States Parties to the Convention, or from a CMEA standard introduced into national standards, shall be made in accordance with the national legislation of the States Parties to the Convention.

8. States Parties to the Convention may declare that they will not apply individual CMEA standards.

A declaration by a State Party to the Convention that it will not apply individual CMEA standards shall not affect obligations arising out of previously concluded agreements, accords and contracts which contain references to those standards.

*Article II.* This Convention shall not affect contractual relations concerning economic, scientific and technical co-operation among the States Parties to the Convention which are in force on the date of the entry into force of the Convention.

*Article III.* 1. This Convention shall be ratified by the countries which have signed it. The instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretariat of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, which shall serve as depositary of this Convention.

2. This Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of the fifth instrument of ratification.

3. In respect of countries whose instruments of ratification are deposited with the depositary after the entry into force of this Convention, it shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit of their instruments of ratification.

*Article IV.* With the consent of the States Parties to this Convention, other countries may accede to the Convention after its entry into force, either fully or as concerns the application of CMEA standards in contractual relations between such countries and States Parties to the Convention, by transmitting to the depositary a document attesting to such accession.

*Article V.* Any State Party to this Convention may denounce it by so notifying the depositary. The denunciation shall take effect 12 months after the date of receipt of such notification by the depositary. Denunciation of the Convention by a country shall not affect the contractual relations concerning economic, scientific and technical co-operation which are in force on the date on which the denunciation takes effect.

*Article VI.* The depositary shall immediately inform all signatories to this Convention and countries which have acceded to it, of the date of deposit of each instrument of ratification or document of accession, the date of the entry into force of the Convention, and the receipt by it of other notifications arising out of this Convention.

*Article VII.* The depositary of this Convention shall take the appropriate

steps for the registration of this Convention with the Secretariat of the United Nations in conformity with its Charter.

*Article VIII.* This Convention shall be deposited with the depositary, which shall distribute duly certified copies of the Convention to the countries which have signed or acceded to it.

DONE at Sofia in a single copy in the Russian language, on 21 June 1974.

For the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria:

[T. TSOLOV]

For the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic:

[D. LÁZÁR]

For the Government of the German Democratic Republic:

[G. WEISS]

For the Government of the Republic of Cuba:

[K. R. RODRÍGUEZ]

For the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic:

[D. GOMBOZHAY]

For the Government of the Polish People's Republic:

[M. JAGIELSKI]

For the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:

[M. LESECHKO]

For the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic:

[R. ROHLÍČEK]