

Standardization within NATO

NATO Standardization Process

Phase 1 & 2:

Requirements Identification, Validation and Standardization Task Development

Colonel (ret.) Dieter Schmaglowski DEU - A
NATO Standardization Adviser and Consultant
d.schmaglowski@hotmail.de

Warsaw, 16 September 2025

Topics

Introduction to the NATO Standardization and Development Process



Phase 1: Requirements Identification

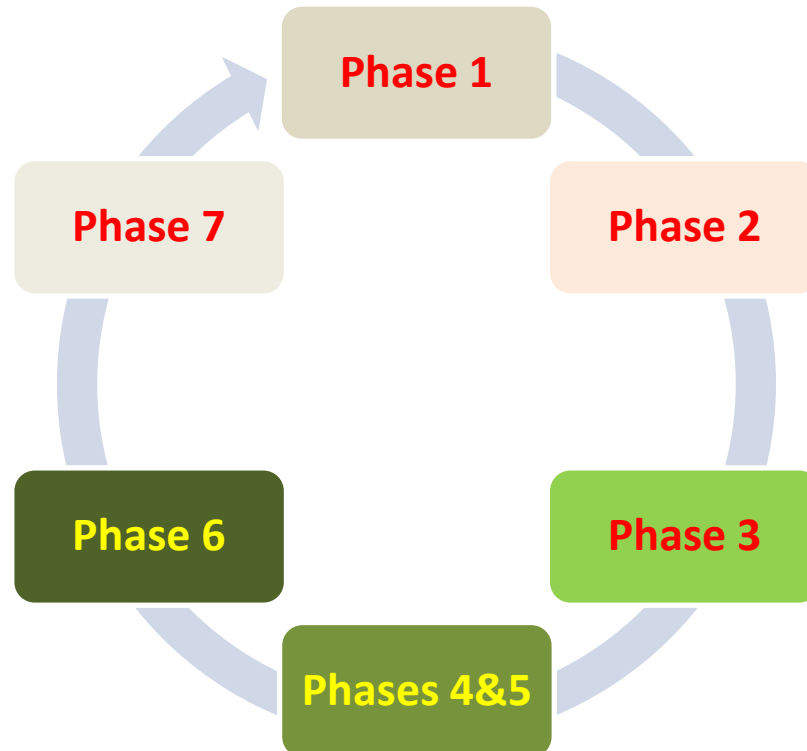


**Phase 2: Requirements Validation and Standardization
Task Development**

Introduction to the NATO Standardization and Development Process

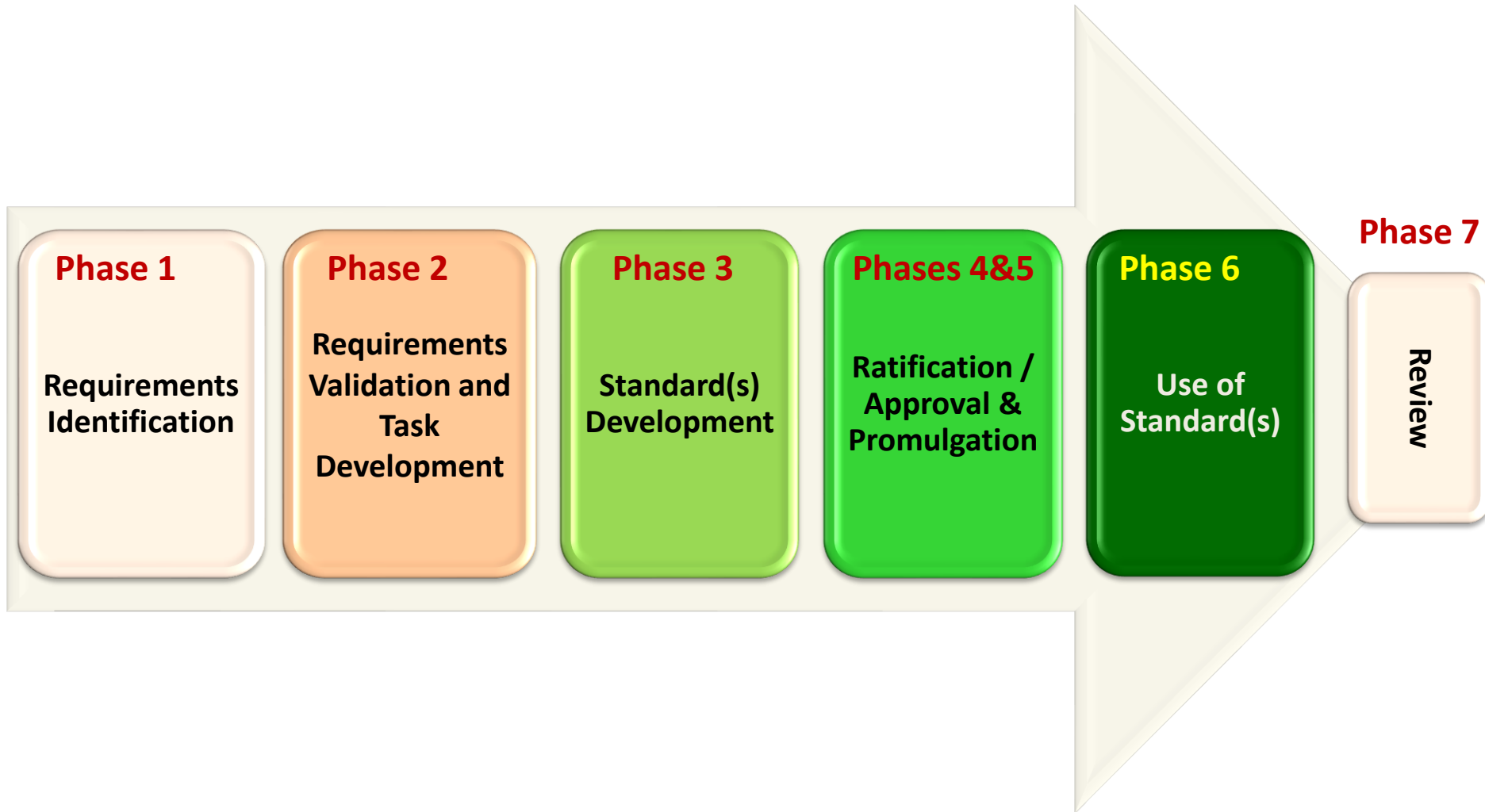
NATO Standardization Process

The Alliance produces and maintains NATO standardization documents through a **process composed of 7 Phases.**



(Source: AAP-03, Edition K)

NATO Standardization Process



Phase 1: Requirements Identification

Requirements Identification



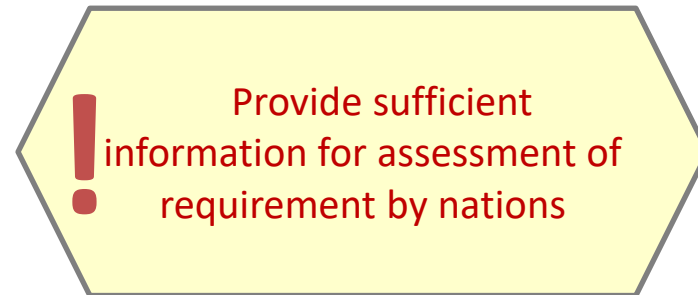
Bottom-up Requirements Identification

Through a Standardization Proposal (SP)

- ❑ initiates the bottom-up standardization process
- ❑ can be submitted by any interested party
- ❑ shall be developed in accordance with SP format provided in AAP-03

(available on NSO website)

- ❑ shall address
 - subject
 - standardization need and the impact on interoperability
 - proposed standardization solution
 - urgency



- ❑ shall be submitted by the author to the appropriate TA/DTA staff or the NSO

Standardization Proposal (SP) Template

<i>[Please insert NATO classification]</i>	
<p>This standardization proposal format is to be filled in by any interested party to initiate the standardization process through the bottom-up approach.</p> <p>If required the NATO Standardization Office (NSO) can assist the originator to ensure the standardization proposal (SP) addresses the required content and meets formatting requirements.</p> <p>Once completed, please submit to the appropriate tasking authority/delegated tasking authority (TA/DTA).</p> <p>In case of any uncertainty concerning the appropriate TA/DTA, please submit to the NSO.</p>	
1. Reference Number: <i>[To be provided by TA/DTA staff / NSO.]</i>	2. Date*: <i>[Please insert the date of your proposal.]</i>
3. Originator*: <i>[Please insert the name of your organization. E.g. NATO Command Structure element, NATO staff, national staff, etc.]</i>	
4. Tasking Authority / Delegated Tasking Authority: <i>[Please insert the TA/DTA to which the proposal is submitted. In case of any uncertainty concerning the appropriate TA/DTA, please leave empty and submit to the NSO.]</i>	
5. Subject*: <i>[Please insert the subject of your proposal.]</i>	
6. Standardization Need and Impact on Interoperability*: <i>[Please describe the standardization deficiency observed and its impact on interoperability. E.g. sorties/missions lost or delayed, lack of appropriate supplies, lack of coordination, incompatibility of signals with IT systems, etc. Please also indicate how the deficiency has been observed. E.g. exercise, operation, etc.]</i>	
7. Urgency*: <i>[Please indicate the time by when the proposed standardization solution should be developed.]</i>	
8. Fast Track Procedure: <i>[Please indicate the requirement to use the fast-track procedure.]</i>	
9. Proposed Standardization Solution*: <i>[Please provide a non-technical summary of the proposed standardization solution and the desired effect on the related subject area.]</i>	

Standardization Proposal (SP) Template

10. Related Capabilities: *[If known, please indicate the capabilities related to the proposed standardization solution.]*

11. Level of Standardization: *[If known, please indicate the level of standardization to be achieved through the implementation of the proposed standardization solution.]*

☐ Compatibility ☐ Interchangeability ☐ Commonality

Additional information: *[Please indicate any limitation.]*

12. Covering Document: *[If known, please indicate the intended covering document for the proposed standardization solution.]*

☐ STANAG ☐ STANREC

13. Non-NATO Standardization Solutions: *[If known, please indicate existing suitable non-NATO standardization solution that should be adopted by NATO or interested Standard Developing organizations for co-development.]*

14. Working Group: *[If known, please indicate which WG is best suited to develop the proposed standardization solution.]*

15. Custodian: *[If known, please indicate custodian of the standardization solution.]*

16. Partner Nations' Involvement: *[If known, please indicate which partner nations need/may be involved in the development and adoption of the proposed standardization solution.]*

17. NATO Bodies' Involvement: *[If known, please indicate which NATO bodies need/may be involved in the development and implementation/use of the proposed standardization solution.]*

Standardization Proposal (SP) Template

18. Engagement with Other Actors: *[If known, please indicate other actors that should be engaged in the development of the proposed standardization solution. E.g. industry, centre of excellence, etc.]*

19. Classification And Release: *[If known, please indicate the intended classification of the standardization solution. If classified, please provide guidance on the release of the proposed standardization solution or the creation of a supplement or of a multinational publication.]*

20. Languages Required: *[Please indicate the language in which the proposed standardization solution needs to be available.]*

☐ English ☐ French ☐ Both

21. Promulgation Criteria: *[If known and applicable (STANAG only), please indicate the promulgation criteria for the proposed standardization solution.]*

22. NATO Effective Date: *[If known, please indicate the need for a NATO effective date.]*

23. Relationship to Existing NATO Documents: *[If known, please indicate relationship to existing Allied Standards or other relevant NATO documents.]*

24. Military services affected: *[If known, please indicate the military services affected by the proposed standardization solution.]*

☐ Joint ☐ Air ☐ Land ☐ Maritime ☐ Other

25. Other information: *[Please report any other information you consider relevant.]*

26. Contact Information: _____

27. Name and signature*:

Name: _____ *[please provide your full name]*

Signature: _____ *[please sign]*

* These fields are mandatory.

Bottom-up Requirements Identification

Phase 1

**Requirements
Identification**

Bottom-up:

**ANY INTERESTED
PARTY:**

might develop SP and submit to TA/DTA Staff
or NSO

TA/DTA STAFF:

will check and distribute SP plus SI form
(to Allies, Partners, NATO bodies and other staffs)

**ALLIES, PARTNERS:
NATO BODIES:**

should respond to SI

NSO:

will include SP in NSDD
(once the ST is approved)

SP: Standardization Proposal

SI: Standardization Proposal Inquiry

TA: Tasking Authority

DTA: Delegated Tasking Authority

NSDD: NATO Standardization Document Database

NSO: NATO Standardization Office

Top-down Requirements Identification



SP: Standardization Proposal
ST: Standardization Task
SI: Standardization Proposal Inquiry
TA: Tasking Authority
DTA: Delegated Tasking Authority
WG: Working Group
SME: Subject Matter Expert

Standardization Proposal Inquiry (SI) Template (1)

<i>[Please insert NATO classification]</i>	
Once completed, please submit to the appropriate tasking authority/delegated tasking authority (TA/DTA). For top-down standardization, only PART 2. For bottom-up standardization, PART 1 and 2 for Allies. PART 2 for partner nations and NATO bodies.	
1. Reference Number: <i>[Please copy the reference number from the standardization Proposal or draft standardization task.]</i>	2. Date: <i>[Please insert the date of your response.]</i>
3. National document number: <i>[Please provide national document number if required due to national procedures.]</i>	
Date: <i>[Please provide the date of the national document.]</i>	
4. Respondent: <i>[Please insert the name of your nation or NATO body on behalf of which you are responding.]</i>	
5. Tasking Authority / Delegated Tasking Authority: <i>[Please copy the TA/DTA from the standardization proposal or draft standardization task.]</i>	
6. Subject: <i>[Please copy the subject from the standardization proposal or draft</i>	

Purpose part 1: to confirm Allies support (for bottom-up only)

PART 1

7. Do you concur with the identified standardization deficiency and impact on interoperability?

☐ Yes ☐ No

8. Do you support the proposed standardization solution?

☐ Yes, completely ☐ Yes, with modification (see section below) ☐ No

If no, why?

Standardization Proposal Inquiry (SI) Template (2)

Purpose part 2: to collect information for development

PART 2

<p>11 Do you have additional information on the standardization need and impact on interoperability identified?</p>
<p>12. Will you take part in the development of the standardization solution? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, as a working group member <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, as custodian <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>13. Do you have information on capabilities related to the standardization solution? <i>[Please indicate only if different from the standardization proposal or draft standardization task.]</i></p>
<p>14. Do you know any existing suitable non-NATO standardization solution that should be adopted by NATO or interested civil Standard Developing organizations for co-development? <i>[Please indicate only if different from the standardization proposal or draft standardization task.]</i></p>
<p>15. Which working group do you think is best suited to develop the standardization solution? <i>[Please indicate only if different from the standardization proposal or draft standardization task.]</i></p>
<p>16. Do you know of any partner nations which may/need to be involved in the development and adoption of the standardization solution? Please provide appropriate information. <i>[Please indicate only if different from the standardization proposal or draft standardization task.]</i></p>
<p>17. Do you know of any NATO bodies' which may/need to be involved in the development and implementation/use of the standardization solution? <i>[Please indicate only if different from the standardization proposal or draft standardization task.]</i></p>
<p>18. Do you know of any other actors which might/need to be engaged in the development of the standardization solution? <i>[Please indicate only if different from the standardization proposal or draft standardization task.]</i></p>
<p>19. Which classification do you think the standardization solution should hold? If classified, is the creation of a supplement or multinational publication necessary/desirable? <i>[Please indicate only if different from the standardization proposal or draft standardization task.]</i></p>

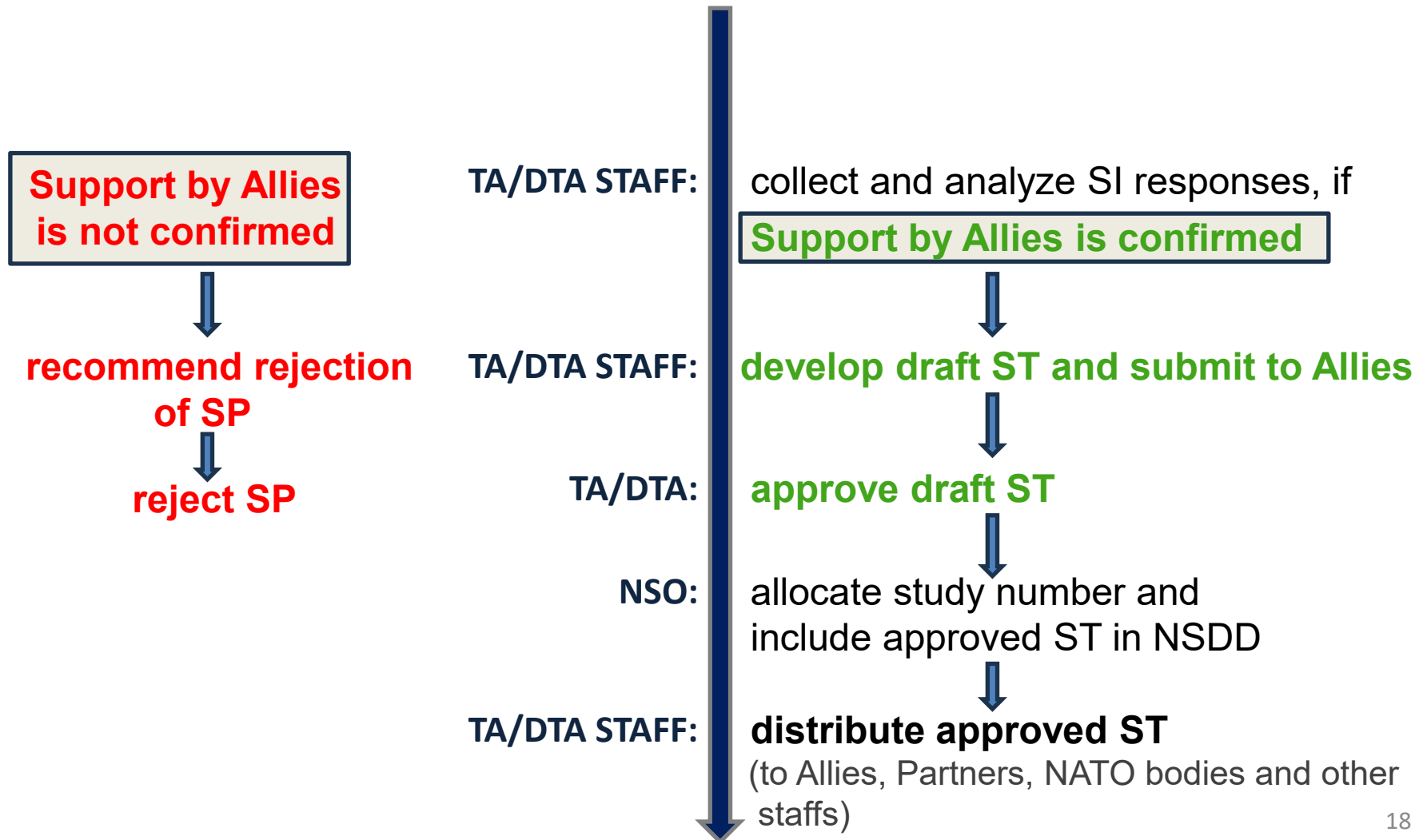
Standardization Proposal Inquiry (SI) Template (3)

20. By when should the standardization solution be developed? <i>[Please indicate only if different from the standardization proposal or draft standardization task.]</i>
21. In which language does the standardization solution need to be available? <input type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> Both
22. For STANAG only, which promulgation criteria do you think is appropriate for the standardization solution? <i>[Please indicate only if different from the standardization proposal or draft standardization task.]</i>
23. Do you think there is a need for a NATO effective date? Please provide appropriate information. <i>[Please indicate only if different from the standardization proposal or draft standardization task.]</i>
24. Are you aware of any relationship to existing NATO documents? Please provide appropriate information. <i>[Please indicate only if different from the standardization proposal or draft standardization task.]</i>
25. Which military services will be affected by the standardization solution? <i>[Please indicate only if different from the standardization proposal or draft standardization task.]</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Joint <input type="checkbox"/> Air <input type="checkbox"/> Land <input type="checkbox"/> Maritime <input type="checkbox"/> Other
26. Other information: <i>[Please report any other information you consider relevant.]</i>
27. Contact Information:
28. Name and signature: Name: _____ <i>[please provide your full name]</i>

Phase 2: Requirements Validation and Standardization Task Development

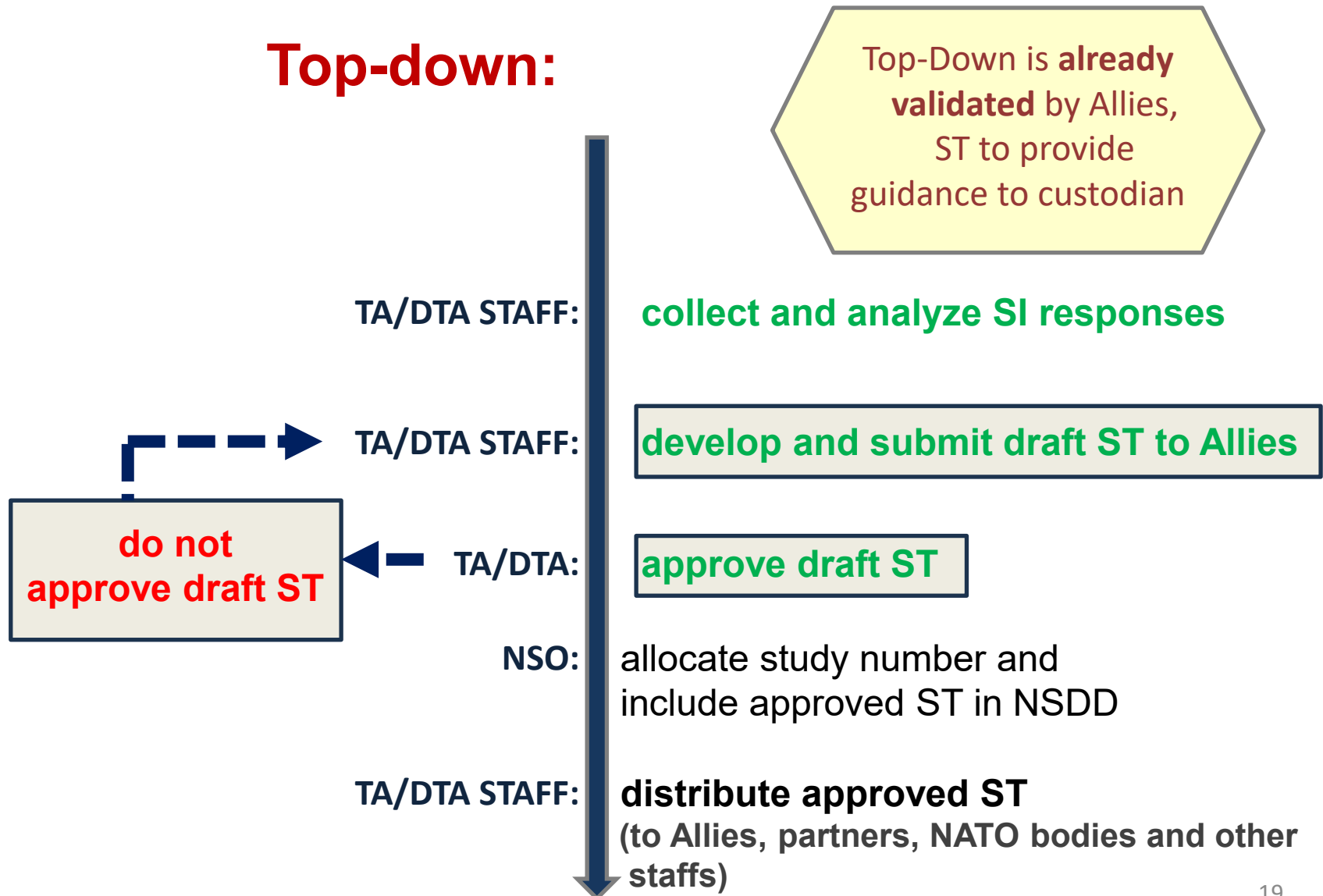
Phase 2: Requirements Validation and Task Development

Bottom Up:



Phase 2: Requirements Validation and Task Development

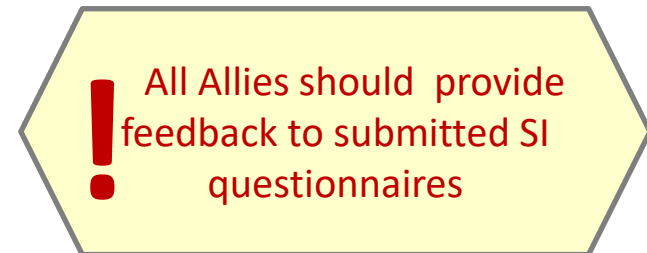
Top-down:



The Standardization Inquiry

- Important Take Away -

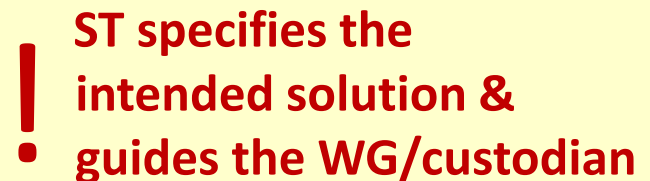
- ❑ will be submitted by TA/DTA staff to nations together with SP
- ❑ all Allies and invited Partners should respond
- ❑ information required for assessing support by Allies and for development of standardization task



Standardization Task

- Detailed Guidance to Custodian -

- Description of standardization requirement
- **Urgency/timeline**
- **Use of fast-track procedure**
- Description of standardization solution to be developed (procedure, materiel, etc)
- Related capabilities
- Covering document (STANAG / STANREC)
- **Existing non-NATO standardizations solutions that may be adopted**
- **WG and custodian**
- **Partner Nations' and NATO Bodies' Involvement**
- Coordination / engagement with other actors (CoEs, industry, other DTAs/WGs)
- **Classification and release**
- **Language required**
- **Promulgation Criteria**
- -
- -
- -

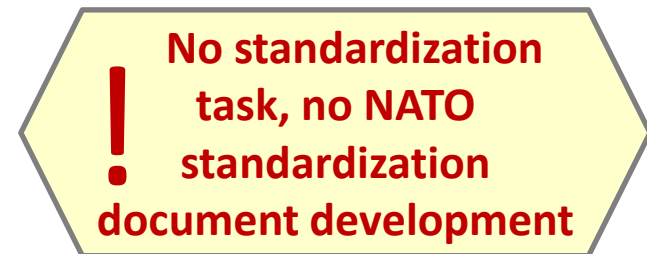


ST specifies the intended solution & guides the WG/custodian

The Standardization Task

- Important Take Away -

- ❑ will only be developed, if responses to SI indicate that need and capacity to contribute to the development are confirmed by Allies
- ❑ **development** is responsibility of **TA/DTA staff** but will require support from national SMEs and, if appropriate, NATO bodies' staff
- ❑ specifies the intended standardization solution
(**gives specific guidance to custodian**)
- ❑ shall be developed in accordance with ST format in AAP-03
(available on NSO website)
- ❑ **Requires TA/DTA approval**



Standardization within NATO

NATO Standardization Process

Phase 1 & 2:

Requirements Identification, Validation and Standardization Task Development

Colonel (ret.) Dieter Schmaglowski DEU - A
NATO Standardization Adviser and Consultant
d.schmaglowski@hotmail.de

Warsaw, 16 September 2025