UN/CEFACT Applied Technology Group (ATG) meeting  
19-23 January 2004  
Washington DC, USA

Draft Minutes

Meeting Participants:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Bikeev</td>
<td>EAN International</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Crawford</td>
<td>LMI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alain Dechamps</td>
<td>CEN/ISS</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Duker</td>
<td>Procter &amp; Gamble</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeffery Eck</td>
<td>Global eXchange Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jostein Førmyr</td>
<td>EdiSys AS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anders Grangard</td>
<td>Gencod EAN France</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paula Heilig</td>
<td>Worldspan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anthony Hoang</td>
<td>Worldwide Retail Exchange</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melanie Kudela</td>
<td>UCC, Inc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kimberly Lambert</td>
<td>LMI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sue Probert</td>
<td>SITPRO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gunther Stuhec</td>
<td>SAP AG</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hisanao Sugamata</td>
<td>Electronic Commerce Promotion Council, Japan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greg Wilson</td>
<td>LMI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr.Tim Cochran</td>
<td>DISA</td>
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Apologies
Margaret Pemberton  
Bernd Bösler

Agenda:

Monday am
ATG Plenary

1. Opening of Meeting
2. Opening remarks
   a. ATG Chair
   b. Practical details – MC
   c. Conference calls during the week
3. Approve Agenda
4. Minutes of previous meeting
   a. Open Action Items
5. Working Group reports – WG chairs
   a. Liaison Reports
      i. FCT – MP
      ii. ISO TC154 - MP
      iii. JSWG – BB
      iv. SC32 – HS
6. UBL Joining CEFAC
7. UNEBOCS
8. UN/CEFACT reorganisation update - Wednesday
9. FCT operating procedures - Wednesday
10. Review ATG website, list server & eRoom
11. Project update and review¹
12. Press release (Kim)

### Monday pm – Friday am

#### ATG Plenary Projects

1. **Generic Header Project**
   a. Review implementation feedback
   b. Prepare final specification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ATG 1 – UN/EDIFACT</th>
<th>ATG 2 – UN/XML</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. ATG1 Agenda</td>
<td>1. Adoption of agenda</td>
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<td>2. Minutes of previous meeting</td>
<td>2. Minutes from previous meeting</td>
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<td>4. Directory production procedures</td>
<td>4. Review project status</td>
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<td>5. Update Message Design Rules</td>
<td>5. Work on projects</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Data Maintenance Request (DMR) Review</td>
<td>b. UML2XML Transformation</td>
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<td>3. UML to EDIFACT Transformation Rules project</td>
<td>c. Technical Assessment Checklists for XML</td>
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<td>4. Next Generation Edifact</td>
<td>d. Implementers Guide to the ebXML TA</td>
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<td>5. Update DMR procedures and templates</td>
<td>e. XML representation of CCTS</td>
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<td>6. Update workplan &amp; issues list</td>
<td>f. UN/CEFACT profile of CPPA</td>
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#### Friday pm

#### ATG Plenary

1. Working Group & project reports – Chairs
2. Align the weeks work products to ensure interoperability
3. Review / approve additional project proposals
4. Update Workplan & issues list
5. Preparations of future ATG meetings
6. Call for nominations of ATG chair and vice-chair
7. Closing remarks – ATG Chair

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¹ A list of active project can be found in the ATG web site http://webster.disa.org/cefact-groups/atg/index.cfm.
Opening of the Meeting
Mr. Anders Grangård, Vice-Chair, opened the ATG meeting at 9:00 Monday morning. Mr. Grangård, who was chairing the meeting in the absence of Mrs. Pemberton, welcomed the participants to the second Washington DC ATG meeting. The chair asked if Paula Heilig would take the minutes for the ATG meeting, which she accepted.

ATG1 Agenda
The first order of business was the review of the ATG agenda for the week. The agenda was modified as described above and approved by the group. An anticipated schedule for the agenda items was also decided upon as noted.

Minutes of previous meeting
The minutes from the 15-19 September Seoul ATG meeting were approved.

UN/EDIFACT and XML related issues
All issues relating to UN/EDIFACT or XML technical questions are noted in the ATG1 and ATG2 minutes.

MOU
Anders suggested that the below resolutions from the minutes of the MOU meeting 24-25 November 2003 should be investigated by ATG2.

02/07 (6.4 of N0113): It is recommended that RELAX NG, ASN.1, and XSD be considered as important and to some extent complementary candidates for XML schema definitions.

02/08 (6.4 of N0113): It is recommended that groups producing XML schemas for E-business should consider parallel specification using at least two of the above in order to maximize the tools available to developers, and in order to benefit from efficient binary encoding (currently available only in ASN.1).

02/09 (6.4 of N0113): It is recommended that standard setting bodies do not further extend their standards where the area is already covered by one of the above (for example, binary encoding for XML).

UBL are not restricting their rules based on RELAX NG or ASN.1, but people are allowed to use these.

Working Group reports – WG chair
ATG1
No activity since last meeting

ATG2
The group has held several conference calls
The draft Naming and Design Rules (NDR) specification is now at version 0.2.1
Several rules agreed and approved, others are out for vote on list server.
The aim is to have the XML NDR available for public review before Bonn meeting.

LIAISON Reports
FCT
The UN/CEFACT Forum meeting is 8-12 March 2004 in Bonn. The dates were changed because they conflicted with the dates of the UN/CEFACT Plenary. Hotel information should be out soon – costs should be about 100 euros.
ISOTC154
Francois will release the core components aligned version of UNTDED (7372) soon. The
group also opened the voting for ebXML technical specifications developed by OASIS. The
closing date is May 23.
The group will not meet before the UN/CEFACT Forum meeting in Bonn

JSWG-BB
No activity to report

SC32 – HS
Open voting for part 5 (naming rules) and part 6 of ISO 11179, closing in May 2004.
Will arrange an open meeting on metadata registries in May

OASIS
No activities with direct impact on ATG to report. Anders asked about the BPSS TC in
OASIS. The entire membership of UN/CEFACT BPSS went to OASIS. The work has not
officially been transferred to OASIS, so the two groups are now in competition. Some people
in the OASIS BPSS TC has indicated they want to come back to UN/CEFACT and was
looking at ATG as a possibility. No official contact has been taken, though. The OASIS group
has continued to develop the specification whilst the UN/CEFACT has stopped due to lack of
participation.

OASIS UBL-TC
The UBL XML schemas committee draft 1.0 is out for public review. The TC will have face-
to-face meeting the 3rd week in February to finalise this and the Naming and Design Rules.
Once approved, it is OASIS intention to submit these to ISO TC154 to become an ISO
standard.

X12
Kim will replace Mark as X12 liaison.

The X12 CICA architecture (Context Inspired Component Architecture) has been put out for
ballot but was not approved. The group is working through the issues. The Naming and
Design Rules are not ready for ballot. They are based on core components but do not follow
the CCTS.

TMG
TMG has agreed that the CCTS and UMM must be aligned. There is consensus within TMG
that the UMM specification should be based on the CCTS so an analysis has been initiated
to determine what changes need to be made to UMM. For more details seethe meeting
report from the TMG meeting December 2003.

The UN/CEFACT architecture has been released for Implementation Verification through a
review in a dedicated group with representatives from all Forum groups. Anders requested a
volunteer but no one felt ready to accept the position.

TBG
No activity to report

ICG
No activity to report

EAN.UCC
The recast project that is aimed at aligning the EAN.UCC standards with UN/CEFACT,
notably regarding Core Components, will probably be delayed.
The organisation just published a new XML standard that is available free from EAN international’s website. It contains about 20 messages.

**W3C**
Mark reported that the future approval of XML version 1.1 will not be of particular importance to us. The patent policy was approved.
The latest architecture document is out for review/comment.

**OAG**
No report

**OMG**
No report

**CEN/ISS**
CEN/ISSSS is organising the march UN/CEFACT Forum meeting in Bonn. A web site is now up with information.

Current workshop dealing with XML are: eBES + a number of sectorial workshops.

**OASIS UBL-TC joining UN/CEFACT**
There are no indications that UBL will join UN/CEFACT anytime soon.
UBL thought they had reached an agreement with UN/CEFACT and were prepared to go back to membership, but the decision of UN/CEFACT and ebXML and the response to Mark’s ten points made them decide it was not in their best interest.
On the question on the UBL plans, Mark responded that they will to continue to expand to include other industries.

**UNeDOCS**
No activity to report

**UN/CEFACT reorganisation update**
Anders reported on the latest proposal for the new UN/CEFACT organisation, which has been circulated to the Heads of Delegation. The organisation will be constituted of two parts.
The UN/CEFACT Plenary responsible for the strategic development and empowered groups responsible for the tactical aspects. The Forum Coordination Team (FCT) will be replaced by the Programme Steering Group.
The UN/CEFACT Steering Group (CSG) is meeting the same week as ATG and since several comments have been received, including comments from the UN/CEFACT Plenary Chair, it is likely that the proposal will change.

**Review Library Content Management workflow procedure & BRS template**
The group continued the review of the UN/CEFACT FORUM OPERATING PROCEDURES BETWEEN THE TBG, ICG & ATG. The following comments and questions were forwarded to the editor of the document.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Line nr</th>
<th>Comment</th>
<th>Submitter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>We would like to see the latest draft of BSR and RSM – it would be helpful to fully review and comment on the operating procedures.</td>
<td>PH, KL</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The role of a SSP is not defined in the document</td>
<td>AG</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Verify, validate, and audit – not sure everyone has a good understanding of what these words mean</td>
<td>JF</td>
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<td></td>
<td>UN/Cefact mandates that we should use the ODP – is there a relationship between this and the steps in the ODP</td>
<td>JF</td>
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<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>correct spelling of ‘dependant’ to ‘dependent’</td>
<td>PH</td>
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Figure 1 General Workflow Overview: While the diagram is informative, there doesn’t seem to be a start/stop point for the work. Too confusing to follow the flow.

Figure shows that ATG creates a syntax specific cc – what is this? Diagram doesn’t show that TBG is involved throughout the whole process

When do steps 4-5 of the ODP happen - before the BRS goes through harmonisation (TBG17) or after.

If ODP is implied for all BRS it will require an implementation verification. Is this feasible?

What is the ODP Change Request – are there procedures/forms

Not sure that ‘actionned’ is a real word even when spelled with only one ‘n’ and also don’t know what this means the ICG does with the RSM

I thought TBG17 validated candidate cc’s and why would the ICG be creating new syntax neutral cc’s if this was already done in TBG17.

Again I don’t think it is ICG’s job to create cc’s. I think ATG’s request should go back to TBG17.

Need to make it clear in the process flows so that the TBG has to approve everything before it is published.

Line 73 speaks to a project manager, line 127 speaks to a BRS project manager. If this is the same thing, then should be called the same thing. Need consistency in document. Needs to be made consistent throughout.

How is a new Project Proposal submitted? Is there a template?

Not sure what is trying to be said here – last sentence seems to be a runon sentence. Also ‘Acceptance’ should begin with a lower case letter.

What do you mean by ‘initialized’ – should this perhaps be ‘initiated’

I think ‘satisfies’ should be singular – ‘satisfy’

What is meant by ‘ICG transforms the candidate core…’ also, this seems to be more the work of TBG17

I think the use of the term ‘implementation’ is confusing here. ‘Implementation’ is commonly thought of implementing a message with a trading partner. Perhaps ‘to carry out the syntax message development (or transformation) would be better. Also, would need to change line 183

If ATG identifies new candidate cc’s, I don’t think it is the ICG’s responsibility to process, but it should go back to TBG

Isn’t this step already done by the ICG? Why is it done again?

Should ‘works’ be ‘words’?

2.8 doesn’t need to go into detail on the ATG procedures. Should only cover how we liaise.

Who is responsible for submitting the RSM to ATG? This should be clarified.

Here again, I don’t like the use of the term ‘implementation’. Also, is there an implementation project manager per RSM and a working group per RSM. If answer is yes, does anyone know where all these people are coming from.

Don’t think this is how ATG will be working – will not be setting up a work group for every RSM (maybe a project team)

Candidate cc’s should also go to TBG

2.9 doesn’t need to be in here. It should not be treated differently than other submissions

Any procedures for these ‘bulk cc submissions” and also what is meant by ‘to facilitate the initialization of the repository’

What are ‘UN/CEFACT definitions’?

Review ATG website, list server & eRoom
Web site
Has been updated over the recent days. No further updates required.

List server
Should establish managed list to avoid spam.

eRoom
Need to clean up the structure. Anders and Thomas to prepare proposal

New Forum projects
Anders provided a list of new project proposals from TMG that were approved by FCT.
- Core Components Technical Specification Version 2.1
- Business Collaboration Schema Specification Version 1.0
- ebXML Business Process Schema Specification V2.0
FCT agreed that the latter one should be developed in cooperation with ATG2 since the deliverable is expressed in XML syntax.
The project proposals are available on the TMG web site

Request of XML development from TBG
To date, no request for XML development has been received from TBG. It is clear, however, that several working groups are working on XML related solutions. ATG2 must therefore provide TBG with the Naming and Design Rules or at least a checklist for Bonn.

If a large amount of requests for XML development are received, ATG2 will not have sufficient resources to handle those in an acceptable timeframe. It is thus important that we investigate if the production of XML solutions can be fully or partly automated.

TBG17
Since the work coming out of TBG17 is important to ATG, the group reviewed the document TBG17 BP&CC – Harmonisation Team Submission Guidelines and Procedures version .93. The group made several comments that are being forwarded to TBG17.

Work plan
The group reviewed the current ATG workplan for content and modified the due by dates for the various projects and activities. The latest version is available on the eRoom.

Generic Header
Melanie Kudela reported that the project has gone through a comments period and was ready to start the implementation verification. Unfortunately, the public review announcement was never published on the UNECE web site and the review period therefore had to be extended until the beginning of February.

Schema model is developed based on project specific rules. Will be published using the ATG2 NDRs once finalised.

Have started on ODP Implementation verification. Global Exchange Services as retail supplier (sender) and Cyclone Commerce as UCCnet GLOBAL registry (receiver).

Are working on extensions to implement security, i.e. payload encryption and envelop signature.

Compared to the UMM meta model the SBDH sits in between the Message Envelope and the Structured Message.
The project team made a demo in a live Internet environment. The group agreed that this was a very useful activity and proved the project.

**Press release**
The press release on the ATG web site is out-dated and should be replaced by a new one. The group asked Kim Lambert to draft one.

**Closing plenary, January 24, 2004**
Chaired by Anders
Present: Mark, Gunther, Paula, Michael, Tim, Anders, Thomas, Alain, Hisanao, Sue, Jostein

ATG and ATG1 minutes form Seoul is now available on the eRoom. 2 weeks for review. No comment = approval.

**Working Group & project reports – Chairs**

**ATG1**
34 DMRs reviewed:
- 9 approved
- 6 JTd
- 4 Rejected
- 15 Postponed

Reviewed MDR concluded that no revision is required at this point.
Reviewed DMR procedure and updated. One outstanding issue regarding the use of DMRDEF.
ATG2 should review and provide input as needed.
With the limited number of DMRs and participation it is not likely that ATG1 will hold an interim meeting in June.

**ATG2**
Progressed work through discussion of issues. Have also provided feedback to UBL in order to align as much as possible. Aiming for work group review of rules in Bonn while continue working on the supporting text.

ATG2 would like to have an interim meeting week of June 21, 2004.

**Align the weeks work products to ensure interoperability**

DMR procedures

**Review / approve additional project proposals**
No new proposals

**Update Workplan & issues list**
Mark to update ATG2 work plan.

**Preparations of future ATG meetings**
The next meeting will be held 8 - 12 March 2004. The meeting will take place in Bonn during the UN/CEFACT Forum.
Anders has requested a time slot for a lunch and learn session on the XML NDR.
Meeting fee will be €250.

**Registry**
Mark raised issue regarding the lack of commitment from ICG to support an ebXML compliant Registry.
A motion was put forward that ATG should resolve that the UN/CEFACT registry should fully support the latest ebXML registry specification including storage of CCTS defined artefacts.
Anders will put resolution forward to FCT and CSG

Closing remarks – ATG Chair

The chair thanked Mr. Mark Crawford for hosting the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4 PM the 23 January.