

ICG meeting Minutes

1 Presents:

Name	Company / Country	E-mail address
Mike Conroy	Atos Origin/ France	Michael.conroy@wanadoo.fr
David Dobbing	Standard Chartered, Hong Kong / Australia	ddobbing@attglobal.net
Hidekazu Enjo	NTT Data	enjouh@nttdata.co.jp
Francis Berthomieu	France Télécom	Francis.berthomieu@francetelecom.com
Christian Heumer	TMG Vice-Chair	
Anders Tell	TMG and Legal group	
Fabrice Bourge	ATG	

2 Monday, 08 March 2004

2.1 Welcome and opening remarks by the ICG Convener

M. Conroy welcomed everyone to the fourth plenary meeting of the ICG. He indicated that the major topic that we had to address this week was the approval of the BRS specification and the development of the first draft of the RSM. He also indicated that the operational groups, namely the TBG, the ATG and the ICG had to validate the workflow procedures by the end of this meeting. In summing up his introduction he indicated that once again we were lacking participation and he regretted that the other groups did not realize the importance of the work we had to undertake.

2.2 Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved after some modification in order to put aside as much time as possible for the work on the RSM. The modified agenda was as follows:

1. Approval of agenda
2. Approval of minutes of last meeting
3. Report from the December UN/EDIFACT directory audit (M. Conroy)
4. Review of approved Recommendations (D. Dobbing)
 - a. Rec. 24 – Trade and Transport Status Codes
 - b. Rec. 20 – Units of Measure
 - c. Others
5. Approval of the FCT procedures
6. ICG website

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7. Review of Work Programme.
8. Review of the Business Requirements Specification (BRS) comments
9. Requirements Specification Mapping (RSM) (Tuesday all day, Thursday afternoon),
 - a. Finalise initial drafts with other groups
 - b. Evaluate the INSTAT example to verify RSM document content

----- Wednesday break for presentations all day -----

10. Joint meeting (Thursday morning) with E-cert Project Team to confirm a pilot process to enable the specification of business requirements and progression to XML based implementation.
11. Development of the ICG repository strategy (Friday morning)
12. Review of the UNCL migration plan ICG Action List Update
13. ICG Resolutions
14. AOB

2.3 Approval of the minutes of the last meeting

The minutes were approved without change.

2.4 Report from the December UN/EDIFACT directory audit

M. Conroy reported that the production of the D.03B directory had been delayed due to both the absence of the UN/Secretariat at the Seoul meeting and the relative newness of the ATG members responsible for the DMR approval process. This led to a long delay in the production process, which coupled with the lack of availability of some members of the audit team meant that the directory was only approved for publication on the 14th of January 2004.

He hoped that the production process for the release of the D.04A directory would resolve the problems of the last production.

2.5 Review of the approved recommendations

D. Dobbing reported that recommendation 24 had been submitted to the transport group for validation before submitting it to the ODP review. He expected the recommendation to go to ODP review at the end of this meeting.

He went over the list of recommendations indicating their relationship with the ICG.

He further explained that recommendation 20 needed about 2 days of work to finalise it for ODP review. He expected that this should be finalized in the second quarter.

There were no other recommendations up for review currently.

2.6 Approval of the FCT procedures

The group reviewed the procedures and a number of editorial modifications were made. These would be reported by D. Dobbing to the special meeting to be held on Wednesday morning. With the modifications in question the group approved the procedures.

M. Conroy indicated that if there were other modifications then it would be necessary for the group to once again review the procedures in order to obtain quittance.

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2.7 ICG website

M. Conroy expressed concern that the website was not being maintained and that it was not attracting further participation to the group. F. Berthomieu indicated that he had tried to subscribe to the ICG distribution list and that he had been unable to do so. H. Enjo indicated that he had the same problem.

D. Dobbing expressed surprise and indicated that he would take the necessary action to ensure that those present were placed on the distribution list. He explained that he had difficulties in obtaining FTP access to the website in order to update it. He would take this up with DISA during the course of the meeting.

The group then addressed the use of the e-room and came to the conclusion that it was not really useful due to the nature of our work. It was considered more appropriate that the website as well as the distribution list be better maintained.

M. Conroy will send a letter to EAN thanking them for the use of the e-room and indicating that we would no longer use it.

2.8 Review of work program

M. Conroy indicated that the work programme was essentially reflected in the agenda. Again the following points needed urgent examination:

1. BRS/RSM
2. UN Recommendation 20
3. The ICG Repository strategy
4. The UNCL migration plan

He indicated that there were two critical subjects that needed to be addressed, namely the development of the first draft of the RSM and the repository strategy. F. Berthomieu agreed to do some basic groundwork on the repository strategy.

2.9 Review of the Business Requirements Specification (BRS) comments

M. Conroy indicated that he had received only one comment that concerned the BRS template. He also indicated that we were lucky enough to have the contributor, H. Enjo, in our midst. He then asked H. Enjo to present to the group his comment.

H. Enjo presented his comment explaining that he had reviewed the UMM methodology and that he felt that the initial outline was too simple. Effectively, if the problem were more complex it would be necessary to have a sort of recursive structure that took into consideration the various steps of UMM. He indicated that his proposal was to add an additional annex that contained a more complex outline.

After some discussion, it was decided to show the recursiveness of the outline within the heart of the document itself.

The BRS template was modified accordingly.

M. Conroy with the approbation of the group would present the revised document to the other groups for approval at the Tuesday morning FCT meeting.

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3 Tuesday, 09 March 2004

3.1 Requirements Specification Mapping (RSM)

M. Conroy opened the meeting by expressing his disappointment in the lack of attendance from the TBG and the ATG for so important a subject. He indicated, however, that he had got the agreement from C. Heumer, the TMG vice chair, to attend the meeting during the course of the day.

Whilst awaiting the arrival of C. Heumer he gave a presentation to the group about the need for a clear set of rules about the implementation of UML artifacts. He particularly stressed the need to have in the short term such a set of rules for the UML class diagrams. The set of rules in question would enable the ICG to validate that the submitted class diagrams were well formed and thus ensure the consistency of the repositories. He also explained that the validation in question could be carried out automatically for very little cost.

With the arrival of C. Heumer, the group went over the UML artifacts that were involved in class diagram development. Then after a good deal of discussion they identified an initial set of rules that should be brought into force in order to ensure the consistent development of UML diagrams.

The group also agreed that the key input requirement for such diagrams would be through XMI extractions. This will enable the diagrams in question to be automatically validated and to permit their loading into heterogeneous UML development tools.

It became clear during the discussion that this would necessarily have to become a requirement for core components since such components would have to be loaded into the same sort of development tools in order to permit them to be used in the development of class diagrams.

The group went on to define the first set of basic rules to be applied to the selected UML artifacts. The group also agreed that there was a need to develop within the RSM what has been termed a “canonical model” that respected the UMM profile. This model would be developed from the conceptual model as defined in the BRS. It would adapt the conceptual model to enable the use of standard core components.

The group went on to take the INSTAT message conceptual model and to create the equivalent canonical model using the CC excel spreadsheet. Each step in the process was identified and the model was adjusted accordingly. The group did not manage to finish the development of the conversion process before the end of the day. The RSM would be further finalised on Thursday.

Before closing the days meeting, and with the agreement of C. Heumer, it was decided that the ICG make a new project request for the development of a set of rules that enables the consistent specification and validation of all UML artifacts through the notion of “well formed” UMM. The project would be developed under the lead of the TMG with the participation of the ICG. It was also agreed that the ICG shall submit an initial contribution related to the UMM rules for well-formed UML class diagrams. These rules shall be used as an interim solution, for example validating the RSM Canonical model. The TMG would concentrate its work on the development of equivalent rules for the other UML artifacts.

The project request would be presented to the FCT for approval.

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4 Wednesday, 10 March 2004

The group held no meeting since both M. Conroy and D. Dobbing were tied up with the finalisation of the inter group procedures.

5 Thursday, 11 March 2004

5.1 Joint meeting with E-cert Project Team

A joint meeting was held with the E-Cert project team to explain how the UN/CEFACT groups interacted and their responsibilities. An interesting discussion took place with the members of the group and enabled a better understanding of what was expected from a project team by the ICG and the ATG.

5.2 Development of the ICG repository strategy

F. Bourge joined the group in order to attempt to shed some light on the ebXML registry specification. A good discussion was held on the subject. He explained how a Finnish group had made an implementation of core components using a particular artifact of the registry metamodel. However the possibility of using the registry model for the integration of the core components did not appear evident. It was agreed to pursue the subject and come to a decision at the next meeting. F. Berthomieu will provide input for the study on the subject.

5.3 Review of the RSM

Work continued on the RSM and an initial draft was prepared for distribution on Friday. This initial draft would enable the other group to get some visibility on RSM contents and what information would be expected within the document.

H. Enjo agreed to attempt to provide an example of an RSM document in order to test out its proof of concept.

6 Friday, 12 March 2004

6.1 Review of the UNCL migration plan ICG Action List Update

Due to lack of time, this item was once again put aside to the next meeting.

6.2 ICG Resolutions

No resolutions were proposed.

6.3 Preparation of ICG report to the UN/CEFACT Forum closing plenary

The forum closing plenary presentation was prepared.

6.4 AOB

F. Berthomieu indicated that one of his tasks was to review the architecture document and provide comments. He noted that there was no feedback. He also indicated that similar work was also continuing on the subject in the Oasis forum.

This will be tabled at the next forum meeting.

6.5 Work to be completed for the next meeting

RSM documentation M. Conroy

RSM examples H. Enjo

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Recommendation 20 approval	D. Dobbing
UNCL migration	D. Dobbing
ICG repository development (including a review of CCTS repository outline)	F. Berthomieu.
D.04A directory audit (3 rd to 7 th of May 2004).	M. Conroy / M. Dill /A. Dechamps