

ICG meeting Minutes

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Present:

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1 Monday, 10th of November 2008

1.1 Welcome and opening remarks by the ICG Convener

MC welcomed everyone to the thirteenth plenary meeting of the ICG in Sénégal.

He welcomed Arild Haraldsen (AH), newly elected vice-chair of the UN/CEFACT Plenary, who will be supervising the ICG elections.

He went on to welcome AS and PB from India who are two new participants to the ICG.

He proposed a roll call of the participants before continuing.

1.2 Approval of agenda

The agenda as follows was approved:

Monday 2008-11-10 11:00 – 12:30 General

Nomination of candidates for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair

Election of Officers

Monday 2008-11-10 14:00 – 15:30 General

Approval of minutes of last meeting

Review of ICG website

Review of work program

Report on the D.08A UN/EDIFACT directory audit

Report on the D.08A CCL audit

Report on the D.07B Schema audit

Progress report on the D.08A Schema implementation

Progress report on the D.08B CCL audit

Monday 16:00 – 17h00

Review of Formal requirements for the audit

CCL Directory audit rule review

Tuesday 9:00 – 10h30 - UN/CEFACT Registry

Review of UN/CEFACT Registry V1.3 publication.

UN/CEFACT Registry Lite implementation possibilities

Tuesday 11:00 – 12:30 - UN/CEFACT Registry validation rules

Review existing rule sources – UPCC, etc.

Establish a work plan for implementation.

Tuesday 14:00 – 15:30 (parallel)– UN/CEFACT Registry Man/machine interface

Refine and elaborate the functions to be offered,

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Identify a means of obtaining feedback,

Establish a priority list of the functions to be offered

Tuesday 14:00 – 15:30 (parallel) - UN/ECE Recommendations

- Revisions of recommendations
 - Rec. 20 – Units of measure
 - Rec. 21 - Codes for Passengers, Types of Cargo, Packages and Packaging Materials
 - Rec. 24 - Trade and Transport Status Codes

Tuesday 16:00 – 17:00 – UN/CEFACT Registry Project

Review of implementation plan

Milestones

Wednesday 9:00 – 10h30 Audit presentation

Review audit presentation

Wednesday 11:00 – 12h30 UNCL migration project

Genericode development progress report

UN Code lists migration work

- UN Recommendations - information requirements
- UN Recommendations Genericode implementation review

Wednesday 14:00 – 15:30 D.08B audit findings

Presentation of the current findings of the D.08B audit to the forum

Wednesday 16:00 – 17h00 UNCL migration project

Planning for the next meeting

Thursday 9:00 – 10h30

UNCL Genericode implementation review

Publication and usage requirements

Thursday 11:00 – 12h30

Joint meeting ATG on the extraction of the validation code lists

Thursday 14:00 – 15h30

Joint meeting possibilities (TBG17, ATG, other TBG)

Thursday 16:00 – 17h00

ICG Resolutions

ICG closing plenary presentation preparation

Friday 09:00 – 10h30 Closing meeting

ICG Action list update

Review draft minutes

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AOB

1.3 Nomination of candidates for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair

Arild Haraldsen gave a brief overview of the election procedures and informed the group that MC was the only candidate for re-election for the position of chair and that DD was the only candidate for re-election for the position of vice-chair.

Since there were no other candidates he proposed that they be elected by acclamation. However, before that he asked that MC and DD presented their motivations for their candidatures.

MC and DD then presented their motivations for running for re-election.

AH consequently asked if anyone was opposed to their re-election and seeing that there was none he proposed that they be elected by acclamation.

1.4 Approval of the minutes of the last meeting

The minutes were approved with minor editorial changes.

1.5 Review of the ICG website

DD indicated that following the last forum he had investigated whether or not it was possible to install RSS on the CEN website and found that it was not possible.

1.6 Review of the Work program

DD presented the work program as defined and agreed at the UN/CEFACT Plenary. He underlined in particular the responsibility of the ICG

E. Activity 1.5: Ensure technical quality of recommendations, standards and technical specifications

13. Outputs:

- 1.5.1 Regular ongoing maintenance of UN/CEFACT standards and recommendations
- 1.5.2 Development and implementation the UN/CEFACT Registry
- 1.5.3 Publication of an efficient, documented and managed production process for regular ongoing development and maintenance (e.g., UN/LOCODE, UN/EDIFACT, codes, UN Core Components Library).
- 1.5.4 Conduct of a quality audit of designated deliverables (e.g. UN/EDIFACT Directories, UN/CEFACT Core Component Library, UN/CEFACT Standard Schemas)

14. Lead groups: FMG, ICG

15. Target Audience: Users of UN/CEFACT standards

He noted that the only projects that ICG had currently were the Registry and the UNCL migration. These were over and above the recurring work of the code list maintenance and the audits.

1.7 Report on the D.08A UN/EDIFACT directory audit

MC presented that results of the audit and indicated that there had been only one major holdup due to the transmission of different DMR documents with the same name. This led to the loss of some DMRs which held up the audit process. He indicated that only two recommendations had been

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made and presented their content. One concerning the names of the files been sent for audit and the second concerned the practise introduced within the ATG of allowing users to assign codes. Up to now code assignment had been automatically allocated. Allowing users to allocate the code value creates problems which can only be avoided through automatic allocation.

1.8 Report on the D.08A CCL audit

MC reported that the D.08A audit had been completed and that there had been some difficulty due to the way in which the RSM was designed by eCert since the resulting schema did not comply with the requirements. This is due to the request to align the eCert schema with that of UNeDocs.

However, after discussion consensus was obtained to revert to the original eCert request.

1.9 Report on the D.07B Schema audit

MC reported that the audit had taken a long time to complete. In all there were 4 passes before the schema was acceptable. The schema was published on the 15th of September.

1.10 Report on the D.08B Schema audit

MC reported that the D.08B audit was not yet complete. He indicated that a certain number of quality issues were identified.

DD explained that a request had been made to the FMG to make a presentation to the TBG, the TMG and ATG to present the findings. He indicated that the Wednesday afternoon at 14h00 had been agreed for the meeting.

MC went on to explain that the presentation was important and proposed to review and comment it.

The presentation was reviewed and modifications were made.

1.11 Report on progress of the D.08A schema generation.

MC indicated that ATG had begun the schema generation process since the 15th of September. ICG had not yet received the schemas for review. He indicated that the issue of its delivery had been taken up with ATG and that they had indicated that it would be available during the course of the week.

The meeting broke up at 17h00.

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2 Tuesday, 11th of November 2008

2.1 UN/CEFACT Registry Specification 1.3 approval

FB presented all the changes that had occurred since the last revision of the specification. He also indicated that this would be the version that would be used for ODP 6 verification.

The specification version 1.3 changes were reviewed and some additional modifications were provided.

FB indicated that he would introduce the final changes before the end of the week and that he would provide the finished document to DD for upload on the website.

2.2 Review existing rule sources, UPCC, etc.

FB presented the situation relative to the use of the input mechanisms. He in particular indicated that it had been agreed in Dublin to make use of the UPCC developments as the input mechanism for the registry. To a question from NS, he explained that this referred explicitly to the input of core component data.

MC explained that a development had been made under XGenerator to incorporate the OCL validation rules. This would be made against a version of XMI based on EMF2.x which was the UPCC recommendation.

NS believed that the new revision of UPCC was not going to use XMI but rather would be based on the XML Schema that was under development within ATG. The motivation provided was because XMI was not currently interoperable. He felt that this was a valid approach since the schema in question would be specifically oriented towards core components data.

MC explained that this was not satisfactory since it only addressed the core components whereas the Registry was designed to incorporate information from the complete UMM environment and that this included not only class diagrams but also activity, collaboration, use case, etc. diagrams and perhaps even BPSS specifications. The best way to incorporate this information in a reusable fashion would still be through XMI. In addition the version EMF 2.x of XMI was interchangeable with the exception of the diagrams that were not correctly positioned

NS indicated that perhaps it would be useful to meet with the UPCC project leader and since he was on Skype he requested if PL could attend the meeting. PL agreed and came immediately.

MC asked PL if he could explain the objectives and evolutions that were proposed for UPCC 3.0.

PL explained the objectives and indicated that indeed the intent was to make use of the ATG XML Schema.

MC explained the initial requirements and after a discussion on the subject it was agreed that XMI should be used.

During the course of the discussion PL explained that an extractor had been developed which took the information in the Excel spreadsheet and created an Enterprise Architect UML model.

MC indicated that he had been informed by C. Huemer that the extractor in question had identified errors.

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PL explained that it had discrepancies and concerned errors such as missing links however he was unable to explain exactly which. MC asked if it was at all possible to identify the errors in question since the D.08A schemas were in the course of being created.

PL agreed to carry out the regeneration and provide the list of the errors in question.

NS asked if it would be possible to inject the D.08B library into enterprise architect and to extract an XMI compliant document so that we could begin work on preparing the API which created the ebRIM file for insertion into the Registry.

PL agreed to provide the file in question.

DD indicated that the Enterprise Architect version of the CCL would be of great interest. PL indicated the location on the Internet where this information was available.

2.3 Meeting with eBGT

DD, FB and NS went to a meeting with eBGT to see whether it would be possible to merge the Online Standards Registry (OSR) project with the ICG project. The group had agreed that it would be preferable to avoid a duplication of work and any eventual deviation by merging the two projects. The ICG were also in the position to provide a project leader for the project in question.

In the absence of DD, FB and NS, MC made a presentation to AS and PB relative to project development and methodology.

When the members absent returned, DD indicated that the meeting had not been effective since one of the members was absent. The meeting would be reconvened on Thursday.

2.4 Genericode presentation

MC presented the work that had been carried out to transform the UNCL and the UN Recommendations into an XML document for use by electronic means. He presented the two changes that had to be made to the Genericode XML schema to satisfy the requirements of the ICG. These had been transmitted to A. Coates for comment.

He went on to explain how Genericode had been used and to identify its use through the UNCL and Recommendation 20.

He explained that it would now be necessary to insert the syntax codes as well as the other recommendations.

The Meeting broke up at 17:00.

3 Wednesday, 12th of November 2008

3.1 Review of recommendations

MC went to meet with TBG12 concerning some clarifications that they had asked for.

DD presented the questions arising concerning the Recommendations and reviewed the change requests relative to recommendation 20 (units of measure).

DD reviewed with TBG3 the question concerning recommendation 24 and clarified the issue. No further action is to be taken.

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3.2 ICG audit findings presentation preparation

DD presented the presentation of the audit findings that had been finalised the previous night.

It was reviewed and some matters were clarified. The presentation was modified.

DD sent the presentation to all parties that intended to attend the presentation via teleconference.

3.3 ICG audit findings presentation

The presentation of the findings from the ICG audit of D.08B was given to members from various TBG groups as well as TMG and ATG.

There were 5 issues:

1. Supporting documentation for new ABIEs
2. Clarification of Party. Details ASBIE Property Term versus BBIE “Role”
3. Recursive object classes
4. Reusable ABIEs
5. New ABIEs partially contextualized

The presentation put the accent more on the quality of the library rather than on any strict breaking of any specific rules.

Each of the issues caused considerable debate but in essence the results were as follows:

1. Supporting documentation for new ABIEs

The TBG did not consider it necessary to provide supporting documentation for the ABIEs that could not be identified as Buy-Ship-Pay. C. Janssen indicated that he could provide an indication of all the “In All Contexts” ABIEs that were proposed by TBG1.

Concerning the project management ABIEs it was discovered that these were in fact for inclusion in the current XML Schema. C. Hassler provided a revised RSM to support the submission.

2. Clarification of Party. Details ASBIE Property Term versus BBIE “Role”

It was agreed that some clarification should be made by TBG to explain the use of the “Role” attribute as opposed to the ASBIE Property term.

3. Recursive object classes

It was agreed that the use of names such subordinate and subordinate-subordinate was not a good manner in which to limit the number of iterations. It was also agreed that a more consistent way should be found to limit unlimited iterations. It would also be useful to define constraints which could be used to limit the recursive entities. Perhaps the TMG could participate in this work.

4. Reusable ABIEs

It was agreed that consideration be given to avoiding the use of qualifiers that do not enhance the semantics of the object class itself as opposed to the process that uses it.

5. New ABIEs partially contextualized

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This issue was the subject of a considerable discussion. A lot of it was centered around the question of how should the library be segregated. A potential solution to resolve this question was to identify in the ABIE library only the ABIEs that were to be used in published UN/CEFACT schemas. All other ABIEs would be found in the reference library.

However, no consensus could be obtained on the segregation of the ABIEs. An alternative proposal was to make use of the “publication notes” column to identify the ABIEs in question. TBG17 indicated that they would meet on Thursday to discuss the issue.

The Meeting broke up at 17:00.

4 Thursday, 13th of November 2008

4.1 Meeting with the TBG Steering Committee

MC went to the TBG Steering Committee to assist in the discussion of the replies by the ICG to the questionnaire of issues produced by the TBG.

4.2 Report of the meeting with the TBG Steering Committee

MC reported that during the course of the meeting he had to intervene to refute the assertion by TBG that the ICG had received an attachment of code list information and had refused to publish them. He indicated that TBG were welcome to examine the document presented by TBG17 for the D.08B library where no such attachments had been provided. He also indicated that he had never received such files.

He indicated that he had also to intervene to explain that the ICG would be providing a Genericode version of all the UN/CEFACT managed code lists. He explained that it was outside the competence of UN/CEFACT to provide code lists managed by other organisations.

Finally he explained that he had to intervene to discuss the question of change indicators and that he had stressed that a change to a datatype would require a change indicated for all BBIEs using the datatype in question and this in turn would require a change indication to all ABIEs that used the BBIEs in question.

He explained that the motivation for this was to enable a more correct versioning control of the CCs as well as the resulting schemas.

4.3 Debriefing of the audit meeting

The audit meeting was reviewed and commented on. NS suggested that ICG should prepare a best practice presentation to explain the question of quality. After a discussion it was agreed that NS prepare a presentation for the Rome meeting. MC would forward the request for a lunch and learn slot at Rome.

4.4 Meeting with e BGT

DD reported after the meeting that eBGT was favourable to the merging of the OSR and the ICG projects. He indicated that the eBGT had submitted to the UN/CEFACT Plenary an implementation plan which corresponded to the plan prepared by the ICG at the Mexico meeting.

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4.5 Review of the next steps concerning the Registry

4.5.1 First steps

Edit a functional specification document to help decide what needs to be done (starting from what exists today) and who will contribute to it.

4.5.2 Conference calls

We will try to hold conf-calls every fortnight. Due to the time difference between the American East coast and Asia/India, the best appears to split conf-calls; one between Europe and North America, and one between Europe and Asia/India.

4.5.3 Implementation verification issues

- Load D08A in the Registry:
 - Analysis to identify gaps between the current RepXML server state and the target → NS and FB
 - Prioritize and fill these gaps → NS and FB
- Web interface:
 - Guest User interface (could be based on RepXML's interface, but it only displays text so far) → FB
 - ICG interface (until Guest User interface is available, could be based on the Omar thin client)
- Validation module integration (ask PL to provide D08A XMI format; then pass it through XGenerator with Jens Dietrich's UPCC OCL constraints in it)

4.5.4 Questions to be asked to Prof. Yeh (NTNU):

- Do you load the CCL to the RIM directly or through an eBRIM file?
- Can you generate an eBRIM submission file for D08A (or any previous version)? If yes, what version of Omar are you using?
- Is NTNU's work on the mapping to RIM completely conforming to the CEFACCT Registry Spec? Is it complete?
- Can you provide ICG members with the Registry Exchange Format?

4.5.5 Actions on PL:

- Run D08A through Xgenerator and send the list of flaws to ICG
- Run D08B through Xgenerator and provide ICG with the corresponding XMI file
- Provide D08A XMI format.

The meeting closed at 17h00.

5 Friday, 14th of November 2008

5.1 Preparation of the ICG closing plenary transparent

DD presented the slides that MC had prepared for the closing plenary (see closing plenary presentation for details).

5.2 ICG Resolutions

There were no resolutions.

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5.3 ICG action list update

1	Recommendation 20 (Units of Measure)	D. Dobbing	Finalise Rev 6 by the next meeting
2	UNCL migration	M. Conroy	Progress with conversion of all CEFACT maintained code lists into Genericcode format. Subject to ICG review (ODP4), this meta code list should be progressed to ODP5 – Public Review.
3	UN/CEFACT Registry Implementation – Phase 1	F Berthomieu, F. Bourge, Y. Yeh, I. Bedini, S. Lim, N. Stojanovic A. Tell A. Srivastava P. Balasubramanian D. Dobbing, M. Conroy,	eBGT agreement to progress with Phase 1 implementation
5	D.08A Schema Audit	M. Conroy S. Lim D. Dobbing	Target for completion beginning December 2008
6	D.08B EDIFACT directory audit	M. Conroy A. Dechamps	15 January 2009
7	D.08B CCL audit	D. Dobbing M. Conroy	Target completion End December 2008
8	D.08B XML Schema directory audit	D. Dobbing M. Conroy	End January 2009
9	worked example for RSM	D. Dobbing	Preparation for next meeting
10	Review the ICG audit workflow	D. Dobbing M. Conroy	For the Rome Meeting

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5.4 Review of the minutes

The minutes were reviewed and agreed.

6 AOB

DD noted that during the course of the Process presentation a question had been raised concerning the ICG audit process. He explained that it would be necessary that the work carried out in Mexico be reviewed and published.

The meeting closed at 10:45.