AD HOC GROUP C INTERIM REPORT
EMPOWERMENT

Centre for Facilitation of Practices and Procedures for Administration, Commerce and Transport (CEFACT)

SOURCE: AD HOC GROUP C FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RE-ENGINEERING PROPOSALS
STATUS: AD HOC GROUP REPORT
ACTION: FOR DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION, March 1996 WP.4 session
The Co-Chairs of WP.4 Ad-hoc Group 3 would like to express their appreciation to all those interested parties who provided comments on the First Draft and Revision One of the Procedures to Empower Technical Groups.

All these comments, together with those submitted on CRP.2 to Claude Chiaramonti, have been reviewed and some will have been addressed in Revision Two of the Paper. This new document will now provide one document to serve as the basis for further discussion and action at the upcoming WP.4 and JRT meetings.

Some of comments received raise issues that require further discussion and resolution before either being included or clarified in the Paper.

Some may even require discussion and resolution in the other WP.4 Ad-hoc Groups.

These issues are listed below and input is sought on each of these.

Also, the Co-Chairs welcome the addition of other issues arising from Revision Two or from issues previously received but not addressed.

1. The major issue seems to be the scope and mandate of the Empowerment Document as whether only general procedures should be defined or whether both general and specific procedures should be defined.

   While WP.4 is likely to focus on the general procedures, it will be ‘handing over control the UN/EDIFACT standard. As such, it should be interested in the specific aspects which is why the two aspects are being undertaken consecutively. But, the specifics should not be allowed to distract WP.4 attention from the generalities.

2. The present JRT forum should have a major say in how it would like to be and how it is to be organised and what its responsibilities will be. This will be dependent on how the Centre itself is organised.

   There is, also, the distinct possibility that the JRT and the UN/EDIFACT procedures will need little or no re-organisation once the Centre has been established.

   As with the general vs the specific issues of empowerment, the WP.4 activity on the procedures for the establishment of the Centre and the empowerment of technical groups, although not ideal, should also be undertaken consecutively.

3. Within existing UN/ECE Rules, can WP.4 (or its successor) hand over the responsibility of the UNTDID and other UN documents to the proposed ETG since ETG is not comprised of national delegations?

4. As a consequence, what will be the status of the UN/TDID as user confidence in the deliverable must be maintained?

5. The statement from CRP.2/Rev 1 that ‘ETG is ‘fully independent of Trade Facilitation Policy issues’ has invoked considerable comment. From the input
received, revised statements were included in Revision One. These, too, have invoked considerable comment. Precise procedures must be defined in order to give substance to the relationship between the empowerment of technical groups, trade facilitation practices and procedures, and the UN/EDIFACT standard.

6. The concept and conditions for payment of fees to participate in technical groups needs to be clearly defined since the majority of work undertaken in technical working groups is on a voluntary basis. Also, regional UN/EDIFACT Boards may support meetings through other resources.

7. Before Groups determine of fees are required, they will need to know if funding will be provided by the Centre.

8. What level of support will be provided by the UN/ECE Secretariat to the technical groups. What level of support will be required? What will be expected? What activities will be supported? Who will determine the level of support and the necessary funding? How will it be managed?

9. Will the UN/ECE Secretariat still produce the UN/TDID?

10. Is it necessary to specify that mail/conferencing/library services will/may be made available to technical groups and that deliverables will/may be made available on networks?

11. The JRT process cannot stop while process of empowerment is being debated and will need to continue as is. If empowerment is accepted, what procedures will be established to ensure the continuation and a smooth and orderly transition?

12. Will existing JRT technical groups, and especially the Message Design Teams, be required to follow the ‘Procedures for Empowerment’ and undertake all the tasks identified in Section 5 of the Revision?

13. Does the concept of MoUs as well as ToRs serve to improve or complicate the empowerment process?

14. Must MoUs be agreed and in place before empowerment is granted?

15. A proposal in the first Draft for formal and informal procedures for the establishment of new technical groups was deemed to complicate the process. The proposal was therefore removed from Revision One. There is some support for initial, less-detailed procedures to establish a new technical groups with only the requirement to determine the scope and purpose of the Group. The Group would then work on the detailed proposal/request. Is this an option that should be pursued?
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16. The concept of voting has been introduced if consensus cannot be reached. However, what is to be the precise meaning of consensus? Does it apply equally to standards and procedures?

17. It is proposed that the Centre determines the level at which the technical work is to be structured? Should not all work be undertaken at the international level?

18. CRP.2. introduced the concept of the Category of a Technical Group. This, too, has been deemed cumbersome and difficult to define. Should the concept of ‘Category’ be pursued?

19. Since the present JTAG has been designated as an ‘ETG Support Team’, how will it be constituted? Should it continue as present with representatives from Message Design Teams or should it be constituted of ‘interested and competent technical specialist’?

20. The Paper proposes the appointment by the Centre of a Group Coordinator or Liaison Rapporteur for each technical group. Does the Centre need to be involved at this level as the elected chair of the Group could fulfil this role.

21. For the ETG, it is proposed that the Centre appoints an ETG Liaison Rapporteur to liaise and coordinate with the Centre. The basic concept behind the appointment of this Rapporteur is to act as a ‘neutral body’ to the Regional Rapporteurs. The alternative proposal is to rotate the position between the Regional Rapporteurs. Should there be one or two Liaison Rapporteurs?

22. Under UN/ECE rules/procedures, which term is correct? Is it Coordinator or Liaison Rapporteur?

23. Effective means and procedures for liaison between ETG and the Centre need to be defined - whichever direction is taken.

24. Under empowerment, the ETG becomes a UN/EDIFACT user body and is no longer a joint (national) activity undertaken under the auspices of the Regional Rapporteurs procedures. As such, it is inconsistent that the Centre would continue approve the nomination of these Rapporteurs.

It is proposed to replace Regional Rapporteurs with ETG Regional Representatives elected by respective ETG representatives at the Plenary Session. If the Regional Representative is not elected at the ETG but in the Region, it restricts the election to those who participate in the regional activities.
25. Does the Regional Representative have the backing of the Region so as to manage the regional activity?
   Alternatively, this could be separate functions, i.e. an ETG Regional Representative and a Regional UN/EDIFACT Board Chair.

26. Also, since ETG will be an international forum, regional positions may have to be compromised to reach an international agreement. To achieve this, the present regional rapporteur JRT accreditation process will need to be revisited and revised.

27. Who controls the ETG accreditation process?
   Who controls and accredits representatives from International Organisations?

28. The procedures for the inclusion of new work items at the ETG was deemed to be too bureaucratic and non-responsive to meet user needs. Revised procedures have been included in Section 21.
PROCEDURES TO EMPOWER TECHNICAL GROUPS

SUBMISSION TO WP.4

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N.B. This is Revision 2 of the Document
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INTRODUCTION

1. Background

1.1. In March 1995, Working Party 4 (WP.4) recognised that there was a requirement to streamline and rationalize the structure and work of the WP.4, its Groups of Experts and its technical groups. Behind this recognition was the urgent need WP.4 to avoid duplication of effort, to improve efficiency; and to separate policy, management and technical matters. This was to be achieved while, in no way, diminishing the role of the Committee on the Development of Trade.

1.2. WP.4 also decided that a critical element in accomplishing these goals was the delegation of technical work and decision-making to technical groups (i.e. their empowerment).

1.3. The September 1995 Session of WP.4 agreed the general direction of the WP.4 Re-Engineering Process as submitted in Document TRADE/WP.4/R.1141 and agreed to undertake further work to finalise the Process.

1.4. The principal concept of the WP.4 agreement is the creation of a Centre for Facilitation of Procedures and Practices for Administration, Commerce and Transport (CEFACT) to succeed the present WP.4 organisation.

1.5. In order to progress the concept and principles for The Centre, WP.4 established three intersessional Ad Hoc Groups to define the function, mandate, objectives, and procedures for the operation of the Centre. Each Group will concentrate on specific aspects to realise the WP.4 mandate.

1.6. The task of the WP.4 “Empowerment Procedures Group” is to develop the mandates and procedures under which the current WP.4 Technical Groups will function under the Centre. To start this task, the “Framework for Empowerment” document, submitted to WP.4 as CRP.2, has been updated with comments prepared by the Customs Message Development Group (JM5) at the Oxford JRT Meeting.

1.7. IATA and ICS further expanded this document with their proposals and concepts and submitted this document to members of the Ad Hoc Group for comment. Comments received have been incorporated into this revision (referred to as Revision 2) to be presented to WP.4 as CRP at its March 1996 session.

1.8. To facilitate the submissions of comments to the document, a revised paragraph numbering scheme has also been introduced.
2. **Definition of Empowerment of Technical Groups**

2.1. The Empowerment of Technical Groups is defined as:

   *the delegation of authority from the Centre to its Technical bodies in order for the latter to publicly release a defined set of information on behalf of the UN in the framework of a well defined mandate.*

3. **Principles for Empowerment of Technical Groups**

3.1. The general principles for Empowerment are that:

   - Technical Groups must be driven and supported by users;
   - Mechanism for approval must be such so as to support, not control, the process;
   - Clear mandates and deliverables must be agreed by the Centre before any Technical Group is established;
   - Equally, a clear resolution must be agreed by the Centre before a Group is dissolved;
   - All Groups should be open to all eligible participants;
   - Consensus is the normal way to achieve technical agreements;
   - Voting by eligible participants is to be introduced and recognised when consensus cannot be attained.

4. **Linkages Between a Technical Group and the Centre**

4.1. This delegation of authority can only occur if the Centre has followed its agreed set of procedures for establishing a technical group. This is to ensure that the technical group will function under well-defined and transparent working procedures and decision-making rules.

4.2. The formality and strength of such rules and procedures are determined by the Centre. These will be dependent on the level of responsibility and importance that is allocated to the work and intended deliverables of a technical group.

5. **Procedures for the Establishment of Technical Groups**

5.1. The request to establish a new group, to extend the mandate of an existing group or to disband a group must be formally submitted to the Centre. Such requests may emanate from a member(s) of the Centre, a specific region(s), an associate organisation such as ISO or IEC, a complimentary and active special interest group, or the Centre itself.
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5.2. Before a Technical Group can be recognised by the Centre and begin its activities, the following tasks must have been undertaken by the Group and must be included in the Request to the Centre:

• Formalise the scope of the Group
  This must include a more detailed description of the technical group’s deliverables;

• Develop a business plan
  This must include quality assurance/control mechanisms, timetables, resource needs, and plans for meeting those needs;

• Develop the decision making structure of the technical group.
  This includes accreditation of members and voting rules;

• Develop the procedures used within the group for making final decisions on the content of the deliverables;

• Develop the mechanisms to be employed in organizing the group’s relationships with any external organizations;

• Determine if membership fees are required necessary to meet resource requirements.

5.3. The Centre will evaluate each request and will either accept or reject the request.

5.4. If accepted, the Centre must

• Endorse the specific technical issues to be addressed by the group;
• Define the category and structure of the technical group;
• Endorse the scope, objectives and level of the work to be undertaken;
• Endorse the Terms of Reference for the Group;
• Define the deliverables and their UN standing;
• Establish time-frames for reporting and completion of identified tasks and deliverables;
• Appoint a Group Coordinator or Liaison Rapporteur.

5.5. The above endorsements, definitions and tasks will be incorporated into a formal document and will form the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Group.

5.6. If rejected, the Centre must provide specific reasons as to why it cannot endorse the request. The Centre may also choose to defer the decision to a future meeting.
6. Category and Level of the Technical Group

6.1. The Centre, in consultation with the Technical Group, will determine an appropriate structure under which the Group will be organised and will function.

6.2. The Centre will also determine the level at which the technical work is to be structured. This may be at the international, regional or national level, or a combination of the three.

6.3. The Centre will further recommend an (initial) list of other international or intergovernmental organizations that should be invited to participate, or with whom cooperation/liaison should be undertaken.

7. Preliminary technical group proposal

7.1. Where a proposal for the establishment of a technical group may not be developed sufficiently to warrant the establishment of the group by the Centre, a preliminary proposal consisting of the proposed mandate, scope and objectives may be submitted to the Centre.

7.2. If the Centre agrees that the work of the proposed technical group falls under the Centre’s authority, it shall mandate the group requesters to undertake further work on the proposal and shall seek the participation of other interested parties.

7.3. If rejected, the Centre must provide specific reasons as to why it cannot endorse the request. The Centre may also choose to defer the decision to a future meeting.

8. Deliverables from technical groups

8.1. Deliverables from technical groups are one of the following:
   - Released publicly on behalf of the Centre as UN documents, e.g. UNTDID;
   - Submitted to the Centre for adoption as UN Recommendations;
   - Submitted to the Centre for information (such as periodic activity reports).

8.2. Depending upon the UN/ECE category of the deliverables, they will be published by the UN/ECE secretariat in the official ECE languages either as official UN documents or as documents for further consideration/re-assessment by the Centre.

9. Terms of Reference for Technical Groups

9.1. The Terms of Reference (ToR) for a Technical Group must be endorsed by the Centre before the Group is officially recognized and established. Once endorsed, they will constitute a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Centre and the Technical Group.
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9.2. MoUs will be limited in time and will be reviewed on a periodic basis by the Centre. A Technical Group can, at any time, propose amendments to its ToR for approval by the Centre.

9.3. Only the Centre is allowed to dissolve the Group after the submissions of a Formal Request for dissolution.

9.4. When developing the ToR, the Requesting Group will be expected to consult with relevant community members. When, and where, necessary, members may be added to assist in the development of the ToR. Community members are defined to be potential or actual participants in the technical group.

9.5. Once established, the Technical Group undertakes the necessary action to fulfill its responsibilities. Unless there is a mutual agreement to do otherwise, communication between the Centre and its Technical Groups shall be in English, including the deliverables.

9.6. The Technical Group must provide periodic reports on its progress to the Centre. Delays in meeting target delivery dates must be advised to the Centre or its Bureau as soon as a delay is expected.


10.1 Depending on the nature and complexity of a Technical Group, agreed with the Centre, a Technical Group may be constituted as follows:
   - a Plenary Assembly;
   - a Steering Committee;
   - a Management Board;
   - Working Groups and/or Teams

10.2. If the structure of the Group does not warrant a Plenary Assembly, the Steering Committee is elected at the first meeting of the Group and assumes responsibility for all issues assigned to the technical body.

10.3. If the structure of the Group does warrant a Plenary Assembly, a Steering Committee is elected at the first Plenary Assembly. In this instance, the Steering Committee coordinates and manages the activities of the technical body until submitted for approval and/or endorsed by the Plenary Assembly.

10.4. Membership in technical groups will be open to any individual paying the required membership dues. Contributions from non-technical group members, including individuals, shall be encouraged and considered in the work.
10.5. Rules of Accreditation for Technical Group members should be either on a personal basis, a regional/national or on an organisation or company basis. These rules are determined in the Technical Group's ToR.

10.6. The Centre's Bureau members are entitled to participate in any Technical Group meetings. In particular, the Centre may opt to nominate an Observer to the Technical Group's Steering Committee.

10.7. Depending on the category of the Technical Group, voting rights may be limited to accredited members of the Group. Rules and conditions for accreditation shall be included in the ToR of the Technical Group.

10.8. If so determined by the ToR, only accredited Technical Group Members are entitled to participate in the decision procedures of the Group. Non-accredited Technical Group Members have the status of observer.

10.9. Only accredited members can nominate, be nominated and elected to serve on the Group’s Steering Committee.

10.10. Decisions in a Technical Group should be taken by consensus. If deemed required, rules for voting shall be defined in the Group’s ToR.

10.11. A Technical Group organizes its own relationships with external organizations as defined and agreed in its ToR.

10.12. If required to further its work, the Steering Committee and/or the Plenary Assembly has the authority to establish Working Groups or Teams and to determine the Terms of Reference for such Groups or Teams.

11. Support of Technical Groups

11.1. The activities of the Technical Group are generally supported by secretarial resources provided by the Centre. Resource requirements are to be identified and quantified in the Business Plan.

11.2. An e-mail/conferencing/library service will be available to each Technical Group to facilitate the inter-sessional work of the group and to facilitate the receipt of contributions from non-members. In particular, the deliverables of the Technical Group shall be made available publicly on Internet or equivalent networks.
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11.3. Requests for specific resources, such as ad hoc IT/EDI applications, must be identified and quantified in the Business Plan. Provision must be made for their acquisition and/or use.

11.4. Fees applied to members of the Technical Group must cover all meeting resource requirements.
12. The Empowerment of the EDIFACT Technical Group

12.1. The EDIFACT Technical Group (ETG) is a user forum which has been empowered with the responsibility for the development and maintenance of the international electronic data interchange standard known as UN/EDIFACT.

12.2. Since UN/EDIFACT is recognised as a ‘technical tool’ to support trade facilitation, its development is dependent on the development and acceptance of appropriate trade facilitation policies and practices.

12.3. While this may be deemed to be outside the mandate of the ETG, a link between the two activities needs to be established to take full advantage of the UN/EDIFACT standard.

12.4. Since the ETG is the technical forum for global EDIFACT developments, ETG participants from the EDIFACT User Community are expected to take a global view of all issues effecting the UN/EDIFACT Standard.

13. The EDIFACT Technical Group Organisation

13.1. The ETG organisation may be organised to include one or more of the following:

- a Plenary Assembly;
- a Steering Committee;
- a Management Board;
- Message Design Groups;
- Technical Support Teams;
- Ad hoc Working Groups and/or Teams.

14. ETG Plenary Assembly

14.1. The ETG Plenary Assembly has the ultimate responsibility for the adoption and publication of the UN/EDIFACT Standard, i.e. the UNTDID.

14.2. The ETG Plenary Assembly is also responsible for proposing the adoption of ETG deliverables as UN Recommendations.

14.3. The ETG is an international forum comprised of the UN/EDIFACT User Community. Those who pay the related fee and are properly accredited are entitled to participate in the ETG Plenary Assemblies, ETG Technical Groups and Support Teams.
15. The ETG Steering Committee

15.1. The mandate of the ETG Steering Committee is to coordinate and manage the UN/EDIFACT standard development process at the ETG sessions and also develops recommendations for adoption and endorsement by the Plenary Assembly.

15.2. Membership of the ETG Steering Committee is:
- The ETG Liaison Rapporteur appointed by the Centre;
- One representative from each sectorial message design group;
- Regional EDIFACT Representatives - one from each EDIFACT region - elected at the Closing ETG Plenary Assembly by the accredited representatives from the specific region;
- Three International Organisation representative elected at the end of the Closing ETG Plenary Assembly by attendees from international organisations.

15.3. The Chair of the ETG Steering Committee is the ETG Liaison Rapporteur who may not assume the chair of the ETG Plenary Assembly.

15.4. Representatives of ETG Support Teams, without voting rights, may be invited to attend meetings of the Steering Committee.

16. The ETG Management Board

16.1. The mandate of the ETG Management Board is to act as the liaison body between the EDIFACT regional process and the ETG. The Board also assumes the responsibility for selecting the region to host ETG sessions and assist in the organisation and logistics of the ETG sessions.

16.2. The Members of the ETG Management Board are the ETG Liaison Rapporteur and the elected Regional EDIFACT Representatives.

16.3. The Chair of the ETG Management Board is the ETG Liaison Rapporteur.

17. Regional EDIFACT Representatives

17.1. Each Regional EDIFACT Representative is responsible for ensuring the coordination of the regional EDIFACT procedures with those of the ETG and its Management Team. They have no significant status within the Centre and only participate in the Centre meetings from within their national delegations.

17.2. While Regional EDIFACT Boards may chose to elect/appoint the same representative as Regional Board Chairman, the representative may only assume the position of ETG Regional Representative by election at the ETG session.
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17.3. Under the guidance and assistance of the ETG Management Board, the Regional Representative is responsible for organising and hosting the ETG session in his Region. As ETG Convenor, he also chairs the Plenary Assemblies during the ETG session.

18. ETG Message Design Groups and Support Teams

18.1. The ETG Steering Committee will determine whether an ‘ETG Group’ is to be designated as a Message Design Group or as a Support Team. The Steering Committee also approves ToR for all ETG and Support Teams.

18.2. A Message Design Group must develop its ToR (including a Business Plan) for submission to the Steering Committee.

18.3. If designated as a Support Team, the ToR will be defined by the Steering Committee. Groups such as the current Syntax Development Group, Message Design Guidelines Group, BIM, JTAG, and the ETG Audit Team are likely to be designated as ETG Support Groups.

19. ETG Message Design Groups Group Chair(s)

19.1. Each Group elects at least one Chair who is the Group’s representative on the ETG Steering Committee. The mandate of the Chair extends to at least two formal ETG sessions.

20. ETG Voting Procedures

20.1. When no consensus seems possible, voting shall be organized.

20.2. Each ETG delegate, who has been duly registered as the representative of a body and who is present at the ETG session, is entitled to cast a vote provided that he is personally attending personally his second consecutive ETG in the group, or has attended at least 2 out of the last 3 meetings. If not, he is only welcome to participate as an observer.

20.3. A voting right can be transferred to another person to ensure the continuity of representation for an organisation.

20.4. A consensus or a 2/3 majority in a vote is required for approval in any voting procedure.

20.5. Each accredited delegate entitled to vote is allowed to cast one vote in the Plenary Assembly. However, when an organisation is represented by more one delegate, only one vote may be cast.
20.6. Each accredited delegate is also entitled to one vote in either one message design group or one support group. However, when an organisation is represented by more than one delegate in a specific group only one vote may be cast.

20.7. Issues specific to one group can be submitted to a vote within that group, i.e. for electing the chair(s) at the beginning of each ETG.

20.8. At meetings of the ETG Steering Committee, any Committee member is entitled to propose a vote if no consensus appears likely.

20.9. Decisions made by the Steering Committee that affect the UN/EDIFACT standard must be submitted for endorsement by the Plenary Assembly.

20.10. A regional vote is organised at the Closing Plenary Assembly to elect the Regional EDIFACT Representatives.

20.11. For the election of the international organisations representatives, a vote is organised under the responsibility of the Centre Secretariat.

20.12. As a specific item, all decisions in the ETG Technical Assessment Support Team (currently named - JTAG) shall be by consensus. Any unresolved issues must be submitted to the ETG Steering Committee for discussion and subsequent recommendation to the Plenary Assembly for resolution.

21. **Sectorial Work Items and General Programme of Work**

21.1. All items to be considered within an ETG session must be related to an accepted work item defined as defined in a Group’s ToR.

21.2. New regional work items submitted to the ETG must be supported by an EDIFACT Regional Board while new items from international organisations must be supported by the Centre. 21.3 Potential work items are submitted to the ETG Steering Committee for approval and inclusion in the work plan for the appropriate Group. A list of new work items accepted by the Steering Committee is submitted to the Plenary Assembly.

21.4. The ETG Liaison Rapporteur will also submit a summary of all new work items to the Centre which may decide to overrule the vote by requesting the submission of a detailed proposal.

21.5. If work items are rejected, the Requester is advised and provided with reasons why the item was rejected. The Requester may appeal this decision either to the ETG Steering Committee or to the Centre.

22. **ETG Deliverables**
22.1. Deliverable from the ETG shall be:

- UN/EDIFACT directories once certified for release by the ETG Audit Team;
- Deliverables (other than UN/EDIFACT directories) produced by the ETG Production Team are submitted by the ETG Steering Committee to the Plenary Assembly for acceptance. Adoption, however, is subject to the endorsement of the ETG Audit Team;
- If endorsed by the ETG Audit Team, deliverables accepted by the Plenary Assembly can be issued as ETG material. Furthermore, these materials can be proposed for adoption as UN Recommendation;
- Resolutions are voted during the Closing Plenary Assembly on the proposition of either the ETG Steering Committee or the Chair(s) of an ETG Message Design Group;
- All documents, deliverables, resolutions etc issued by ETG are to be registered through an ETG Document Control System. This system will also record the status accorded the document.

23. The Empowerment of the ITT Maintenance Agency

23.1. The International Trade Transaction maintenance agency (ITT) provides a link between UN/EDIFACT as an universal standard and Trade Facilitation. Consequently, ITT can have input not only to the Centre, but also, to the EDIFACT Technical Group.

23.2. Under the proposed ETG procedures, ITT would be designated as an ETG Support Team. ToR with ETG related work items will need to be defined by the Centre.

24. The Empowerment of the Standards Liaison Group (SLG)

24.1. The mandate of the SLG is to coordinate activities between the Centre and international standard organizations as defined in the ToR to be adopted by the Centre.

24.2. A SLG Rapporteur is appointed by the Centre and is responsible for the management of SLG, including its Plenary Assembly. This will be convened at least once a year and may be held concurrently with an ETG session.

24.3. The SLG proposes requirements on standards which need to be coordinated by the Centre with international standards organizations. When appropriate and as determined by the Centre, the SLG Rapporteur is entitled to express requirements within the international standards organization environment.

24.4. The SLG Rapporteur is responsible for the reporting activities and agreements from international standards organizations to the Centre.

24.5. Under the proposed ETG procedures, SLG would be designated an ETG Support Team. ToR with ETG related work items will need to be defined by the Centre.
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25. The Empowerment of the Legal Rapporteurs Team (LRT)

25.1. Legal Rapporteurs are appointed by the Centre and have no direct influence on the UN/EDIFACT Standard. They do, however, have a significant role to play to provide the ETG with legal opinions concerning the implementation of UN/EDIFACT standards.

25.2. Therefore, under the proposed ETG procedures, LRT would be designed an ETG Support Team under the chairmanship of a Legal Rapporteur. LRT ToR with ETG related work items will need to be defined by the Centre.

25.3. Also, as the LRT's ToR refer explicitly to a MoU to be established between the Centre and UNCITRAL, they will also dependent on decisions from the UN General Assembly.