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INTERNATIONAL STANDARDIZATION AFFECTING TRADE INTERCHANGE
Standards Liaison Executive Summary

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Submitted by the Standards Liaison Rapporteur*

This document was prepared under the Term of Reference of the Standards Liaison Rapporteur who is requested to report to each GE.1 session.

This document is for discussion and contains recommendations for approval.

The Group of Experts is invited:
- to approve this document.

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GENERAL
25 January 1997

INTERNATIONAL STANDARDIZATION AFFECTING TRADE INTERCHANGE

Standards Liaison Executive Summary

SOURCE: STANDARDS LIAISON RAPPORTEUR
STATUS: RAPPORTEUR REPORT
ACTION: FOR APPROVAL; GE.1; March 1997, Session

Introduction

1. Since the September 1996 session of WP.4/GE.1 the Standards Liaison Rapporteur attended two ISO meetings. In addition, Mr. David Files, JRT BIM co-chair, attended on behalf of the Standards Liaison Team (SLT) a Joint Workshop on Modelling Sponsored by ISO/IEC JTC1. The detailed reports are in TRADE/WP.4/R.1270.

ISO/IEC JTC1/SC30/WG1 (Scenario Definition), Seoul, 14-16 October 1996

2. The SC30 (Open-EDI) work group responsible for producing the formal specification for Scenarios met for the second time in Seoul Korea.

3. The Standards Liaison Rapporteur, in regard to the framework and Objected Oriented Technology, submitted two personal contributions based on the current work in AC.1 to the work group (see TRADE/WP.4/R.1270, Annex A & B).

4. In summary, one important outcome of the meeting was the acceptance that Object Oriented Technology is a possible approach to implementing Open-EDI scenarios. This approach is in line with the research done in GE.1's Ad-hoc Group (AC.1). However, objections were raised in WG.1 to the removal of Role from the Business Operational View (BOV) Metamodel as an explicit entity, since it is a key component of Open-edi scenarios in the Open-edi Reference Model. Logic difficulties were also found in relating business function model entities to BOV concept entities in the same entity-relationship diagram. Another objection was that proposing to make Activity Unit models and Object Classes the building blocks of BOV-related standards committed the BOV to a specific Formal Description Technique. It was expected that BOV-related standards should remain at a higher level of abstraction.

5. As a result of this discussion, the authors (SL Rapporteur and USA expert Paul Levine,) have revised the Open-edi BOV Metamodel Diagram (see TRADE/WP.4/R.1270, Annex C) to show the entities Business Function, Business Process, Activity Unit, Control, Mechanism and Object Class, as proposed in SC30/WG1/Seoul.1 paper, to all be in the business analysis part of the metamodel.

ISO/IEC JTC1/SC30 (Open-EDI), Seoul, 16-18 October 1996

6. The meeting was used to do mostly administrative tasks since there was now a Working Group dealing with the technical issues. Because of that shift in work, it was agreed to only host a single SC30 meeting per year. WG1 has two meetings scheduled.

7. Because of the Open-edi Reference Model being out for a DIS ballot, the group could not deal directly with the model.

8. Because of the uncertainty of participation of Mr. Larry South, the SC30 Liaison to UN/ECE, the group asks the UN/ECE Standards Liaison Rapporteur to act as their Liaison until the next SC30 meeting.

ISO/IEC JTC1, Joint Workshop on Modelling, Seattle, USA, 9-13 September 1996

9. Mr. David Files, JRT BIM co-chair attended the workshop on behalf of the Standards Liaison Team (SLT). Unfortunately no report had been received from Mr. Files on the date of this report. The SLT will address this issue at the next JRT.

Issues to be addressed by SLT

10. Current changes in the management of the BSR project and re-engineering in the JTC1 environment should not impact the commitment of the CEFACT community to co-operate with ISO/IEC on key joint work items (such as ISO11179 (Parts 1 to 6)). Taking the opportunity provided by these changes, it could be useful to revisit and update the work items identified for joint work, and to have confirmation of the ISO/IEC relevant bodies that CEFACT should working with for each of these work items.