ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Committee on the Development of Trade

Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures

(Item 2 of the provisional agenda of the Meeting of Experts on Data Elements and Automatic Data Interchange (GE.1) fifty-fourth session, 16-17 September 1996)

Syntax Development Group – Executive Summary

Meeting 17 – Concord, 22-26 April 1996

Submitted by the Syntax Development Group (SDG) *

The Group of Experts is invited to:
Introduction

1. The group held its 17th meeting Geneva, following the resolution adopted by WP.4/GE.1 (document TRADE/WP.4/CRP.88 19 March 1996) and the strategy outlined in CRP.79, as indicated in the resolution.

2. In addition to reviewing the documents R.1216, R.1220 and CRP.80, as outlined in the resolution, SDG also reviewed and processed additional documents which had been submitted by Delegations, direct to SDG.

3. Unresolved substantive issues are reported by SDG in a separate document, plus the identification of issues related to dependency notes and repeating elements, which it was agreed should be submitted to the Message Design Rules Group (MDRG). This document is available to the meeting.

4. It should be noted that SDG strongly recommend to GE.1 that submitters of the unresolved substantive issues (or of any new substantive issues) should be
requested to send their comments directly to the ISO Secretariat for TC 154. By these means, the comments will be better controlled and addressed under the ISO process.

5. Similarly, SDG recommends that GE.1 should request submitters of the issues for the MDRG to submit them directly to the MDRG. This will give submitters the opportunity to expand on their comments, and again, will permit better control.

Annex to CRP.80 (developed by EBES/TAG)

6. SDG would like to express their appreciation for the submission of the annex to CRP.80. Since clearly a considerable amount of effort had been put into the development of the annex, SDG have replied to it in a separate document, which is available to the meeting.

It is perhaps worth noting that SDG agreed with some 60-70% of the comments contained in the annex, and editorial amendments have been made to the various parts of 9735 as a result.

7. SDG viewed one suggestion (to combine all of the definition annexes into Part 1) as a particularly constructive and helpful one, and as a result, the same concept has been applied to the service directories, which have also been incorporated into Part 1. In both cases, this will permit easier maintenance in the future. Definitions and directories for Parts 4, 5, 6, 7 & 9 will be shown as addendum to Part 1, so that they can be added when the Parts are submitted to ISO.

8. A further point raised in the annex was the request for consistency across all of the parts of the standard. SDG spent a considerable amount of time and effort making editorial changes to ensure consistency (including for example, the diagrams in the various parts, against which several comments from various sources were directed.

Security parts for ISO 9735 Version 4

9. As instructed by WP.4/GE.1, SDG reviewed Part 5 (Security rules for batch EDI - Authenticity; Integrity and Non-repudiation of Origin) and Part 6 (Secure Authentication and Acknowledgement message - AUTACK). Minor amendments to detail and layout have been made, and the documents are available to the meeting for approval and for submission to the ISO process. (It should be noted, that apart from a re-submission of an earlier comment, no additional comments on Parts 5 and 6 were received by SDG).

10. SDG carried out an initial review of Part 7 (Security rules for batch EDI - Confidentiality) and Part 9 (Security key and certificate management message - KEYMAN). These documents are available to the meeting for review.

11. It is expected that Parts 7 and 9 will undergo final SDG review at its next meeting in December 1996, and will be re-submitted for approval at the March 1997 session, and for approval for submission to ISO. Accordingly, SDG request delegations and Regions to submit their comments on these parts by the 29th of November via Internet to: sdg-comments@premenos.com

Part 4 - CONTRL for Version 4

12. As reported at the last meeting, SDG have developed Part 4, which is available to the meeting. It is expected that Parts 4 will undergo final SDG review at its next meeting in December 1996, and will be re-submitted for
approval at the March 1997 session, and for approval for submission to ISO. Accordingly, SDG request delegations and Regions to submit their comments on this part by the 29th of November via Internet to: sdg-comments@premenos.com

Next meeting of SDG

13. The next meeting of SDG is scheduled for 16-20 December 1996 in Dublin.