

European Multi-Stakeholder Platform on ICT Standardization

Meeting: 13 June 2013

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Information	
Decision	✓
Discussion	

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European Multi-Stakeholder Platform on ICT standardisation

Third Meeting of 07 February 2013

Draft Minutes

Agenda:

1. Opening of the meeting

Viorel Peca welcomed the participants and presented the agenda. He announced that the next meeting will take place in the same venue. The afternoon session will be chaired by Anne Lehouck. Excused: Michel Catinat, Carole Cosgrove, Anti Eskola, Milan Holecek, Ferenc Kneisz, Thomas Naef, Osp Hugrun Reynisdottir, Alexandra Schleier, Graham Taylor, Dominique Wurges, Tom Butterly.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda (document ICT/MSP (2013) 038 rev 1) was approved.

3. Adoption of minutes from the previous MSP meeting – 25 October 2012

The **minutes** from the second meeting (document ICT/MSP (2013) 036) were approved with the insertion of the answer to the question whether the existence of national sets of standards had any value. The **decision list** (document ICT/MSP(2012)35) was also approved.

An updated list of participants will be published on CIRCABC.

4. MSP: policy and management issues

4.1. Revised Rules of Procedure (RoP) (document ICT/MSP (2013) 03 rev2) – **Final version**

Germany and Switzerland presented their comments to the rules of procedure (documents ICT/MSP (2012) 56 and ICT/MSP (2012) 52).

The Platform underlined the necessity to indicate clear time lines in the ROP; the organisations need sufficient time to consult their members. The need for having ample time should, however, be balanced with the need to implement short procedures. The participants asked the Commission services to take into account the deadlines indicated by the ROP to a maximum extend.

Art. 5.3 and 5.4 of the RoP will be modified in accordance with the outcome of the discussion during the meeting, in particular to clarify the different delays and to include an additional rule on late submission. The new version of the RoP will be circulated to the Platform for adoption at the next meeting.

The documents covering the RoP and the rules for the identification process will be separated; the RoP will not contain any deadline regarding the identification process.

4.2. Headlines for the 2014 Rolling Plan (point 5.2 of the agenda).

Mr. Peca introduced the RP informing that both services, DG CONNECT and DG ENTR agree on an enhanced role of the Platform, not only providing advice, but also input to the Rolling Plan. Emilio Castrillejo (DG ENTR) presented the proposed procedure for the adoption of the “Rolling Plan for ICT standardisation” (*document ICT/MSP (2013) 58*).

The members provided a first round of comments, though written comments will be welcomed as the document was submitted just before the meeting.

It was agreed that the RP should keep track of the current ICT standardisation work programme. Some members mentioned that funding only ESOs is unfair, and distorts the competition between the SDOs. Depending on the sector, having only ESOs may mean that you are not getting the right experts, and the industry may not be willing to contribute for public policies; consequently other means of funding should be envisaged.

The participants agreed that it is of high importance to contribute to the format as well as to the content of the RP to ensure that all stakeholders' expectations are reflected. Finally it was decided to establish a **Task Force ICT Rolling Plan** (TF RP) to further work on the proposal presented by the Commission and to subsequently prepare a draft version of the RP for discussion at the next Platform meeting. During the meeting following members volunteered for participation: IEEE, Open Forum Europe (OFE), W3C, GS1, ETSI, CEN/CENELEC, OASIS, DIGITALEUROPE, Open Mobile Alliance (OMA), Germany, France, Switzerland, the Netherlands and United Kingdom. Within two weeks after the meeting, by 21 February at the latest, additional participants can express their interest for participation to the Platform secretariat. All registered members are invited to provide the contact data for their representatives in the task force. The participants in the TF are invited to appoint a team leader who acts as a contact person and who ensures the coordination of the input. A Commission representative will monitor the TF and organise its kick-off meeting.

The first input to the RP shall be provided to the Commission in view to upload the document on CIRCABC not later than mid-April.

5. ICT standardisation policy

5.1. Cloud Computing:

Dan-Mihai Dhirila (DG CONNECT) presented an update of the actions regarding “Cloud Computing” in Europe (*document ICT/MSP (2013) 43*). ETSI indicated that the slides reflect the results of the work performed so far and subsequently saw no need to present the *document ICT/MSP (2013) 43*.

Several platform members acknowledge the excellent work performed so far, hoping that the cooperation will continue and deliver the expected results in time.

OMG will make available the relevant documents from Cloud Computing Coordination Council of Clouds Standard and Cloud Standards Customer Council.

5.2. eBooks.

Nicolas GYSS (DG CONNECT) presented the activities going on related to eBooks (*document ICT/MSP(2013)054*): portability and interoperability are key for the development of the eBooks market and EPUB has been identified as a standard that may help to support portability and interoperability of eBooks. Advice was asked to the Platform on how to raise awareness and use of EPUB through standardisation processes, and how to support portability and interoperability through standardisation broadly speaking.

W3C informed about a workshop taking place the following week on eBooks in New York. They will make available also information on cooperation with the International Digital Publishing Forum (IDPF).

Digital Europe informed that eight EPUB specifications have been submitted to the ISO/IEC JTC1 for fast track procedure in view of being published as ISO standards. .

The chair asked the Platform for possible written comments.

5.3. Network Security.

A. Tzafalias (DG CONNECT) introduced the Strategy on cyber security strategy (*document ICT/MSP (2013) 044*), proposing concrete actions to the MSP.

The Platform members agreed on the interest of this topic and informed about different activities in this area: a/ The three ESO's have a Coordination Group on Cybersecurity working on these areas, which could be presented for the next meeting; b/ UK Government has a set of criteria for standards for cybersecurity organisations in process of adoption. The Platform will be informed about the adoption and availability of the UK standard. c/ IEEE will make available the documents from the eCRIS working group.

Advice from additional stakeholders from the security community will be sought (e.g., ENISA, SOGIS). The Chair informed that according to art. 10 of the Commission's Decision 2011/C349/041; these organisations will be invited to future Platform meetings.

Finally, it was agreed to establish a **Task Force Network Security** (TF NS) to further advise the Commission on how to use standards for efficient implementation of the Cyber Security Strategy and the Directive on Network and Information Security. A mapping of potential standard needs against policy requirements and taking into account existing relevant standards and specifications, may be needed. During the meeting following members volunteered for participation: The Open Group (TOG), DIGITALEUROPE, Open Forum Europe (OFE), Oasis, IETF/ISOC (Hannes Tschofing), Austria, Italy, United Kingdom, Germany (tbc), ETSI (tbc), Open Mobile Alliance (tbc). Within two weeks after the meeting additional members can express their interest for participation to the Platform secretariat. All registered members are invited to provide the contact data for their representatives in the task force by 22 February.

5.4. eAccessibility.

Inma Placencia Porrero (DG JUSTICE) presented main Commission projects to foster eInclusion and in particular some standardisation policy initiatives (mandates) to implement the eInclusion policy to which DG ENTR and DG CONNECT are associated (*Document ICT/MSP(2013)049*).

The presentation led to a broad discussion. Some Platform members expressed their concern about the proposed Directive on Web Accessibility with regard to the European Standard to be developed under the European mandate M/376, when there are already an ISO standard and world-wide recognized specifications, namely Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG 2.0) that can be used. The representative from the Dutch National Standardisation Organisation questioned about the legal basis of the Directive. With regard to this point, Mrs Placencia explained that she was not in position to discuss about specific elements of the Directive because the dossier does not fall under the responsibility of her DG and it is currently discussed at the Council. Some Platform members also took the floor to welcome the legislative initiative.

There is an urgent need for having standards to reference them in legal document/ public procurement procedures; WCAG are not enough, as they are just guidelines. The presumption of conformity with the accessibility requirements is a normal way of procedure contemplated for new approach Directives. She also highlighted that it is important also to ensure that there is no national fragmentation, and that all Member States promote implementation of the same standards.

Web-accessibility is also dealt with in other regions, such as the USA. International cooperation could be useful in this field. Dialogue with all the relevant actors around the tables to approximate content, understand processes and tools (W3C, ESOs, industry, users, public authorities) is very positive.

This is an important issue for the millions of disabled users, and also for the industry. Clear legislation with clear backing standards is needed.

5.5. eHealth

Benoit Abeloois (DG CONNECT), introduced the policy actions in this area (*document ICT/MSP(2013)48*), and in particular **the Study on eHealth Interoperability Framework**. This was complemented by short oral presentations from COCIR, leading relevant eHealth working groups, and Continua Health Alliance.

The study was launched before new standardisation regulation (1025/2012) was adopted subsequently the potential provided by art 13 and 14 to " identify" ICT technical specifications though an evaluation in accordance with the criteria set by annex II where not yet considered. IHE and Continua specifications covering interoperability requirements may therefore still have some problems in proving compliance with some of the criteria when such ICT technical specifications would be submitted to the art 13 process. Both Continua and IHE may therefore need to improve their processes and procedures in order to reach compliance in case of submission of their specifications.

The chair confirmed such ICT technical specifications can be submitted for Identification in accordance with art 13 by the Commission or by the Member States.

An extensive discussion followed the presentation. The participants agreed that this is an interesting topic that should be further addressed within the Platform. Related standardisation activities such as. CEN TC 251 and ISO 215) and the activities of the eHealth Community in this area have to be taken into account.

The following next steps were agreed:

- DG CONNECT will make available the study on eHealth Interoperability Framework as soon as possible.
- Continua will provide more information on the activities related to eHealth relevant to the Platform.
 - The Platform members will provide comments on **the Study on eHealth Interoperability Framework** within 6 weeks after the study will be made available to them
 - DG CONNECT will provide more information about the Workshop on eHealth to be organised on 20-21st March (<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/news/eu-projects-convergence-workshop>); the Platform members are welcome to participate.
 - A point on eHealth will be included in the agenda of the next meeting, to follow-up these activities and discuss the opportunity to create a task force for eHealth..

5.6. ISA – ADMS.

João Frade (DG DIGIT) presented the activities of the ISA programme and its collaborative platform Joinup.eu, online service to make it easier for Public Administrations to find ICT specifications, described using Asset Description Metadata Schema (ADMS) (*document ICT/MSP(2013)043*). Public Administrations can then share and re-use the ICT specifications. He advocated the Platform to promote the visibility of this service and encouraged its member to use the service to share their specifications.

A discussion took place on different aspects of this service, which the Platform found interesting. The participation is voluntary and open to SDOs and Member States. There has been interest also from organisations outside Europe.

The overload on sharing metadata depends if a catalogue is already available, on the baseline, and which specifications are relevant. National specifications are relevant if useful for other Member States.

5.7. DAE 23

Anne Marie Sassen (DG CONNECT) made a presentation on the activities towards the use of open ICT systems to avoid lock-in situations (*document ICT/MSP(2013)45*), namely the Commission Communication and accompanying staff working paper "Against lock-in: building open ICT systems using standards"

The chair mentioned that DAE 23 is very relevant to the activities of the Platform. On the one hand, the identified "common technical specifications" of the Platform may be used in public procurement, on the other hand, when public procurers identify a need to use other technical specifications for their procurements, these can be submitted to the Platform so that it can be further examined to become part of the list of "common technical specifications". MS are encouraged to increase referencing standards in their administrations' public procurement acts by this action DAE 23.

The Platform welcomed the presentation of these documents, which are a complement to PP legislation. There was a general support to this activity, and a broad discussion initiated, asking about the figures of the impact assessment to reduce vendor locking.

Finally it was agreed that the Platform members will provide comments within 3 weeks, by 28 February at the latest, to be aligned with the Commission procedures, to the Commission Communication and accompanying staff working paper "**Against lock-in: building open ICT systems using standards**": (DAE action 23)

6. Identification of ICT specifications (Regulation art 9)

Anne Lehouck (DG ENTR) presented the *document ICT/MSP (2013) 014 rev1 + /1 + /2 rev1* being the reviewed versions taking into account comments stemming from MSP#2. It is a living document, and it will be updated further to potential comments resulting from the evaluation process.

Germany and Switzerland explained their comments (*documents ICT/MSP(2013)057 and 051*)

A wide discussion followed; trying to balance the need for a short process and efficient procedural steps.

It was agreed that the document describing the identification process should be complete and self-standing, to provide all necessary information to potential submitters. This document should be accessible via the public part of the Platform's web site.

The Commission will provide a new flowchart of the process with indicative timelines related to the different steps in the identification process.

7. Needs for standards activities

The Platform discussed the four ICT technical specifications submitted for identification. Evaluation sheets are available and the Platform subsequently established the evaluation teams, which are invited to provide a report with their draft advice 6 weeks before the meeting.

The following evaluation teams were established for evaluating the submissions on IPv6 (*ICT/MSP(2013) 041*), XML (*ICT/MSP(2013) 040*) and ECMA script (*ICT/MSP(2013) 039*). The Commission officials will provide the secretariat, the originating SDOs will participate as advisors. Each team is invited to nominate a team leader who acts also as a contact person. The objective is to present a proposal for advice to the Commission by **2nd May 2013** (6 weeks prior to the MSP meeting of 13th June during which a MSP decision will be taken). Additional members may join later:

- **Team IPv6:** Emilio Dávila (Commission), IETF (advisor), DIGITALEUROPE, IEEE, CEN/CENELEC, Belgium, Switzerland
- **Team XML:** Thomas Reibe (Commission), W3C (advisor), Oasis, DIGITALEUROPE, Switzerland
- **Team ECMA Script:** Martina Sindelar (Commission), ECMA (advisor), CEN, OMA, DIGITALEUROPE, Switzerland, France (tbc)

The Commission officials will organise the kick-off of the evaluation process.

The submission concerning IEEE 802:11 (2012) has been withdrawn since its transposition into an International Standard (IS) is expected (*document ICT/MSP (2013) 042 + 046 + 050*). As an IS can be referenced in public procurement orders, no identification process in view of becoming a "common technical specification" in accordance with Public procurement legislation is required.

The chair encouraged representatives of public administrations to volunteer to become members of the evaluation teams.

A discussion of the adequacy of the identification form followed. It was agreed that those that have contributed to fill the forms should provide feedback within 1 month.

8. MSP Member issues

Switzerland reminded that they have submitted 3 links with Strategies Policies from the Swiss Government. The chair encouraged other members of the Platform to share their initiatives and information relevant to the Platform. The Secretariat will check the best way to share this information at CIRCABC.

CEN/CENELEC indicated that some subjects that could be interesting to include in the ISRP would be smart cities, to create a platform on manufacturing taking into account the ICT dimension, assisted ambient living –AAL- (Innovation Platform on active and healthy ageing) or Smart Housing.

9. Commission's Initiatives

Wawrzyniec Perschke, (DG ENTR), reported on activities carried out regarding IPR in ICT standardisation issues. A study is being carried out by ECCORIS, University of Delft, Paris Tech, on how patents are licensed in relation to standards, which builds on a previous IPR in standards related study coordinated by Fraunhofer.

The study focuses on licensing terms of standards essential patterns, in qualitative and quantitative terms, aiming at quantifying the efforts, like patent landscaping or essentiality checking. It will also consider patent ambushes, although the problem is there are not so many cases, as normally the competition framework is robust enough to tackle patent ambushes.

The annual IPR in ICT standardisation related workshop will not be organised in May as previously announced but rather in October/November this year. The Commission needs to analyse existing issues, to gather facts and evidence:

A public consultation addressing licensing and patents will be launched, early April and will run for 12 weeks. Members are encouraged to participate in this open consultation.

10. Calendar of next meetings

Provisional meeting schedule for 2013:

13th June, 17th October and 5th December 2013.

30th January 2014: new date proposed.

Additional ad Hoc meetings can be scheduled if needed.

Subgroups and task forces will mainly work electronically; physical meetings can however be organised on an exceptional basis and with agreement of the relevant Commission services

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CIRCABC website. The platform recognised that the tool is adequate to exchange documents, but does not include a collaborative platform.

The members supported a general principle of transparency; minutes are based on Chatam House rules, avoiding identification of person or organisation in the discussions. From the next meeting on the Platform will decide at the end of each meeting which documents can be put on the public website.

The documents will be registered per meeting and a general folder for generic documents of the Platform will be created. Separate folders for the Task Forces will be included. The public part of CIRCABC will be populated with documents such as the minutes, agenda and related document to the identifications/evaluation process.

Member States (~50% of the Platform Members) are underrepresented in the focused groups especially with respect to the evaluation in view of the identification of ICT technical specifications. The chair encouraged them to nominate representatives.

Mr. Heninot (France) informed he will retire soon and will provide name of the successor as soon as possible. The Platform expressed its appreciation for his dedication to standardisation activities.

Annex: Participant list

Kristjan Agerbo, Miguel Amutio, Magrethe Asseryn, Gabriel Barta, Henri Barthel, Christian Bergem, Peter Biro, Boncho Bonchev, Rene Capitaine-Philippe, Rodolfo Cattani, Ian Cowan, Gavin Craik, Nicole Dzinjoy, Stijn Ededertier, Nuno Encarnacao, Marcellino Ferrazza, Andrian Ferti, Jochen Friedrich, Joris Gresnigt, Anneli Hagdahl, Scott Hansen, Joost Hartlief, Jean-Pierre Henninot, Simon Hicks, Karin Iffour, Morgen Kallestrup, Gudmundur Karason, John Ketchell, Olaf Kolkman, Annegret Kuebler-Bork, Jean Laurens, David John Law, Thomas Nogues, Ana Nunes, Hannu Ojala, Daniela Pesheva, arkus Pirazt, Rebekka Porath, Martin Prager, Anna Riccoboni, Gudrun Rögnvaldardottir, Jorge Santos, Nicolas Schifano, Alexandra Schleier, Falk Schubert, Istvan Sebestyén, Alice Sinigugua, Richard Soley, Georgios Synnefakis, Charlotte Thornby, Stavros Tsiakkoupis, Isabelle Valet-Harper, Harm-Jan Van Burg, Anna Von Zukowski, Julia Wasoux, Alain Wahl, Dirk Weiler, Rigo Wenning,

