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**UNITED NATIONS CENTRE FOR TRADE FACILITATION AND ELECTRONIC BUSINESS
(UN/CEFACT)**

TECHNIQUES AND METHODOLOGIES GROUP (TMG)

Report to the UN/CEFACT Plenary and Programme of Work

Submitted by the Chairman of the TMG *

The present document contains document CEFACT/TMG/N002 and has been approved by the TMG Group. It is submitted by the TMG for distribution to the UN/CEFACT Plenary and the UN/CEFACT Steering Group (CSG). It is presented in the form in which it was received by the secretariat.

Techniques & Methodologies Group (TMG)

TMG Chairman Report

Source: Techniques & Methodologies Group (TMG) Chair
Status: For Information
Action: Submission to UN/CEFACT Plenary – May 2003

TMG Chairman Report (CEFACT/TMG/N006)

This report outlines key activities by UN/CEFACT's Techniques and Methodology Group as they relate to its work programme key priorities, as well as their relationship to the work of other UN/CEFACT Groups.

General

During the 12 months since the last UN/CEFACT plenary, TMG (formally TMWG and eBTWG) has continued to work on its Business Collaboration Framework based on UN/CEFACT Modeling Methodology (UMM), which utilizes the Unified Modeling language (UML), Core Components and e-Business Architecture. This work has taken into account the feedback received from public reviews under UN/CEFACT's Open Development Process (ODP) and TBG participants (BPWG).

Since the last UN/CEFACT plenary session, TMG has met three times. Twice as part of the UN/CEFACT Forum and ones by itself. TMG will continue to hold four meetings per year, one per quarter. This report highlights only key TMG activities. Detailed meeting reports of all three meetings are available via the TMG Web Site:

- ~~02~~ 02TMG03 - TMG Meeting, 09-13 September 2002 - Summary Report, Geneva, Switzerland (<http://webster.disa.org/cefact-groups/tmg/report1.html>)
- ~~02~~ 02TMG05 - TMG Meeting, 09-13 December 2002 - Summary Report, McLean, VA, USA (<http://webster.disa.org/cefact-groups/tmg/report2.html>)
- ~~TM~~ TM005 - TMG Meeting, 10-14 March 2003 - Summary Report, San Diego, CA, USA (<http://webster.disa.org/cefact-groups/tmg/report3.html>)

Activity Highlights

Project	Definition	Status
BPSS V1.1	ebXML Business Process Specification Schema Technical Specification. This is a maintenance release fixing implementation issues found in the original ebXML release (May 2001).	Completed ODP Public Review – 2 nd Cycle – Currently in Comment Review
CCTS V2.0	Core Component Technical Specification	ODP Implementation Validation Step
CC User Guide	Primer for the CCTS using examples to describing how to rediscover CC.	1 st Draft out for internal TMG review
EBA V1.0	e-Business Architecture Technical Specification	Currently in ODP Public Review
EBG V1.0	e-Business Glossary	1 st Working Draft
UMM Meta Model	UN/CEFACT Modeling Methodology – Meta Model (UML Profile)	Completed - Stable (Version 12)
UMM User Guide	UN/CEFACT Modeling Methodology – User Guide describing step by step how to develop Business Collaboration models using UMM. Targeted for Business Experts and Facilitators within TBG	1 st Draft out for UN/CEFACT Group usage
UBAC V1.0	Unified Business Agreement and Contracts Technical Specification	To start 2003-04

Issues

Participation: TMG expresses concern regarding the very limited team participation during Forum meetings. This is an internal UN/CEFACT issue related to the fact that a majority of TMG, members attending the Forum, are participate in other groups since that is their primary priority. The result being that TMG relies on its additional meetings between Forum meetings to get its work advanced.

The issues have been raised with the FCT and CSG in hope that future Forum meetings coordinate their schedules amongst groups to allow member to attend different project teams in other groups. However, due to other priorities the issue has not been advanced.

Service Support Provider: TMG expresses the urgent need for a professional UN/CEFACT Service Support Provider. Unless a SSP is soon appointed TMG does not see how resources such as professional modelers/facilitators, UMM artifact libraries, and development tools can be provided to support the work of all UN/CEFACT groups. The failure will result in participant joining outside UN/CEFACT activities that do provide the required support to advance their interests of standardization in this area.

Intellectual Properties Rights Policy: TMG members are encouraging the UN/CEFACT plenary to approve the CSG provisional IPR Policy. Failure to do so will put in jeopardy any major contribution toward the current TMG work, especially in the area of Business Collaboration and Unified Business Agreement and Contracts. TMG member companies have made it very clear that they support the current provisional IPR and see it as a breakthrough by protecting not only the IPR of the submitters but also ensuring implementations without royalties payments. Any departure from the principle concepts contained within the current provisional IPR Policy will result in a large number of major contributors to the TMG work to stop their participation.

Promotion: TMG members are expressing concern about the lack of public promotion of the work of UN/CEFACT's Groups. Specifically there seems to be a lack of an e-Business Strategy that has as its goal the harmonization and alignment with other standards organizations to provide a single e-Business Solution. TMG shares the view that UN/CEFACT has much more to offer than the current ebXML specifications. That is not to say UN/CEFACT should step away from ebXML. The opposite is true. UN/CEFACT should promote its Business Collaboration Framework and UMM as the basis for implementing the ebXML infrastructure. TMG BPWG members feel that UN/CEFCAT has forgotten about its vision to use a business-process-centric approach in order to drive technology implementation instead of technology driving the business solution.

Techniques & Methodologies Group (TMG)

**Project Plan
(Programme of Work)**

Source: Techniques & Methodologies Group (TMG)
Status: TMG StC Approved
Action:

TMG Project Plan – Programme of Work (CEFACT/TMG/N004)

Project	Definition	Status	Projected Completion Date	Dependencies	WG	Project lead
UMM Meta Model	UN/CEFACT Modeling Methodology – Meta Model (UML Profile)	Stable (Version 12)	2003-01-20		BPWG	Klaus-Dieter Naujok
UMM Reference Guide (N090)	UN/CEFACT Modeling Methodology – Reference Guide describing the technical detail of the meta model. Targeted at software implementers and developers of UML tools	On hold (Version 12)	2003-09	UMM Meta Model	BPWG	Paul Levine
UMM User Guide	UN/CEFACT Modeling Methodology – User Guide describing step by step how to develop Business Collaboration models using UMM. Targeted for Business Experts and Facilitators within TBG	1 st Draft	2003-03-31	UMM Meta Model	BPWG	Error! Reference source not found.
UMM Implementation Guide	UN/CEFACT Modeling Methodology – Implementation Guide describing what aspects need to be taken into account when applying a specific technology at the implementation layer.	Not started	To start 2003-09	UMM Meta Model	BPWG	TBD
UMM Content Management Guide	UN/CEFACT Modeling Methodology – Content Management Guide describing the requirements for storing not only Business Collaboration Models but also the libraries for reusable components such as Business Entities and Business Processes. In addition the guide address the aspects of proving services to the repository and registry to provide UN/CEFACT groups with an “enterprise” type development environment for developing Business Collaboration Models	Not started	To start 2003-09	UMM Meta Model	BPWG	TBD
BPSS V1.1	ebXML Business Process Specification Schema Technical Specification. This is a maintenance release fixing	Public Review – 2 nd Cycle – Comment Review	2003-05		BPWG	Dave Welsh

Project	Definition	Status	Projected Completion Date	Dependencies	WG	Project lead
	implementation issues found in the original eBXML release (May 2001),					
BPSS V2.0	ebXML Business Process Specification Schema Technical Specification. This version will be aligned with the UMM meta model, especially regarding the BTV layer	Not started	To start 2003-06	BPSS V1.1, UMM Meta Model & Reference Guide	BPWG	TBD
BPSS V3.0	ebXML Business Process Specification Schema Technical Specification. This version will be aligned with the UMM meta model, especially regarding the BRV layer	Not Started	To start after completion of 2.0 (end 2004)	BPSS V2.0, UMM Meta Model & Reference Guide	BPWG	TBG
UBAC V1.0	Unified Business Agreement and Contracts Technical Specification	To start 2003-04	2004-09	Work within LG	BPWG	Anders W. Tell
CCTS V2.0	Core Component Technical Specification	Implementation Validation Step	2004-05		CCWG	Alan Stitzer
CC User Guide	Primer for the CCTS using examples to describing how to rediscover CC.	1 st Draft out for review	2004-09	CCTS V2.0	CCWG	Fred van Blommestein
EBA V1.0	e-Business Architecture Technical Specification	Public Review	2004-12		EBWG	Duane Nickull
EBG V1.0	e-Business Glossary	1 st Draft	2004-12		EBWG	Kenji Itoh