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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**  
**COMMITTEE FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT**  
Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)  
Item 5 of the provisional agenda  
Ninth session, 12 – 13 May 2003

**ELECTRONIC BUSINESS EXTENSIBLE  
MARK-UP LANGUAGE (EBXML)**

Submitted by the Chairman of the UN/CEFACT Steering Group \*

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\* The present document is submitted to the Plenary for decision.

In September 1999, UN/CEFACT launched an international initiative to develop an open XML based framework, enabling the global use of electronic business information, in a consistent, interoperable, and secure manner, in application to application, application to person and person to application environments.

The initiative, which was subsequently named ebXML, was undertaken in conjunction with the Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards. (OASIS) The project's first phase was completed on time in May 2001, following an open international standardisation process, involving both a series of global meetings and the review of very many virtual contributions.

Following the first phase of the project, the specifications have been finalised by each organisation, working in a coordinated manner, taking responsibility for particular specifications and following their development and approval processes.

The framework consists of a set of technical specifications: Part 1, the Technical Architecture, explains the purpose of each of the parts and how they relate to one another.

Currently, the normative specifications that comprise the ebXML framework are:

Part 1. Technical Architecture (TA) V1.04

Part 2. Business Process Specification Schema (BPSS) V1.01

Part 3. Registry Information Model (RIM) V2.0 \*

Part 4. Registry services specification (RS) V2.0 \*

Part 5 ebXML requirements (REQ) V1.06

Part 6. Collaboration Protocol Profile and Agreement specification (CPPA) V2.0 \*

Part 7. Message Service Specification (MS) V2.0 \*

These specifications can be downloaded either the UN/CEFACT website [www.unece.org/cefact](http://www.unece.org/cefact) or from the ebXML website, <[www.ebxml.org](http://www.ebxml.org)>.

A related specification, the Core Component Technical Specification (CCTS) is at an advanced stage of development, following the UN/CEFACT's Open Development Process within the Techniques and Methodologies Group (TMG) <<http://webster.disa.org/cefact-groups/tmg>>.

These specifications are submitted to the Plenary for approval as UN/CEFACT technical specifications. If approved, the Plenary may wish to instruct the CSG to develop the draft text for a UN/CEFACT Recommendation on the use of ebXML within governments, commerce and industry.

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\* The development of this part was completed and approved as an OASIS Standard under the OASIS Technical Committee Process