



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

TRADE/R.650/Rev.4/Add.1
17 May 2006

ENGLISH ONLY

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE ON TRADE

Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)

Twelfth session

Geneva, 22 – 24 May 2006

Item 12(c) of the provisional agenda

OPEN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Changes to the UN/CEFACT Open Development Process

Revised Mandate, Terms of Reference and Procedures for UN/CEFACT

Draft proposal by the Chair of the Forum Management Group

Addendum

This document is for discussion. It is one of four addenda to the 4th revision of the Mandate and Terms of Reference of the UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT). These were requested by the member States at the 11th Plenary in 2005. The addenda are as follows:

Addendum 1: Provisions regulating UN/CEFACT's Open Development Process

Addendum 2: Rules of Procedure of the Bureau

Addendum 3: Mandates and Terms of Reference of UN/CEFACT Rapporteurs

Addendum 4: Provisions for an intersessional approval process for UN/CEFACT.

Previous document: TRADE/CEFACT/2005/5 UN/CEFACT Open Development Process

I. Introduction

1. This document describes the status of the current discussion in the FMG on the proposed changes to the current Open Development Process (ODP) to cover UN/CEFACT Standards and UNECE Recommendations. Currently the ODP covers only the development of UN/CEFACT Technical Specifications.
2. Building on the success of the ODP for Technical Specifications, the Plenary in 2005, approved a proposal by the Forum Management Group (FMG) to enhance the ODP to also cover the development of UN/CEFACT Recommendations and Business Standards. The objective being to promote adoption, monitor implementation, obtain user feedback, and guarantee a maintenance procedure for both minor and major revisions of all UN/CEFACT deliverables.
3. Furthermore, this document is based on the current UN/CEFACT Open Development Process for Technical Specifications which was approved during the tenth UN/CEFACT Plenary session in May 2004 and which ensures the openness, timeliness, applicability and ease of implementation of UN/CEFACT Technical Specifications.
4. The ODP is fundamental to the acceptance of UN/CEFACT as a standardization organisation by the international community and by electronic business implementers (such as software developers and vendors) around the world. Also the ODP is vital for the maintenance of the quality and industry sector compatibility required by any electronic business platform.
5. The UN/CEFACT Standards and UNECE Recommendations are intended for use by governments and businesses. They are unique in providing specifications for any business use or technical application independent of communication protocol, underlying operating systems and hardware platforms with the focus of supporting the simplification and facilitation of cross-border trade. UN/CEFACT Standards can be Business Standards or Technical Specifications and can consist of a single part or multiple parts. UN/CEFACT Recommendations provide high-level guidance covering the deployment of electronic business techniques, trade facilitation instruments and UN/CEFACT codes or Standards.
6. This document provides a first draft of an updated ODP that will include additional procedures for developing the other UN/CEFACT Standards namely Business Standards and UNECE Recommendations plus procedures covering approval, publication, implementation, user feedback, maintenance and procedures for minor and major revisions of all UN/CEFACT deliverables. This document will be developed further by the FMG and the UN/CEFACT Forum, before it will be submitted to the UN/CEFACT Plenary for approval.

II. GOALS OF THE ODP

7. UN/CEFACT's Open Development Process is not revolutionary. It is evolutionary because it builds upon standards development processes already used by industry consortia and other standards development organisations.
8. Perhaps the most unique feature of this process is the use of iterative refinement by participation through the Internet, to build international consensus. The premise is that people are usually much better at reviewing and criticising a specification than they are at compiling a

requirement list and writing a first working draft. UN/CEFACT's groups assign that task to small, dedicated editing groups that work with recognised experts.

9. The Open Development Process is designed to involve all interested parties, in the creation and evolution of Standards in an open process. UN/CEFACT's goal is to produce Standards and Recommendations that are timely, technically excellent, implementable on any platform, and relevant both to industry participants and to end-user communities.

10. UN/CEFACT's experience has proven that the best way to develop a specification that meets all its process goals is to start with a very small editing group and have them write a first working draft in close consultation with industry experts who have a deep understanding of the business process in question. Consensus is then built using an iterative review process that allows an ever-widening audience to participate. UN/CEFACT's iterative approach allows consensus to be achieved rapidly because reviewers are able to see their comments and suggestions incorporated into successive versions of the document.

11. UN/CEFACT has five goals for developing Standards and Recommendations. They are:

OPENNESS

12. The UN/CEFACT Open Development Process is open for anyone to provide comments at certain stages in the process. The resulting Standards and Recommendations must be open as well. That means: free of any constraints or restrictions associated with intellectual property rights (IPR). Anyone wishing to contribute to UN/CEFACT developments must be willing to do so without imposing IPR barriers. UN/CEFACT believes strongly in fostering competition across the technologies described by UN/CEFACT Standards. Anyone should be able to produce a complete implementation of the specifications described by the UN/CEFACT Standards or advocated by the UN Recommendations without IPR related cost or red tape.

WORLD-WIDE PARTICIPATION

13. All interested parties should have the opportunity to review, comment on, and contribute to the UN/CEFACT Standards and Recommendations.

SPEED

14. In today's fast-changing environment, it is very important that the process of developing UN/CEFACT Standards is in line with the needs of the industry, developers, and users. This requires timely availability of these Standards and a speedy, but careful, development process.

COMPATIBILITY

15. UN/CEFACT Standards and Recommendations must not depend on features that can only be made available on a single application or industry specification. Software developers and end-users around the world must be able to depend on technical applications that can, for example, be implemented the same way, and give the same results, on all hardware platforms and operating systems.

TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE

16. UN/CEFACT groups will develop all of its Standards and Recommendations with the active participation of experts, and liaisons. In this way, each specification embodies best of breed experience along with innovation that benefits every user of these Standards. This approach enables companies/industries to employ their expertise and existing technology, when implementing UN/CEFACT Standards, resulting in high quality, and mature implementations which will come to the market place sooner.

III. MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES

17. Whenever a revision to a published version of a UN/CEFACT Standard, UNECE Recommendation or UN/CEFACT Technical Specifications is required or requested, the UN/CEFACT Group responsible for its maintenance shall determine whether the revision is a major or minor revision. The revision can be designated as a minor revision only if the resultant updated specification will be backwards compatible with the current version to which the revision will be applied.

18. Overall the maintenance procedures are directed at ensuring relevance of UN/CEFACT deliverables in supporting its goal of simple, transparent and effective processes for global business and in continuing to meet both the public and private sector needs in a rapidly changing and challenging international trading and business environment. This recognises that these deliverables will evolve over time and require managed change, enhancement or improvement. It should be noted that the specific maintenance procedures vary according to whether the maintenance activity is to be applied to a UN/CEFACT Standard, a UNECE Recommendation, or a UN/CEFACT Technical Specifications and are detailed in the sections that follow.

IV. PUBLICATION PROCEDURES

19. After approval by the FMG publication of all UN/CEFACT deliverables, with the exception of the body text of UN/CEFACT Recommendations (published by the UNECE), will be managed by the ICG who will work with the Project Team in order to conduct a pre-publication audit. The purpose of the ICG Audit is to ensure that that the publication correctly reflects the publication format and content rules for the UN/CEFACT artefact in question. The Audit does not attempt to determine whether the publication or technical solution is effective or not. After a successful Audit the ICG publishes the artefact(s) in the appropriate section of the UN/CEFACT Registry.

20. The ICG shall ensure that the newly submitted content is published in the UN/CEFACT Registry in a timely manner and that the content conforms to the prevailing UN/CEFACT publication rules.

V. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

21. To satisfy the goal of openness, everyone making a contribution to the development of UN/CEFACT Standards and Recommendations must comply with the UN/CEFACT Intellectual Property Rights Policy.

VI. THE OPEN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS FOR TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

STEP 1. PROPOSING A NEW SPECIFICATION

22. A request for a new specification that extends or enhances UN/CEFACT's Standards shall be filed following the UN/CEFACT Project Proposal Template directly with the appropriate UN/CEFACT Permanent Group or with the UN/CEFACT Forum Management Group, in which case it will be forwarded, after review, to the appropriate group.
23. The Project Proposal document shall be approved by the Permanent group and the FMG.
24. All approved Project Proposal documents shall be submitted to the UN/CEFACT Plenary for information and published on the UN/CEFACT web site.
25. The allotted UN/CEFACT Permanent Group's first step is to nominate a Project Leader, form a Project Team and assign a Project Editor.
26. A Project Team shall be setup and identified with experts who have a deep understanding of the technical issues.
27. The Project Leader shall be responsible for the follow-up of the project as well as the communication and reporting inside and outside the Project Team.
28. The Project Editor shall be assigned for editing the required documents during the development process.

STEP 2. COMPILING A REQUIREMENTS LIST

27. The group begins work by compiling a requirements list. The group will hold discussions with the specification requesters, participating industry experts, software developers, end-users, and implementers. They gather as much information as possible from those with expertise and those with a material interest in the specification.
28. UN/CEFACT's goal of technical excellence demands that contributors must be experts in the area to be standardised. This allows diverse voices to comment on the details of the specification and ensures that no single organisation can dominate the process. UN/CEFACT's other goals of maximum reusability and flexibility mean that contributors must try to include features, if possible, that are applicable to more than one business and/or industry area.

STEP 3. WRITING THE FIRST WORKING DRAFT

29. The editors write the first working draft.
30. The editors work to produce a document that is suitable for review and comment. It is not expected that they will produce a nearly final, polished version at this early stage.

STEP 4. REFINING THE FIRST WORKING DRAFT

31. UN/CEFACT's iterative improvement process begins when the first working draft is distributed to members of the responsible UN/CEFACT Working Group, technical implementers and other interested industry experts for their review and comment. This initial review serves to identify potential problems, point out areas for improvement, and build consensus among the technical implementers (who are likely to be implementing the final specification). The editors collect the comments, revise the working draft, and re-circulate it until the reviewers are satisfied with the content. Experience has shown that 2 or 3 revisions are usually enough to arrive at a stable second working draft.

32. Speed dictates that the initial review period is limited to a month or two at most. The goal is to get the first working draft into a form suitable for public review as quickly as possible. The technical implementers help UN/CEFACT to meet the goal of compatibility early in UN/CEFACT's development process. The implementers have a wealth of experience in implementing the specifications for different business areas and industries. They are invaluable for the identification of potential problems.

STEP 5. PUBLIC REVIEW

33. The UNECE Secretariat publishes the second working draft on the UN/CEFACT web site and this allows the public to review and comment on the specification. In keeping with the goal of worldwide participation, UN/CEFACT allows anyone with access to the Internet to comment on the proposed specification. The public review period lasts for at least a month (or longer if there are many comments).

34. The public review period is a critical part of the development process. Comments from the public have frequently raised fundamental process and technical issues - missed by the expert reviewers - that have considerably improved the specifications.

35. As the editing group collects the comments, criticisms, and suggestions from the public, they use them to further refine and improve the specification. As changes are made, the updated document will be republished at the web site. In UN/CEFACT's open process, everyone can see the changes, and the broad participation helps to build international consensus. Again, experience has shown that 2 or 3 iterations over a month or two are enough to address the public comments and to build consensus for the final version of the specification.

STEP 6. IMPLEMENTATION VERIFICATION

36. After the public review period, the UN/CEFACT group makes the final working draft available for download at UN/CEFACT's web site to allow verification through implementation. Implementers (especially those who contributed to the working draft) are encouraged to verify the validity of the technical specification by implementing it.

37. The verification review period is the most critical part of the development process. Problems and issues identified will result in considerable improvement in order to move the working draft towards a UN/CEFACT Technical Specification Standard.

38. As the editing group collects the problems and issues identified from the implementers, they use them to further refine and improve the specification. As changes are made, the updated document will be forwarded to the implementers, as well as being re-published at the web site. In UN/CEFACT's open process, everyone can see the changes, and the broad participation helps to build international consensus. Again, experience has shown that 2 or 3 iterations over a month or two are enough to address the public comments and to build consensus for the final version of the specification.

STEP 7. FINAL TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION RELEASE

39. After successful verification by at least two independent implementations, and confirmation from the editing group, the UN/CEFACT group releases the Technical Specification to the ICG for technical audit.

40. The ICG shall submit the Technical Specification for approval to the UN/CEFACT Plenary.

41. The UN/CEFACT approved Technical Specification shall be published as a UN/CEFACT Standard on the UN/CEFACT's web site.

42. Given the diverse group from around the world that contributed to refining the working draft, it should receive broad industry endorsement upon final release and be quickly implemented. UN/CEFACT's goal of openness ensures that the final specification contains no barriers to implementation: anyone with Internet access can freely download a copy of the specification and produce an implementation without paying any additional licensing fees or royalties.

43. When the final specification is released, the editing group has completed its work and disbands. Steps 1-7 typically consume 9-15 months total.

STEP 8. MAINTENANCE

44. After the Technical Specification has been implemented in various industry and business sectors UN/CEFACT's groups begin to receive feedback and these may include problems or suggestions for improvements. Maintenance of the specification is handled by forming a new project team (where deemed necessary by the Working Group). An important decision must be made in each case and this is to determine whether the maintenance project constitutes a major or a minor revision of the current version of the Technical Specification. If a minor revision is anticipated the process restarts at step 4 and a major revision restarts at step 2 with the errata and suggestions forming the core of the new requirements list. UN/CEFACT's groups will maintain a list of problems, errors and misprints on their website so that the public can access them easily.

VII. THE OPEN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS FOR BUSINESS STANDARDS

STEP 1. PROPOSING A NEW SPECIFICATION

45. A request for a new specification that extends or enhances UN/CEFACT Business Standards shall be filed following the UN/CEFACT Project Proposal Template directly with the UN/CEFACT International trade and Business Process Group (TBG).
46. The Project Proposal Document can be submitted from a single Working Group or from multiple Working Groups in the case of cross-domain projects.
47. If the Proposal is for a cross-domain project the TBG Permanent Group will nominate one TBG Working Group as the 'host' Working Group which will take responsibility for the project.
48. The Project Proposal document shall be approved by the TBG Permanent Group and the FMG.
49. All approved Project Proposal documents shall be submitted to the UN/CEFACT Plenary for information and published on the UN/CEFACT web site.
50. The TBG Working Group first step is to nominate a Project Leader, form an editing group and assign a project editor.
51. A Project Team shall be setup and identified with Business Industry and Business Process Analysis experts who have a deep understanding of the business process in question and the modelling methodologies.
52. The Project Leader shall be responsible for the follow-up of the project as well as the communication and reporting inside and outside the Project Team.
53. The Project Editor shall be assigned for editing the required documents during the development process (Project Proposal, BRS and RSM).

STEP 2. COMPILING BUSINESS REQUIREMENTS

54. The project team begins its work by compiling a requirements list, holding discussions with the specification requesters, participating industry experts, software developers, end-users, and implementers. They gather as much information as possible from those with expertise and those with a material interest in the Business Specification.
55. UN/CEFACT's goal of technical excellence demands that contributors must be experts in the area that is being standardised. This allows diverse voices to comment on the details of the specification and ensures that no single organization can dominate the process. UN/CEFACT's other goals of maximum reusability and flexibility mean that contributors must try to include features that are applicable to more than one business and/or industry area.

STEP 3. WRITING THE FIRST BUSINESS REQUIREMENT SPECIFICATION DRAFT

56. The editors write a first Business Requirement Specification (BRS) draft version. This BRS shall be developed following UN/CEFACT methodology as published by UN/CEFACT ICG Permanent Group.

57. The editors write the first working draft.

58. The editors work to produce a document that is suitable for review and comment. It is not expected that they will produce a nearly final, polished version at this early stage.

STEP 4. REFINING THE FIRST BUSINESS REQUIREMENT SPECIFICATION WORKING DRAFT

59. The iterative improvement process begins when the first working draft is distributed to members of the responsible UN/CEFACT Working Group, technical implementers and other interested industry experts for their review and comment. This initial review serves to identify potential problems, point out areas for improvement, and build consensus among the technical implementers (who are likely to be implementing the final specification). The editors collect the comments, revise the working draft, and re-circulate it until the reviewers are satisfied with the content. Experience has shown that 2 or 3 revisions are usually enough to arrive at a stable second working draft.

60. Speed dictates that the initial review period be limited to a month or two at the most. The goal is to get the first working draft into a form suitable for public review as quickly as possible. The technical implementers help UN/CEFACT to meet the goal of compatibility early in the development process. The implementers have a wealth of experience in implementing the specifications for different business areas and industries. They are invaluable for identifying potential problems.

STEP 5. PUBLIC REVIEW

61. The BRS document shall be approved by the TBG Permanent Group the Forum Management Group and the UN/CEFACT Plenary.

STEP 6. IMPLEMENTATION VERIFICATION

62. The approved BRS and RSM and their disposition log shall be published as a UN/CEFACT Draft Standard on the UN/CEFACT's web site to allow verification through implementation. Implementers (especially those who contributed to the working draft) are encouraged to verify the validity of the business specifications by implementing them.

63. The editing group collects the problems and issues identified from the implementers and uses them to further refine and improve the specification. As changes are made, the updated document is forwarded to the implementers, as well as re-published on the website. In UN/CEFACT's open process, everyone can see the changes, and the broad participation helps to build international consensus. Again, experience has shown that 2 or 3 iterations over a month or two are enough to address the public comments and to build consensus for the final version of the specification.

STEP 7. FINAL TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION RELEASE

64. After successful verification by at least two independent implementations, and confirmation from the editing group, the responsible Permanent Group releases the Business

Standard to the ICG for technical audit and publication as a UN/CEFACT Standard available for download on UN/CEFACT's website.

65. Given the diverse group from around the world that contributed to refining the working draft, it should receive broad industry endorsement upon final release and be quickly implemented. UN/CEFACT's goal of openness ensures that the final specification contains no barriers to implementation: anyone with Internet access can freely download a copy of the specification and produce an implementation without paying any additional licensing fees or royalties.

66. Following the release of the final specification, the project team disbands.

STEP 8. MAINTENANCE

67. After the Business Standard is implemented in various industry and business sectors UN/CEFACT's groups begin to receive feedback and these may include problems or suggestions for improvements. Maintenance of the specification is handled by forming a new project team (where deemed necessary by the Working Group). An important decision must be made in each case and this is to determine whether the maintenance project constitutes a major or a minor revision of the current version of the Business Standard. If a minor revision is anticipated the process restarts at step 4 and a major revision restarts at step 2 with the errata and suggestions forming the core of the new requirements list. UN/CEFACT's groups will maintain a list of problems, errors and misprints on their website so that the public can access them easily.

VIII. THE OPEN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS FOR UNECE RECOMMENDATIONS

STEP 1. PROPOSING A NEW UN/CEFACT RECOMMENDATION

68. A request for a new Recommendation that extends or enhances UN/CEFACT's Recommendations shall be filed following the UN/CEFACT Project Proposal Template directly with the appropriate UN/CEFACT Permanent Group or with the UN/CEFACT Forum Management Group, in which case it will be forwarded, after review, to the appropriate group.

69. The Project Proposal document shall be approved by the Permanent group and the FMG.

70. All approved Project Proposal documents shall be submitted to the UN/CEFACT Plenary for approval and published on the UN/CEFACT web site.

71. The allotted UN/CEFACT Permanent Group's first step is to nominate a Project Leader, form a Project Team and assign a Project Editor.

72. A Project Team shall be setup and identified with experts who have a deep understanding of the technical issues.

73. The Project Leader shall be responsible for the follow-up of the project as well as the communication and reporting inside and outside the Project Team.

74. The Project Editor shall be assigned for editing the required documents during the development process.

STEP 2. COMPILING A REQUIREMENTS LIST

75. The group begins work by compiling a requirements list. The group will hold discussions with the specification requesters, international governmental and non-governmental organizations, participating trade and industry sectors, end-users, and implementers. They gather as much information as possible from those with expertise and those with a material interest in the specification.

76. UN/CEFACT goal of technical excellence demands that contributors must be experts in the area to be standardised. This allows diverse voices to comment on the details of the specification and ensures that no single organisation can dominate the process. UN/CEFACT's other goals of maximum reusability and flexibility mean that contributors must try to include features, if possible, that are applicable to more than one business and/or industry area.

STEP 3. WRITING THE FIRST WORKING DRAFT

77. The selected team of editors will prepare the first working draft in consultation with all parties that have indicated their interest in the project, internal and external to UN/CEFACT.

78. The editors should work to produce a document that is suitable for review and comment. It is not expected that they will produce a nearly final, polished version at this early stage.

STEP 4. REFINING THE FIRST WORKING DRAFT

79. UN/CEFACT iterative improvement process begins when the first working draft is distributed to members of the responsible UN/CEFACT Permanent Group, the UN/CEFACT Plenary, Government and industry sector experts and any parties that have declared an interest. This initial review serves to identify potential problems, highlight areas for improvement, and build consensus among the contributors. The editors collect the comments, revise the working draft, and re-circulate it until the reviewers are satisfied with the content. Experience has shown that 2 or 3 revisions are usually sufficient to arrive at a stable second working draft.

80. Speed dictates that the initial review period should be limited to a period not exceeding two months. The goal is to get the first working draft into the public domain as quickly as possible. Technical experts within the participants ensure the content meets the goals of international relevance, compatibility with existing Recommendations, Standards and Conventions, and practicability for adoption.

STEP 5. PUBLIC REVIEW

81. The UNECE Secretariat publishes the second working draft on the UN/CEFACT web site and notifies all UN/CEFACT Plenary Heads of Delegation of the release for public review. This allows the public to review and comment on the specification. In keeping with the goal of worldwide participation, UN/CEFACT allows anyone with access to the Internet to comment on the proposed specification. The public review period shall not be shorter than two months.

82. The cover page of the working draft shall state that further distribution of the document and any associated annexes is unrestricted, the date when the review period shall end and the contact point to whom all review comments should be sent including email address.

83. The public review period is a critical part of the development process. Comments from the public have frequently raised fundamental process and technical issues - missed by the expert reviewers - that have considerably improved the specifications.

84. As the editing group collects the comments, criticisms, and suggestions from the public, they use them to further refine and improve the specification. As changes are made, the updated document will be republished at the web site. In UN/CEFACT's open process, everyone can see the changes, and the broad participation helps to build international consensus. Again, experience has shown that 2 or 3 iterations over a month or two are enough to address the public comments and to build consensus for the final version of the specification.

85. The UNECE Secretariat shall make the necessary arrangements for final approval by UN/CEFACT and publication including translation into the designated UN/CEFACT working languages.

STEP 6. PROMOTING ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF UN/CEFACT RECOMMENDATIONS

86. After approval by the UN/CEFACT Plenary, the final UNECE Recommendation (and any accompanying Annexes) will be posted on the UN/CEFACT website to encourage adoption and implementation. Implementers and end users (especially those who contributed to the working draft) are invited to provide feedback on adoption strategies and specific implementations and to submit requests for enhancement, where required.

87. UN/CEFACT will exploit every opportunity to promote the adoption and implementation of UNECE Recommendations to the widest possible audience of end users. The series of Executive Forums on Trade Facilitation, Capacity Building Workshops for UN Regional Commissions to assist with development goals for Developing Countries and other similar initiatives offer the channels to communicate the benefits of the UN/CEFACT Recommendations.

STEP 7. MONITORING AND MAINTENANCE

88. The UN/CEFACT Plenary and the UN/CEFACT Permanent Groups shall monitor the adoption and use of UN/CEFACT Recommendations to ensure relevance in supporting the goal of simple, transparent and effective processes for global business and in continuing to meet public and private sectors needs in a rapidly changing and challenging international trading environment. Continuous monitoring also provides early identification of instances where UN/CEFACT Recommendations may need revision, for example in order to accommodate updated or new legal, commercial or regulatory frameworks, amended international Conventions (and other binding Agreements) and developments in commercial custom and practice.

89. The maintenance process starts at Step 2 for major revisions and Step 3 for minor revisions to existing UN/CEFACT Recommendations through delegation to an editing group tasked with identifying the areas of the UN/CEFACT Recommendation (and any accompanying

Annexes) that require content change, enhancement or improvement. Maintenance is complete when a revised UNECE Recommendation is approved by the UN/CEFACT Plenary and is subsequently posted on the UN/CEFACT website.

90. In order to ensure timely updates to the Code List Annexes for UN/CEFACT Recommendations related to codes, the maintenance of these Annexes has been delegated by the UN/CEFACT Plenary to the ICG, who may update, approve and periodically issue specific revisions to the Code List Annexes as required. The ICG shall adopt the ODP open review process for all such revisions and shall notify the UN/CEFACT Plenary of all code list revisions approved by the ICG. Where revision of the UN/CEFACT Recommendation itself is required, this shall follow the maintenance process as outlined above and be approved by the UN/CEFACT Plenary.

IX. THE OPEN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS FOR FAST-TRACKING EXTERNAL STANDARDS

(under preparation)