UBL Face to Face Meeting
14-18 April 2008
ENEA, Bologna, Italy

Chaired by Tim McGrath, Document Engineering Services (MTWTh)
Attendees:
G. Ken Holman, Crane Softwrights, LTD (MTWTh)
Peter Borresen, National IT and Telecom Agency, Denmark (MTW)
Klaus Vilstrup Pedersen, National IT and Telecom Agency, Denmark (MTW)
Roberto Cisternino, Javest (MTWTh)
Arianna Brutti, ENEA (MTWTh)
Andy Schoka, AMSchoka Consulting, LLC (MT)
Giancarlo De Stefano, Consip (T)
Karsten Tolle, Document Engineering Services (TW)
Oriol Bausa, Invinet (Th)
Piero De Sabbata, ENEA (WTh)

1. Greetings from ENEA host.

2. Review of the Agenda (see that previously distributed by TM).
Discussed rearrangement of the items based upon attendee plans for being at the meeting
and updated the agenda. Added localization reports. PB and KVP here MTW; Roberto,
TM, KH here all week. Arianna here MTWT. Oriol here WT. Karsten here TW. Focus
Monday and Tues on requirements for 2.1 from PSC (BII) and TSC. Wed & Thurs am
discuss Customization Guidelines and PSC eTendering requirements. Closing plenary
will be Thurs pm. Fri is an open topic work session including TM, KH, Oriol, Roberto.

Tues dinner: 2010hrs meet at Neptune Statue, Piazza Maggiore

3. Report from the Chair (McGrath)
A. Main objectives for the week.
Update package now called "Errata Package" including corrections to the non-normative
parts of 2.0. Schema validation does not change. Document constraints of the schema
have not changed. The documentary constructs (eg annotations) and some default
attribute values have changed.

AS question: Is the ASN.1 current with the XSD in the errata package?

B. UBL 2.1 Release Schedule
This week do initial (and high level) capture of requirements for UBL 2.1. Expect to do
the modelling in May and June and schemas in July. PRD draft 1 in August (Montreal
Plenary). Public review Aug/Sept/Oct (60 days). Can still make changes until Feb 2009.
Plan for three cycles, allow inputs each cycle but mostly this week. Vote and publish in
March 2009.

By July we should have adressed the majority of the requirements.

C. A Watershed
The role of the UBL TC is changing…
Supporting implementations
Seeking sanction while supporting traction

3. ITLSC report (Brutti)
ENEA is working on new technologies, especially XML. They are supporting Small, Medium Enterprises (SMEs). Regional subdivision project is a supply change pilot with local companies and the university. They have developed ModaML which has become widely adopted.
   - past experience with ModaML - fashion - adapted to UBL 1.0
   - ceramic industry also studied regarding UBL 2 - four documents (no implementations)
   - software house looking at UBL for steel industry
   - looking at UBL in textile industry (catalogue documents)
   - looking at UBL for retail
There are a set of inputs from these experiences. This list will be discussed on Tuesday. For example, on an italian invoice from public traded companies, eg SPAs, and limited companies must show their share values on their invoices on the footer. Capitalization Value amount missing from UBL invoice. Legal entity information must also be included, eg a shipping agency. The question is: is this a localization issue or broad enough to add to 2.1?

Italian Government advisory council (CNEL) made recommendation regarding e-Invoicing in March. CNEL is a presidential body.
   - lots of consultants from different industries
   - chair of national committee on paperless trading is from petroleum industry
   - want to use UBL through UNI (Italian standards "unification")
   - want to avoid companies using different formats; worried about adoption of formats like banking industry standard
   - CNEL is driving the effort, UNI is "below" CNEL, CNEL is a presidential advisory body that directs the government. There will be an entity managing Government invoice processing. Awaiting further developments within the European Community.

Translation Work of ITLSC is temporarily on hold. There is a recommendation that the dictionary work be moved on-line. Needs revisiting when Errata package is approved.

4. SBSC report (Holman)
The SBSC has been in hiatus. SC has gone through 2 co-chairs who have since left. Should it be folded into BITS work? Jon is setting up conf call to see if there is a role for XTuple, an open source ERP system. They believe that route to UBL is through Open

Office. Microsoft Dynamics is another potential source for resources. Dave Welsh was previously involved in ebXML. New attitude at Microsoft to get interested in standards development. They are asking GKH how to get involved. Denmark also has a connection into Microsoft. Dynamics was built in Denmark.
 - Tim's visit to Accountis(Gryff Williams is prepared to take part in TC activities.)
 - Jon's visit to Florida (Panama project)
 - Ken's visit to Oslo (ISO)

5. HISC report (Holman)
This covers both input and output. Regarding output, valuable contribution from Ole Madsen while at F2F meeting in NYC. HISC documentation will have a "common" part which will cover "address." Committee is proceeding in the direction of defining common patterns (maybe 5) and noncommon ones (maybe 10).

6. Adoption SC (Holman)
Based on Manhattan minutes, people have been added to the subcommittee. Approx 7-8 volunteers. Wiki Website: ubl.xml.org Plan is to have one person responsible per section of the website. Tony asked to do wiki section. Tim volunteered to do events section (later revised to news section).
Action: Ken to make assignments from list of members. They will go to current support page and move appropriate items. Then they will be monitoring the section for which they have responsibility. Roberto will take on the Products section as moderator. Jon will be given the calendar events (to migrate from biblio site)

7. TSC (Schoka)
Summary report and CEFM presentation from US DOT. KVP asked if we shouldn't be recommending an approach to document business processes?

8. PSC (Borressen)
PB presented the BII briefing.(see presentation attached)
 - activities
   - WG 1 message content and business process
     - profile descriptions
   - WG 2 UBL-UN/CEFACT convergence
   - WG 3 toolbox
   - WG 4 pilot support
   - NES and CODICE see BII as their successor
   - commission to fun next phases
 - requirements
   - customization guideline
   - definition of a profile
   - run time architecture
     - validation architecture
     - how customization A should deal with customization B
     - input and formatting
 - conceptual models of information models for documents used in BII profiles

The TC will receive requirements from BII in the form of a set of spreadsheets of conceptual models of the information requirements for documents used in BII profiles. To date BII has looked only at the process level.

9. PEPPOL (Pedersen)
Pan European Public Procurement On-Line
 - Manchester mandate - I2010 -
2005 EC meeting in Manchester. Leveraging IT in EU member states.
Three pillars of CIP (Competiveness and Innovation Programme)
ITC-PSP Overview
EIP Entrepeneurship and Innovation Program
   - Innovative communication area - Pilot A - eProcurement
Government Agencies run project about public procurement in Europe.
   - only one consortium bid Pilot A (and it was PEPPOL)
   - project start May 1, 2008
   - Denmark, Germany, Austria, Italy, Finland, Iceland, Hungary, Norway, UK, France, Iceland and Norway are paying to participate
Runs for 3 years.
Implements requirements of BII project. Not just a ppilot but the basis of a permanent solution.
Project is about cross border trade including topics:
Virtual company dossier, (DE)
eCatalogue (IT)
eOrdering (AU)
eInvoicing (DK)
with European eSignature (DE) and an Open European Infrastructure (DK).

End of Monday.

Tuesday 15 April 2008
Joining the meeting today:
Giancarlo De Stefano
Karsten Tolle

10. TM initiated a discussion regarding Financial Requirements and UBL. There are a number of European projects addressing eInvoicing.
*European e-Invoicing discussions exposed a gap in UBL modeling.
        - E-Invoicing expert group
        - ISO 20022 (UNIFI)
* We must ensure UBL2.1 addresses the banking industry requirements. UBL 2.1 invoice should have the information elements needed for the banking industry.
* It is the interface with the banking sector we are interested in
        - not the banking document themselves
        - i.e. extensions to Invoice and its components.

So we need to do the mapping to show how UBL has the info elements needed for inclusion in UNIFI format.

This issue is perceived to be contentious since European banks have had a more active role in the supply chain especially in the international supply chain.

TM further suggested that perhaps there should be a task group in UBL whose charter would be to identify the requirements for inclusion in UBL 2.1.

Tasks for this group include:

* Identify requirements
* Look at NES guideline
* Prepare a UBL Guideline for feeding information into the financial supply chain

Interest shown from CNEL CBI, Eurobits, SPAN, Accountis

No new processes or documents are planned on this effort.

11. Aligning UBL 2.1 with UN/CEFACT 08A

TM presented an overview of the activity aligning UBL 2.1 with UN/CEFACT 08A

We are building BIEs and UN/CEFACT is building Core Components. UBL may map multiple entries to one entry in CEFACT. Aggregates, eg Item maps to Product, has a degree of subjectivity. (See the brief for the three step process which needs to be done.)

The task also involves participation in TBG17 weekly telecons and periodic face to face meetings. We need more resources and support for this work. Maybe through BII WG2.

12. PSC requirements and issues for UBL 2.1

Need to start at a high level, such as identifying new business processes resulting new document types. Also extensions to BIEs, new BIEs?

13. TSC requirements and issues for UBL 2.1

The TSC has the following material to work with:

For EFM requirements, there is an FIH architecture document, a CEFM data dictionary, and CEFM Schemas.

For Danish Transport requirements there is existing material submitted by Danish post. Danish standards may also have some material that belonged to the Danish Transport Interest Group which has been somewhat dormant due the chair's retirement.

GKH volunteered to edit codelists and business rules for UBL2.1. The TSC and/or PSC need to provide the material. First candidate codelist could be the INCO Terms 2000.

Resources to do this work need to be identified. The Danish Transport Group is currently in a hold mode due to personnel issue. Target date for primary input is May/June. Danish Transport input may be later on and may be more of a sanity check. Hong Kong may be a source of support. TM to follow up.

14 Basic International Transport Scenario (BITS)

The Basic International Transport Scenario could form the replacement to the appendix of UBL 2.0 Examples. It is not on the critical path for 2.1 development. We are all agreed that this could be outsourced to a third party. BITS is not the responsibility of the TSC since TSC is not in position to provide information on a purchase order or invoice. It has to be a collaborative project.

15. Business Rules
Principle: Constraints on content are implemented using qualified data types This means that we cannot add qualified data types to existing 2.0 BBIEs. The question remains: how should we express additional content constraints in UBL 2.1.

Types if Business Rules (PB)
Contexualization (cardinality restriction)
Value constraints
  Qualified data types
  Codelist
  Format
  Default (if not defined)
Dependency
  Calculations
  Exclusive
  Must be present if…
Usage Rule

We need more experimentation here. Also need to experiment with naming rules.
We need to form a Task Group to do this. GHK and PB would be in the group.

16. Governance of Profiles
ISO/IEC TR10000 - Profiles of standards
AS gave a summary talk on ISO TR10000, a 3 part document that describes International Standardized Profiles and a taxonomy of profiles. It was recognized that the term Profile is being used correctly in NES and BII. It was also noted that in ISO the TCs build standards and other groups create profiles.
It was agreed that the UBL TC should not create profiles.

End of Tuesday

Wednesday 16 April 2008
Guests:
 Matteo Busanelli, ENEA
 Nicola Gessa, ENEA

Proposed LSC Germany report (Tolle)
 - review of www.semic.eu
 - agreed to encourage the formation of a German Localization Subcommittee, chaired by Karsten, and that interested parties should contact Karsten for more information

Update from Denmark (PB)
 - NemHandel Network using Reliable Asynchronous Secure Protocol (RASP) - web-services based protocol (a profile of OASIS WS standards) to be included in upcoming legislation
 - new extended procurement process to include more UBL documents
 - overview of NemHandel
 - student working on Danish Localization components for non OIOUBL documents
 - will try to have a Danish translation supplied by August
 - demonstration of online invoice entry - NES Profile 5

 ABILITIES project (KT)
– now completed after 2 years
– Slovakia. Hungary, Lithuania, Turkey, Italy and Germany participated
– various industry groups
– it created an enterprise bus platform for document exchange involved translations in the middle. (eg UBL profile1 to UBL profile 2)
– Some of the technology is being taken forward
– note of interest - RuleML used in pilot for business rules
– congratulations to Karsten for his persistence in keeping UBL in the forefront

German Localization (KT)
– Germany is federation of states and little centralized control in this area. So government interest is low
– Agreed to start the formation of a DELSC and seek participation (subsequently identified 2 other interested parties have come forward)

UBL.xml.org (GKH)
– anyone in the public can contribute to any part of the web site
TM expressed his desire to have updated in time for the OASIS Symposium on April 30th when the site will be launched.

- home page - describe the distinctions between sections
        - add localization section
- Wiki - factual listings
  - Tony
  - Oriol
- Localization
  - Karsten
- News - timely information
  - Tim
- Events - a calendar
  - Jon
- Products - commercial off-the-shelf products
  - Roberto
- Services - commercial services

- Martin
- Resources - might be considered as knowledgebase instaead
  - Mikkel
  - Ole
- Forum - for discussion and questions
      - e.g. job postings
  - Mike
- Blogs - journal concept
  - Assuman

Overview of draft customization paper
 - the document needs to be more explicit that how one customizes code lists *is* in scope (under the section "Constraints on document content")
 - extensions to UBL-defined code lists are not conformant because UBL users won't know what the extra codes mean
 - code lists without defined values are not empty lists, they are lists without constraints ... in effect an infinite list of values constrained only by their lexical form ... creating a new list restricts this infinite list into a finite list

Thursday
Closing plenary
 - Jon Bosak (via phone)
 - Andy Schoka (via phone)

Review of the week's accomplishments
 - re: Business rules
   - Peter to send his initial list for PSC
   - Andy asked to send an initial list for TSC

It was agreed by members attending that, in regard to eTendering
 - a major user with identified requirements has contributed property to UBL for eTendering, and for the same reason as using the contributed property from Denmark for procurement, UBL 2.1 should include as many documents as possible to meet their requirements
 - furthermore, by not cherry-picking only some documents, UBL will preserve an end-to-end use of a set of common business objects across all documents

It was agreed to form a task group regarding financial supply chain usage of UBL. This group will not create new documents types for the banking processes as these are already provided by ISO 20022.

SBSC - there are so many existing profiles, progress might just be best by pointing to something that is already there. It was agreed that the SBSC would be on hold until further notice.

HISC - regarding data entry using spreadsheets, HISC should look at the work out of Panama

The UBL TC recognizes the efforts of Arianna Brutti and Roberto Cisternino and the hospitality of ENEA in hosting our meeting.

Action Items Arising:
KGH:
1. email to Dave Welsh - from Peter - Dynamics folks who are in , Anders
2. email to Adoption SC editorial committee re: Wednesday morning

KGH and PB
1. Form task group for business rules

Members of Adoption SC
1. Update ubl.xml.org site according to their areas of responsibility.

PB.
1. Peter to send his initial list of business rules for PSC

AMS
1. to investigate and document ASN.1 impct of errata
(Note: AS contacted Paul Thorpe later in the week and he confirmed that ASN.1 is not affected.)
2. send his initial list of business rules for TSC

TM
1. to formulate a proposal for a terms of reference for a task group and present it at the closing Plenary.(deferred until next week)
2. To document comments on Customization Guidelines and forward to MC and MG.