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Meeting Minutes
Web Services Study Group
Paris, France, February 26, 27 2004

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I. Call to order

- Mr. Pascal Poupet, Department Chief – IT Standardization, AFNOR, welcomed the delegates.
- The WSSG chairman expressed his thanks to M. Poupet. He stated that this special group represents a rather unique activity for JTC 1 with representation from JTC 1 members as well as external organizations. He encouraged all participants to participate freely. He declared that ideally decisions would represent a consensus of all participants; in the absence of consensus, votes would be done on a one vote per national body/organization basis.
- Attendance – see WSSG N006
- Mr. Tony Hittema, AFNOR, presented meeting logistics.
- Agenda Revision/Approval
    - Initial Agenda WSSG N001r2
    - Liberty Alliance added to agenda item IV.
    - Agenda item II moved after agenda item IV, or to Friday after the morning break whichever come first.
    - All presentation material will be made available to the SG as numbered documents. Note: a list of inputs and outputs documents can be found in Annex A.

II. JTC 1 Mechanisms Available to External Organizations

- Presentation by M. Scott Jameson, JTC 1 Chairman - see WSSG N008
- He noted that JTC 1 SC6 and SC27 have ongoing activities relevant to Web Services (the former described in document WSSG N000x)

III. Web Services Activities Outside of JTC 1

A. W3C – see WSSG N009
- Presentation by M. Hugo Haas, Web Services Activity Lead W3C

B. OASIS – see WSSG N010
- Presentation by M. Karl Best, VP OASIS.

C. WS-I – see WSSG N011
- Presentation by M. Tom Glover, President and Chairman WS-I.

D. OMG – see WSSG N012

- Presentation by M. Laurent Rioux, Thales Group representing OMG

E. The Liberty Alliance – see WSSG N013

- Presentation by M. Alain Nochinowski

F. JCP – see WSSG N014

- Presentation by M. Onno Kluyt.

G. General Discussion

- JTC 1 must think carefully about taking new work.
- Not out of question for W3C to work with JTC 1 – it needs to be debated within W3C.
- WS-I: follow-on discussions about JTC 1 relationship must be held with the board, through its liaison committee.
- OASIS is happy to move forward both with establishing JTC1 liaison as well as to submit completed work. It needs to assess the best type of relationship and method of submission. The decision would be made by its CEO in consultation with the Oasis Board. OASIS will await JTC1's designation or creation of an SC to "own" Web services.
- OMG currently has type A liaisons with JTC 1 SC7 and SC32. Modeling specifications such as ODP and UML are processed through SC7, while metadata modeling specifications are processed through SC32.
- If JTC 1 initiates Web services activities, JCP would likely start its own parallel activities to make whatever JTC 1 will do relevant to the Java community.

IV. Charter and Terms of Reference (WSSG N007)

The terms of reference were updated and revised as per the instructions given in JTC 1 Singapore Plenary resolution 9. Marked-up version is in annex B of this document.

The revised version is in WSSG N007.

V. Direction Forward

Based on the foundation provided by the presentations from the JTC 1 Chair and the external organizations, the Study Group addressed questions of whether and how JTC 1 can add value in the area of Web Services standardization.

Can JTC 1 contribute to Web Services standardization?

- The Study Group unanimously agreed that JTC 1 can significantly contribute to Web Services Standardization by formally recognizing mature specifications elaborated by consortia and other outside organizations. Recognition of these specifications by JTC 1 could help in their global market acceptance.
- The Study Group unanimously agreed that JTC 1 could contribute to Web services standards development by charting ongoing activities in this space and publicizing its findings.
- The Study Group unanimously agreed that if ongoing activities in JTC 1 SCs determine requirements on Web services specification work, they should be encouraged to communicate them to the consortia working in the area.
- The Study Group agreed (with a dissenting vote from the JTC 1/SC 6 representative) that JTC 1 would not add value to Web services Standardization by becoming another venue for the development of 'base' Web services standards.
- The Study Group discussed but did not reach agreement on specifically precluding JTC 1 from replacing the market for picking 'winners' among competing specifications from the many consortia and other organizations working on Web Services.
- The Study Group discussed with no dissenting comments whether a key objective of JTC 1 activities in the area of Web Services should be to ensure interoperability.
- The Study Group unanimously agreed that JTC 1 could contribute to Web services standardization by building and maintaining an inventory of all relevant ongoing activities and communicating the results to consortia and other organizations involved in the development of Web services specifications and standards. One way to achieve this objective would be to use the Standards Registry metadata specifications that are currently being processed by JTC 1/SC32. This could be done in e.g. the OASIS Standards Registry or another similar registry built and hosted by another organization.

How can JTC 1 interact with consortia and other organizations working on Web services standards?

- The Study Group unanimously agreed that JTC 1 can only contribute to Web Services Standardization by working cooperatively with consortia and other external organizations.

What JTC 1 processes and structures should be used to contribute in the area of Web services standardization?

- The Study Group unanimously agreed that it must identify mechanisms and organizational structures in anticipation of future submissions of Web services specifications to JTC 1 by consortia and other external organizations.

VI. Resolutions

Resolution 1 – WSSG Terms of References

The JTC 1 WSSG approves its revised terms of references in document WSSG N007 and mandates its Secretariat to forward them to the JTC 1 Secretariat.

Unanimous

Resolution 2 – JTC 1 contribution to Web services standardization

The JTC 1 WSSG believes that JTC 1 can contribute to Web services standardization by formally recognizing open specifications from consortia and other outside organizations.

Therefore, the JTC 1 WSSG shall continue with its work as per its terms of references in WSSG N007.

Unanimous

Resolution 3 - Consortia

Whereas the JTC 1 WSSG believes that JTC 1 can contribute to Web services standardization by working cooperatively with consortia and other external organizations.

The JTC 1 WSSG encourages the consortia present at this meeting as well as other organizations working in the area of Web services to consider establishing or strengthening their relationship with JTC 1 by assessing the options listed in the JTC 1 Chairman presentation in WSSG N008 and initiating action if required.

Unanimous

Resolution 4 – Additional Venue

The WSSG does not see value in JTC 1 becoming another venue for the development of Web services infrastructure standards.

Against: SC6

Resolution 5 – Activity Mapping

The WSSG encourages its members and participating organizations to assist in identifying ongoing Web services specifications development activities and publicize these findings.

Unanimous

Resolution 6 – Next Meeting

The JTC 1 WSSG shall meet in Montréal, Canada, on Thursday and Friday June 17 and 18.

Unanimous

VII.   Appreciations

- The WSSG extends its appreciation to AFNOR for its wonderful hospitality, specifically to M. P. Poupet and M. T. Hittema.
- The WSSG extends its appreciation to M. T. Hittema of AFNOR for organizing a most enjoyable social outing.
- The WSSG extends its appreciation to the JTC 1 Chairman, M. S. Jameson for his presence at the meeting and his support.
- The WSSG extends its appreciation to the representatives of OASIS, W3C, OMG, JCP, Liberty Alliance and WS-I for coming to this meeting and for their interesting presentations.

ANNEX A: INPUT AND OUTPUT DOCUMENTS

Number	Title	Source
N001r2	Draft Agenda for 26-27 February meeting at AFNOR in Paris, France	WSSG Chairman
N002	Consortia Presentations to the JTC 1 Study Group on Web Services	WSSG Chairman
N006	Meeting Attendance List - JTC 1 Web Services Study Group – Paris, France, 2004-02-26,27	WSSG Secretariat
N007	WSSG Revised Terms of Reference	WSSG Secretariat
N008	JTC 1 Chairman Presentation	JTC 1 Chairman
N009	W3C Presentation	W3C
N010	OASIS Presentation	OASIS
N011	WS-I Presentation	WS-I
N012	OMG Presentation	OMG
N013	Liberty Alliance Presentation	Liberty Alliance
N014	JCP Presentation	JCP
N015	Meeting Minutes and Resolutions – Web Services Study Group meeting – Paris, France, February 26,27 2004	WSSG Secretariat

ANNEX B: Marked-up Study Group Terms of References

CHARTER

ISO/IEC JTC 1 STUDY GROUP ON WEB SERVICES
Revised from Resolution 9, JTC 1 Singapore Plenary

JTC 1 establishes a Study Group on Web services to elaborate a strategy for JTC 1 contributions to Web services standardization. For the purpose of this Study Group, and without prejudice to other definitions, we will use the following working definition from W3C of Web Services:

A Web service is a software system designed to support interoperable machine-to-machine interaction over a network. It has an interface described in a machine-processable format (specifically WSDL). Other systems interact with the Web service in a manner prescribed by its description using SOAP messages, typically conveyed using HTTP with an XML serialization in conjunction with other Web-related standards.

[1] Definition taken from http://www.w3.org/TR/2004/NOTE-ws-arch-20040211/#whatis

The terms of reference for the group are:

- Assess how JTC 1 activities are relevant to Web services standardization;
- Assess how the Web services activities of organizations external to JTC 1 may benefit from JTC 1 involvement. This should include initially the following consortia and fora:

  - JCP
  - OASIS
  - OMG
  - RosettaNet
  - W3C
  - WS-I

JTC 1 involvement may include:

- Publication in cooperation with developing organizations - through fast-tracks, PAS submissions or other means - of open Web services specifications as formal international standards.
- Contributing to ensure Web services interoperability.
- Harmonization and adaptation of existing JTC 1 work.

  - Initiate any relevant activities within existing JTC 1 Subcommittees that would increase JTC 1 contribution to Web services standardization activities. These activities may be initiated as soon as their need is identified.
  - Assistance to consortia and fora in establishing the appropriate liaison with or within JTC 1.

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Deleted: Web Services[1] describes a standardized way of integrating applications over an Internet protocol backbone. The Internet core specifications include Http, URI and MIME. The Web Services core specifications include UML, XML, SOAP, WSDL and UDDI. Used primarily as a means for businesses to communicate with each other and with clients, Web services allow organizations to communicate data without intimate knowledge of each other's ICT systems behind the firewall. Web services thus share business logic, data and processes through a programmatic interface across a network.¶

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If the Study Group identifies specific new work in this area that does not fit in existing JTC 1 SCs, the Study Group should recommend to JTC 1 the creation of a new SC or other alternatives designed to move this work forward cooperatively.

The Study Group will finalize its report, with a summary of actions that have been initiated during its mandate and any remaining action items, for presentation at the JTC 1 2004 Plenary meeting in Berlin.

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http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/W/Web_services.html

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For the purpose of this Study Group, Web Services standardization includes all the middleware, workflow, ontology and process infrastructure standards necessary for the full deployment of Web Services within and between organizations. Excluded are all the domain specific implementation standards and ontology.

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infrastructure standards

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between the various implementations from consortia and other groups.

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Contributing, if required, to the definition of conformance specifications.

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The establishment of these liaisons should be initiated as soon as they are identified.