

Subject: Issues Relating to National Profiles, SGFS/N733
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Organizations
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General

The issues raised in this document are recognised as having applicability in several areas. Similar topics are already the subject of discussion within the regional workshops, in particular in relation to the profiles for FTAM and ODA. The Regional Workshop Co-ordinating Committee has a relevant document, and SGFS requests the RWS-CC that its work be submitted for a wider transmission.

With regard to the specific questions raised in the liaison document:

Issue 1: Concerning the relationship between ISP and National Body defined set of parameters and options:

- 1) The SGFS procedures clearly allow a National Body to submit a profile as a potential ISP, and the same process can be used for profiles which relate to cultural aspects. The SGFS would expect that the choice of options or additional standards would be restricted to these cultural aspects.

A decision as to whether any particular profile would be input to the process for approval as an ISP would depend on the profile concerned. Where the cultural additions addressed extended beyond the interest of one particular country or region it would clearly be appropriate for there to be international agreement on its content, and therefore it should become an ISP.

- 2) The SGFS does not envisage creating a class of profile called a "National Profile". There does not seem to be the need for emphasizing cultural issues as being any different from other aspects which have an impact across technology areas.
- 3) A National Body is able to agree its own local standards in this area, as in any other. This applies whether or not the profile has been registered as an ISP.
- 4) If a National Body requires to refer to non-standard interfaces or parameters its own rules for standardization would apply. However, once a profile were submitted for international approval the requirements of TR10000 would need to be observed. The text of Part 1, section 6.1, makes clear that:

- * An approved ISP shall make reference only to base standards [which are approved International Standards or CCITT recommendations] or other ISPs.
- * In exceptional [and defined] circumstances normative reference may be made to ISO/IEC Technical Reports.
- * Informative reference may be made to applicable regional or national standards.

Issue 2: Definition of National Profile

- 1) The SGFS does not intend to define the concept of national profiles, and does not believe that any special procedures for cultural aspects are required, in any part of TR10000.
- 2) On the resolution of conflicts, it is a requirement of SGFS procedures that draft profiles should be harmonized. The general principle that should be observed is that conflict should be avoided rather than resolved, and that early information of the intention to develop culturally-based profiles should be made to the SGFS.

Issue 3: Concerning Internationalization features in ISP and Taxonomy

The 3 questions listed here raise some general points regarding the treatment of cross-functional issues, on which the SGFS will ask for input from National Bodies and S-liaisons. It is not clear at present that categorisation, standardisation or registration for individual cultural elements raises any special requirement.