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MANAGEMENT REPORT OF SGFS AUTHORIZED SUBGROUP MEETING
London, UK
8-11 December, 1992

The ISO/IEC Special Group on Functional Standardization held a successful Authorized Subgroup meeting from 8-11 December in London. 22 delegates from 9 National Bodies attended the meeting. In addition there was good participation of liaison representatives. The meeting endorsed 9 resolution.

Management items addressed by the meeting:

1. Revision of SGFS procedures

The SGFS procedures as contained in JTC1/SGFS N601, were modified. The following changes have been incorporated with immediate effect:-

- clarification of the procedure for handling modifications to ISPs, and alignment with JTC1 terminology;
- extension of procedures to cover the situation where ISPs are used for registration.

The new SGFS procedures are issued as SGFS N757.

In addition, procedure changes are proposed to facilitate:-

- approval of "Inter-TC ISPs".

These draft SGFS procedures, which are not yet effective, are issued as SGFS N758. They will be submitted to National Bodies and liaison organizations for comment prior to the July 1993 meeting of the SGFS, from which meeting these changes are expected to be sent out for ballot.

2. Liaison on Inter-TC ISPs

While the definition of procedures to handle inter-TC ISPs is still in progress, there is good liaison with other TCs on this topic; in particular with TC46 (libraries) and TC 184 (Manufacturing Messaging).

Profiles which can apply these procedures are already identified in the taxonomy, Submission of corresponding PDISPs for approval is currently expected late 1993.

3. PTS development and approval

SGFS has developed a view on its role in the definition and approval of Profile Test Specifications (PTSs). SGFS liaises with SC21/WG1 and S-liaisons to harmonize the appropriate processes. One of the items for consideration is the existence of PTSs based on partial Abstract Test Suites

SGFS considers PTSs an area where JTC1 SCs and WGs can fruitfully cooperate with S-liaison organizations and recommends, where appropriate, its S-liaisons to extend their liaison to include 'profile testing'.

4. ISP approval process

* The approval of the first set of ISPs has taken longer than expected. The second set of nearly approved ISPs has a much better record, although still longer than the target period. The major difference between the real approval periods and the target approval period is the time necessary to establish re-harmonization on changes resulting from Review and Ballot comments from NBLOs.

* Based on information received from S-liaisons it has to be expected that the number of submitted (OSI) profiles will rise considerably in the coming year.

5. Progression of TR 10000

* The meeting approved the forwarding to ITTF for publication of TR 10000-2:1992 with the title "Information Technology - Framework and Taxonomy of International Standardized Profiles - Part 2: Taxonomy of OSI Profiles". This publication consolidates the changes agreed in the June 1992 and December 1992 Ballot Resolution meetings. It reflects already the dedication of this part to OSI, which is part of the extension of the scope of TR10000 to include the Open Systems Environment (OSE).

* The meeting progressed the work on TR10000 Part 1 (General Principles and Framework) and TR10000 Part 3 (Principles and taxonomy for Open System Environment Profiles), based on numerous input documents.

A number of concepts were discussed, and some definitions were refined. It was established that the set of OSE Profiles can be subdivided into two classes: Application Environment Profiles and Functional OSE Profiles. These classes can further be subdivided into Generic Profiles and what is called Industry Specific Profiles thus yielding 4 classes of OSE Profiles. In this scheme, the OSI Profiles (as defined in TR10000 Part 2) can be considered to fall into the class of Generic Functional Profiles.

The editors of TR10000 Parts 1 and 3 are requested to incorporate the above outlined ideas in their documents; by the same token MBs and liaison organizations are requested to further work on these concepts and to come with proposals for progression of the work at the next SGFS meeting.

* Another topic that was discussed is the concept of National Profiles, as identified by JTC1/SC22/WG15 - POSIX (see SGFS/N733). Although the issue is raised with respect to OSE Profiles, it is recognized that the problem of National or regional variants of profiles also applies to OSI profiles (FTAM and ODA). SGFS does not envisage creating a profile class called "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. This conclusion, together with responses to other specific questions, are reported to WG15 in a liaison statement (SGFS/N755).

6. Next meetings

The following meeting plan was agreed:

Plenary meeting	5/9 July 1993	South-Korea	
Authorized subgroup meeting	30Nov/3Dec 1993	????	provisional
Plenary meeting	13/17 June 1994	t.b.s.	
Plenary meeting	19/23 June 1995	t.b.s.	tentative
Plenary meeting	17/21 June 1996	t.b.s.	tentative
Plenary meeting	16/20 June 1997	t.b.s.	new/tentative

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