

12th CEN/ISSS CDSG meeting
DIN, Berlin
2005-04-04
1000–1700

Title: Minutes CDSG meeting 2005-04-04 in Berlin

Source: CDSG Secretary

Document for: Approval

1 Meeting arrangements

The chairman opened the meeting at 1000.

Meeting facilities were provided by DIN. Since CEN/ISSS WS-LT (learning technology) had a meeting at the same time at DIN, it had been arranged to have a joint session of the CDSG and WS-LT. This meeting took place from 1130 and through lunch.

Apologies had been received from Mr James Boyd, Ms Catherine Chen, Mr Knut Nordby, Mr John Clews, Mr Yves Neuville, and Mr Mike Ksar. An attendance list is attached as Annex A.

Agenda items were discussed in a slightly different order than on the agenda. Following item 4.7 there was the joint meeting with WS-LT (agenda item 10). Thereafter (and after lunch) items 6 and 12.1 were discussed, followed by item 4.8 and the remainder of the agenda.

These minutes reflect the order of items in the agenda (N170R2).

2 Approval of draft agenda

Document CDSG-N170R2 – Two items were added under agenda item 12 (any other business). The agenda was approved as presented in document N170R2 with these two items.

3 Minutes of the previous meeting

3.1 Approval of the minutes

Document CDSG-N166 – The minutes were approved without changes.

3.2 Review of Action List

Document CDSG-SD-ActL (2005-04-03) – The notes of the review are presented in *document CDSG-SD-ActL (2005-04-05)* together with new Action Items. The new list of action items is to be circulated independently.

4 CDSG (including Programme of work)

4.1 CDSG financing and future

There was no discussion relating to this item.

4.2 CDSG membership and participation

Mr Erkki Kolehmainen informed the CDSG that TIEKE no longer represents the Finnish National Member Body in European standardization. He himself is now affiliated with the Research Institute for the Languages of Finland (Kotus), and that he in the future may be representing the National Member Body of Finland.

Ms Elżbieta Broma-Wrzesień informed the CDSG that she in the future may be appointed representative for the National Member Body of Poland.

It was noted with regret that Mr Knut Nordby resigns as ICTSB representative due to reasons of health.

It was noted that Mr John Clews needs to clarify which body he represents, since ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 22/WG 20 has been disbanded.

CEN/ISSS WS-EC needs to be deleted from the membership list, since that workshop has been disbanded.

It was decided that all agendas and minutes in the future shall be sent to others than the CDSG members.

Action Item 12/01	The Secretary to set up a routine for sending all CDSG agendas and minutes to the CEN/ISSS Forum list and to ISO and JTC 1 committees that are registered, in addition to the CDSG list.
Action Item 12/02	Mr John Clews to clarify his representation in the CDSG, since ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 22/WG 20 has been disbanded.
Action Item 12/03	The Secretary to update membership list, e.g. reflecting that CEN/ISSS WS-EC has been closed down.

4.3 Review of Project List

The latest Project List is dated 2003-10-25. There was no discussion relating specifically to this item.

4.4 Updated CDSG Terms of Reference

Documents CDSG-N161R2 – The CDSG Terms of Reference has been approved as presented in document N161R2.

During the discussion in the CEN/ISSS Forum the question of the name of the CDSG was raised, noting that the activities of the CDSG are more that of a “focus group” rather than a “steering group”.

The meeting was not unanimous in the name issue, although the majority seemed to favour a name change to Cultural Diversity Focus Group (CDFG). Mr Wolf

Arvidson would prefer Cultural Diversity Focus and Steering Group, or to keep the current name and add the text “steering and focus group” in a “sub-title”.

It was decided to minute both alternatives (Cultural Diversity Focus Group and Cultural Diversity Focus and Steering Group) and to ask for feedback from all CDSG members.

Action Item 12/04	The Secretary to circulate for feedback the results of the discussion about CDSG’s name <u>and</u> to submit to CEN/ISSS Forum majority and minority proposals for decision.
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All CDSG members as requested to express their opinions about the name issue on the CDSG mailing list as soon as possible.

4.5 WS on Information Retrieval

There is nothing new to report regarding a potential CEN/ISSS Workshop on Information Retrieval, and the item was not discussed. However, the topic will be retained on the list of possible activities.

4.6 Proposed project eMMA

There is nothing new to report regarding the eMMA project, and the item was not discussed. However, the topic will be retained on the list of possible activities, and funding options will be assessed.

4.7 Proposed project ADNOM

Document CDSG-N175 – The CDSG was pleased that the ADNOM workshop has received support. It was noted that a wide participation in the workshop would be needed. All CDSG members are asked to encourage relevant bodies and individuals to participate in the workshop.

Action Item 12/05	The Secretary to look into registration and participation at the ADNOM workshop and to inform CDSG members; <u>and</u> all CDSG members to try to influence relevant individuals and organizations to participate.
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[The ADNOM kick-off meeting took place in Brussels on 2005-04-15, and the workshop has been initiated. It is, however, still highly desirable that more participants register for the workshop.]

4.8 Proposed project SoftCultReg

Document CDSG-N160 – There is nothing new to report regarding a potential CEN/ISSS Workshop “SoftCultReg”, and the item was not discussed in detail. However, the topic will be retained on the list of possible activities. It was noted that there may exist other projects that relate to this.

4.9 Report to CEN/ISSS Forum

Document CDSG-N167R1 – The report has been given, and there was nothing new to note.

4.10 CEN/TC 304

Document CDSG-N171 – There was no detailed discussion. It was noted that WS-LT is considering taking an initiative to establish a Technical Committee for learning technology, and it could be a potential path to follow somehow to “join forces” with that potential TC.

4.11 “Language compatibility for informatic equipment”

Document CDSG-N165 – The CDSG will monitor any development.

4.12 LexiPraxi presentation

Document CDSG-N172 – The document was presented for information only.

5 Issue relating to Lithuanian

Documents CDSG-N163 and CDSG-N168 – The CDSG finds it difficult to discuss the issue without representation from those who prepared the original document. The issue will be put back on the agenda when there is such representation at a future meeting.

6 Possible standardisation of Sami IT requirements

Document CDSG-N162 – Ms Karin Kvarfordt from the Swedish Ministry of Agriculture and Mr Karl Ivar Larsson (consultant) attended the CDSG meeting in particular to discuss this agenda item.

Ms Karin Kvarfordt presented the Swedish initiative, expressing their interest in CDSG’s opinion, including when it comes to funding options.

Mr Karl Ivar Larsson presented the in more detail (see document **N177**). There exist at present three documents developed for the Sami Parliamentary Council in 2002–2003, specifying IT requirements for all Latin-script Sami languages (the documents are available e.g. at <http://sami.lwp.se/tekndok.htm>).

It is the understanding of the Swedish group that a European Standard could give the documents more “leverage” with industry. The European Standard would need to have the same technical content as the document *Requirements for support of Sami languages in data processing*, but should also contain Kildin Sami requirements. Kildin Sami is used in Russia, and it uses the Cyrillic script.

The CDSG saw no formal reason why the project shouldn’t be handled on a European level. However, to include Kildin Sami would require close cooperation with GOST.

The Secretary, having discussed the issue with relevant authorities in Norway, informed the CDSG that Standards Norway would prefer to see requirements for

support of Sami handled on national level with close cooperation between that standards bodies in Finland, Sweden and Norway. The question of Kildin Sami has very limited interest in Norway.

Action Item 12/06	The Chairman to give an answer to the letter from the Swedish Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (document N162) based on the discussion at the meeting on 2005-04-04.
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The CDSG noted that the issue that has been raised would also be of interest in relation to other lesser used languages. It was suggested that a CEN Workshop Agreement developing a “template” for specifications of requirements for lesser used languages would be a more beneficial avenue to follow on a European level. If this approach is to be accepted, the first “case” should be the Sami languages.

Action Item 12/07	The Chairman and Secretary to initiate the process toward a possible establishment of a workshop to develop a CWA as a template for specifying requirements for lesser used languages.
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Based on the discussion and the “template CWA” idea, the CDSG recommended:

Recommendations	<p>(1) A new CEN/ISSS workshop should be established as soon as possible to develop a CWA as a template for specifying requirements for lesser used languages. The requirements for Sami languages should be developed in the context of this CWA.</p> <p>(2) If the various Nordic authorities and standards bodies find that a faster track is needed for the requirements for Sami, the document in question should be finalized through cooperation between the Nordic countries (and Russia, if Kildin Sami is to be included) for fast-tracking through CEN.</p>
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7 Various European projects and activities

7.1 CEN/ISSS WS/eCat

The CDSG noted that the newest documents relating to eCat have not been made available, and that this needs to be followed up more closely in the future.

7.2 CEN/ISSS European e-Business Interoperability Forum (eBIF)

There was no discussion about this agenda item.

8 European coordination of international activities

8.1 ISO/TC 37 activities

The Secretary, being also the chairman of ISO/TC 37, reported briefly that issues relating to multilinguality will be part of the work programme of that TC, in particular in its SC 2.

8.2 ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2 activities

Mr Erkki Kolehmainen reported briefly about SC 2 activities.

8.3 ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 22 activities

The Chairman reported briefly about SC 22 activities. He noted that WG 20 has been replaced by an “internationalization rapporteur group”.

8.4 ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 35 activities

Mr Wolf Arvidson reported briefly about SC 35 activities.

9 Various other projects and activities

9.1 ISO IEC ITU UN/ECE MoU/MG

Documents CDSG-N174 – The MoU/MG had a meeting in Brussels on 4–5 April during which they would discuss cultural diversity issues. This may improve the visibility of cultural diversity.

9.2 UNESCO-related activities

The chairman reported briefly on ongoing work on the Convention on the Protection of the Diversity of Cultural Contents and Artistic Expressions. He had attended several positive meetings of the German *Bundesweite Koalition* organized by the German section of UNESCO in support of this convention.

9.3 “Writing of Swedish names” – Basis for European activity?

Document CDSG-N173 – Mr Wolf Arvidson presented his document, which represents a topic of great interest for the CDSG.

It is expected that Sweden will implement a character set including the Latin letters to write all European languages (but not e.g. letters with double diacritics to write Vietnamese), although many agencies have voiced opposition, in particular for time and funding reasons.

The Secretary informed about a similar activity in Norway.

Similar work will need to be done on national level in many (or all) European countries. It may be feasible to do something on European level at a later stage, but no European action is recommended at this time.

10 Joint meeting with CEN/ISSS WS-LT

During this meeting the Chairmen of the CDSG and WS-LT presented the two committees and their activities. The CDSG Secretary also presented WS-ADNOM briefly.

11 Next meeting(s)

The next CDSG meeting will be an electronic meeting on **Wednesday 15 June 2005, starting at 10 CEST** (Central European Summer Time).

Action Item 12/08	The Chairman and Secretary as soon as possible to find suitable for conducting electronic meetings.
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The next physical meeting is planned for Friday 21 October 2005 at CEN in Brussels.

12 Any Other Business

12.1 Possible standardisation of Rromani IT requirements

Mr Karl Ivar Larsson gave a presentation "Possible CEN standard for Rromani IT requirements". He noted that the language has many variants, and that there currently is no IT support. There is, however, a decision on a common Latin alphabet.

It was noted that this initiative fits well into the "template" model discussed under agenda item 6. Since it isn't feasible to move quickly with this issue, the CDSG recommends that further development should be done in the context of the proposed "template CWA".

12.2 Response on MHP

Document CDSG-N178 – The document, which was received from Ms Ruth Hieronymy (MEP), relates to the "Multimedia Home Platform" for digital TV. Interoperability and non-proprietary technology is essential for cultural diversity in the media. The issue is therefore of concern for the CDSG, and the CDSG appreciates the communication and contact.

Action Item 12/09	The chairman to prepare a response to the EC relating to a document on "Multimedia Home Platform (MHP)" that was tabled at the meeting, based on the discussion at the CDSG meeting on 2005-04-04.
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Annex A – Participants

See also the Standing Document *CDSG-SD-Memb.*

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