Working Group Operating Addendum

This Working Group Operating Charter extends the Scope and details the related requirements and operational processes important for the Working Group's operation. This document is not legally binding but once approved by the Working Group it provides additional requirements for the Working Group.

Only Project Steering Members, Associates, and Contributors that joined the Working Group by signing the Working Group Charter will be bound by its terms and be permitted to participate in the Working Group.

1. Working Group Name. **DID Authentication WG**

2. Core Principles
    2.1. Decentralized Identifiers are the heart of DID Authentication

    We are designing communications protocols specifically for use with the decentralized identifier specification at W3C (https://www.w3.org/TR/did-core/). The DID Core specification and the surrounding family of DID specifications (e.g https://w3c-ccg.github.io/did-resolution/) represent the format for entity identification in our DID Authentication efforts.

    2.2. Broad Vision, Concrete Progress

    The DID Authentication working group will focus on parallel short and long-term planning processes, with the goal of creating timely deliverables addressing both immediate needs and future-focused roadmaps.

    2.3. Implementation-Led

    The DID Authentication working group will favor specifications based on evidence of viability and value provided by working implementations.

    2.4. Decentralized Architecture as a Viable Path

    While DID Authentication recognizes that both centralized and decentralized architectures can and will co-exist in the future, it is a specific priority of the DID Authentication effort to find alternative patterns to centralized infrastructure for the implementers preferring such a mode of operation. The definition of what is centralized and decentralized may not always be able to be normatively defined, but the DID Authentication community is committed to prioritizing support for architectures that are commonly regarded as decentralized.

    2.5. Champion the Needs of the Individual

    DID Authentication is working to build something compatible with legitimate institutional needs, but *also* and *uncompromisingly* compatible with the needs of individuals. We want a level playing field where all participants can achieve their trust goals.

    2.6. Focus on Simplicity

    We recognize that complexity is a barrier to adoption. We will work towards the simplest protocols that can meet our requirements for privacy, security, decentralization, and performance.

    2.7. Preference and Support for Existing Standards.

We should invent as little as we can get away with, and thus build upon standard solutions whenever feasible. We should seek to conform to existing standards and specifications as much as our requirements for privacy, security, decentralization, and performance will allow. When we do decide to deviate or extend an existing standard, we will clearly articulate why we have done so.

3. Operations and duties

   3.1. Chair Selection

   3.1.1. Chairs shall be elected by the members, with no more than four chairs serving at one time. Service shall be evaluated annually, with no maximum term.

   3.2. Chair Duties

   3.2.1. Driving inclusivity, identifying consensus within the group, and recording decisions.

   3.2.2. Ensuring compliance with all DIF rules applicable to the group.

   3.2.3. Being a liaison between the group and all groups with which the group is coordinating.

   3.2.4. Organizing the smooth operation of the group.

   3.2.5. Engaging with media, performing outreach, and ensuring the transparent operation of the group.

   3.2.6. Sharing monthly updates for the DIF newsletter to inform the community.

4. Repository Process

   The repository process designed to simplify and consolidate GitHub status tracking of work items managed by the Working Group.
   More about the process:
   https://docs.google.com/document/d/1TS4XXCtlNL9YwW-Op9alevOmhgY2RP6lFfQ3AtB6Sq8/edit?usp=sharing