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OASIS LegalDocumentML (LegalDocML) TC

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Advancing worldwide best practices for the use of XML in legal documents

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Announcements

Tweet #LegalDocML

US Library of Congress is sponsoring two Akoma Ntoso LegalDocML data challenges
(http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2013/13-161.html) . Participants are asked to map the Akoma
Ntoso schema to established U.S. and U.K. legislative markup languages to improve Akoma
Ntoso's support of U.S. and U.K. legislative data. The winning solution will win $10,000 in
cash. The challenge deadline is 31 Dec 2013.

Funding to ensure the broadest possible international participation in LegalDocML has been
provided to OASIS through a generous contribution from Microsoft
(http://www.microsoft.com/) .

Membership in the OASIS LegalDocML TC is open to all interested parties. Contact
join@oasis-open.org for more information.

Overview

The OASIS LegalDocML TC works to advance worldwide best practices for the use of XML
within a Parliaments', Assembly's or Congress' document management processes, within
courts' and tribunals' judgment management systems, and generally in legal documents

including contracts. The work is based on the Akoma Ntoso-UN project (http://www.akomantoso.org) . The LegalDocML TC's goal is to collect requirements from the community of the stakeholders who create, manage and use legislative and legal documents (editors, libraries, public institutions, tribunals, publishers, etc.) in order to extend and refine the standard. All are welcome to join this work.

The LegalDocumentXML Specs provides a common legal document standard for the specification of parliamentary, legislative and judicial documents, for their interchange between institutions anywhere in the world and for the creation of a common data and metadata model that allows experience, expertise, and tools to be shared and extended by all participating peers, courts, Parliaments, Assemblies, Congresses and administrative branches of governments. The standard aims to provide a format for long-term storage of and access to parliamentary, legislative and judicial documents that allows search, interpretation and visualization of documents.

The specifications of the standard is based on the experience of the Akoma Ntoso language, and for this reason the specification keeps the name "Akoma Ntoso" and the root of the XML-schema will be "akomaNtoso".

The LegalDocumentXML Specs examine the relationships between the proposed XML vocabulary and other similar efforts especially those that already have gained national acceptance or are included in other LegalXML vocabularies (e.g. eContracts). In particular, the CEN Metalex standard is recognized as offering a conceptual meta-model that is appropriate for the management of the compliancy issues between different XML national standards. Akoma Ntoso is from the very beginning compliant with CEN Metalex as an explicit design choice. CEN Metalex compliancy will be considered as the first and most important requirement for comparison between the XML language approved by the TC and any other XML standard.

One of the topics about whom the LegalDocumentXML Specs provides a standardization is a URI-based syntax for legal citations for all types of documents produced by Parliaments and Courts and managed by the XML vocabulary, called the naming convention. The LegalDocumentXML Spec aims to examine and, as much as possible, accept past experiences and decisions of the Akoma Ntoso technical team, which have been consistently using an http-based syntax. This approach appears similar to the one chosen by the European Legislation Identifier (http://legalinformatics.files.wordpress.com/2012/03/st17554-en11.pdf) and is also consistent with the http based URIs of the URN:LEX syntax, appendix D (https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-spinosa-urn-lex/?include_text=1) .

For more information on LegalDocML, see the TC Charter (http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/legaldocml/charter.php) .

Subcommittees

No subcommittees have been formed for this TC.

Technical Work Produced by the Committee

This Committee has not produced technical work yet.

Expository Work Produced by the Committee

There are no approved expository work products for this TC yet.

External Resources

- Akoma Ntoso (http://www.akomantoso.org)
- LinkedIn Discussion (http://linkd.in/OASIS-LegalDocML)

Mailing Lists and Comments

legaldocml: the list used by TC members to conduct Committee work. TC membership (http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/join.php?wg_abbrev= legaldocml) is required to post. TC members (http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/membership.php?wg_abbrev=legaldocml) are automatically subscribed; the public may view archives (http://lists.oasis-open.org/archives/legaldocml/) .

legaldocml-comment: a public mail list for providing input to the OASIS LegalDocML TC members. Send a comment (http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/comments/form.php?wg_abbrev=legaldocml) or view archives (http://lists.oasis-open.org/archives/legaldocml/) .

Additional Information

Providing Feedback: OASIS welcomes feedback (/committees/comments/index.php?wg_abbrev=legaldocml) on its technical activities from potential users, developers, and others to better assure the interoperability and quality of OASIS work.