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Request to JTC 1 for alignment of OASIS and JTC 1 Maintenance Procedures

SC 34 is anxious to fulfil its obligations for maintenance of standards assigned to SC 34 by JTC 1. These standards now include both ISO/IEC 26300:2006 and the shortly-to-be-published ISO/IEC 29500:2008.

SC 34 and Ecma International have spent considerable time over the past two years discussing and agreeing maintenance arrangements for ISO/IEC 29500, and we believe that we now have agreed an arrangement that meets the goals of timely maintenance of an ISO/IEC standard in accordance with the procedures of both ISO/IEC and Ecma International.

SC 34 would like to have had a similar discussion with OASIS concerning the maintenance of ISO/IEC 26300.

The strong support that has recently been shown for SC 34 to produce a Technical Report on translation between ISO/IEC 26300 and ISO/IEC 29500, supported by 18 Members, demonstrates that SC 34 is the centre for standardization of editable document formats within JTC 1. To fulfil this role, SC 34 needs to be closely involved in the maintenance and revision of the standards for which it has responsibility.

OASIS and JTC 1 do not have a synchronised mechanism for maintenance of standards. The maintenance arrangement agreed between OASIS and JTC 1 fails to establish such a mechanism, so that SC 34 is unable to maintain ISO/IEC 26300 in accordance with the JTC 1 Directives and in fulfilment of SC 34's responsibilities.

SC 34 therefore requests JTC 1 to establish with OASIS a synchronised mechanism for maintenance of ISO/IEC 26300 and to inform SC 34 of the outcome.