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ISO/IEC JTC1 WG6 Corporate Governance of IT

Convener's Report to the JTC1 Plenary Meeting - 2009 Tel Aviv

John Graham



The genesis of WG6

- Australian Standard AS 8015:2005 Corporate Governance of Information and Communication Technology
- SC7 ICT Governance Study Group
- JTC1 Study Group on IT Governance
- ISO/IEC 38500:2008 Corporate Governance of Information Technology
- JTC1 Plenary Nara Resolution 41 Establishment of Working Group on Corporate Governance of IT
- Announcement of Establishment of JTC1 Working Group 6 on Corporate Governance of IT



Scope of WG6

Defined by Nara Resolution 41

- Part 1 of TOR
- "To develop standards and related documents on Corporate Governance of IT, to include:
- a) Performing a gap analysis and defining a framework and models for the Corporate Governance of IT and its relationships with associated functions and systems for the management of IT activities;
- b) Standardisation and harmonisation of terminology related to Corporate Governance of IT; and
- c) Ongoing maintenance of ISO/IEC 38500 and development of associated guidelines (subject to needs identified by the Study Group formed under SC 7 Resolution 1081),

but excluding the operational management of IT,"



Participation in WG6

- Also defined by Nara Resolution 41
 - -Part 2 and 3 of TOR
 - 2) To seek initial liaison relationships with:
 - a) SC7
 - b) SC27
 - c) ISO TC 68
 - d) ISO TC 215
 - e) ISACA/ITGI
 - f) ItSMF-I
 - g) Other relevant bodies, potentially including: SC6, SC17, SC23, SC31 and SC37,
 - 3) Membership of the Working Group being open to representatives from all National Bodies,



Participation in WG6

- The Working Group currently has 36 members drawn from 14 P members of JTC1
- Liaisons have either been established or are in the process of establishment with:

_ ITSMF International

- ISACA/ITGI

- ISO TC 215

- ISO TC 68

JTC1 SC7

JTC1 SC27

Other liaison relationships are being actively sought



Meetings of WG6

- The first meeting was held at BSI in London in May
 - 29 attended, including experts from 12 countries and delegates of organisations, either in liaison, or with liaison arrangements in progress
 - meeting was arranged to minimise cost of attending due to the constraints imposed by the GFC.
- The Working Group has accepted the invitation of the Singapore ITSC to hold its second meeting in Singapore, 2nd 4th December, 2009
 - the SC7 WG1A interim meeting will be co-located with us



- At this stage the only project assigned to JTC1 for WG6 is the published standard *ISO/IEC 38500:2008 Corporate Governance of Information Technology*
- The projects ISO/IEC NP 29151Software and System Engineering -- Corporate Governance of Information Technology and ISO/IEC NP 29184 Information Technology -- Corporate Governance of IT Implementation Guide are in the process of transfer to JTC1 for WG6. These transfers has been formally agreed by both SC7 and WG6.
- The need for timing resets on the projects in process of transfer is becoming more pressing.



- The major effort within WG6 is being devoted to "defining a framework and models for the Corporate Governance of IT and its relationships with associated functions and systems for the management of IT activities"
- It has been agreed in WG6 that this "framework and models" is a pre-requisite for a meaningful gap analysis
- It has also been agreed that the definition harmonisation and standardisation work specified is an integral part of the "framework and models"



- WG6 devoted considerable time, both in London and since, to preliminary work in the area of "framework and models"
- ◆ As a result of this work a project team within WG6 has developed an NWI, "Governance of IT − Framework and Model" which has been submitted to JTC1 for Letter Ballot. This NWI is for a TR3 which is deemed the most appropriate output for the work.
- The NWI includes the work required to meet the TOR requirement for "Standardisation and harmonisation of terminology related to Corporate Governance of IT"



- A project team within WG6 is looking at issues relating to ISO/IEC 38500:2008 and, in anticipation, project ISO/IEC NP 29151.
- Another project team is working on ISO/IEC NP 29184 and should be at the first working draft stage by our meeting in Singapore. It is anticipated that the project transfer process should have concluded by then.
- Some initial work has been done on possible approaches to the estimation of demand for product documents in this area



Subject Matter and Context Issues

- ◆ ISO/IEC 38500 is a starting point. We do not regard its definitions and concepts as immutable
- The governance of IT is within the context of governance of an organisation or entity.
- The working group is committed to its documents meeting the criteria "should be equally applicable to large and small organisations, both public and private, profit and not for profit"
- It is becoming apparent that the qualifier "corporate" has significant issues in the context of governance of IT. These issues are both cultural and linguistic



Organisational Issues

- It is becoming apparent that the JTC1 Directives do not cope well with a Working Group reporting directly to JTC1 and producing documents
- the main issue is that for a number of important functions, such as initiation of NWIPs, the Directives assume an intermediate layer of Sub Committees between Working Groups and JTC1
- given the directions signalled in the new ISO/IEC directives it may be prudent to consider the creation of smaller and narrower Sub Committees

