NIEMOpen Business Architecture Committee (NBAC) Technical Steering Committee (TSC) Military Operations (MilOps) Sub-Committee Governance

13 July 2023

Document Change Control Page

This document amplifies the OASIS Open Project Lightweight Rules, NIEMOpen Charter document, and NBAC TSC Governance Document. It incorporates all provisions of those documents. In case of conflict, the parent documents control.

The MilOps Sub-Committee Governance is a living document, reviewed periodically, and based on inputs from the MilOps Community-of-Interest.

No.	Version	Date	Description
1	V 2.9	30 Oct 13	Original Charter
2	V 3	08 Sep 16	Update
3	V 4	13 July 23	Rewrite for OASIS transition

Table of Contents

1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

By direction of the Joint Staff (JS) J6 a Military Operations (MilOps) Domain within NIEM (formerly known as National Information Exchange Model) was established in 2013. The MilOps Domain transitioned to NIEMOpen under the auspices of OASIS Open project in October 2022. The MilOps Domain was established to achieve digital military operations interoperability across DoD and Mission Partners.

The Sub-Committee supports the development of information exchange specifications across the full range of military operations in combination with the existing NIEMOpen Core and other Sub-Committees. This Sub-Committee is an aggregation of stakeholders into a community of interest (COI) that is aligned with the military mission space by affiliation, and/or function. The MilOps Sub-Committee is an operational mission focused venue designed to provide multifunctional, cross-organizational data elements that DoD and non-DoD information exchange developers may use in creating NIEM-based information exchanges.

1.2 Document Scope

This Sub-Committee Governance Document describes the NIEMOpen Business Architecture Committee (NBAC) Technical Steering Committee (TSC) MilOps Sub-Committee's business focus, scope, and governance structure. The Governance Document should be referenced alongside the MilOps Sub-Committee's processes and procedures for managing and executing Sub-Committee activities.

1.3 Intended Audience

The intended audience for this document is the MilOps Sub-Committee's stakeholders and governance groups, as well as the NBAC TSC for reference purposes.

1.4 Reference Documents

The following is a list of reference documents to assist in the establishment and maintenance of the MilOps Sub-Committee:

- OASIS Open Project Lightweight Rules
- NIEMOpen Charter
- NIEMOpen Business Architecture Committee Technical Steering Committee (NBAC TSC) Governance Document (REV 1)

2. Sub-Committee Overview

2.1 Sub-Committee Business Need or Goal

The MilOps Sub-Committee provides and maintains unique military operations and mission data components used to define NIEMOpen Message Exchange Packages (MEPs) that satisfies mission critical information sharing requirements within DoD, and/or Federal government agencies, and Mission Partners. The Sub-Committee works towards the alignment of data standards within DoD, aimed at improving the visibility, understandability, accessibility, trust, and interoperability of shared data. MilOps is continuing the development of information exchange development tools as a reusable resource within DoD.

2.2 Sub-Committee Scope

The MilOps Sub-Committee manages unique military operations and mission data components used to define NIEM MEPs that satisfy operational mission information sharing requirements among DoD and its Mission Partners.

    a. The MilOps Sub-Committee is not a rebranding of existing standards. It is not a model repository. It is not a universal solution to all military-related information data needs.

    b. The Sub-Committee's data components are available for reuse by data users and designers. The Chair/Co-Chair does not control or approve that reuse.

    c. The MilOps Community develops both mission specific and public content. MilOps tracks the pedigree of military data components, which in many cases prescribes the releasability of content (i.e., distribution statement A, C, D, etc.)[1]. MilOps includes distribution statement A content in the public NIEMOpen data model. The MilOps Mission Specific (MOMS) data model is hosted on the DoD Warfighting Mission Area Architecture Federation and Integration Portal (WMAAFIP) and includes both public NIEMOpen and DoD "Mission Specific" (proprietary) data components. Non-public material is not part of the OASIS standards track.

Content will be added when the business needs, and reuse can be satisfied by data components in NIEMOpen Core or in other Sub-Committees. All new content will only be added upon approval by the MilOps Sub-Committee stakeholders. Then the new content will be harmonized with NIEMOpen Core and with the other NIEMOpen Sub-Committees.

The data components managed by the NIEMOpen MilOps Sub-Committee are not intended to provide comprehensive coverage of the functional categories. Instead, the content contained will be primarily based upon the need for reuse among data developers and users.

The MilOps Sub-Committee does not approve or contain MEPs. MEP designers who reuse MilOps Sub-Committee data components may participate in the MilOps Sub-Committee but are not required to do so.

2.3 Sub-Committee Community of Interest

The MilOps Sub-Committee is sponsored by the DoD, but it is not a "DoD-unique" organization. It is part of NIEMOpen, with participants from the Federal, State, Local, Tribal, International, and Private organizations.

2.4 Sub-Committee Goals

- Promote MilOps information sharing between Federal, state, local, tribal, industry and international agencies by contributing harmonized MilOps content to the NIEMOpen data model and using the NIEMOpen MilOps data model whenever appropriate
- Establish a life-cycle project schedule (updated regularly with key deliverables and timelines) that serves as a roadmap for current and future milestones for the MilOps Sub-Committee and its governing body regarding the management and support of the MilOps Sub-Committee within NIEMOpen

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[1] DoDI 5230.24, "Distribution Statements on DOD Technical Information, January 10, 2023.

- Identify performance metric(s) for tracking the impact that results from the coordinated efforts of the MilOps Sub-Committee

3. NIEMOpen Governance

NIEMOpen, an OAISI Open Project is committed to building an open, inclusive, productive, and self-governing open-source community. The community is governed by the NIEMOpen Governance Charter and in accordance with OASIS Open Project Rules with the goal of defining how community should work together to achieve their goals.
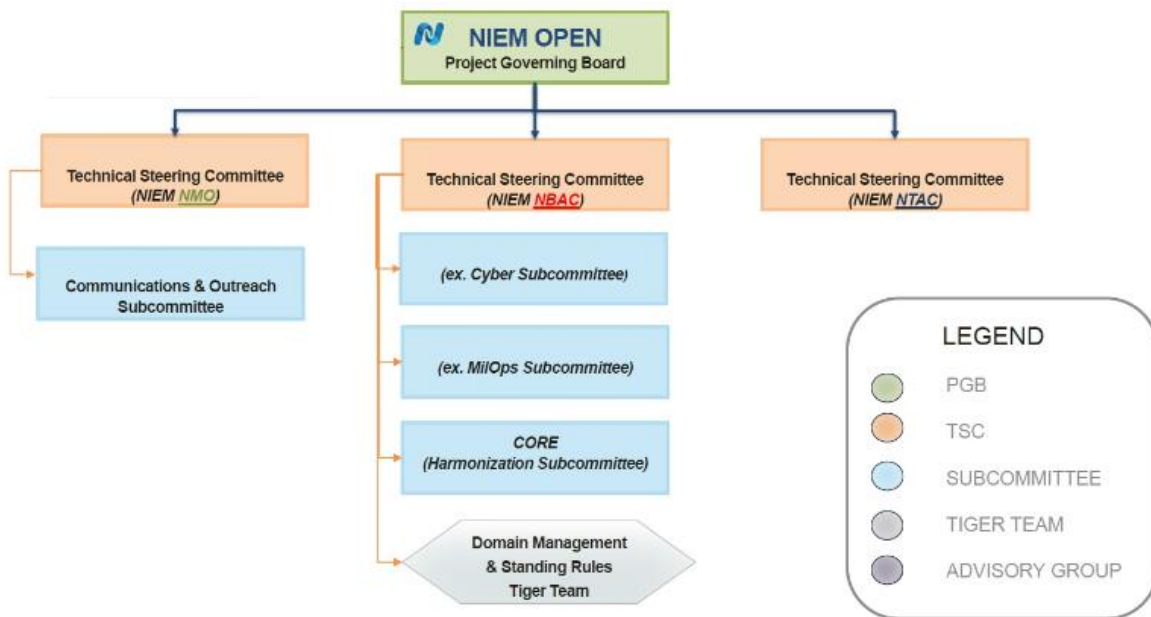

Figure 1 shows the NIEMOpen Project Governance

3.1 Project Governing Board

Group responsible for the overall lifecycle or business strategy of NIEMOpen. Oversees activities such as events, marketing, partnerships, promotion, budget, and so forth.

3.2 NIEMOpen Management Office

A Technical Steering Committee that executes the PGB's vision while supporting core operations and strategy.

3.3 NIEMOpen Business Architecture Committee (NBAC)

A Technical Steering Committee that provides oversight of the NIEMOpen core and ensures the data model is understood across all domains.

3.4 NIEMOpen Technical Architecture Committee (NTAC)

A Technical Steering Committee that documents, implements, and maintains technical specifications for NIEMOpen.

4. Sub-Committee Governance Structure

The MilOps Sub-Committee's organization structure, including the member roles designated to carry-out all governance activities, is described below.

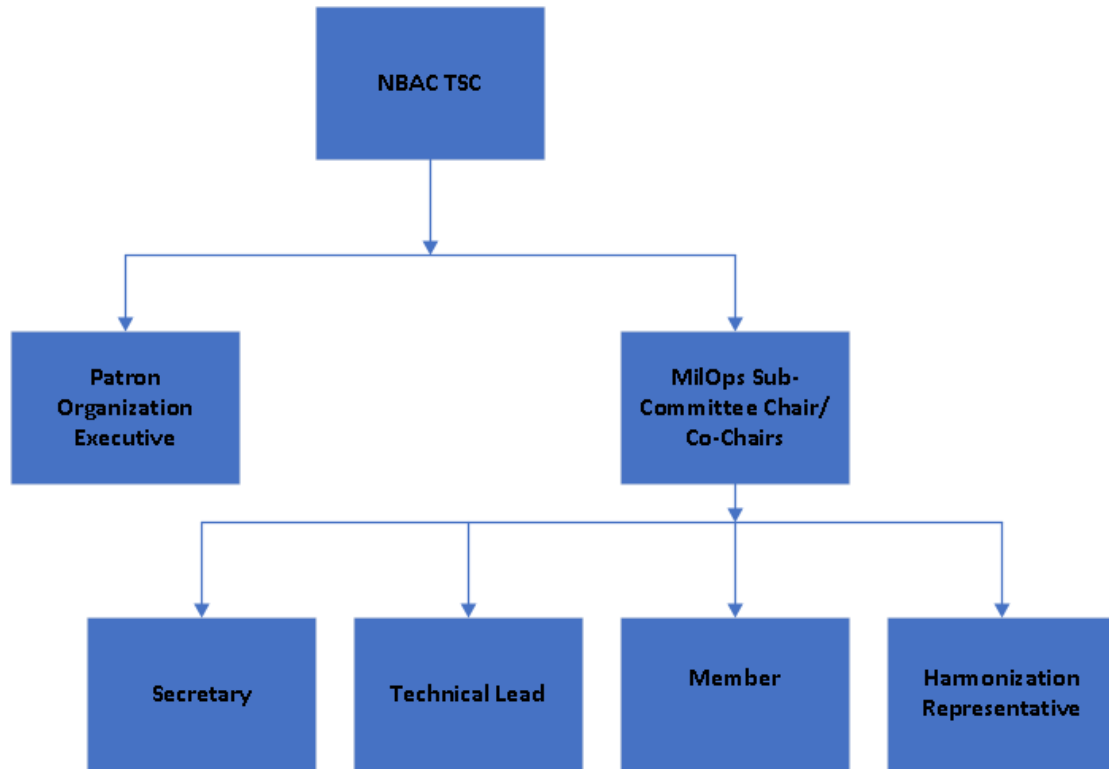## 4.1 Overall Sub-Committee Governance Structure

Figure 2 shows the MilOps governance structure

4.2 Sub-Committee Governance and NBAC TSC Relationship

The NIEMOpen Business Architecture Committee Technical Steering Committee (NBAC TSC) is the central authority in a federated governance model where NBAC TSC will interact with Sub-Committee governance groups, providing coordination, policy and technical direction while allowing each Sub-Committee governance group to retain relative autonomy in governing its Sub-Committee while interacting directly with its own community of interest (COI). Any disputes between NBAC TSC authority and its Sub-Committees are elevated to the NIEMOpen Project Governing Board (PGB).

4.3 Sub-Committee Sponsor(s)/Executive(s)

The DoD CIO memo "Adoption of the National Information Exchange Model with the Department of Defense" dated 28 March 2013, announced the intent for DoD-wide adoption of NIEM and the establishment of a MilOps Domain. Language in the DOD CIO memo states that except as required otherwise by law or DoD policy, the use of National Information Exchange Model (NIEM)-based exchanges must be considered for all new information exchanges created and all information exchanges being modernized as part of the normal lifecycle management for these information exchanges.

4.3.1 Sub-Committee Chair Responsibilities

The NBAC TSC governance document defines the expectations and responsibilities of NIEMOpen Chair/Co-Chairs as follows:

- Appoint NBAC TSC voting members (2 maximum). Voting members should be
    - Experienced with NIEMOpen
    - Familiar with harmonization and model cycle processes
    - Understand OASIS Open Project Lightweight Rules and NIEMOpen governance
- Maintain a data dictionary of common elements and their related code-lists
- Maintain a roster and mailing list
- Draft, publish, and maintain procedures for Sub-Committee governance and the processes related to Domain Space data model and code list management
- Assign a Harmonization Sub-Committee representative
- Participate in Domain Space content harmonization and reconciliation activities supporting the NIEM version publication cycle
- Provide support to the NABC TSC including annual reporting of progress, plans, requirements, and achievements
- Provide support to the NIEMOpen Technical Architecture Committee (NTAC) TSC production of technical specifications, requirements, tools, and associated artifacts
- Provide ongoing identification of data requirements based on data exchange modeling and development efforts
- Attend TSC meetings or provide a temporary proxy.

4.3.2 Sub-Committee Executive(s) Vision(s)

The NIEMOpen Military Operations Sub-Committee will facilitate the adoption of NIEMOpen to resolve DoD and mission partner information and data interoperability challenges in both modernized and new information exchange environments.

4.4 Sub-Committee Governance

4.4.1 Committee Membership

The MilOps Sub-Committee is composed of the Chair/Co-Chairs, Secretariat, Technical Lead, Harmonization Representative, and Members, to include both DoD and non-DoD organizations/agencies. Membership participation and involvement will be recorded and tracked by the Secretariat. Membership roster will be maintained by the Secretariat. It is the responsibility of each member to provide updates to their contact information to the Chair/Co-Chair and Secretariat.

4.4.2 Committee Roles and Responsibilities

4.4.2.1 Sub-Committee Chair/Co-Chair

The Chair/Co-Chair is/are the executive(s) responsible for the governance, management, operations, and model content including maintenance of the MilOps unique code-list. They are nominated by the JS J6 as the patron organization and require the endorsement of the NBAC TSC. Each will need to sign an OASIS OPEN Contributor License Agreement upon appointment. Responsibilities of the Chair/Co-Chair include but are not limited to:
- Designates a representative(s) to act as the Sub-Committee's Secretariat

- Establishes and oversees the performance of sub-working groups and tiger teams as appropriate
- Manages the public MilOps web presence on NIEM.gov and NIEMOpen.org
- Ensures adequacy of training resources for sub-committee users
- Facilitates development of Use Case analysis, scenario planning, and requirements of sub-committee content addition

4.4.2.2 Sub-Committee Secretariat

The MilOps Secretariat will assist the Chair/Co-Chairs and collaborate with the Technical Lead. They will need to sign an OASIS OPEN Contributor License Agreement upon appointment. Other responsibilities include but are not limited to:
- Maintain the sub-committee's roster and mailing list
- Track MilOps engagements
- Ensure the MilOps GitHub site is updated regularly

4.4.2.3 Sub-Committee Technical Lead

The MilOps Technical Lead is appointed by the MilOps Co-Chairs and works with NIEMOpen Maintainers to keep Project repositories current. Also serving as the principal editor(s) of the Project's technical work managed within its Project Repositories. They shall manage the sub-committee's repository and serve as the lead data modeler. In addition, they serve as the sub-committee's authoritative point of contact for content inquiries, development advice, and preliminary technical configuration management. They will need to sign an OASIS OPEN Contributor License Agreement upon appointment.

4.4.2.4 Harmonization Representative

Represents the MilOps Sub-Committee on the Harmonization Sub-Committee. This Sub-Committee manages the process of harmonization to ensure no duplication in the model as updates are made and as it evolves to accommodate new community business requirements. The harmonization process integrates these new requirements while still ensuring data elements exist only once in the model. There are two types of harmonization, cross-domain harmonization (addresses overlap across multiple model Domain Spaces) and core Harmonization (addresses overlap and quality issues across Core and model Domain Spaces).

4.4.3 Committee Decisions

For most decisions, the Sub-Committee operates by lazy consensus with the following decisions made by agreement of the Chair/Co-Chairs:

- Appointment of Secretariat
- Any allocation of Sub-Committee resource with exception of volunteer activities sponsored by the MilOps Sub-Committee

5. Updating Governance

Community members should annually review this document, making changes as necessary. All substantive changes in Sub-Committee governance require concurrence of NBAC TSC Chair/Co-Chairs.

6. Acronyms

CoI – Community of Interest

CLA – Contributor License Agreement

DoD – Department of Defense

DoD CIO – Department of Defense Chief Information Officer

JS – Joint Staff

MEP – Message Exchange Package

MilOps – Military Operations

MOMS – Military Operations Mission Specific

NBAC – NIEMOpen Business Architecture Committee

NIEMOpen – formally known as National Information Exchange Model

NTAC – NIEMOpen Technical Architecture Committee

OIASIS – Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standars

PGB – Project Governance Board

TSC – Technical Steering Committee

WMAAFIP - Warfighting Mission Area Architecture Federation and Integration Portal