

Open Letter to SC 24/WG 8

WG 8 and SC 24 Plenary Meetings, Brussels, Belgium 20 - 24 August 2012

Dear Fellow Members of WG 8,

Normally, at this point in the WG 8 Plenary there is a Convenor's Presentation, during which I give an idea of what is likely to happen in the coming year, based on the current status, as described in the Convenor's Report.

This year, because I am not able to attend in person and have not even been able to generate a PowerPoint file, it is replaced by this Open Letter.

The major developments this year have been the completion of the EDCS DIS, the SRM DIS, and the 9973 DIS. All three DIS texts are currently out for ballot. Please remember to recommend your NB to review, and if appropriate, approve them.

The EDCS DIS includes several new additions to the standard, including how images/figures may now be used to help describe an EDCS Concept. This and other changes in EDCS have quite extensive implications, including the need to include these capabilities in the EDCS Registry. This will be described further in the EDCS Editors' report.

New additions have also been included in the SRM DIS. One of these is the important concepts of rotation and orientation, and the best way to specify these concepts is still the source of ongoing work by the SRM editing team. This will also be described further in the SRM Editors' report.

And the work on 9973 DIS improves the standardization of the registration processes and terms.

We were very sorry to hear from Youngsoo Kwon that his employer, CODIC, has been forced out of business and so he is unable to continue to work on the Templates project. It seems inevitable that the Technical Report Project for Templates for the SEDRIS DRM, which was focusing on a mapping between the DRM and X3D, will have to be cancelled.

I have not been able to attend these meetings in Brussels due to ill health, resulting from kidney failure. It is the same reason that prevented me from traveling to the Rapid City meetings last year; only this time my condition is worse. It is a condition that cannot be expected to improve except, perhaps, by a kidney transplant.

If my health remains the same, then in the coming months carrying out my responsibilities as a Convenor may be questionable. In that case, I am planning to offer my resignation at that point. I will continue to be active in WG 8, but cannot take a position where the working group is dependent on me.

Respectfully yours,

Jack Cogman

Convenor ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 24/WG 8: Environmental Data Representation, 2012-07-24