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Susanna Vahtila
Finnish Standards Association SFS / Suomen Standardisoimisliitto SFS ry

Opinion: ISO / Consultation for ISO Strategy 2016-2020

First of all, a lot of thanks to ISO (International Organization for Standardization) for organising this important consultation about ISO strategy (2016-2020).

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This opinion does not contain:

- any business secrets
- any trade secrets
- any confidential information.

This opinion is public.

The PDF file of this opinion can be added to a relevant web page

Annex 1 holds information about disclaimers and copyright.

Best Regards,

Jukka S. Rannila
citizen of Finland

signed electronically

[Continues on the next page]

36 **Personal opinion and personal experience / Not representing any legal entity**

37
38 Previously I have given four opinions related to different standardisation effort.

39
40 EN:Opinion 13: Final Committee Draft ISO/IEC FCD3 19763-2
41 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_13

42
43 EN: Opinion 14: SFS discussion paper / SFS:n keskusteluasiakirja
44 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_14

45
46 EN: Opinion 24: ISO/IEC JTC 1 / SC 34 / WGs 1, 4 and 5 in Helsinki 14-17 June 2010
47 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_24

48
49 Personally I attended (Helsinki 14-17 June 2010) as an observer to ISO/IEC JTC 1 / SC 34 / WG1,
50 WG4 and WG5 meetings.

51
52 **Proposal**

53
54 **Proposal: JTC 1 could be mentioned in the final version of the ISO Strategy 2016-2020**
55 **document.**

56
57 **JTC 1**

58
59 JTC 1 is an important actor for developing and publishing highly important information technology
60 standards. This opinion is about JTC 1, since I have not experience about other committees.

61
62 **Document processing standardisation as an example**

63
64 Personally I have been interested in two standards: ISO/IEC 26300 and ISO/IEC 29500. Both
65 standards are ¹ freely available standards.

66
67 ISO/IEC 26300 contains at the moment following documents:

68 (728 pages) ISO/IEC 26300:2006
69 (108 pages) ISO/IEC 26300:2006/Amd 1:2012
70 (10 pages) ISO/IEC 26300:2006/Cor.1:2010
71 (13 pages) ISO/IEC 26300:2006/Cor.2:2011
72 (859 pages)

73
74 ISO/IEC 29500 contains at the moment following documents:

75 (5020 pages) ISO/IEC 29500-1:2012 and electronic inserts
76 (138 pages) ISO/IEC 29500-2:2012 and electronic inserts
77 (46 pages) ISO/IEC 29500-3:2012
78 (1550 pages) ISO/IEC 29500-4:2012 and electronic inserts
79 (6754 pages)

1 <http://standards.iso.org/ittf/PubliclyAvailableStandards/index.html>, Freely Available Standards / ISO

80 I did not count the number of different documents in electronic inserts (ISO/IEC 29500), since they
81 contain hundreds of different documents (inter alia different XML and XSD files).

82

83 **JTC 1 rules / PAS Submitters (PAS: publicly available specifications)**

84

85 The idea of PAS Submitters (PAS: publicly available specifications) has some advantages and some
86 problems. An advantage is possible publication of a well-revised proposal for an international
87 ISO/IEC standard. The problem is possible publication of a partly revised proposal for an
88 international ISO/IEC standard

89

90 **One problem is the number of pages related to PAS documents.**

91

92 It can be said that processing (e.g.) 6754 pages (ISO/IEC 29500) can demand more time and more
93 resources for organising a well-organised standardisation process. It can be said, that
94 standardisation process of ISO/IEC 29500 meant some problems with timetable, since the number
95 of pages and the quality of the text demanded serious considerations in the standardisation process.

96

97 Based on this experience (6754 pages: ISO/IEC 29500) it can be said, that the number of pages of
98 new PAS documents should be basis for a well-organised standardisation process. There could be
99 some JTC 1 directives about number of pages for assessing the quality of new PAS documents.

100 Possibly some new PAS documents can contain thousands of pages, and this could mean some
101 revised JTC 1 directives.

102

103 **Proposal: The number of pages in new PAS documents should affect the timetable for**
104 **organising a efficient standardisation process of the proposed standard.**

105

106 **Proposal: The number of pages in new PAS documents should be assessed carefully.**

107

108 **Proposal: The number of pages could mean some time limits or time extensions to be**
109 **noted in the JTC 1 directives.**

110

111 **What should be added to the ISO Strategy 2016-2020 document?**

112

113 JTC 1 is highly instrumental for organising efficient standardisation process for (new) information
114 technology standards. Therefore the JTC 1 directives should take care of PAS documents based on
115 thousands of pages.

116

117 **Proposal**

118

119 **Proposal: JTC 1 could be mentioned in the final version of the ISO Strategy 2016-2020**
120 **document.**

121

122

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124

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127 member either by law or voluntarily. This opinion paper is only intended to trigger thinking and it is not legal advice.

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129 future changes in this fast-developing area. Any actions made based on this opinion is solely responsibility of respective
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131

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135 entity making law proposals.

136

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138 moderate-left. They are only opinions of an individual whose overall thinking might or might not contain elements of
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141

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165

166



2 Based on the Finnish three-party system there is a phenomenon called extreme-centre in Finland. The 2011 parliamentary elections in Finland challenge the three-party system, since three "old" parties were not traditionally as the three largest parties. The is now a "new" party as the third largest party. We all must remain being interested about this new development in Finland.