

Co-operative agreement between ISO/TC 211 Geographic information/Geomatics and the Digital Geographic Information Working Group (DGIWG)

1. Purpose

The purpose of this document is to establish an understanding between ISO/TC 211 and the Digital Geographic Information Working Group (DGIWG). This document formalizes the intention of ISO/TC 211 and DGIWG to co-operate and to enable the development and alignment of agreed joint standards and profiles based on some or all the parts of the ISO 19100 series or other related standards. The resulting standards and profiles will be published by ISO as ISO deliverables subject to the ISO/IEC Directives and jointly by DGIWG as a DGIWG publication or STANAG. DGIWG will continue to support existing DGIWG specifications and their equivalent NATO STANAGs. However, DGIWG's existing specifications will be aligned wherever possible with ISO 19100 series.

2. Background

DGIWG is a multinational body responsible to defence organizations of member nations for co-ordinated advice and policy recommendations on standardization issues. DGIWG is based on a set of Memorandum of Understanding between member nations. DGIWG meets the defence interoperability challenges by creating the standards and procedures required for enabling the provision, exchange and use of standardized geospatial information. ISO/TC 211 produces International Standards for geographic information through a national body balloting process. This agreement facilitates the development of joint ISO/TC 211 and DGIWG standards where it is mutually agreed as being beneficial to do so. This agreement is designed to facilitate an optimum delivery schedule.

3. General principles

- DGIWG seeks to:
 - 1) develop joint standards with ISO/TC 211 for certain aspects of geographic information.
 - 2) align with ISO/TC 211 on working practices while retaining its user responsiveness.
- ISO/TC 211 seeks to:
 - 1) access relevant international user specifications as input to the ISO standards development process.
 - 2) co-operate with DGIWG in assisting the alignment of life cycle working practices within the constraints of the ISO/IEC Directives.
- DGIWG and ISO/TC 211 wish to harmonize and agree their respective work programmes and to set up a coordination group to handle issues under this agreement.
- DGIWG and ISO/TC 211 wish to achieve mutual benefit from sharing the expertise of domain experts of the two organisations and they welcome cross-project participation where appropriate.

4. Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

In accordance with its terms of reference, DGIWG will retain the right for circulation and reproduction of all working documents and final products developed as part of any joint work with ISO/TC 211. Subject to the rights of third parties, any work developed under this agreement, as well as any joint final ISO deliverables, will remain free from any IPR restrictions that may limit the application of the final deliverable. ISO will have the non-exclusive right to copy and use the text of any DGIWG document created under this arrangement. The purpose will be to influence the development of ISO deliverables. ISO/TC 211 agrees that the resulting ISO International Standard, or other deliverable,

will contain a suitable statement indicating that any jointly developed standard was derived from the relevant DGIWG documents and developed jointly with DGIWG and DGIWG will include a similar statement identifying any documents developed together with ISO. Published ISO documents under this agreement will be referenced, within any DGIWG equivalent documents. These references will contain sufficient information for those wishing to obtain the ISO equivalent documents to be able to do so. Publishing arrangements between ISO and ISO member countries are unchanged by this agreement.

DGIWG specifications jointly developed with ISO may be promulgated through the NATO Standardization Activity (NSA) as a STANAG before becoming an ISO deliverable. In this case, permission will be provided by NSA to allow the STANAG to be submitted for consideration as an ISO deliverable. This agreement does not prevent an ISO deliverable becoming a STANAG through NSA.

5. Alignment of procedures

5.1 Overview

To allow co-ordinated review of all working documents developed under this agreement, appropriate portions of ISO/TC 211 and DGIWG procedures will be aligned. The various aspects of this alignment process are described in the following sub clauses.

5.2 Liaison

ISO/TC 211 has appointed DGIWG as a class A liaison organization to ISO/TC 211. This allows DGIWG members, DGIWG technical staff, and DGIWG nominated experts to attend ISO/TC 211 working groups and plenary meetings and to participate in the work in a non-voting capacity. DGIWG liaison provides overall co-ordination of this activity within DGIWG.

The ISO class A liaison agreement will be used as a primary mechanism to enable co-operation between DGIWG and ISO/TC 211. DGIWG will accept nominated ISO/TC 211 representatives as non-voting liaison members to the DGIWG committees and working groups so that reciprocal liaison in the other direction can be achieved. Formal notification will be communicated between the ISO/TC 211 secretariat and the DGIWG liaison to ISO/TC 211 or other select Working Group chairs.. However, the representatives will be responsible to ensure that:

- a) at the point that the DGIWG liaison to ISO/TC 211 agrees that documents should be passed to ISO/TC 211 for further processing toward a joint DGIWG ISO deliverable, documents are forwarded to the ISO/TC 211 Secretariat;
- b) formal comments are forwarded from ISO/TC 211 to the DGIWG liaison to ISO/TC 211, or designated DGIWG Working Group Chairs;
- c) reports on the work of DGIWG will be given at each relevant ISO/TC 211 plenary or working group meeting; reciprocally, and conversely, reports on the work of ISO/TC 211 will be given at each relevant DGIWG working group meeting;
- d) early notification is given to ISO/TC 211 of proposed new work items for joint work that is likely to be submitted to ISO/TC 211 as appropriate in co-ordination with the DGIWG liaison to ISO/TC 211;
- e) DGIWG participation in ISO/TC 211 is co-ordinated with the DGIWG commenting and voting process that approves DGIWG proposed recommendations as DGIWG specifications;
- f) DGIWG recognises that other class A liaison organizations may establish similar agreements with ISO/TC 211.

5.3 Early collaboration

DGIWG and ISO/TC 211 desire that any DGIWG specification that is input into the formal ISO/TC 211 process for the establishment of a joint standard is as close to meeting ISO style and quality

requirements as possible. Because user specifications require extra care in styles, DGIWG agrees to follow the ISO style guide as given in ISO/IEC Directives part 2 as far as is applicable.

New DGIWG work items that are intended for processing as joint DGIWG/ISO International Standards will be submitted by DGIWG as soon as possible to ISO/TC 211 as a New Work Item Proposal (NWIP). The NWIP will be submitted along with the available documentation and with the nomination of a DGIWG Project Leader or one that is acceptable to DGIWG. The NWIP will be sent out for ballot and comments as set out in the ISO/IEC Directives. The further processing of the project will be in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives.

6. Base document

At the time that a DGIWG specification is submitted to ISO/TC 211 for processing as a joint DGIWG/ISO Standard, the DGIWG shall identify the base document(s) supporting and justifying the work.

7. Availability of drafts and other working documents

All drafts and working documents will be made freely available to DGIWG and ISO/TC 211 committee and working group members according to each party's normal practices.

8. Distribution of final standards

Both DGIWG and ISO individually retain the rights to publish all documents developed under this agreement according to their own practices. After adoption as a Draft International Standard (DIS, FDIS), or an International Standard (IS), the corresponding DGIWG version of the ISO International Standard will be published as a DGIWG specification and will be published and circulated according to their normal practices. This may include the publication as a STANAG where appropriate.

9. Maintenance of standards

Both organizations acknowledge that a Registration Authority might be required for the successful implementation of certain provisions in ISO Standards resulting from this agreement. DGIWG offers to serve as a possible Registration Authority for jointly developed standards where registration is a requirement, and will promptly submit a suitable application to ISO once the New Work Item Proposal requiring establishment of a Registration Authority for this work has been approved. It is recognized that both DGIWG and ISO may develop registries independent of each other, even based on jointly developed standards: however, both DGIWG and ISO will inform each other of such developments and co-operate where appropriate.

10. Parallel approval

Approval of jointly developed standards will be by parallel voting on the joint work in accordance with the voting procedures in each organization. If a document is voted YES by both parties then it has joint status. If either party votes NO, then the document is not joint, and only the party that voted YES might adopt the document.

11. Amendments to the agreement

ISO/TC 211 and DGIWG agree that changes to this agreement will be proposed by a resolution from one party and agreed by resolution from the other.