Notes About Namespaces
DRAFT – to be submitted for TC review

The discussion about namespaces has emerged in conjunction with template requests for Common Types, CIQ profile and GML Simple Features profile.

When filling in a template request, there are 3 fields affected by the namespace conversation: "Work Product Title", "Work Product Abbreviation" and "Namespace(s)" as they tie into the notions of document path, filename and xml namespace.

Let me use the 3 targeted work products to exemplify the proposed conventions for each of these fields.

1) Work Product Title: there are not many constraints from OASIS for this field. e.g. in a communication to the editors, the TC Administrator recommended abstaining from the use of hyphens in titles, for 2 reasons. (1) Semantics: readers may have different understanding of their meaning; (2) Syntax: there are about 10 different codes to represent "-".

Suggested **rule**: *a Work Product title should be descriptive, reflective of its position within the hierarchy of EM documents, and be complemented with* "Version *v.r*" *with v = version number and r = revision number. The wording should be chosen in anticipation of a short form that will serve as file name; avoid use of comma ",".*

Here are the proposed titles for the 3 work products:

- Common types: "**Emergency Data Exchange Language (EDXL) Reference Information Model (RIM): Common Types Version 1.0**"

- CIQ profile: "**Emergency Data Exchange Language (EDXL) Customer Information Quality (CIQ) Profile Version 1.0**"

- GML Simple Features profile: "**Emergency Data Exchange Language (EDXL) GML Simple Features Profile Version 1.0**"

2) Work Product Abbreviation: the Work Product registration form states "*a short abbreviation that will be used as part of all filenames as well as the citation label. (for example: cap, saml, xliff, xspa-ws-trust-profile)*" for that field.

Rules for naming files and directories are governed by the OASIS Naming Directives which define

a) the valid character set (A-Za-z0-9.-), noting that "." is FULL STOP [decimal 46] and "-" is HYPHEN-MINUS [decimal 45] (*NO* "_" *underscore*), and

b) the name construction rules which state among others that mixed cases / camelCase are allowed (OASIS servers are case sensitive), and that the file name of a work product must have the structure [WP-abbrev]-[version-id]-[stage-abbrev][revisionNumber].[ext].

For more details about OASIS naming rules, see
http://docs.oasis-open.org/specGuidelines/ndr/namingDirectives.html

Here are the proposed abbreviations for the 3 work products:

- <u>Common types</u>: "**edxl-ct**"
  Example filename: `edxl-ct-v1.0-wd01.odt` -- Working Draft, revision 01 of EDXL Common Types version 1.0, in odt format
  Alternative forms to consider "EDXLct", "edxlCT", ..?

- <u>CIQ profile</u>: "**edxl-ciq**"
   Example filename: `edxl-ciq-v1.1-csd02.pdf` -- Committee Specification Draft, revision 02 of EDXL CIQ Profile version 1.1, in pdf format.

- <u>GML Simple Features</u>: "**edxl-gsf**"
  Example filename: `edxl-gsf-v2.1-wd07.doc`

For documents that derive from more complex structures, e.g. profiles that rely on other edxl standards, we should use name "*concatenation*":
  For instance the abbreviation for IPAWS profile built on CAP 1.2 concatenates the abbreviation of the standard, the version and an abbreviation for the profile: edxl-cap-v1.2-ipaws
   This would then be used to build a filename: edxl-cap-v1.2-ipaws-v1.0-cos03.xsd which designates the schema for the Candidate OASIS Standard revision 03 of IPAWS profile version 1.0 built on CAP v1.2.

3) Namespaces: consideration must be given to http scheme name spaces (URI), XML namespaces and URN namespaces.

i) Path components in document URI : URIs serving as primary identifiers for Work Products installed in the OASIS Library must be rooted at docs.oasis-open.org/ and conform to this pattern:
  `http://docs.oasis-open.org/[tc-shortname]/[WP-abbrev]/[version-id]/[stage-abbrev]`
`[revisionNumber]/[doc-id].[ext]`

ii) An XML namespace name identified by an HTTP scheme URI reference must conform to the pattern:
 `http://docs.oasis-open.org/ns/[tc-shortname]/xxxx`

iii) OASIS discourages the use of URNs: "*URN-based XML namespaces may be declared by TCs that have already used this feature, or by associated Maintenance Activity TCs, where architectural considerations require continued use of URNs. URN-based XML namespaces must not be declared otherwise, since they lack a standard, ubiquitous resolution method using DNS[+HTTP]*" - OASIS has shelved plans for the development of a URN Resolver, but given the potential of URN for future ontology work of the RIM and the possibility for external registration services, I recommend that we continue this practice of including URN, until further notice.

Respective suggestions for our work products of interest:
- <u>Common types</u>:
 i) `http://docs.oasis-open.org/emergency/edxl-ct/v1.0/wd01.odt`
 ii) `http://docs.oasis-open.org/ns/emergency/edxl-ct/v1.0`
 iii) `urn:oasis:names:tc:emergency:edxl:ct:1.0`

<u>CIQ profile</u>:
 i) `http://docs.oasis-open.org/emergency/edxl-ciq/v1.1/csd02.pdf`
 ii) `http://docs.oasis-open.org/ns/emergency/edxl-ciq/v1.1`
 iii) `urn:oasis:names:tc:emergency:edxl:ciq:1.1`

<u>GML Simple Feature</u>:
 i) `http://docs.oasis-open.org/emergency/edxl-gsf/v2.1/wd07.doc`
 ii) `http://docs.oasis-open.org/ns/emergency/edxl-gsf/v2.1`
 iii) `urn:oasis:names:tc:emergency:edxl:gsf:2.1`