

To: **OASIS EM-TC Members**

From: **Greg Trott, Project Manager of the Project developing the CAP Australian Profile (CAP-AP)**

REVISED REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF THE AUSTRALIAN PROFILE FOR COMMON ALERTING PROTOCOL

Following a telephone conference between Elysa Jones, Sukumar Dwarkanath and Greg Trott on March 18, 2011, the Australian Attorney-General's Department (AGD) has revised this Request For Assistance to develop the CAP Australian Profile (CAP-AP).

The three (3) tasks and two (2) questions detailed below constitute the revised request for assistance that Australia is now requesting from OASIS to assist the Australian CAP Project to develop the CAP-AP. The questions will be posed to the EM-TC members as a separate post to the members list in order to seek feedback from individual members that they may wish to share with the Australian CAP-AP project.

CAP-AP point of contact:

Mr Greg Trott

CAP-AP Project Manager

Emergency Management Capability Development Branch

Australian Government Attorney-General's Department

Tel: +61 - 2 - 6141 3904 | Fax: +61 - 2 - 6141 3998 | Cell / Mobile: +61 – 411 278 555

Email: Gregory.Trott@ag.gov.au

Mailing Address:

National Security Capability Development Division

Attorney-General's Department

3 - 5 National Circuit | Barton ACT | Australia | 2600

Task 1) Review the document titled “Discussion Paper Common Alerting Protocol – Australian Profile (CAP-AP)” then provide the following responses:

- 1.a) **feedback** any comments and issues that OASIS feels may impede development of the CAP- AP standard that Australia is seeking to produce;
- 1.b) **identify** whether the content of the Discussion Paper is suitable as the starting point for populating into an OASIS Committee Specification.

Situation to date: This Discussion Paper represents the requirements for CAP-AP and has been reviewed by the Australian CAP Stakeholder Group during the period Oct – Dec 2010. A matrix of Stakeholder responses and action items has been collated from the outcomes of the review activity. The Discussion Paper document is considered to be the genesis of the CAP-AP product to be developed, so Australia is interested in the OASIS Members opinions regarding the suitability of the content of the Discussion Paper to serve as the starting pint for the OASIS process.

Preferred deadline to complete this task: **no later than 26 April 2011**

Task 2) Confirm GATT Compliance: Australia seeks to confirm whether the OASIS CAPv1.2 standard has previously been considered for compliance with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), and whether there is a GATT compliance report available that could be shared with Australia.

Situation to date: There is risk that the CAP-AP standards document may be considered a technical barrier to trade (TBT) by overseas organisations. The GATT developed TBT Agreement is administered by the World Trade Organization (WTO) and GATT was signed by Australia in early 1992. In relation to Standards like the CAP-AP, the GATT / WTO TBT Agreement obliges signatory countries not to raise non-tariff barriers to trade (i.e. technical barriers). The mechanism by which this TBT Agreement operates is that any mandatory Standards issued by a signatory nation that might have an impact on trade must be reported to the other WTO signatories via a network of national notification points. The other nations then have a period during which they may lodge a challenge to the implementation of the Standard on the grounds that it represents a non-tariff barrier to trade. The CAP-AP Project Manager (PM) has confirmed with Trade Law experts in the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) that alignment of the CAP- AP standard with the equivalent International Standard (i.e. OASIS CAPv1.2) will most likely discharge Australia’s obligations under the TBT Agreement. Accordingly, the CAP Project will be seeking to confirm the GATT-compliance status of the OASIS CAP v1.2 standard.

Preferred deadline to complete this task: **no later than 31 May 2011**

Task 3) Assist the Australian CAP Project to develop a Committee Specification Draft for the CAP-AP.

Situation to date:

2.a) The Australian CAP Project intends to develop the CAP-AP document using an Australian Government standards development process, as this process is known to Australian stakeholders and provides highest likelihood that the CAP-AP document will be accepted in Australia. The process results in a document being produced that will become known as the Australian Government standard for CAP-AP.

2.b) Australia intends to manage this process in parallel with the OASIS process that will develop a Committee Specification Draft, in order to obtain ratification from OASIS that the CAP-AP standard that Australia has produced actually does conform to the parent OASIS CAPv1.2 standard. Part of the strategy is for Australia to use the template and format of the OASIS Committee Specification document as the basis for the CAP-AP document format because Australian CAP stakeholders do not mandate any specific format / template to be used and use of the OASIS templates will improve the likelihood that the CAP-AP product will be acceptable to OASIS.

2.c) The CAP-AP development process that will be managed by the Australian CAP Project is currently planned as follow:

- develop a First Draft CAP-AP document during April 2011*
- CAP Stakeholders to review the First Draft document during May 2011*
- CAP Stakeholders to vote at the end of May 2011 to confirm whether they are willing to accept the content of the proposed CAP-AP document.*
- Once an 80% consensus is achieved, the CAP-AP document is to be submitted to a Cross Jurisdictional Chief Information Officers Committee (CJCIOC) that will be requested to provide a "Preliminary Endorsement" of the CAP-AP document, which signals that Australian Government authorities believe that the CAP-AP document is ready to be implemented. We aim to achieve this ratification by end of June 2011.*
- The CAP Project will then need to collect evidence from at least two independent implementations that the CAP-AP standard can be successfully implemented.*
- Once the evidence is available, the CAP Project returns to the CJCIOC for "Final Approval" to release the CAP-AP as an Australian Government standard.*
- Regarding a public consultation period - the Australian standards development process does not mandate the need for this consultation activity to be conducted, so the decision not to conduct public consultation has already been made but can be reconsidered if necessary.*

2.d) Some observations regarding possible options that OASIS might consider to develop the OASIS CAP-AP Committee Specification Draft are:

- The First Draft CAP-AP product is developed using the OASIS templates - current intention is to leverage from the IPAWS Committee Specification format that is downloadable from the internet, so provision of the latest template as soon as possible would benefit Australia's progress.*
- The CAP-AP PM (Greg Trott) acts as the middleman between the OASIS Profiles SC and the Australian CAP Stakeholder group so that there is no need to try and motivate the Australian group to get access to the functions and features of the*

OASIS website (Bottom line is that the Australian stakeholders are very busy managing disaster events in Australia and have little time to learn about a new desktop tool that they are not likely to use very frequently)

- *The CAP-AP product that achieves “Preliminary Endorsement” from the CJCIOC in June 2011 could be used as the CAP-AP Committee Specification Draft within the OASIS process, which may serve to accelerate completion of the OASIS process due to the fact that OASIS may agree that a number of the preliminary OASIS activities would already have been achieved during the Australian development process.*

Preferred deadline to complete this task: no later than 2 December 2011

Question 1) Clarify the advantages and disadvantages of restricting CAP-AP to use only one event code within an <info> block, including;

2.a) allowing CAP-AP to include multiple event codes within a single <info> block; and

2.b) allowing the use of multiple <info> blocks that only use one event code per block.

Note: This information is being requested in order to resolve some perceived ambiguities with the CAP INFO Block that have been expressed by Australian CAP Stakeholders.

Preferred deadline to complete this task: **no later than 29 April 2011**

Question 2) Confirm [via responding to an email that is promulgated to the EM-TC members list] how OASIS CAP interoperates with the following objects and identifiers, in order to gain understanding about whether Australia needs to consider introducing these items to Australian Users.

2.a) **Tactical Situation Object (TSO)**

Refer http://www.oasis-fp6.org/documents/OASIS_TA21_DDD_041_DSF_1_4_pub.pdf ;

2.b) **GLobal IDentifier number (GLIDE)** Refer

<http://www.glidenumbers.net/glide/public/about.jsp> ; and

2.c) **Object Identifiers (OID)**

Refer [http://www.oid-info.com/doc/introduction%20to%20object%20identifiers%20\(OIDs\).pdf](http://www.oid-info.com/doc/introduction%20to%20object%20identifiers%20(OIDs).pdf) and <http://www.oid-info.com/faq.htm#1>

Situation to date: a recent CAP workshop highlighted there was very little knowledge about these items existing in Australian emergency management organizations.

Preferred deadline to complete this task: **no later than 31 May 2011**