2021 Call for OpenPeppol Elections

Application for: Agreement, Policies and Procedures Change Management Board (APP CMB)

Beate Schulte

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Curriculum Vitae:

Qualification Summary:

- Studies of Computer Science at the University of Bremen, Diplom Informatikerin (corresponds to Master in Computer Science)
- Post-doc Scholarship in Australia, Brisbane

Experience Highlights:

Working for the Coordination Office for IT Standardisation since 2011 as

- Project leader for the two IT-standards OSCI and XTA (development and maintenance). They ensure secure data exchange in-between several thousand public authorities in Germany (G2G).
- Head of Peppol Authority in Germany

Employment History:

- Consultant at the department for IT Management and eGovernment of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen for 10 years (Project leader: Exchange of examination data between several universities; Cooperation in the board of the DIN (German Institute for Standardisation); Implementation of the EU Service Directive; Accessibility)
- Consultant in a software company developing software for the touristic branch (8 years)

The Coordination Office for IT Standards (KoSIT)

In Germany, the State Treaty on IT establishing the IT Planning Council lays the groundwork for cooperation on the use of information technology in federal and state public administration and implements Article 91c of the Basic Law (State Treaty on IT). The IT Planning Council is the central body responsible for National IT cooperation.

Based on Article 91c of the Basic Law, existing IT bodies and decision-making structures can be streamlined to operate more effectively and thus adapt to technological progress. Article 91c of the Basic Law also creates the legal prerequisites for seamless electronic communication among federal, state and local government agencies. The amendment also gave the Federal Government exclusive authority to pass legislation concerning a core network for federal and state public administration.

The IT Planning Council comprises permanent structures such as the Coordination Office for IT Standards (KoSIT). The main tasks of KoSIT are to assist the IT Planning Council in adopting IT interoperability and IT security standards and to manage joint federal and state-level e-government projects.

KoSIT is located within the e-government division of the core administration of the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen, but is a permanent organisation of the National IT Planning Council.

Letter of Motivation

In April 2018, the German National IT Planning Council decided to mandate use of the Peppol eDelivery Network for transport of e-invoices to public authorities in Germany. It was decided to establish the Peppol eDelivery Network for public authorities to transport e-invoices. In addition, it mandated the Coordination Office for IT Standards (KoSIT) as the National Peppol Authority.

The KoSIT is responsible for IT interoperability and IT security standards for public authorities in Germany, and we are constantly dealing with the fine line of maintaining standards efficiently and dependable on one hand and being innovative and sustainable on the other.

With OSCI, a network protocol for which I was responsible for 9 years until 2020, KoSIT is already providing a standard for secure and trustworthy data exchange between public authorities in Germany. Like Peppol, OSCI is based on the four-corner-model. KoSIT (respectively its predecessor) is maintaining this standard (besides many other specifications for business documents) since 2003.

All standards we provide have a wide acceptance. They are used by round about 20.000 public authorities / entities (mostly G2G). In some areas, the standards are mandatory. The success is result of the underlying principles of our standards: They are all build on operational concepts approved by all stakeholders (especially authorities, data center, sw-developers). These operational concepts include change management processes, policies and the modus operandi of the involved expert groups and steering boards.

As Leader of the German Peppol Authority, it is my task - and my personal challenge - to build up structures that serve the Service Provider in Germany best. I´m convinced that the challenges coming up for the Peppol Change Management Board are very similar to our experiences we had – and still have – in the KoSIT. With the intensive work done on the Interoperability Framework the last years and especially since December we have a very good starting point and basis for the further development.

I would be very happy to provide my and our experiences to the Peppol Network as Member of the CMB for the next two years.

Bremen, 5.5.2021