



Peppol

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Agreement Revision Task Force

Presentation for SPC meeting on Sept. 15, 2021

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Presentation outline



Status of ARTF work (Jostein)

Overview of current status

Timeline towards completion of the ARFT work



SP voting on agreement documents (Ahti)



The other hot topics (SP reps. In ARTF)

End User identification and reporting

Non-compliance

Liability



Q&A

Status of ARTF work

Status on comment resolution and updated deliverables

- All 700 comments received from the member review have now been processed by the ARTF
 - One topic is noted for escalation, SP voting on agreement documents, for is now escalated to the MC for resolution
 - For all other comments, the ARTF has reached a consensus position
- Agreed resolutions have been implemented in Platinum versions of the documents
- As an additional work item, explanatory notes are under development for selected priority topics
 - End User Reporting
 - Entity Identification
 - Non-compliance
 - Liability

The final deliverables from ARTF

The 0.8 platinum versions of the documents are considered as the final deliverables from the ARTF.

The following documents are made available on Confluence, to help members to get informed, digest, and become comfortable with the resolution of their comments:

- Platinum versions of documents
 - With track change to highlight changes implemented
- Consolidated Comment log
 - Documenting the resolution agreed by ARTF
- Explanatory notes
 - On priority topics
- Updated Backlog and Issue register

- Peppol Authority Agreement
- Peppol Service Provider Agreement
- Internal Regulations for the Use of the Peppol Network
- Operational Procedures
 - Change Management
 - Extended Use
 - Issue Reporting and Management
 - Non-Compliance Management
 - Onboarding and Accreditation of Peppol Service providers
 - Peppol Authority Specific Requirements
 - Reporting of Statistics

<https://openpeppol.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/AF/pages/2275377158/Agreements+Revision+Task+Force+-+Update+09.09.2021>

The formal approval process

- The formal approval of the ARTF deliverables will take place according to current established governance regime
- The revised agreement documents are subject to a formal vote amongst the PAs
 - As per existing TIA, annex 6. The MC must approve the version that the PAC will vote on.
- The IR and OPs will be approved by the MC
 - As per existing statutes

SP vote on changes to agreement documents

The process to date

- The draft agreement documents submitted for member review maintained current governance approach,
 - Peppol Authorities have a final vote and can block a new agreement version (but not fully decide on the changes, which are decided by the APP CMB with escalation to the MC if needed)
- During member review, 14 comments received on this issue from 14 service providers (35% of the SPs submitting comments), of which 9 comments has identical wording
- The ARTF has reviewed and discussed the issues but has not been able to reach a consensus on the resolution for this issue.
 - As part of the comment resolution process, consultation was done with the PAC in their meeting on June 24

SP voting on revision of agreement documents

Text used in current draft PA and SP Agreements (§ 13.1, with text in question highlighted in bold)

- This Agreement, as well as all other components of the Peppol Interoperability Framework, is subject to the Change Management provisions set forth in the Internal Regulations and the Operational Procedures and the principles set out in this clause 13. The Parties affirm that they are fully aware of the terms of this process, and that they accept the applicability of this process to this Agreement without reservation provided, however, that the Internal Regulations and Operational Procedures at all times provide for a fair and open change process, and that **no changes to this Agreement shall be determined with less than 75 % of the votes casted of the Peppol Authorities.**

The concern

- Strong and persistent request from SPs to participate in the voting for changes to agreements

Alternative rewording

- ... majority of the signing parties
- something more reasonable covering service providers
- equal right/possibilities for SP/PA communities.

Observation

- Represents a change in governance structure

Concern is recognised

- The concern raised by the comments is recognised
- Two alternative solutions for mitigation are currently under discussion
 1. Adjust the IR to allow for community voting during the change management process
 2. Adjust the formal voting procedure allowing both PA and SP communities to vote and leave resolution of disagreement for MC decision

A possible middle ground compromise

1. Adjust the IR to allow for community voting during the change management process

Insert in the IR the following provisions:

- When, during community review, an RFC is rejected by the majority of any Stakeholder Community, the RFC needs to be revised and cannot be accepted as is
- The APP CMB may, as part of Community review, initiate a vote among the members of a Stakeholder Community

The impact of these changes will be that

- an RFC can be blocked by rejection through the submission of comments by a majority of the SPs
- a SP vote may be initiated early on in the process avoiding a possible stand-off if a PAC vote and SPC vote on the finished product go in different directions

A possible middle ground compromise

2. Adjust the formal voting procedure allowing both PA and SP communities to vote and leave resolution of disagreement for MC

decision

Adjust the agreement and IR:

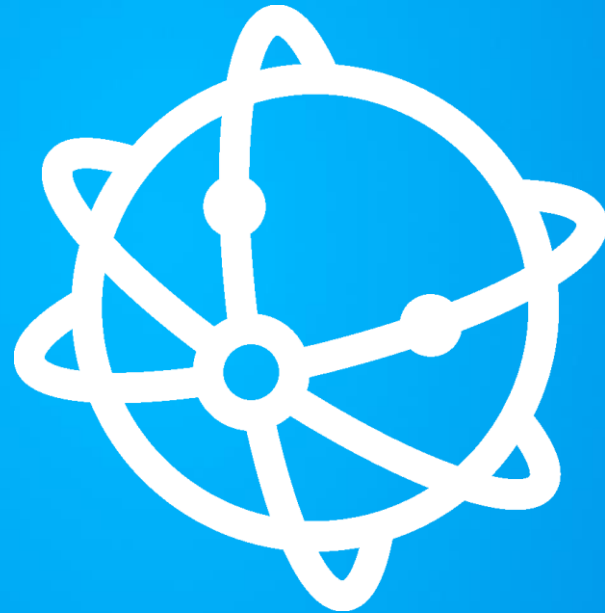
- Remove the explicit voting rules from the agreement documents
 - Some clause about equal representation in decision making may need to be inserted
- Add provisions for voting rules to the IR
 - Independent voting by PAC and SPC
 - In case of conflicting voting results the final decision to be made by the MC

The impact of these changes will be that

- An RFC cannot be blocked by rejection in the change management process
- Will high-light and possibly escalate conflicts if a PAC vote and SPC vote on the finished product go in different directions

Other hot topics

- End User identification and reporting
- Non-compliance
- Liability



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