A Uniform Resource Name (URN) Namespace for Eurosystem Messaging

1 Introduction

The European System of Central Banks (ESCB) is composed of the European Central Bank (ECB) and the national central banks (NCBs) of all 27 EU Member States (Article 107.01 of the Treaty) whether they have adopted the euro or not. One central bank belonging to ESCB is Deutsche Bundesbank.

For further information on the tasks of the ESCB and of the Eurosystem please refer to www.ecb.int.

The ESCB provides the market infrastructures TARGET2. It is an interbank payment system for the real-time processing of cross-border transfers throughout the European Union. In addition the ESCB is currently implementing TARGET2-Securities, a future securities settlement platform which offers a new, harmonised and centralised method of settling securities in central bank money. The TARGET2-Securities project was initiated by the Eurosystem as platform-owner in 2006. TARGET2-Securities is currently under development. Four central banks of the Eurosystem - Deutsche Bundesbank, Banque de France, Banca d’Italia and Banco de Espana (4CB) - are entrusted with the development and the operation of the platform.

The future users of TARGET2-Securities will communicate and exchange information with the platform via messages (a set of structured information) following the ISO 20022 Standard.

The goal of the requested namespace is to ensure the stability and uniqueness of the names of various items that are used within the messages exchanged between the Eurosystem and the users of TARGET2-Securities.

It is essential that names of items (such as the XML schema describing the message itself) can be used to identify the resource even years after the message has been exchanged.

The same resource may exist in multiple physical locations, and thus multiple URL’s, but only a single URN.

2. Specification Template
Namespace ID:

"eurosystem"

Registration Information:

Version 1
Date: 2012-01-09

Declared registrant of the namespace:

Deutsche Bundesbank (member of ESCB)
Wilhelm-Epstein-Strasse 14
60431 Frankfurt
GERMANY

Declaration of syntactic structures:

The structure of the Namespace Specific String is a flat space <URN chars> [1] which has no knowable structure outside of the context of the Eurosystem community internal resolver. Future changes to the assignment methods may allow others to assign sub-spaces of the flat namespace but again, this knowledge is only valid internally and should never be inferred or relied upon externally.

Relevant ancillary Documentation:

None

Identifier uniqueness considerations:

Identifiers are assigned by Eurosystem URN Registration that guarantees uniqueness. This is simply achieved by keeping track of already assigned names and comparing all new proposed names to the database ones. If the name already exists a new one has to be proposed.

Identifiers persistence considerations:

Assigned URNs will not be reused and will remain valid beyond the lifecycle of the referenced resources. However, it should be noted that although the URNs remain valid, the status of the referenced resource may change.

Process of identifiers assignment:

Names are granted via proprietary registration procedures.

Process for identifier resolution:

Eurosystem URNs are resolved via URN resolvers run under Eurosystem responsibility.

Rules for lexical equivalence:

No special consideration.

Conformance with URN syntax:

No special consideration.

Validation mechanism:
None specified.

Scope:

This namespace is reserved to the Eurosystem and its community.

3. Examples

The following examples are not guaranteed to be real. They are listed for pedagogical reasons only.

    urn:eurosystem:xsd:reda.012.001.01

4. Security Considerations

Since the URNs in this namespace are opaque there are no additional security considerations other than those normally associated with the use and resolution of URNs in general.

It is noted however that attempting to resolve a Eurosystem URN through a resolver other than the one provided by Eurosystem is error prone. In any case, it is not considered authoritative.

5. IANA Considerations

IANA is requested to assign a formal NID.

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6.a

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7. Authors’ Addresses

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