



**UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM**

Chief Executives Board for Coordination

**High-Level Committee on Management**

**Common **SDG URIs****

**for**

**UN documents and data**

UN Semantic Interoperability Framework  
UNSIF



**UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM**

Chief Executives Board for Coordination

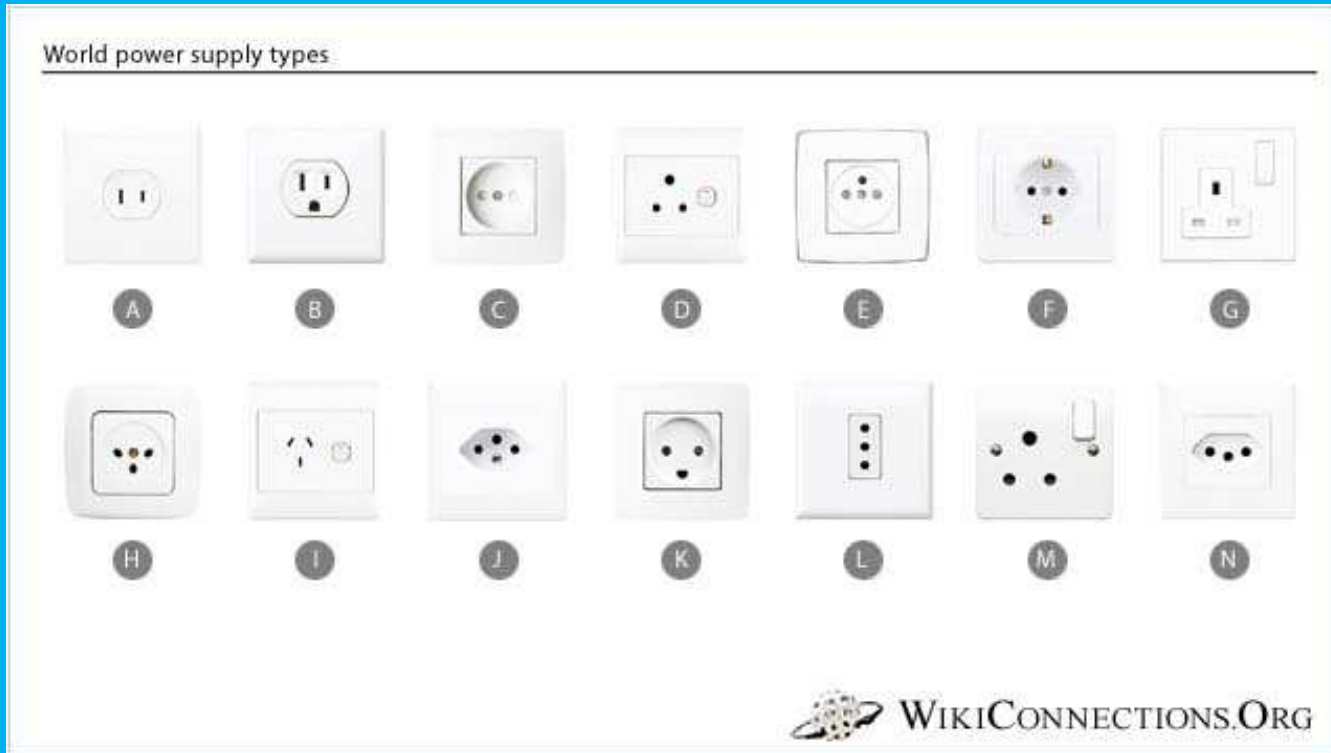
**High-Level Committee on Management**

**UN Semantic Interoperability Framework**

**UNSIF Working Group**

common standards for UN Documents

# Power sockets...



... standards make a lot of sense!!!

# High-Level Committee on Management

Define a UN-wide **harmonised information ecosystem of machine-readable documents** in the critical domain of normative and parliamentary documents in order to:

- ❖ **foster exchange of information**, collaboration and reduce costs in information management
- ❖ **deliver advanced information services** while making documents more accessible and open to all stakeholders.
- ❖ **bridge the divide document-data** for an effective evidence-base policy formulation and programmes evaluations and monitoring.

... “**deliver more with less**”, “**deliver as one**”!

# HLCM WG organizations



UN-DGACM  
UNON  
UNOG



UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM  
Chief Executives Board for Coordination



UNEP



unicef



UNESCO



UN  
DP



IMO



WFP



UN  
WOMEN



ILO



World Health  
Organization



WIPO  
WORLD  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY



ICAO • OACI • ИКАО  
国际民航组织



IAEA



LIFAD

# Achievements

The **UN Semantic Interoperability Framework (UNSIF)** for normative and parliamentary documents was endorsed by HLCM at the 32<sup>nd</sup> session, March 2017.

The first building blocks are:

- ▶ **Akoma Ntoso for the United Nations System **Guidelines****



Identify **structures and semantic** components of UN documents

- ▶ **United Nations System Document Ontology **Documentation****



Describe **meanings and relationships** of entities and concepts of UN documents



Akoma Ntoso for United Nations (AKN4UN) defines a set of **machine-readable representations** in XML format of parliamentary, legislative and judiciary documents

Akoma Ntoso makes explicit the **structure and semantic components** of the digital documents to support the creation of **high value information services**



machine-readable...?

For example let's take this resolution

United Nations

A/70/943



**General Assembly**

Distr.: General  
14 June 2016

Original: English

**Seventieth session**  
Agenda item 148

**Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of  
the United Nations peacekeeping operations**

**Report of the Fifth Committee**

*Rapporteur:* Mr. Gert Auväärt (Estonia)

**I. Introduction**

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 18 September 2015, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of

what kind of  
“instructions”

are we currently providing to  
computers ...

# only formatting instructions ...

The diagram illustrates the application of formatting instructions to a document cover page. A grey box labeled "bold" has arrows pointing to the words "General Assembly" and "Report of the Fifth Committee". A red box labeled "font" has arrows pointing to the numbers "18", "14", and "12", which are placed above the main title, the report title, and the section heading "I. Introduction" respectively. The document cover page itself is shown with a blue header area containing the text "only formatting instructions ...". Below this, the document title "United Nations General Assembly" is displayed, with the UN logo to the left. The document number "A/70/943" is in the top right corner. Below the title, the distribution information "Distr.: General" and the date "14 June 2016" are shown, along with "Original: English". A horizontal line separates the header from the session information "Seventieth session" and "Agenda item 148". The main title "Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations" is followed by the report title "Report of the Fifth Committee" and the rapporteur's name "Rapporteur: Mr. Gert Auväärt (Estonia)". The section heading "I. Introduction" is followed by the first paragraph: "1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 18 September 2015, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of".

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# “meaningful” instructions ...

session


agenda item

title

rapporteur

United Nations A/70/943

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# Common SDG URI for UN documents and data

Why **SDG** ?

**TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD:**



**THE 2030 AGENDA FOR  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

# Why **common** ?

Because ...

2030 Agenda

**requires a robust review mechanism**

to monitor progress, inform policies and ensure accountability of all stakeholders



Why **common** ?

but ...

documents and data remain “divided”,  
most of the time isolated without any links  
to each other

# Why Unique Resource Identifier?

Because ...

they are the new “subject terms” that support information discovery and retrieval ... and they are foundation on which “Linked Data” is built

## Why **URI** ?

Because ...

they are what may transform SDG documents/data islands into a global SDG information space

# Why HTTP URI ?

Tim Berners-Lee outlined the four principles of Linked Data:

- > Use URIs to name (identify) things.
- > Use HTTP URIs so that these things can be looked up (interpreted, "dereferenced").
- > Provide useful information about what a name identifies when it's looked up, using open standards such as RDF, SPARQL, etc.
- > Refer to other things using their HTTP URI-based names when publishing data on the Web.

## HLCM Secretariat ...

Has been working with **UNSD**  
to define common persistent identifiers  
for SD Goals, Targets and Indicators  
across documents and data  
based on “Linked Data” best practice.

# Objective

Establish commonly agreed  
Unique Resource Identifiers (URIs) for SDG

to enable the an open linked-data approach that will allow users to more easily discover and integrate different sources of SDG-related information from documents and data across the UN System and beyond.

## Where are we ...

HLCM Secretariat & UNSD  
are about to finalise a draft proposal for common  
URI for SD Goals, Targets, Indicators and Series ...

What remains to be finalised is the best way to deal  
with changing indicators and series across time.

## What we hope is that ...

you all will appreciate the importance of a **common standard for identifiers** for SD Goals, Targets, Indicators and Series

you all support this innovative initiative that aims to create a **seamless information space documents-data** that will better support the SDG ambition of evidence based policy making and monitoring.



Thank you