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Torrejón de Ardoz 31/05/2016

To Simmons Scott
Technical Committee Chair, Open Geospatial Consortium

It is our pleasure to announce an *OGC Implementation Schema for Coverages – ReferenceableGridCoverage Extension* for consideration by the OGC Technical Committee. As a proposed extension of an existing standard (GMLCOV 1.0), the TC Policies and Procedures document¹ specifies that the *Extension* go through the RFC process with a submitted RFC package. To that end, the *Extension* was submitted as an RFC package on the OGC Pending Documents on May 4, 2016 as OGC 16-083. The package contains in a single zip file the *Extension* standard document, XML schema, and example XML documents.

The other two OGC member organizations joining EUSC in this submission are IGN (FR) and KEYW (USA). The three supporting organizations and contacts are listed in the current version of the *Extension* document, which may be found in the current version of the package that we have placed on the external OGC "Coverages Big Picture" web page:

http://external.opengeospatial.org/twiki_public/pub/CoveragesDWG/CoveragesBigPicture/16-083_ReferenceableGridCoverage_Extension.zip.

This signed cover letter completes the RFC package².

Several commercial and government OGC members have committed to using this *Extension*, either directly (DGIWG) or by implementation in open source packages (GDAL, OSSIM), as it provides instantiable elements that may be used to define the domain set of a GMLCOV ReferenceableGridCoverage. The current GMLCOV 1.0 is entirely lacking in such support.

Finally, the process of synchronizing the CIS 1.1 candidate standard with ISO 19123 is not going to begin anytime soon³, yet the ISO 19123-based GMLCOV (as CIS 1.0) is currently on a "fast track" to adoption by ISO TC211. Until CIS 1.1 and ISO 19123 are in-sync, encoding standards such as GMLJP2 2.0 will remain based on GMLCOV/CIS 1.0, and thus we expect that this *Extension* will be relevant for some time.

We look forward to evaluating all RFC responses and, if necessary, modifying the *Extension* to address all raised concerns.

Regards

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¹ OGC 05-020r20, *OGC Technical Committee Policies and Procedures*

² OGC 06-065r8, *RFC Submission Process: FAQ, Guidelines, and Timeline*

³ Douglas O'Brien, email communication and discussion from early April 2016