

**WORKING GROUP ON
CLOUD COMPUTING INTEROPERABILITY STANDARDS**

**Notes of the Third Meeting
held at 2:30 p.m. on 28 September 2012
in Communal Meeting Room 7, G/F, Central Government Offices, Tamar**

Present

Professor David CHEUNG	Convenor	(The University of Hong Kong)
Mr. CHIN Chin Tang	Member	(Microsoft HK Limited)
Mr. Robert FONG	Member	(The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited)
Ms. Teresa LAM	Member	(IBM Innovation Network)
Dr. Thomas LEE	Member	(HK Jockey Club)
Dr. Paul LIU	Member	(Chong Hing Bank Limited)
Dr. CK WONG	Member	(iASPEC Technologies Limited)
Mr. Victor WONG	Member	(CITRIX HK and Taiwan)
Dr. YAN Shi Xing	Member	(Hewlett-Packard)
Professor Peter YUM	Member	(ASTRI)
Mr. Alex LEE	Member	(OGCIO)
Mr. Tony WONG	Member	(OGCIO)
Ms. Candy CHAN	Member	(OGCIO)
Mr. Keith LEUNG	Member	(OGCIO)
Dr. CK NG	Member	(OGCIO)
Mr. Patrick CHAN	Secretary	(OGCIO)

In attendance

Mr. Danny MAK	(Microsoft HK Limited)
Mr. Victor LAM	(OGCIO)

Absent with apology

Dr. David CHUNG	Member	(Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited)
-----------------	--------	---

Confirmation of notes of last meeting

1. The notes of the second Working Group meeting held on 1 August 2012 were confirmed without amendment.

Matters arising from the last meeting

2. **Mr. Keith LEUNG** updated the Meeting that the draft IEEE P2302 – Standard for Inter-cloud Interoperability and Federation was available at IEEE web site. The IEEE Working Group on P2301 – Guide for Cloud Portability and Interoperability Profiles had yet to produce a draft. The information of these two working groups could be accessed after signing up at IEEE web site. The **Convenor** suggested Members to sign up and asked the Secretariat to get the draft P2302 standard for sharing with Members. OGCIO

[Post Meeting Note : The hyperlink for downloading the IEEE P2302 standard draft has been sent to Members on 3 October 2012]

3. **Mr. Victor LAM** informed that the IEEE Asia Pacific Cloud Computing Congress 2012 would be held at Shenzhen during 14 to 17 November 2012. There would be updates on the IEEE Cloud Computing Standard and Members were welcome to join. **Mr. Keith LEUNG** added that the IEEE Cloud Computing Initiative Chairman would deliver a keynote on Cloud Computing Standards during the Congress. The **Convenor** added that OGCIO could give Members an update after the Congress.

Updates on Cloud Expert Group and Working Groups

4. **Mr. Patrick CHAN** presented the updates on Cloud Expert Group and the three Working Groups. Regarding the point that mentioned the interoperability was not top issue, the **Convenor**

clarified that it was from the Hong Kong Cloud End-User Survey conducted by the HK Productivity Council. **Dr. CK WONG** said that interoperability and portability are important considerations for end users on changing services providers and moving their data. The **Convenor** concurred and opined that end-user should have more education on this aspect.

5. **Mr. Victor LAM** supplemented that the Working Group on Cloud Security and Privacy had discussed on a draft DOs and DON'Ts checklist on IT Security for Cloud Services Consumers in their meeting on 18 September 2012 and further refinement of the draft checklist was underway.

Update progress and seek comments on Cloud Resource Portal

6. **Mr. Keith LEUNG** presented the proposed objectives, content structure and work plan for the development of the Cloud Resource Portal (InfoCloud). Regarding the "Sample SLA" mentioned in the InfoCloud Portal, **Mr. Tony WONG** updated the Meeting that the Working Group on Provision and Use of Cloud Services had discussed and decided that a high level guide with checklists and points to notes on those key areas of consideration in cloud services engagement instead would be more useful to potential users of cloud services.
7. **Mr. Robert FONG** said that sharing of business cases and success stories would be useful to cloud services consumers. On the other hand, IT professionals would be interested in learning more from technical contents. The **Convenor** also remarked that technical contents such as interoperability would be more important to IT professional than to end consumers. **Mr. Victor LAM** added that success stories on cloud adoption were being sourced from the Government public cloud service providers and contribution by Members was welcome. Members also discussed potential concerns on commercial information carried in the success stories. After deliberation, the Meeting agreed that the success stories to be published on InfoCloud Portal should avoid carrying commercial information

as far as possible and there should be both business usage on cloud services for consumers as well as technical materials for IT professionals. Members also opined that presentation of the Portal should be lively and with the support of multimedia materials as appropriate, to arouse the interest of target audience.

Establish focus group on interoperability issues

8. **Dr. CK WONG** opined that portability was more than data Interoperability. For SaaS developers, software interoperability was a concern. On the other hand, Members shared the view that current industry development on software interoperability was limited and mainly a proprietary issue of individual SaaS service providers. **Mr. Alex LEE** said that focus could be put on data interoperability first for the first set of deliverable targeted for next February.

9. Various sources to solicit use cases and best practices on interoperability were discussed. Members were invited to propose or contribute relevant articles, or services providers / software developers / user companies that had useful cloud services adoption experiences for consideration. The information to be published should be more on knowledge and experience sharing and avoid commercial contents. In view of the time and resources constraints, it was not expected to publish many articles in the first version. The Meeting agreed to form an Editorial Board to consider the articles on interoperability for publishing on InfoCloud Portal. **Dr. CK WONG** accepted to lead the Editorial Board and **Mr. CHIN Chin Tang, Ms. Teresa LAM, Dr. YAN Shi Xing** and **Mr. Keith LEUNG** agreed to join the Editorial Board. Members were welcome to propose articles on cloud interoperability to the Editorial Board.

Present vendor's perspective on interoperability issues

10. **Mr. Danny MAK** of Microsoft gave a presentation to the

Meeting on Microsoft's perspective on interoperability issues. Members exchanged views with Mr Danny MAK on recent technical and industry development regarding cloud interoperability, including data portability across clouds, interoperability between cloud service providers.

Any Other Business

11. **Dr. Paul LIU** raised whether cloud charging scheme should be covered. **Mr. Tony WONG** responded that the subject would be covered by the practice guide on cloud services engagement being developed under the Working Group on Provision and Use of Cloud Service.
12. There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

The Secretariat
Expert Group on Cloud Computing Services and Standards
November 2012