

## **Draft regulations for use of IT standards in the public administration**

### **Section 1 Purpose and scope of application**

The purpose of these Regulations is to help ensure that the public sector adopts IT standards that will facilitate and promote electronic interaction between public agencies and between the public sector and the general public. The Regulations may comprise technical, semantic and organisational standards.

### **Section 2 Definitions**

#### *1. Standard*

Standard means in this connection normative documents, hereunder also specifications, guidelines and instructions.

#### *2. Document*

A document is in this connection defined as a readable message containing information.

#### *3. Publication of documents*

In this context, publication of documents means the making of documents available to the general public or to a large target group outside the enterprise publishing the documents.

#### *4. Administrative standard*

Administrative standard shall mean specified requirements, recommendations or guidelines given by the relevant authority to the effect that the whole or large parts of the administration shall adopt certain standards.

#### *5. Technical standard*

Technical standards are in this connection standards for how ICT systems are to be designed, hereunder also user interfaces and interfaces to other ICT systems.

#### *6. Semantic standard (standards of meaning or interpretation)*

Semantic standards are standards that clarify the meaning of data.

## **7. *Organisational standard***

Organisational standards are standards that clarify the relationship between interacting parties with respect to their organisation, roles, procedures or contractual matters.

## **8. *The Standards Council***

The Standards Council is a consultative body appointed by the Ministry of Government Administration and Reform. The Council is broadly constituted and has representatives of the central, regional and local authorities.

The Standards Council's role is to act as organiser of and driving force for systematic use of IT standards in the public sector. The Council shall make recommendations to the Ministry of Government Administration and Reform on what IT standards the Administration should use. The Council shall primarily devote its time to standards that are relevant to a large number of players in the public sector.

## **Section 3    Procedures, amendments, etc.**

- (1) Mandatory standards are laid down by the Ministry of Government Administration and Reform (FAD). The Standards Council shall review specific proposals for such standards pursuant to the guidelines laid down for the Council.
- (2) Other guidelines and proposed standards shall be published on the Standards Council's website and shall be made available on [regjeringen.no](http://regjeringen.no).

## **Section 4    Mandatory standards**

When documents are published on the internet pages of public enterprises, the following mandatory requirements shall apply to the formats that are to be used:

- (1) On the publication of finished documents, the following shall be used:
  - a. HyperText Markup Language, HTML 4.01 / Extensible HyperText Markup Language, XHTML 1.0, or
  - b. Portable Document Format (PDF), version PDF/A-1 (ISO 19005-1:2005), PDF 1.4, PDF 1.5, PDF 1.6 or PDF 1.7 (ISO 32000-1:2008)
- (2) On the publication of documents for further processing, the following shall be used:

- a. Open Document Format (ODF), version ISO/IEC 26300:2006 (ODF 1.0 Second Edition)

The publication of documents in other formats in addition to those specified above shall be permitted when this is appropriate.

Public internet pages shall comply with the requirements of these Regulations upon the publication of new documents on websites from and including 1 January 2010 and, with respect to all formerly published documents, by 1 January 2014.

#### **Section 5 Time-limit for adjusting to specified mandatory standards**

The time-limit for complying with the Regulation requirements for mandatory standards will be established in connection with each particular standard and is shown in Section 4.

#### **Section 6 Entry into force**

These Regulations enter into force on 1st January 2010.