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Change Request #:	22
Assigned OGC Document #:	09-174
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Document Name/Version:	*Web Services Common Standard / 1.2
OGC Project Document:	*06-121r8

If this is a revision of a previous submission and you have a Change Request Number, then check here:

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Title:	*Multi-Language Support via AcceptLanguages Parameter
Source:	* http://wiki.services.eoportal.org/tiki-index.php?page=HMA-FO+OWS+Common+1.2+review
Work item code:	
Category:	* C (Functional modification of feature)

Reason for change:	* SPS needs to support responses with messages in multiple languages (e.g. both in French and English)
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Summary of change:	* Clause 7.3.6 in OWS Common 1.2 mentions the inclusion of an acceptLanguages parameter in all OWS requests. This parameter is defined in detail for the GetCapabilities operation. A client may provide a list of languages in preferred order and the service creates a response using the supported language that has highest client preference - if none of the requested languages is supported an exception is thrown. There are several issues here: 1. The examples in section 7.3.6 show when an exception is thrown in two situations. However, nothing is said about which exception code should be used to describe which situation. These situations should be documented as clearly as possible in the standard. 2. Right now the description of the acceptLanguages parameter
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allows only one language in the response - however, at SPS we could support responses with messages in multiple languages (e.g. both in French and English). The description in OWS Common 1.2 should thus be relaxed to support provision of more than one language (in properties that are designed for that purpose) if supported by the service and requested by the client. This might require another parameter to indicate whether multi-language response is desired by the client or not - same for the service to indicate support for this functionality.

3. The encoding of the OWSServiceMetadata (type in UML) as GetCapabilitiesBaseType in owsGetCapabilities.xsd (notice the clash of naming here) shows a "Languages" element which looks like another section that can be queried by a client to know about all languages supported by a service. However, the UML model of GetCapabilities and OWSServiceMetadata on page 144 (figure C.2) does not show this section (neither in the "Section" code list nor as property of OWSServiceMetadata). However, with respect to multi-language support in all OWS operations, this section should be queryable. The UML model and XML encoding thus need to be updated:

- * add "languages" code to "Section" code list
- * add property "languages" to OWSServiceMetadata
- * make "Languages" (or LanguagesMetadata) a type in the UML model - for example like OperationsMetadata - with according encoding as global XML element.

* preferably, rename OWSServiceMetadata to CapabilitiesBase or vice versa so that UML model and XML encoding have a better match.

- * add abstract element "CapabilitiesBase" to XML encoding in owsGetCapabilities.xsd (pending name changes - see above) of type CapabilitiesBaseType to enable correct substitution of this abstract class by OWS - right now a correction of the automatically encoded service model from SPS is needed because no such element type exists which the SPS Capabilities element can state as its substitution group

Consequences if not approved:

Clauses affected:

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Clause 7.3.6 in OWS Common 1.2

Additional Documents affected:

Supporting Documentation:

<http://wiki.services.eoportal.org/tiki-index.php?page=HMA-FO+OWS+Common+1.2+review>

Comments:

Status:

Assigned

Disposition:

Referred