Commission Regulation (EC) No 1205/2008 of 3 December 2008 implementing Directive 2007/2/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards metadata (Text with EEA relevance)

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 1205/2008

of 3 December 2008

implementing Directive 2007/2/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards metadata

[X1(Text with EEA relevance)]

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Directive 2007/2/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 March 2007 establishing an Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community (Inspire)[(1)], and in particular Article 5(4) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Directive 2007/2/EC lays down general rules for the establishment of the Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community. Since, for the proper functioning of that infrastructure, it is necessary for a user to be able to find spatial data sets and services and to establish whether they may be used and for what purpose, Member States should provide descriptions in the form of metadata for those spatial data sets and services. Since such metadata should be compatible and usable in a Community and trans-boundary context, it is necessary to lay down rules concerning the metadata used to describe the spatial data sets and services corresponding to the themes listed in Annexes I, II and III to Directive 2007/2/EC.

(2) The definition of a set of metadata elements is necessary in order to allow identification of the information resource for which metadata is created, its classification and identification of its geographic location and temporal reference, quality and validity, conformity with implementing rules on the interoperability of spatial data sets and services, constraints related to access and use, and organisation responsible for the resource. Metadata elements related to the metadata record itself are also necessary to monitor that the metadata created are kept up to date, and for identifying the organisation responsible for the creation and maintenance of the metadata. This is the minimum set of metadata elements necessary to comply with Directive 2007/2/EC and does not preclude the possibility for organisations to document the information resources more extensively with additional elements derived from international standards or working practices in their community of interest. Nor does it preclude the possibility to adopt guidelines established and kept up to date by the Commission, in particular when it is necessary to ensure the interoperability of metadata.

Changes to legislation: Commission Regulation (EC) No 1205/2008 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 December 2020. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

(3) Instructions are necessary for the validation of metadata in accordance with Directive 2007/2/EC with regard to the conditions and expected multiplicity of each metadata element, that is to say, whether values for each element are always to be expected in the metadata record, can occur only once, or can occur more than once.

(4) The value domain of each metadata element is necessary to ensure interoperability of metadata in a multilingual context and that value domain should be able to take the form of free text, dates, codes derived from international standards, such as language codes, keywords derived from controlled lists or thesauri, or character strings.

(5) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established by Article 22 of Directive 2007/2/EC,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Editorial Information

X1 Deleted by Corrigendum to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1205/2008 of 3 December 2008 implementing Directive 2007/2/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards metadata (Official Journal of the European Union L 326 of 4 December 2008).

Article 1

Subject matter

This Regulation sets out the requirements for the creation and maintenance of metadata for spatial data sets, spatial data set series and spatial data services corresponding to the themes listed in Annexes I, II and III to Directive 2007/2/EC.

Article 2

Definitions

For the purposes of this Regulation, in addition to the definitions laid down in Article 3 of Directive 2007/2/EC, the definitions set out in Part A of the Annex shall apply.

Article 3

Creation and maintenance of metadata

The metadata describing a spatial data set, a spatial data set series or a spatial data service shall comprise the metadata elements or groups of metadata elements set out in Part B of the Annex and shall be created and maintained in accordance with the rules set out in Parts C and D thereof.

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Article 4

Entry into force

This Regulation shall enter into force on the 20th day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

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ANNEX

METADATA IMPLEMENTING RULES

PART A

Interpretation

1. The following definitions shall apply:

— ‘character string’ means the value domain of metadata elements expressed as a set of characters treated as a unit,

— ‘free text’ means the value domain of metadata elements expressed in one or more natural languages,

— ‘lineage’ means the history of a data set, and the life cycle from collection and acquisition through compilation and derivation to its current form, in accordance with EN ISO 19101,

— ‘metadata element’ means a discrete unit of metadata, in accordance with EN ISO 19115,

— ‘namespace’ means a collection of names, identified by a uniform resource identifier (URI) reference, which are used in extensible markup language (XML) documents as element names and attribute names,

— ‘quality’ means the totality of characteristics of a product that bear on its ability to satisfy stated and implied needs, in accordance with EN ISO 19101,

— ‘resource’ means an information resource that has a direct or indirect reference to a specific location or geographic area,

— ‘spatial data set series’ means a collection of spatial data sets sharing the same product specification.

2. References to the validity of spatial data sets shall be understood as relating to any of the following:

— the range of space and time that is pertinent to the data,

— whether the data have been checked to a measurement or performance standard,

— the extent to which the data are fit for purpose,

— where appropriate, the legal validity of the spatial data set.

PART B

Metadata elements

1. IDENTIFICATION

The following metadata elements shall be provided:

1.1. Resource title

This a characteristic, and often unique, name by which the resource is known.

The value domain of this metadata element is free text.

1.2. Resource abstract

This is a brief narrative summary of the content of the resource.

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The value domain of this metadata element is free text.

1.3. Resource type

This is the type of resource being described by the metadata.

The value domain of this metadata element is defined in Part D.1.

1.4. Resource locator

The resource locator defines the link(s) to the resource and/or the link to additional information about the resource.

The value domain of this metadata element is a character string, commonly expressed as uniform resource locator (URL).

1.5. Unique resource identifier

A value uniquely identifying the resource.

The value domain of this metadata element is a mandatory character string code, generally assigned by the data owner, and a character string namespace uniquely identifying the context of the identifier code (for example, the data owner).

1.6. Coupled resource

If the resource is a spatial data service, this metadata element identifies, where relevant, the target spatial data set(s) of the service through their unique resource identifiers (URI).

The value domain of this metadata element is a mandatory character string code, generally assigned by the data owner, and a character string namespace uniquely identifying the context of the identifier code (for example, the data owner).

1.7. Resource language

The language(s) used within the resource.

The value domain of this metadata element is limited to the languages defined in ISO 639-2.

2. CLASSIFICATION OF SPATIAL DATA AND SERVICES

2.1. Topic category

The topic category is a high-level classification scheme to assist in the grouping and topic-based search of available spatial data resources.

The value domain of this metadata element is defined in Part D.2.

2.2. Spatial data service type

This is a classification to assist in the search of available spatial data services. A specific service shall be categorised in only one category.

The value domain of this metadata element is defined in Part D.3.

3. KEYWORD

If the resource is a spatial data service, at least one keyword from Part D.4 shall be provided.