



DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
3015 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3015

ACQUISITION AND
TECHNOLOGY

MEMORANDUM FOR: SEE DISTRIBUTION

OCT 17 2007

SUBJECT: Survey of Country Codes Used in Department of Defense Business Processes

With the March 23, 2007 publication of Department of Defense (DoD) Directive 8320.03, Unique Identification Standards for a Net-Centric Department of Defense, the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) became responsible to establish, implement, and maintain the requirements for organization unique identification (OUID) for organizations external to DoD organizations that support DoD business processes. In implementing this task, international interoperable data exchange standards for globally-unique identification of organizations shall be followed wherever possible.

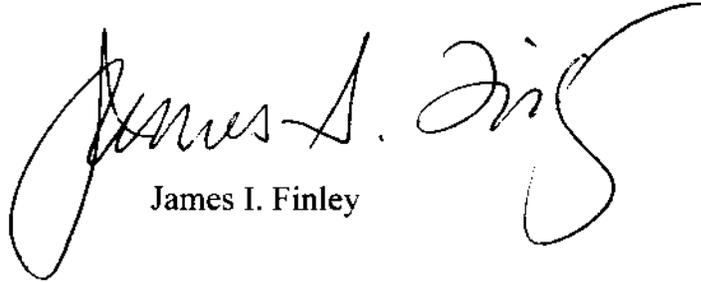
We have identified twelve relevant, different conventions for short alphabetic or numeric geographical codes that are in use world-wide to represent countries and dependent areas. These conventions are described in the second attachment (Country Code Standards).

DoD business processes must consistently identify countries in transactions to achieve transparency and interoperability among business automated information systems. Accordingly, DoD desires to adopt a standard country code for designating countries in its business transactions.

Before a DoD Instruction can be published on external OUID, the issue of which country code convention to adopt must be resolved. To assist in this effort, request that addressees complete the table in the first attachment (Table of Country Code Standards Usage) to identify which country code conventions are being used by DoD business automated information systems and initiatives under their cognizance.



Request the completed table be returned to the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, ATTN: Deputy Director, Program Development and Implementation, by October 31, 2008. The point of contact is Mr. Robert Leibrandt, 703 602-8019, e-mail Robert.Leibrandt@osd.mil.



James I. Finley

Attachments:
As stated

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ATTACHMENT 1
TABLE OF COUNTRY CODE STANDARDS USAGE

Entry Number	Country Code Standard	Application of Standard	DoD Issuance Invoking the Standard	Systems Using the Standard
1	FIPS 10-4	Real Property Accountability actions and reports	GSA Federal Real Property Reporting Guidance	All DoD real property accountability systems (i.e., RPUIR, RPAD, HQIIS, ACES, iNFADS, IFS, REMIS, RFMIS, PRIDE)

Notes:

- a. “Under Application of Standard”, name the transaction(s) under a business process that use the standards.
- b. “Under DoD Issuance Invoking the Standard”, also name the Component issuance if there is one.
- c. “Under Systems Using the Standard”, include the official name, including DoD Information Technology Portfolio Repository (DITPR) designation, if any.

ATTACHMENT 2 COUNTRY CODE STANDARDS

Country codes are short alphabetic or numeric geographical codes developed to represent countries and dependent areas, for use in data processing and communications. Several different systems have been developed to do this.

1. [FIPS country codes](#) (FIPS 10-4), area code, administrative. FIPS 10-4 [country codes](#) for Countries, Dependencies, Areas of Special Sovereignty, and Their Principal Administrative Divisions. The two-letter country codes are used by the U.S. Government for geographical data processing in many publications, such as the [CIA World Factbook](#). The standard is also known as [DAFIF](#) (DAFIF or the Digital Aeronautical Flight Information File is a complete and comprehensive database of up-to-date aeronautical data, including information on airports, airways, airspaces, navigation data and other facts relevant to flying in the entire world, managed by the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.) 0413 ed 7 Amdt. No. 3 (Nov 2003) and as DIA 65-18 (Defense Intelligence Agency, 1994, "Geopolitical Data Elements and Related Features").

The FIPS 10-4 codes are similar to (but sometimes incompatible with) the [ISO 3166-1 alpha-2 country codes](#). The standard also includes codes for the top-level subdivision of the countries, similar to but usually incompatible with the [ISO 3166-2](#) standard. The ISO 3166 codes are used by the United Nations and for Internet top-level country code domains.

2. IANA country codes similar to ISO 3166-1 alpha-2. The Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) currently classifies top-level domains into [country code top-level domains](#): Used by a country or a dependent territory. It is two letters long, for example .us for the United States. With some historical exceptions, the code for any territory is the same as its two-letter ISO 3166 code.
3. [ISO 3166](#) country and subdivision codes. Since the fifth edition, the standard has been divided into three parts:
 - a. [ISO 3166-1](#), Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions – Part 1: [Country codes](#), defines codes for country and dependent area names. ISO 3166 has included alphabetical country codes since its first edition in 1974, and numeric country codes since its second edition in 1981. The country codes were first published as ISO 3166-1 in 1997. Currently, there are three different codes for each country or territory:
 - i. [ISO 3166-1 alpha-2](#) – two-letter country codes (most notably used for [country code top-level domains](#))
 - ii. [ISO 3166-1 alpha-3](#) – three-letter country codes
 - iii. [ISO 3166-1 numeric](#) – three-digit country codes

- b. [ISO 3166-2](#), Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions – Part 2: Country subdivision code, defines codes for the principal subdivisions of a country or dependent area.
 - c. The two-letter ISO 3166-1 codes are used in:
 - i. [ISO 3901](#) — International Standard Recording Code
 - ii. [ISO 4217](#) — Currency codes
 - iii. [ISO 6166](#) — International Securities Identifying Number ([ISIN](#)) system
 - iv. [ISO 7372](#) — Trade data interchange (Trade data elements directory)
 - v. [ISO 9362](#) — [SWIFT](#) codes (Bank Identifier Codes)
 - vi. [ISO 13616](#) — International Bank Account Numbers
4. [ITU-R country codes](#) . The radiocommunication division of the International Telecommunication Union uses letter codes to identify its member countries. Eight countries are assigned single-letter codes, while the rest have codes three letters in length.
5. [MARC country codes](#). MARC is an acronym for [MACHINE-Readable Cataloging](#). The MARC standards consist of the MARC formats, which are standards for the representation and communication of bibliographic and related information in machine-readable form, and related documentation. It defines a bibliographic [data](#) format that was developed by Henriette Avram at the Library of Congress beginning in the 1960s. It provides the protocol by which computers exchange, use, and interpret bibliographic information. Its data elements make up the foundation of most library catalogs used today.
6. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) used two-letter codes of its own: [list of NATO country codes](#). They were largely borrowed from the FIPS 10-4 codes mentioned below. In 2003, the eighth edition of the Standardization Agreement (STANAG) 1059 adopted the ISO 3166 three-letter codes with one exception (the code for Macedonia). With the ninth edition, NATO is transitioning to four- and six-letter codes based on ISO 3166 with a few exceptions and additions.
7. The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) also has its own list of [trigram country codes](#).
8. From the International Telecommunication Union (ITU): [ITU letter codes](#) for member-countries
9. From the International Union of Railways (UIC): [UIC Country Code](#)
10. [DoD 5105.38M](#), SECURITY ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT MANUAL (SAMM). The FMS country codes in Table 601 of the SAMM do not always match the Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS 10-4) or the National Institute of Standards (NIST) list of USG approved country codes. For example, GY is Germany in the FMS table and GM in the FIPS list.
11. Census Bureau Schedule C, Foreign Trade Statistics – [Country Codes and Descriptions](#).
12. [Handbook 18: Information Services: AID Geographic Code Book](#)