

# The National Interoperability Framework, the right to choose and the use of standards.

19 April 2010

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**The eGov Law 11/2007, the main idea.**

**It recognizes the right of the citizens to interact with Public Administrations by electronic means.**

# The eGov Law 11/2007 → the right to choose

This has many consequences:

- **Principles:** Guarantee independence in the choice of alternative technologies by citizens and P.A.s.  
*To these ends, P.A. bodies shall use open standards and, as appropriate and in complement, standards which are of general use among the public.*
- **Rights of the citizens:** To choose the applications or systems to use to communicate with the P.A., providing that they use open standards or that they are in general use among the public.
- **Obligations of P.A.s:** Adoption of measures to ensure an adequate level of technical, semantic and organisational interoperability, and to avoid discrimination against any member of the public based on their technological choices. →  
**National Interoperability Framework**

# National Interoperability Framework (RD 4/2010)

- ▶ **The Spanish NIF is a legal text** which develops the provisions about interoperability foreseen in our eGovernment Law 11/2007 -> Royal Decree 4/2010.
- ▶ **Developed in cooperation and to be followed by all Public administrations** in their relations between them and with citizens.



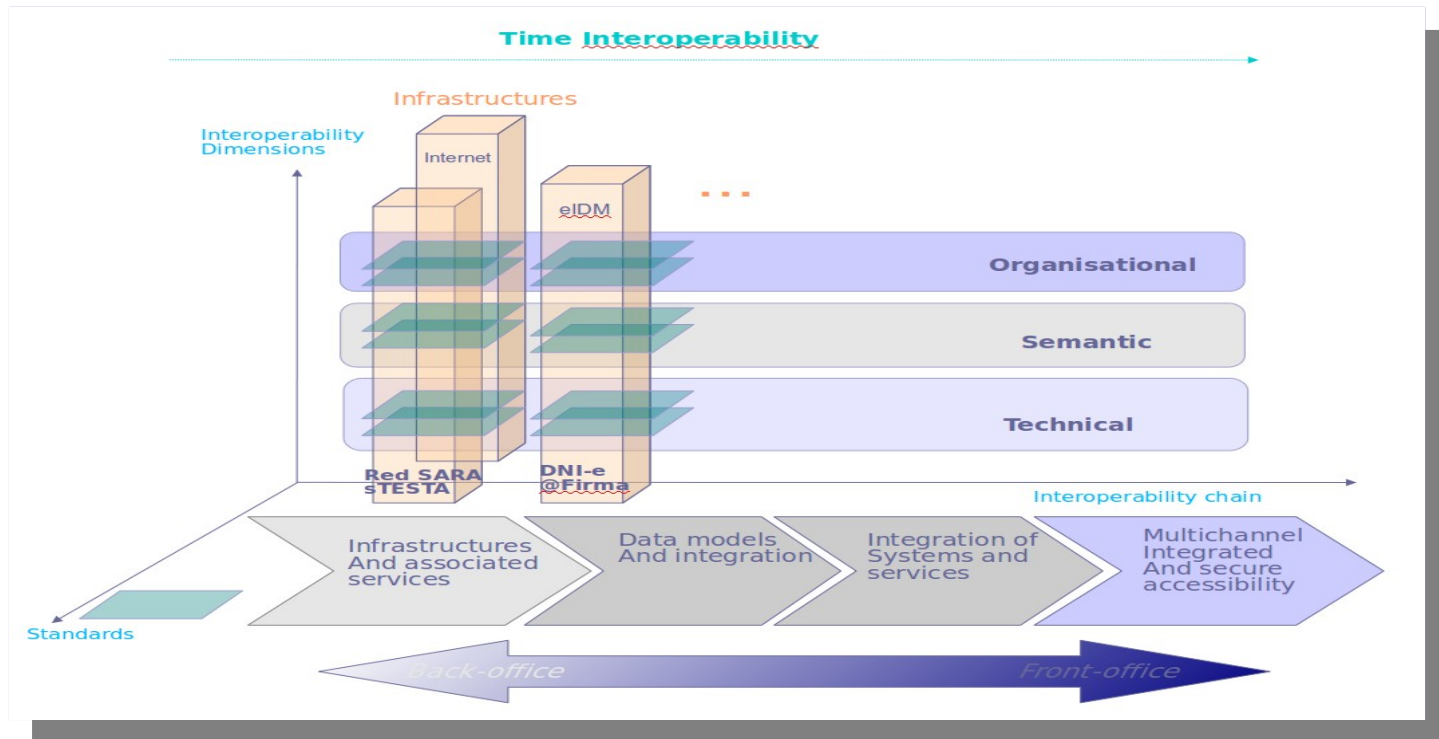
### I. DISPOSICIONES GENERALES

#### MINISTERIO DE LA PRESIDENCIA

**1331**

*Real Decreto 4/2010, de 8 de enero, por el que se regula el Esquema Nacional de Interoperabilidad en el ámbito de la Administración Electrónica.*

# A global approach to interoperability



- + Integral quality
- + Multidimensional character
- + Multilateral approach

# What to do to facilitate and build interoperability

The NIF includes **criteria and recommendations to build and improve interoperability**, as clear and direct statements about:

- ♦ **Interoperability dimensions.**
- ♦ **Use of standards**, as foreseen in Law 11/2007:
  - Development of *“Public Administration bodies shall use open standards and, as appropriate and in complement, standards which are of general use among the public.”*
  - Criteria for the selection of standards.
- ♦ **Common infrastructures and services.**
- ♦ **Reuse.**
- ♦ **Electronic signature and certificates.**
- ♦ **Recovery and preservation of eDocument.**

# Use of standards (I/II)

- ◆ **Use of open standards and, as appropriate and in complement, standards which are of general use among the public:**
  - ➔ **To allow independence in the choice** of alternative technologies by citizens and by Public Administrations.
  - ➔ **To allow adaptation to technological progress.**
- ◆ **eGov services will be available at least through open standards.**
- ◆ **Services will be in conditions that** allow the principle of technological neutrality and **avoid the discrimination of the citizens** because of their technological choice.
- ◆ In relations with the citizens and with other P.A.s, **the exclusive use of a non-open standard without offering an alternative based on an open standard, will be limited** to the circumstances when there is no open standard.

# Use of standards (II/II)

## ➤ Criteria to be considered in the selection of standards, in general and in the catalogue:

- Definition of standard and technical specification according to Directive 98/34/CE.
- Definition of open standard according to eGovernment Law 11/2007.
- Character of a formalized specification.
- Definition of “cost not supposing access difficulty”.
- Additional considerations:
  - business need criteria,
  - standardisation criteria
  - and market criteria (in line with IDABC project **CAMSS**).

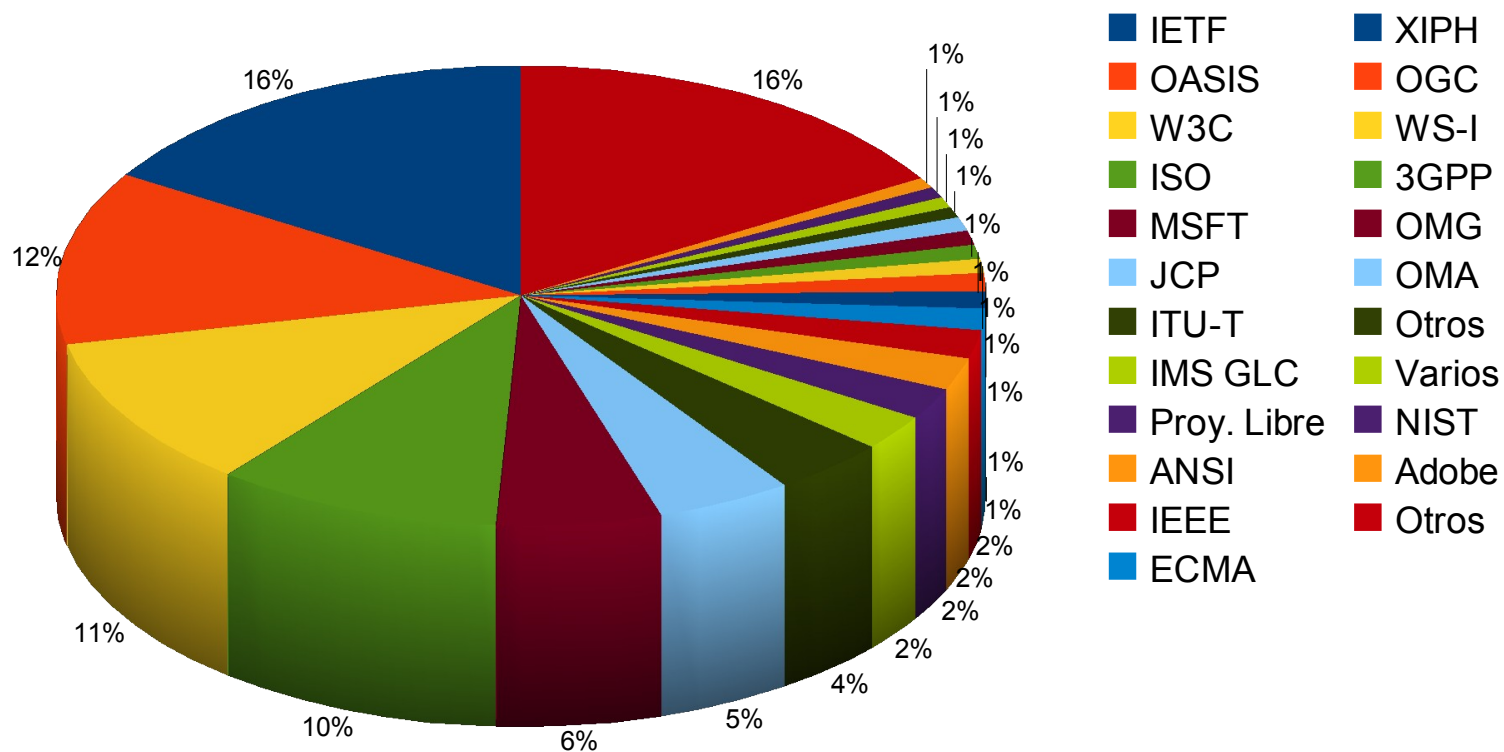
# How: Technical guides and instruments

- ▶ **Technical guides** about interoperability:
  - **Standards catalogue**
  - **Electronic document** (and related issues like *digitization*).
  - eSignature policy.
  - Common data models.
  - ...
- ▶ **Interoperability instruments:**
  - Inventory of administrative procedures and services.
  - Semantic interoperability center.
  - Repository of applications for reuse.

*Development is ongoing.*

# Where do standards for eGov come from; our findings

On the basis of a compilation of 400 standards for eGovernment, we find the following:



# Standards catalogue: The challenges ahead

- ▶ Satisfy the **legal requirements** about standards.
- ▶ Take into account the **European context**.
- ▶ How to **structure** the catalogue.
- ▶ Avoid exhaustivity.
- ▶ A list that allows that eGov services and documents will be available **at least through open standards**.
- ▶ Satisfy the **purpose of interoperability in interactions** of public administrations and with citizens.
- ▶ *To be done in the framework of collaboration of P.A.s*

# Standards catalogue: Document formats

- ♦ Text formats
  - To be included: **ODF** Open Document Format (ISO/IEC 26300:2006).
  - Previous agreements about **ODF** and other document formats in relation to the eSignature Policy and document formats.  
(<http://www.ctt.map.es/web/certica>)
- ♦ Binary formats (electronic images).

# Conclusions

- ♦ The **right of the citizens to interact** with public administrations by electronic means requires:
  - The **right to choose** the applications or systems.
  - **Independence in the choice** of alternative technologies.
  - Measures to **avoid discrimination**.
- ♦ The SP NIF provides **legal support to interoperability**.
- ♦ We work in **cooperation with the participation of all Public Administrations** in Spain and take into account the **European context**.
- ♦ **Standards are a relevant piece of the NIF** together with the int. dimensions, common infrastructures and services and the reuse policy.
- ♦ The challenge is to ensure that **eGov services and documents are available at least through open standards**.

- ♦ **Thank you very much.**
- ♦ **More information:**
  - [http://www.csae.mpr.es/csi/pg5e41\\_ingles.html](http://www.csae.mpr.es/csi/pg5e41_ingles.html)
  - <http://www.epractice.eu/en/cases/eni>
  - <http://www.ctt.map.es/web/eni>

