



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

6000 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-6000

MAY 5 2010

CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, J6, COMMAND, CONTROL AND COMPUTER SYSTEMS  
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER, G-6, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY, CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER  
CHIEF OF WARFIGHTING INTEGRATION AND CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES  
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD OFFICES

SUBJECT: Monitoring of Country Code Standard Transition

The purpose of this memorandum is to raise visibility of the transition to a new mandated country code standard, and to request that you provide a point-of-contact (POC) who is your lead for this issue to the DoD CIO. The POC will be responsible for informing the Architecture & Standards Review Group (ASRG), on a quarterly basis, of your Component's progress in monitoring the transition as well as identifying cross-Component issues.

Country codes are utilized in many automated information systems in the Department. Some are embedded in software and some utilize reference tables. The transition to the new country code standard must be managed to preclude serious interoperability issues as data is exchanged. The current country code standard mandated in the DoD Information Technology Standards Registry (DISR) is Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 10-4, titled "Countries, Dependencies, Areas of Special Sovereignty, and Their Principal Administrative Divisions." This standard has a sunset date of 31 DEC 2012. The standard that will replace FIPS10-4 is International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 3166, titled "Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions". Detailed information on this and all DoD authoritative IT standards can be found in the DISR, <https://disronline.disa.mil/>.

In addition to informing your Component organizations that purchase, design, deliver and manage IT systems and services, we request that you identify your Component POC on this issue by 30 May 2010. My POC on this matter is the ASRG Secretariat, Mr. Alan Golombek, [alan.golombek@osd.mil](mailto:alan.golombek@osd.mil), 703-607-5257.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David M. Wennergren".

David M. Wennergren  
DoD Deputy Chief Information Officer

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UNCLASSIFIED

### About This Standard

**DISR Current Status** *Mandated*  
**Intel Current Status**

**Standard Identifier** ISO 3166-1

**Title of Standard**

Codes for the Representation of Names of Countries and Their Subdivisions: Part 1 - Country Codes: 1997, with updates from Newsletters V-1 through V-10 incorporated

**DISR Standards History**

Introduced to Registry	Date Emerging	Date Mandated	Last Status Update	Last Status Review	Inactive/Retired
2005-09-06	n/a	2005-09-06	2005-09-06	2008-11-20	n/a

**Standards Body**

ISO

[Broken Link?](#)

**URL to Access or Acquire**

<http://www.ansi.org>

**Working Group**

**Primary Owner**

Application / Messaging

**Secondary Interest**

Geospatial Intelligence (GWG)

**Service Area**

Application-specific Data Interchange

**KIPs**

No KIP Found

**Standard Applicability**

**2005-09-06**

This standard should be used whenever there is a need for a standardized codified identification for countries. FIPS PUB 10-4 is a competing standard.

**Standard Abstract**

**2005-09-06**

International Standard ISO 3166 provides universally applicable coded representations of names of countries (current and non-current), dependencies, and other areas of particular geopolitical interest and their subdivisions. ISO 3166-1 (Country codes) establishes codes that represent the current names of countries, dependencies, and other areas of particular geopolitical interest, on the basis of lists of country names obtained from the United Nations.

**Profiling Questions**

**Application-specific Data Interchange** • Is there a requirement for common, codified identification of the countries of the world?

**Products Incorporating This Standard**

None

**Relevant Information**

None