



**For Immediate Release: Tuesday, November 28, 2006**

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**ODF Alliance Hails Brazil, India, Italy, and Poland For Recognizing  
OpenDocument Format**

Washington, DC, November 28, 2006 – The OpenDocument Format Alliance (ODF Alliance), a broad cross-section of organizations, academia and industry dedicated to improving access to electronic government documents, today applauded Brazil's decision to recommend ODF as the government's preferred format; India's decision to use ODF at a major state government agency; and Italy's decision to recognize ODF as a national standard.

The Alliance also recognized Poland, too, for demonstrating serious interest in adopting ODF in the wake of a national meeting held for its government with broad participants from industry and non-profit agencies.

"2006 is ending as auspiciously as it began, with legions of government the world over expressing real support for ODF," said Marino Marcich, Executive Director of the ODF Alliance. "We congratulate Brazil, India, Italy, and Poland for recognizing ODF, each in their own way, and look forward to the movement's continued momentum in the new year. ODF is providing compatibility that will enable diverse organizations worldwide to work better with one another at lower cost, and give them access to their own information."

With the publication of version of its 2.0 e-Ping Interoperability Framework\*, Brazil becomes the first country in South America to officially recommend ODF. The framework states that all .xls, .doc and .ppt files are in transition, meaning they do not comply anymore with its technical policies, and that ODF is now the Brazilian Government's officially recommended format. Brazil's National IT Institute, Ministry of Defense, and State Government of Parana are members of the ODF Alliance.

In India, a government order was issued that ODF files will be used for the Delhi state government's commercial tax office. For its part, Italy is now joining countries such as Malaysia that intend to recognize ODF as a national standard (please see [www.uninfo.polito.it/SC34/SC34\\_Norme.htm#26300](http://www.uninfo.polito.it/SC34/SC34_Norme.htm#26300)). Italian standards bodies voted unanimously to recognize ODF as soon as the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) formally publishes IS 26300, which is expected shortly.

The Alliance has grown to 345 members in 50 countries, demonstrating continued momentum for the file format globally.

For more information about the ODF Alliance, please visit our Web site at  
<http://www.odfalliance.org>

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A copy of the Brazil framework is available at:  
[http://www.governoeletronico.gov.br/governoeletronico/publicacao/down\\_anexo.wsp?tmp.arquivo=E15\\_677e-PING\\_v2.0\\_17112006\\_LINUX\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.governoeletronico.gov.br/governoeletronico/publicacao/down_anexo.wsp?tmp.arquivo=E15_677e-PING_v2.0_17112006_LINUX_FINAL.pdf)