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**Language resource management —  
Semantic annotation framework  
(SemAF) —**

**Part 2:  
Dialogue acts**

*Gestion des ressources langagières — Cadre d'annotation sémantique  
(SemAF) —*

*Partie 2: Actes de dialogue*



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# Contents

Page

Foreword .....	iv
1 Scope .....	1
2 Normative references .....	1
3 Terms and definitions .....	1
4 Purpose and justification .....	5
5 Basic concepts and metamodel .....	6
6 Definition of communicative functions .....	8
7 Annotation schemes .....	9
7.1 Structure of annotation schemes .....	9
7.2 Multidimensionality and multifunctionality .....	10
7.3 Multidimensionality, clustering and dimensions .....	11
7.4 Dimension- specific and general-purpose functions .....	11
8 Dialogue segmentation .....	13
9 Dimensions .....	14
9.1 Task .....	15
9.2 Auto-Feedback .....	15
9.3 Allo-Feedback .....	15
9.4 Turn Management .....	15
9.5 Time Management .....	16
9.6 Discourse Structuring .....	16
9.7 Social Obligations Management .....	16
9.8 Own Communication Management .....	16
9.9 Partner Communication Management .....	16
10 Core dialogue acts .....	17
10.1 General-purpose functions .....	19
10.2 Dimension-specific functions .....	20
10.3 Function qualifiers .....	22
11 Dialogue act markup language (DiAML) .....	23
11.1 Abstract syntax .....	23
11.2 Concrete syntax .....	24
12 Principles for extending and restricting the standard .....	25
12.1 Main design principles .....	25
12.2 Schema extension .....	27
12.3 Scheme restriction .....	27
Annex A (informative) Annotation guidelines .....	29
Annex B (informative) Annotated dialogue examples .....	43
Annex C (normative) Formal definition of DiAML .....	56
Annex D (normative) DiAML technical schema .....	63
Annex E (normative) Data categories for core concepts .....	68
Annex F (informative) Examples of possible additional data categories .....	88
Annex G (informative) Concepts in existing schemes .....	90
Bibliography .....	100

## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 24617-2 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 37, *Terminology and other language and content resources*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Language resource management*.

ISO 24617 consists of the following parts, under the general title: *Language resource management — Semantic annotation framework*:

— *Part 1: Time and events (SemAF-Time, ISO-TimeML)*

— *Part 2: Dialogue acts*

The following parts are under preparation:

— *Part 3: Named entities (SemAF-NE)*

— *Part 4: Semantic roles (SemAF-SRL)*

— *Part 5: Discourse structure (SemAF-DS)*

— *Part 6: Principles of semantic annotation (SemAF-Basics)*

— *Part 7: Spatial information (ISO-Space)*

— *Part 8: Semantic relations in discourse (SemAF-DReI)*

# Language resource management — Semantic annotation framework (SemAF) —

## Part 2: Dialogue acts

### 1 Scope

This part of ISO 24617 provides a set of empirically and theoretically well-motivated concepts for dialogue annotation, a formal language for expressing dialogue annotations — the dialogue act markup language (DiAML) — and a method for segmenting a dialogue into semantic units. This allows the manual or automatic annotation of dialogue segments with information about the communicative actions which the participants perform by their contributions to the dialogue. It supports multidimensional annotation, in which units in dialogue are viewed as having multiple communicative functions. The DiAML language has an XML-based representation format and a formal semantics which makes it possible to apply inference to DiAML representations.

This part of ISO 24617 specifies data categories for reference sets of communicative functions and dimensions of dialogue analysis and provides principles and guidelines for extending these sets or selecting coherent subsets of them. Additionally, it provides guidelines for annotators and annotated examples. It is applicable to spoken, written and multimodal dialogues involving two or more participants.

### 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 12620:2009, *Terminology and other language resources — Specification of data categories and management of a Data Category Registry for language resources*

ISO 24610-1:2006, *Language resource management — Feature structures — Part 1: Feature structure representation*

ISO 24612:2011, *Language resource management — Linguistic annotation framework*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.<sup>1)</sup>

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1) In this document, “he”, “him” and “his” are used in a generic sense, without implying any gender-related distinctions.