

# Specification



**OpenPeppol AISBL**



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**Peppol Transport Infrastructure  
ICT - Models**

**Peppol Business Message Envelope  
(SBDH)**



**Version: 2.0  
Status: In use**



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## Contributors

Martin Forsberg, ESV

Markus Gudmundsson, Unimaze Software

Jostein Frømyr, Difi/Edisys Consulting

Steinar Overbeck Cook

Oriol Bausà, Invinet

Sven Rasmussen, DIGST

Stefano Monti, EPOCA/Intercenter

Philip Helger, Bundesrechenzentrum/OpenPeppol Operating Office

Erlend Klakegg Bergheim, Difi

Bård Langøy, Pagero

Jerry Dimitriou, OpenPeppol Operating Office

Risto Collanus, Visma

Hans Berg, Tickstar

## Version History

Version	Date	Change log
<b>1.0.0</b>	2014-01-15	Initial version
<b>1.1</b>	2018-08-31	Added the possibility to specify document type identifier scheme and process identifier scheme Added the possibility to specify additional attributes
<b>1.1.1</b>	2018-09-28	Fixed error in chapter 2.5 in the example of an additional attribute without a value Added note on attribute case sensitivity in chapter 2.5
<b>1.2</b>	2019-02-01	Added section for non-XML payloads
<b>1.2.1</b>	2020-03-11	Added chapter 2.6 on the Internet Media Type Remove the references to the Peppol Policy for use of Identifiers 3.x Updated to the new branding
<b>2.0</b>	2023-03-13	Added chapter 2.5 on country code Removed the reference to AS2

## 1 Introduction

The Peppol Message Envelope is a customization of the UN/CEFACT Standard Business Document Header (SBDH) [SBDH]. The customization represents a true subset of the standard XML Schemas and any instance conformant to this specification is also conformant to the SBDH.

The Peppol Message Envelope makes it possible for Access points to:

- Route messages without having to access to the business message/data

- 7 • Always use the same way of identifying sender/receiver, document type and process
- 8 • Overcome issues with namespace or versioning of the payload
- 9 • Provide additional attributes that help processing the payload

10 The Message Envelope can also carry some of the infrastructure elements when using protocols like AS4.  
11 The creation of the Message Envelope is RECOMMENDED to be done already in the system issuing the  
12 business document but it may also be created by a service provider who is preparing the document for  
13 transportation to the receiver's Access Point. This specification does not recommend any particular setup  
14 with regard to this when the Message Envelope is not created in the issuing system.

## 15 1.1 Terminology

16 The keywords "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT",  
17 "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC  
18 2119 [RFC2119].

## 19 1.2 Normative references

20 [RFC2119] "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels",  
21 <https://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2119.txt>

22 [Peppol\_Policy4] "Peppol Policy for use of Identifiers v4.1.0",  
23 <https://docs.peppol.eu/edelivery/policies/PEPPOL-EDN-Policy-for-use-of-identifiers-4.1.0-2020-03-11.pdf>

25 [SBDH] "Standard Business Document Header Technical Specification",  
26 <https://www.gs1.org/standards/edi-xml-gdsn-gs1-uncefact-xml-profiles/sbdh-technical-specifications/1-3>  
27

## 28 1.3 When to use the envelope

29 Unless other policies are decided for the Peppol infrastructure, the following principals describe when the  
30 envelope is to be applied.

- 31 • Business Message Envelope MUST be applied for all messages exchanged with AS4

## 32 2 SBDH Usage

### 33 2.1 Party identifiers

34 The required Receiver party identifier in the Message Envelope header is the one that corresponds to a  
35 Peppol Participant registered in the SML/SMP. Also, the Sender party identifier is required. The structure of  
36 the identifier MUST follow the "Peppol Policy for use of Identifiers v4.x" [Peppol\_Policy4].

37 In cases where the sender is not registered in SML/SMP the identifier of the sender MUST be used as if the  
38 sender would be registered.

39 Non-normative example:

```
40 <Sender>  
41   <Identifier Authority="iso6523-actorid-upis">0088:7315458756324</Identifier>  
42 </Sender>  
43 <Receiver>  
44   <Identifier Authority="iso6523-actorid-upis">0088:4562458856624</Identifier>  
45 </Receiver>
```

46 2.2 XML considerations

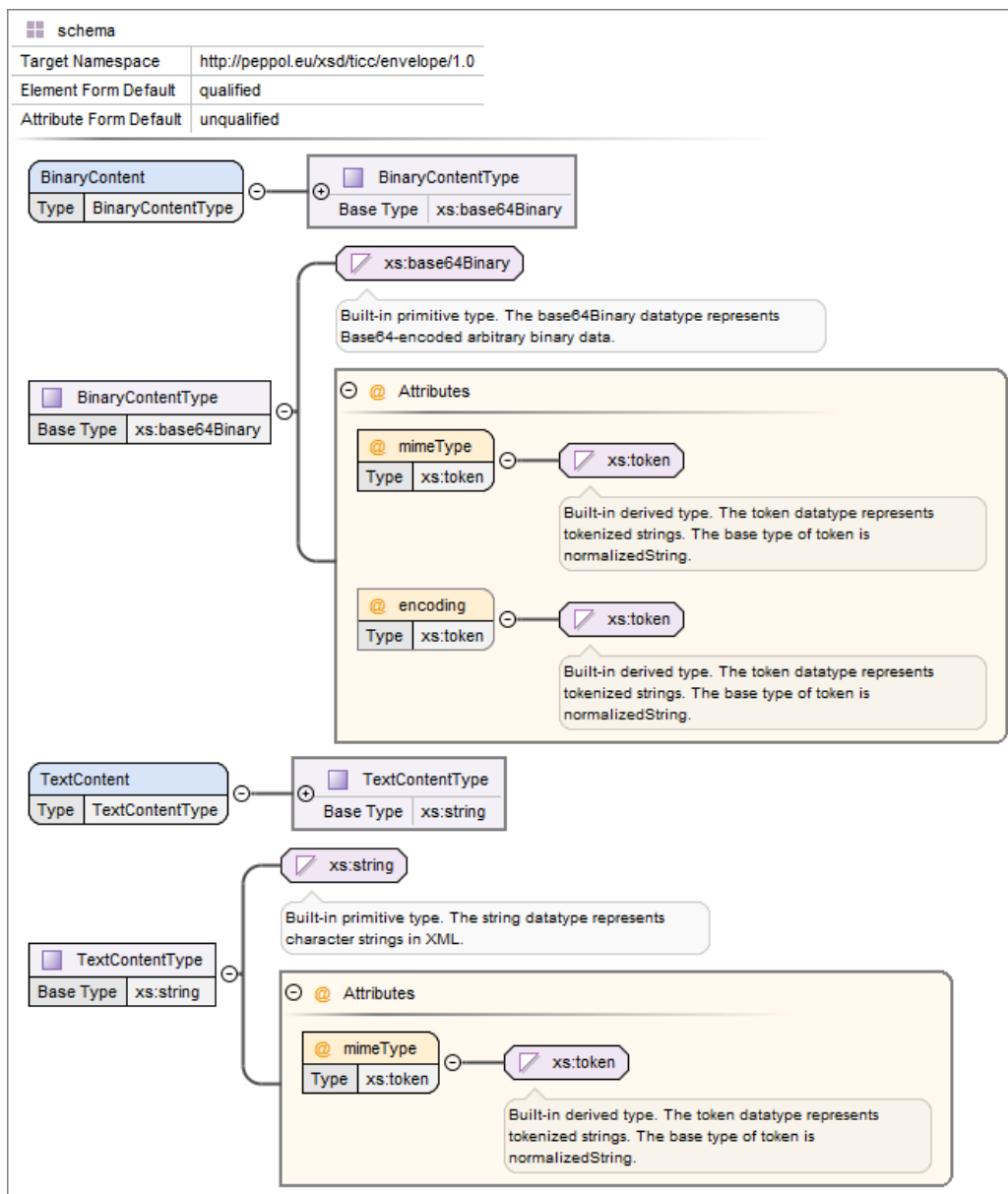
47 Since the envelope and included business document becomes one single XML instance, both the envelope  
 48 and the business document MUST have the same character encoding. The included business document  
 49 MUST be well-formed. The Message Envelope MUST NOT contain another Message Envelope.

50 2.3 Non-XML Payloads

51 Several processes that are supported in Peppol require the transportation of binary data and non-XML text  
 52 as payload. In order for Peppol to support the transmission of non-XML payloads, an XML wrapper has  
 53 been defined that MUST be used for wrapping these payloads.

54 The XML wrapper defined in this document MUST NOT be used to wrap another XML wrapper neither as  
 55 binary nor as text payload.

56 The following picture depicts the XML schema of the XML wrapper (see chapter 3.2 for the full XML  
 57 schema):



58

### 59 2.3.1 Binary Payloads

60 In order to support the transmission of binary payloads they should be transformed and packaged as  
61 follows:

- 62 1. The binary payload must be Base64-encoded
- 63 2. The encoded payload MUST be included inside the XML element `BinaryContent`. The XML  
64 namespace URI for this element MUST be `http://peppol.eu/xsd/ticc/envelope/1.0`.
- 65 3. The attribute `mimeType` MUST be set to the respective payload MIME type.
- 66 4. For text-based payloads, the optional `encoding` attribute MUST be used if the source encoding is  
67 different than the encoding of the surrounding XML document. At least the "UTF-8" encoding  
68 MUST be supported.

69 Non-normative example:

```
70 <?xml version="1.0" encoding="iso-8859-1"?>
71 <StandardBusinessDocument
72 xmlns="http://www.unece.org/cefact/namespaces/StandardBusinessDocumentHeader">
73   <StandardBusinessDocumentHeader>
74     ...
75   </StandardBusinessDocumentHeader>
76   <BinaryContent xmlns="http://peppol.eu/xsd/ticc/envelope/1.0"
77                 mimeType="application/vnd.etsi.asic-e+zip"
78                 encoding="UTF-8">
79     ABCD45678922 ...
80   </BinaryContent>
81 </StandardBusinessDocument>
```

### 82 2.3.2 Non-XML Text Payloads

83 For text data, there is no need of a container, as it can be placed directly as payload inside a `TextContent`  
84 XML element. The XML namespace URI for this element must be  
85 `http://peppol.eu/xsd/ticc/envelope/1.0`. The attribute `mimeType` MUST be set to the respective  
86 payload MIME type.

87 Note:

- 88 • If the text payload contains XML special characters (e.g. '<' or '>'), they MUST be escaped using  
89 XML encoding or alternatively the data needs to be wrapped inside a CDATA element so the XML  
90 remains well formed.
- 91 • If a text payload is embedded inside the `TextContent` element, it MUST use the same character  
92 encoding as the surrounding XML, otherwise the `BinaryContent` data element SHOULD be used.

93 Non-normative example:

```
94 <?xml version="1.0" encoding="iso-8859-1"?>
95 <StandardBusinessDocument
96 xmlns="http://www.unece.org/cefact/namespaces/StandardBusinessDocumentHeader">
97   <StandardBusinessDocumentHeader>
98     ...
99   </StandardBusinessDocumentHeader>
100   <TextContent xmlns="http://peppol.eu/xsd/ticc/envelope/1.0"
101               mimeType="Application/EDIFACT">
102 UNB+UNOA:2+9930711378399:14+7798032711116:14+160927:2252+EW861380947'UNH+186453437+CONTRL
103 :D:96A:UN:EAN002'UCI+F6GVY+7658032710006:14+9930711378111:14+8'UCM+3HHL0+ORDERS:D:96A:UN:
104 EAN008+7'UNT+4+186453437'UNZ+1+EW861380947'
105   </TextContent>
106 </StandardBusinessDocument>
```

## 107 2.4 Peppol Process ID and Document Type ID

108 The values of Process ID and Document Type ID are necessary in the SML/SMP discovery process to retrieve  
109 the relevant service metadata. Both values should be mapped to the element located at:

110 `StandardBusinessDocument/StandardBusinessDocumentHeader/BusinessScope/Scope/Inst`  
 111 `anceIdentifier`

112 The respective identifier schemes are to be located in the following element (new in v1.1):

113 `StandardBusinessDocument/StandardBusinessDocumentHeader/BusinessScope/Scope/Iden`  
 114 `tifier`

115 For backwards compatibility reasons (from version 1.1 to 1.0) – if the identifier schemes are missing – the  
 116 default process scheme identifier `cenbii-procid-ubl` and the default document type identifier scheme  
 117 `busdox-docid-qns` MUST be used.

118 The qualifier located at  
 119 `/StandardBusinessDocument/StandardBusinessDocumentHeader/BusinessScope/Scope/Typ`  
 120 `e` is used to distinguish the meaning of the values by using codes: `DOCUMENTID` (for a document type  
 121 identifier) and `PROCESSID` (for process identifiers).

122 Non-normative example without identifier schemes:

```
123 <Scope>
124   <Type>DOCUMENTID</Type>
125   <InstanceIdentifier>urn:oasis:names:specification:ubl:schema:xsd:Invoice-
126 2::Invoice#urn:www.cenbii.eu:transaction:biitrns010:ver2.0:extended:urn:www.peppol.eu:bis:peppol4a:
127 ver2.0::2.1</InstanceIdentifier>
128 </Scope>
129 <Scope>
130   <Type>PROCESSID</Type>
131   <InstanceIdentifier>urn:www.cenbii.eu:profile:bii04:ver1.0</InstanceIdentifier>
132 </Scope>
```

133 Non-normative example including identifier schemes (possible since v1.1 of this specification):

```
134 <Scope>
135   <Type>DOCUMENTID</Type>
136   <InstanceIdentifier>urn:oasis:names:specification:ubl:schema:xsd:Invoice-
137 2::Invoice#urn:www.cenbii.eu:transaction:biitrns010:ver2.0:extended:urn:www.peppol.eu:bis:peppol4a:
138 ver2.0::2.1</InstanceIdentifier>
139   <Identifier>busdox-docid-qns</Identifier>
140 </Scope>
141 <Scope>
142   <Type>PROCESSID</Type>
143   <InstanceIdentifier>urn:www.cenbii.eu:profile:bii04:ver1.0</InstanceIdentifier>
144   <Identifier>cenbii-procid-ubl</Identifier>
145 </Scope>
```

## 146 2.5 Country codes of the End Users

147 To satisfy the reporting requirements for traffic statistics, the country code of the business level sender  
 148 MUST be provided. The business-level sender is the C1 node in the 4-corner model. The information  
 149 provided in the envelope complements the identifier information on the messaging level.

150 The country code MUST be provided in every instance of the envelope. The value of the country code  
 151 MUST be provided according to ISO-3166-1 in the Alpha-2 notation (e.g. "BE" representing Belgium). Other  
 152 notations MUST NOT be used. The value MUST follow this case-sensitive regular expression:

153 `[A-Z0-9] [A-Z0-9]`

154 Kosovo is a special case: It can be represented using either the code `XK`<sup>1</sup> or the code `1A`<sup>2</sup>.

155 The country code of C1 MUST be known by the creator of the envelope.

<sup>1</sup> XK is a "user assigned" ISO 3166 code not designated by the standard, but used by the European Commission, Switzerland, the Deutsche Bundesbank and other organisations.

<sup>2</sup> 1A is used by the Publications Office of the EU and part of the Peppol PoAC code lists

156 The qualifier located at  
 157 /StandardBusinessDocument/StandardBusinessDocumentHeader/BusinessScope/Scope/Type  
 158 e is used to distinguish the meaning of values by using codes: COUNTRY\_C1 MUST be used for C1 country  
 159 code. The country code value itself is mapped to the element located at:

160 StandardBusinessDocument/StandardBusinessDocumentHeader/BusinessScope/Scope/InstanceIdentifier  
 161

162 Non-normative example for an exchange of a business document from a business level sender in Belgium:

```
163 <Scope>
164   <Type>COUNTRY_C1</Type>
165   <InstanceIdentifier>BE</InstanceIdentifier>
166 </Scope>
```

## 167 2.6 Additional attributes

168 Additional attributes MAY be provided that can be used to support the processing of the payload. These  
 169 additional attributes are represented as key-value-pairs.

170 Each additional attribute is represented as a  
 171 /StandardBusinessDocument/StandardBusinessDocumentHeader/BusinessScope/Scope  
 172 element.

173 The attribute key must be contained in the child element Type. All attribute keys listed in chapter 2.6.1 are  
 174 reserved and cannot be used as an additional attribute key. The attribute key MUST be unique within an  
 175 SBDH. The attribute key MUST be handled case sensitive.

176 The attribute value must be contained in the child element InstanceIdentifier. The attribute value  
 177 MAY be omitted.

178 Non-normative example with two additional attributes:

```
179 <BusinessScope>
180   <!-- other mandatory values -->
181   <Scope>
182     <Type>TECHNICAL_VALIDATION_URL</Type>
183     <InstanceIdentifier>http://peppol.example.org/as4</InstanceIdentifier>
184   </Scope>
185   <Scope>
186     <Type>TECHNICAL_VALIDATION_REQUIRED</Type>
187     <InstanceIdentifier>true</InstanceIdentifier>
188   </Scope>
189 </BusinessScope>
```

190 Non-normative example with one additional attribute that has no value:

```
191 <BusinessScope>
192   <!-- other mandatory values -->
193   <Scope>
194     <Type>IndicatorAttribute</Type>
195     <InstanceIdentifier />
196   </Scope>
197 </BusinessScope>
```

### 198 2.6.1 Reserved attributes

199 The following additional attribute keys are reserved for internal use in the Peppol network and MUST NOT  
 200 be used for other purposes than the intended ones.

Attribute key	Description
COUNTRY_C1	Country code of original sender of the document (C1) (see chapter 2.5). Reserved since v2.0 of this specification.
COUNTRY_C4	Reserved for potential future use.



<b>DOCUMENTID</b>	Specifies the Peppol Document Type Identifier value (see chapter 2.3)
<b>PROCESSID</b>	Specifies the Peppol Process Identifier value (see chapter 2.3)
<b>TECHNICAL_VALIDATION_URL</b>	Reserved for potential future use.
<b>TECHNICAL_VALIDATION_REQUIRED</b>	Reserved for potential future use.

201 2.7 Internet Media Type

202 The MIME type or Content-Type for Peppol Message Envelope documents MUST be either  
203 `application/xml` or `text/xml` (they can be used interchangeably<sup>3</sup>).

204 2.8 Message Envelope Schema

205

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<sup>3</sup> See <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7303#section-9.2>

Element/Attribute	Annotation
<b>StandardBusinessDocument</b>	Type StandardBusinessDocument
└ xs:sequence	Occurrence 1 .. 1
└ <b>StandardBusinessDocumentHeader</b>	Occurrence 1 .. 1
└ xs:sequence	Occurrence 1 .. 1
└ <b>HeaderVersion</b>	Occurrence 1 .. 1
	Type xs:string
	Fixed 1.0
	Description <b>Always value 1.0</b>
└ <b>Sender</b>	Occurrence 1 .. 1
	Type Partner
└ xs:sequence	Occurrence 1 .. 1
└ <b>Identifier</b>	Occurrence 1 .. 1
	Type PartnerIdentification
	Description <b>Use the format XXXX:AAAAAAA where XXXX is the type of identifier (such as 0088 for GS1 GLN) and AAAAAAA the actual identifier.</b>
└ Authority	Type xs:string
	Use required
	Description <b>Use fixed value "iso6523-actorid-upis"</b>
└ <b>Receiver</b>	Occurrence 1 .. 1
	Type Partner
└ xs:sequence	Occurrence 1 .. 1
└ <b>Identifier</b>	Occurrence 1 .. 1
	Type PartnerIdentification
	Description <b>Use the format XXXX:AAAAAAA where XXXX is the type of identifier (such as 0088 for GS1 GLN) and AAAAAAA the actual identifier.</b>
└ Authority	Type xs:string
	Use required
	Description <b>Use fixed value "iso6523-actorid-upis"</b>
└ <b>DocumentIdentification</b>	Occurrence 1 .. 1
	Type DocumentIdentification
└ xs:sequence	Occurrence 1 .. 1
└ <b>Standard</b>	Occurrence 1 .. 1
	Type xs:string
	Description <b>The standard of the enveloped business message, normally described by use of the XML namespace of the business message root element (such as urn:oasis:names:specification:ubl:schema:xsd:Order-2)</b>
└ <b>TypeVersion</b>	Occurrence 1 .. 1
	Type xs:string
	Description <b>The version number of the enveloped business message (such as the value "2.1" for OASIS UBL 2.1 or "2.0" for OASIS UBL 2.0)</b>
└ <b>Instanceldentifier</b>	Occurrence 1 .. 1
	Type xs:string
	Description <b>An informative unique ID created by the issuer of the envelope. The Instanceldentifier MUST be unique for each Business Message Envelope being created. This ID is not the same as the ID of the business message (such as the Invoice Number). It is not the same as a transmission Message ID generated by the application sending the message (as defined in AS4).</b>
	<b>The Instanceldentifier MUST be globally unique and it is RECOMMENDED to use UUID (such as 118e3040-51d2-11e3-8f96-0800200c9a66)</b>
└ <b>Type</b>	Occurrence 1 .. 1
	Type xs:string
	Description <b>Message type - mandatory in SBDH. XML local element name of the root-element in the business message.</b>

Element/Attribute	Annotation
└─ CreationDateAndTime	<p><b>Occurrence</b> 1 .. 1</p> <p><b>Type</b> xs:dateTime</p> <p><b>Description</b> The date and time for when this envelope was created. It is NOT necessarily the same as the issue date of the business document (such as the invoice) being enveloped. It is NOT necessarily the date time for transmission.</p> <p>The format of the value of this MUST include timezone information.</p> <p>Use this format for UTC: 2014-01-17T09:30:00Z (Where the "Z" indicates UTC) Or specify offset from UTC by adding the time difference: 2014-01-17T09:30:00+02:00 (Where +02:00 indicates 2 hours positive offset to UTC)</p>
└─ BusinessScope	<p><b>Occurrence</b> 1 .. 1</p> <p><b>Type</b> BusinessScope</p> <p><b>Description</b> Elements used to identify the ProcessID and DocumentID.</p>
└─ xs:sequence	<p><b>Occurrence</b> 1 .. 1</p>
└─ Scope	<p><b>Occurrence</b> 4 .. unbounded</p> <p><b>Type</b> Scope</p> <p><b>Description</b> Repeat for each mandatory qualifier. See chapters 2.4 and 2.5</p>
└─ xs:sequence	<p><b>Occurrence</b> 1 .. 1</p>
└─ ScopeAttributes	<p><b>Occurrence</b> 1 .. 1</p>
└─ xs:sequence	<p><b>Occurrence</b> 1 .. 1</p>
└─ Type	<p><b>Occurrence</b> 1 .. 1</p> <p><b>Type</b> xs:string</p> <p><b>Description</b> Qualifier of how to understand the InstanceIdentifier element. Codes.</p>
└─ InstanceIdentifier	<p><b>Occurrence</b> 1 .. 1</p> <p><b>Type</b> xs:string</p> <p><b>Description</b> The values matching the type qualified by the ScopeAttributes/Type element.</p>
└─ Identifier	<p><b>Occurrence</b> 0 .. 1</p> <p><b>Type</b> xs:string</p> <p><b>Description</b> Identification scheme used for the Document type identifier/Process identifier. See chapter 2.4</p>
└─ xs:any	<p><b>Occurrence</b> 1 .. 1</p> <p><b>Description</b> Business message goes here!</p>

206

207 **3 Appendix**



### 208 3.1 Example instance document (non-normative)

```

209 <?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
210 <StandardBusinessDocument xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
211 xmlns="http://www.unece.org/cefact/namespaces/StandardBusinessDocumentHeader">
212   <StandardBusinessDocumentHeader>
213     <HeaderVersion>1.0</HeaderVersion>
214     <Sender>
215       <Identifier Authority="iso6523-actorid-upis">0088:7315458756324</Identifier>
216     </Sender>
217     <Receiver>
218       <Identifier Authority="iso6523-actorid-upis">0088:4562458856624</Identifier>
219     </Receiver>
220     <DocumentIdentification>
221       <Standard>urn:oasis:names:specification:ubl:schema:xsd:Invoice-2</Standard>
222       <TypeVersion>2.1</TypeVersion>
223       <InstanceIdentifier>123123</InstanceIdentifier>
224       <Type>Invoice</Type>
225       <CreationDateAndTime>2019-02-01T15:42:10Z</CreationDateAndTime>
226     </DocumentIdentification>
227     <BusinessScope>
228       <Scope>
229         <Type>DOCUMENTID</Type>
230         <InstanceIdentifier>urn:oasis:names:specification:ubl:schema:xsd:Invoice-
231 2::Invoice##urn:cen.eu:en16931:2017#compliant#urn:fdc:peppol.eu:2017:poacc:billing:3.0::2.1</I
232 nstanceIdentifier>
233         <Identifier>busdcox-docid-qns</Identifier>
234       </Scope>
235       <Scope>
236         <Type>PROCESSID</Type>
237         <InstanceIdentifier>urn:fdc:peppol.eu:2017:poacc:billing:01:1.0</InstanceIdentifier>
238         <Identifier>cenbii-procid-ubl</Identifier>
239       </Scope>
240       <Scope>
241         <Type>COUNTRY_C1</Type>
242         <InstanceIdentifier>BE</InstanceIdentifier>
243       </Scope>
244     </BusinessScope>
245   </StandardBusinessDocumentHeader>
246   <Invoice xmlns:cbc="urn:oasis:names:specification:ubl:schema:xsd:CommonBasicComponents-2"
247   xmlns:cac="urn:oasis:names:specification:ubl:schema:xsd:CommonAggregateComponents-2"
248   xmlns="urn:oasis:names:specification:ubl:schema:xsd:Invoice-2">
249     <!-- reduced instance file -->
250   </Invoice>
251 </StandardBusinessDocument>

```

### 252 3.2 Message Envelope Extension XML Schema

253 The normative version of the Message Envelope Extension XML Schema can be found at  
 254 <https://docs.peppol.eu/edelivery/>