

Dear Christian,

> 'date' defines the publishing date of the register.

I guess 'date' is optional. Before it is too late: Shouldn't we name it 'startDate' and possibly introduce an (optional) 'endDate', too?

This would help to clarify some special cases, e. g. limited validity of the <designator> in the future ('endDate' is in the future, no successor is known so far). Otherwise we risk that we will have to define empty 'clearing' designators such as:

```
<designator register='DB640' entry='Bc' [start]date='2001-01-01'/>  
<designator register='DB640' entry='' [start]date='2013-01-01'/>
```

only to define that the abbreviation/entry 'Bc' is no longer valid for that OCP after 01.01.2013. (And there is no successor - may be the station is closed from then, or changes to another IM.) This may be necessary to clarify that the abbreviation/entry is `_free_` from that date!

The better solution would be from my side:

```
<designator register='DB640' entry='Bc' startDate='2001-01-01'  
endDate='2013-01-01'/>
```

We should also clarify (in the Wiki) what is the priority between <designator>s which have no 'startDate' / 'endDate' and such which have:

- <designator>s without 'startDate' / 'endDate' are valid outside the validation periods of others
- it is not allowed to define overlapping 'startDate' / 'endDate' validation periods.

Examples:

```
<designator register='DB640' entry='Bc1'/>  
<designator register='DB640' entry='Bc2' startDate='2001-01-01'/>  
'Bc1' was valid until 31.12.2000.
```

```
<designator register='DB640' entry='Bc1' endDate='2013-01-01'/>  
<designator register='DB640' entry='Bc2'/>  
'Bc1' is valid until 01.01.2013, 'Bc2' will be valid from 02.01.2013.
```

```
<designator register='DB640' entry='Bc1' startDate='2001-01-01'  
endDate='2013-01-01'/>  
<designator register='DB640' entry='Bc2'/>
```

'Bc2' was valid until 31.12.2000 and will be valid from 02.01.2013. (A not very common case in practice.)

```
<designator register='DB640' entry='Bc1' endDate='2012-12-31'/>  
<designator register='DB640' entry='Bc2' startDate='2012-01-01'/>
```

Not allowed.

```
<designator register='DB640' entry='Bc1'/>  
<designator register='DB640' entry='Bc2'/>
```

Not allowed.

Do you copy them into Wiki or should I?

Best regards,
Dirk.
