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**State of the Nation (Norway)
semantic interoperability and Topic Maps in
eGovernment and public information systems**

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Topic Maps 2008 – Oslo April 3 – 2008*

Some reservations...

- Drawing a complete picture of "the state of the nation" is (obviously) an impossible challenge
- So I'll give it a try
- And then let others give you more details on some selected projects and developments

The challenges of meta-meta-data interchange

- **Metadata:** “data about data”
- **Meta-meta-data: data and information about metadata...**
- Before systems can exchange data, the *people behind the systems* need to exchange information
- *Semantic interoperability* in practice is not possible unless people meet and exchange ideas and visions
- Informal gathering October 2007:
“Forum for large public services on the web”
- Initiated by us at DSS (Government Administrative Services)
- No formal mandate, selection of members not “representative”
- 22 persons from 12 organizations
- **We found a lot to talk about!** (Next meeting May 2008)

3

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Forum members

- Norge.no – minside
norway.no – mypage
- Stortinget
the Parliament
- regjeringen.no – Departementenes servicesenter
government.no – Government Administration Services
- Skatteetaten
Norwegian Tax Authorities
- Altinn – Brønnøysundregistrene
Public Reporting
- NAV – Ny arbeids- og velferdsetat
The Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration
- SSB Statistisk sentralbyrå
Statistics Norway
- Utdanningsdirektoratet
Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training
- Kulturnett
Culturenet
- Forbrukerrådet
Norwegian Consumer Council
- Municipalities/Cities:
Oslo, Bergen Trondheim



4

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The need for good examples

- Several public information services are using semantic technologies
- Some are exchanging ontologies and data
- Many are interested in learning from examples
- Some ideas sound good, but haven't materialized – yet
- Creating fora and sharing knowledge: crucial for further development
- Interoperability is not for the fainthearted

- **Let's see some more examples!**