

Accredited eInvoicing Service Providers: OpenPeppol Service Metadata Locator (SML) Migration – Compliance

Issued by	Ministry of Finance – UAE eInvoicing Programme
Applicable to	All Accredited eInvoicing Service Providers under the UAE eInvoicing Programme
Compliance Date	31 August 2026

1. Purpose

The Ministry of Finance (MoF) issues this Technical Circular to inform all Accredited Service Providers (SPs) of the mandatory Service Metadata Locator (SML) migration announced by OpenPeppol and to ensure timely alignment with the applicable implementation timeline.

2. Scope of Applicability

This Circular applies to all Pre-Approved eInvoicing Service Providers (SPs) operating under the UAE eInvoicing Programme. All SPs are required to review their existing Peppol technical configurations and ensure compliance with the requirements set out in this Circular within the specified timeline.

3. Compliance Deadline

Migration activities and written confirmation must be completed no later than 31 August 2026.

4. OpenPeppol SML Migration Notification

OpenPeppol has issued a notification regarding the migration of the Service Metadata Locator (SML) infrastructure from the European Commission-hosted environment to the OpenPeppol-hosted environment.

According to the OpenPeppol notification, the legacy participant lookup services hosted under the **ec.europa.eu** domain will be retired after **31 August 2026**. Following this date, participant lookup services are expected to utilise the OpenPeppol-hosted SML infrastructure.

OpenPeppol has confirmed that the existing production SML may continue to be used until completion of the participant lookup migration on 31 August 2026. To safeguard smooth network operation, the transfer of the production SML has been scheduled for the beginning of September 2026. This transfer is expected to cause an estimated three (3) hours of downtime on the participant management API; participant lookup services will remain available throughout the transfer. The exact date and time of the transfer will be communicated closer to the event.

OpenPeppol has established a status page providing real-time updates on the availability of the SML and T-SML servers, including downtimes, incidents, and planned maintenance:
<https://openpeppol.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/PTPUB/pages/5335384065/SML+T-SML+statuspage>

After the transfer, only the following new Peppol-hosted lookup URLs will be available for use in the network:

Test Environment (T-SML): iso6523-actorid-upis.participant.sml.test.tech.peppol.org

Production Environment (SML): iso6523-actorid-upis.participant.sml.prod.tech.peppol.org

Further information regarding migration, including the applicable technical implementation details, is provided by OpenPeppol through its official communication channels.

5. Mandatory Compliance Requirements

All Accredited Service Providers shall:

1. Review the OpenPeppol notification and assess any impact on their Peppol services and infrastructure.
2. Complete all activities necessary to align with the OpenPeppol SML migration within the timeline specified by OpenPeppol.
3. Ensure continued operational readiness for the retirement of the legacy SML infrastructure.
4. Use only the new Peppol-hosted domains for participant lookup, as set out above, from the date of the production SML transfer.

6. Compliance Confirmation

All SPs are required to submit written confirmation to the Ministry of Finance no later than **31 August 2026**, confirming that:

- The OpenPeppol SML migration has been completed within their environment, where applicable.
- Appropriate validation has been performed to support continued Peppol operations following the migration.

7. Non-Compliance

Accredited Service Providers are responsible for completing the required migration activities within the prescribed timeframe and maintaining the technical capability required to perform Peppol participant discovery following the retirement of the legacy SML infrastructure.

Failure to comply with the applicable SML migration requirements may constitute non-compliance with the applicable Peppol requirements and may result in the Service Provider no longer meeting the applicable Accreditation requirements under Article 5 of Ministerial Decision No. 64 of 2025, as amended by Ministerial Decision No. 56 of 2026, and may result in termination of Accreditation under Article 19(1)(b), subject to the applicable procedures under Articles 19 and 20.

In addition, the Ministry, in its capacity as the Peppol Authority, may take applicable measures under Clause 18 of the Peppol Service Provider Agreement, including measures affecting the Service Provider's ability to operate on the Peppol Network.

8. Closing Statement

The Ministry of Finance requires all Accredited Service Providers to complete the required migration activities within the prescribed timeframe and ensure continued alignment with the OpenPeppol infrastructure supporting the UAE eInvoicing ecosystem.

This Circular constitutes a mandatory technical compliance requirement. SPs are required to ensure timely review and, where applicable, complete the necessary rectification within the prescribed deadline.