Identity and Authorization Component Standards Project Charter

1. Project Overview

This project aims to establish a framework for secure digital transactions by defining standardized, modular requirements for identity and authorization components. Current practices often use monolithic systems, leading to inconsistent trust and limited interoperability. This initiative will develop a component-based approach to evaluate each participant's role in identity and security, aligning with standards like NIST SP 800-63.

2. Problem Statement

Today's digital landscape faces significant challenges in achieving trusted and scalable digital transactions, particularly in the context of evolving identity standards:

- **Inadequate Component Assessment:** Current solutions are often assessed as monolithic, making it difficult to evaluate specific functions, leading to inconsistent assessments and reduced confidence.

- **Limited Interoperability & Flexibility:** The lack of interoperable standards hinders integration of diverse services, limiting innovation and flexibility.

- **Challenges in Binding Identity to Actions:** There is a gap in reliably binding identities to actions, requiring explicit guidance for high-assurance interactions.

3. Business Case

Standardizing modular components for identity and authorization is crucial for enhancing trust and reducing fraud. This project will:

- **Enhance Trust & Compliance:** Provide clear requirements for modular components to demonstrate compliance with NIST SP 800-63.

- **Improve Assessment & Reduce Risk:** Enable consistent assessment of component effectiveness, reducing vulnerabilities.

- **Foster Specialization & Innovation:** Promote a marketplace for specialized vendors to deliver best-in-class components.

- **Streamline Adoption Across Sectors:** Simplify compliance demonstration, accelerating adoption of digital identity solutions.

4. Project Vision and Objectives

4.1. Vision Statement

Establish standards for modular identity and authorization components to support secure, interoperable digital transactions, aligned with NIST SP 800-63.

4.2. Primary Objectives

- **Define Modular Identity Proofing Requirements:** Develop clear, functional requirements for identity proofing components to enable consistent evaluation and mapping to NIST SP 800-63 IALs.

- **Define Modular Authorization & Binding Requirements:** Establish functional requirements for modular authorization and identity-binding components, focusing on how verified identities are securely linked to digital records and actions, and how these actions are confirmed, including considerations for FAL alignment.

- **Promote Interoperability Standards:** Specify requirements for seamless integration and data exchange between components.

- **Foster Strategic Collaboration:** Engage with key industry organizations and government agencies to align efforts and integrate complementary expertise, ensuring comprehensive, legally sound solutions that meet evolving digital transaction needs and adhere to relevant standards.