



Collaboration between WHO & the IHTSDO

*Scene Setting for the
WHO Business Plan Consultation Meeting,
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**World Health
Organization**



The Vision

- To enhance the health of humankind by facilitating better health information management;
- To contribute to improved delivery of care by clinical and social care professions;
- To facilitate the accurate sharing of clinical and related health information, and the semantic interoperability of health records;



Achieving the Vision will require

- A globally co-ordinated effort
- Agreement on a core Terminology for recording and sharing of health information
- Pooling of resources to share the costs and benefits relating to the development and maintenance of the Terminology Products
- A consistent message to industry to promote the uptake and correct use of the Terminology



The purpose of the IHTSDO

- To acquire, own and administer the rights to SNOMED CT and other relevant assets (collectively, the "**Terminology Products**");
- To develop, maintain, promote and enable the uptake and correct use of its Terminology Products around the world;
- To undertake activities required to achieve these purposes



Status of the IHTSDO

- Association registered as a not-for-profit entity in Denmark
- Articles of Association outline the benefits and obligations of membership and governance structures
- Nine Charter Members:
Australia, Canada, Denmark, Lithuania, USA, New Zealand, Netherlands, Sweden, UK
- Expressions of interest from a number of other nations we hope will now join!



Status of the IHTSDO

- Contract negotiations completed with the College of American Pathologists (CAP)
- Intellectual property in SNOMED CT and antecedent works (SNOMED 3.5, RT etc.) will transfer to the IHTSDO
- New licensing arrangements through the IHTSDO will commence in May 2007



Licensing of SNOMED CT

- Single form of end-user license (Affiliate License)
- Permits world-wide use of SNOMED CT
- Affiliates pay:
 - **NO fees** to IHTSDO for use in any Member nation. All obligations are met by the Member through their IHTSDO membership agreement. Cost-recovery is permitted
 - **Charges** as set by the IHTSDO for use in non-member nations



Licensing of SNOMED CT

- Most Members plan to establish a National Release Centre (NRC) to :
 - Manage licensing and distribution of SNOMED CT
 - Manage and release local modifications, extensions and translations
 - Liaise with local stakeholders
- SNOMED CT will be made more available for research purposes
- Provision for sponsored use in developing nations



Management of SNOMED CT

- Three year support contract with the CAP
- Strategic direction provided by IHTSDO Board and Committees
- New roles within the IHTSDO:
 - Chief Executive Officer
 - Chief Terminologist
 - Chief Quality Officer
 - Small number of administrative staff



Harmonization Activities

- Recognized that terminologies have close interaction with classifications, information models and messaging
- Need for harmonization with WHO, HL7, CEN, ISO and other relevant bodies
- Harmonization Boards will be established to manage these relationships



Areas for Collaboration with WHO

1. Mapping: between SNOMED CT and the WHO Family of International Classifications (FIC)
2. Mapping standards, tools etc.
3. Multi-lingual representation of concepts: Tools, expertise
4. Sponsorship of developing countries
5. Future work: ICD 11

Potentially Others ?



Collaboration Area 1: Mapping

Agree:

- Principles and Governance
- Priorities
- Work plan – including budget and funding
- Mechanisms for collaboration –
Workshops, Harmonization Board etc.



Mapping: Principles

- Initial Work likely to focus on improving existing maps
- Work with each classification will be limited to the most recent version and edition
 - eg. ICD 10 Second Edition
 - Generic version versus National Adaptations need to be addressed
- Ownership of maps and related intellectual property:
 - Shared Maintenance and funding responsibilities
 - Bilaterally agreed arrangements for use of Maps
 - Bilaterally agreed use of other IP – eg. INN
- Mapping rules agreed Internationally should become balloted standards and used to develop other maps eg. national extensions



Mapping: Priorities

Priorities yet to be agreed, but likely to include:

1. International Classification of Diseases 10th Revision, *Second Edition: March 2006* (ICD-10)
2. International Classification of Functioning Disability and Health (ICF)
3. International Classification of Oncology Version 3 (ICD-O-3)
4. ? Others (eg. Anatomical Therapeutic Codes (ATC))



Mapping: Draft Work Plan

- Establish a register of existing resources and assets relevant to harmonisation efforts
- Register may include:
 - Tools and technology support
 - Documents, expertise and standards
 - Other IP – eg. International Names (INN)
- Timeframe to complete **July 2007**
- Shared between IHTSDO/ WHO **August 2007**



Mapping: Draft Work Plan

- Joint Workshop Aug/Sept 2007
- WHO Harmonisation Board incorporated into Annual Plans and Budgets
 - IHTSDO October 2007
 - WHO November 2007
- First Harmonisation Board Meeting January 2008



Mapping: Workshop 1

Aug/Sept 2007

- Equal Participation from both IHTSDO and WHO
- Aim:
 - Agree all aspects of structure and process to set up WHO/IHTSDO Harmonisation Board from January 2008
 - Formulate the **use case study** for mapping: how are maps eventually used in practice
- Venue:
 - TBC - ? Brisbane



Mapping: Workshop 2

- **Blend of skills** at workshop to meet work stream requirements
- Three **work streams** where agreement will be needed on way forward:
 - **Business:** Cost; Timescale; Priority; Ownership; Maintenance
 - **Technical:** Tools; Process Standards; QA; Manpower; Gaps; division of labour
 - **Implementation:** Guidance; Rules; Communication



Collaboration Area 2: Translation

- Multi-lingual representation of concepts
- Identify opportunities for collaboration and mutual benefit:
 - ? Tooling
 - ? Standards



Collaboration Area 3: Sponsorship

- Sponsorship of developing countries
 - Meeting with WHO and IHTSDO representatives after the Japan WHO Business Meeting
 - IHTSDO model allows one time payment of eight times annual membership
 - Some countries have already indicated their interest to sponsor others within their region



Other Areas for Collaboration

- ICD 11 may be a future area of common interest for development
- ? Others