Joint Initiative Council

The Joint Initiative Council (JIC) on SDO Global Health Informatics Standardization is a collaborative initiative to help the end users of standards by addressing issues of gaps and overlaps across key global standards: one topic, one standard. Currently CEN/TC251, CDISC, GS1, HL7, IHTSDO and ISO/TC215 have joined. Initially chaired by Ed Hammond of HL7, the JIC was chaired by Kees Molenaar, chair of CEN/TC251 for the year of 2010; as of January 2011 Bron Kisler from CDISC is chairing the JIC.

In 2010 the Joint Initiative expanded to 6 member organizations, added a number of work items and worked hard to become more transparent and supportive of the broader health standards community. We launched the Joint Initiative’s website – hosted by HL7 – that provides access to all available documents: charter, policy and procedures, work item proposals, presentation slides and meeting minutes. There is also a work item registry where all joint work items can be found. Several Joint Initiative work items include: the BRIDG model, Clinical Trials Registration & Results (CTR&R), Identification of Medicinal Products (IDMP) and Individual Case Safety Report (ICSR).

The 2010 successes are foremost in leadership collaboration. We have achieved close collaboration and cooperation between the leaders of the participating SDOs; we meet in monthly teleconferences and have 2-3 face-to-face meetings annually. We still have much to gain in cross SDO procedures like simultaneous balloting and in further supporting project leads to get their joint work done. Looking forward in 2011, we will continue to progress in these areas.

In 2010 the JIC started a task force to investigate how the Joint Initiative can help emerging and developing countries by improving access to meetings and SDO materials. In collaboration with SDO global leadership, WHO, the donor community and other key global stakeholders, the JIC will continue to push this important work forward in 2011, further exploring usability of standards and educational opportunities as well as projects particularly relevant to emerging and developing countries such as Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS.

As part of eHealth Week in Budapest, Hungary the JIC will be exhibiting at the upcoming World of Health IT (WoHIT) Conference & Exhibition next week, 10-12 May 2011. Please stop by if you would like more information regarding Joint Initiative projects or future activities – Syma Centre, Hall A, Partner Pavilion Stand No. 131. The Opening Reception is 1830-2000 Tuesday (May 10), and the exhibit hall is open 1200-1800 Wednesday and Thursday.

Please visit the JIC website for more information: http://www.jointinitiativecouncil.org/