Agenda:

Meeting: PESC Technical Advisory Board Meeting

Time: Thursday, August 12, 2010, 3 PM EDT

Call-in Number: 1-866-352-3799 code: *7696363*

Agenda

Topic	Lead	Time
Action Item Review	Michael	5 min
Fall Summit Agenda	Michael	10 min
CDS code list rules	All	15 min
SIFA overview	Michael	20 min
Meeting Summary	Michael	5 min

Minutes: Morris

Attendees:

- Michael Morris
- Steve Margenau
- Tuan Ahn Do
- Ralph Brasure
- Russ Buyse

New Action Items:

- Michael will send an email to Hector Tello summarizing the comments of the Board on the proposed rules for selecting code list items
- Tuan will send Michael the email address of Lori Collins from SIFA
- Michael will get clarification from Michael Sessa on our objectives in synchronizing with SIFA.
- Michael will contact Lori Collins and ask her if she or her colleagues would like to meet with the board to discuss how we may move to a more common XML architecture.

Open Action Items:

- Kumar will provide a presentation to the entire TAB between August 16-20th

New Decisions:

- We will continue discussing synchronization of SIF Standards Review to the agenda for our next meeting

- We will discuss the feasibility of creating an xsl transform that will create a single schema file from the top level schema, sector schemas, and core schema.

Discussion on the code list item rules:

Rule 1:
No comments.

Rule 2:
Some members questioned the use of Yes-No instead of Y- N. The rationale was that the Y-N processing would be less error prone and would make programming simpler.

Rule 3:
It was unclear how to decide if a code is historically or widely accepted. For example, grade names has been coded in many different ways. How was the rule applied to obtain this grades offered code set?

Rule 4:
This rule reflects that basic approach that PESC has taken with its code sets. This nature of these values is spelled out in more detail in the PESC Guidelines for XML Architecture and Data Modeling: http://www.pesc.org/library/docs/standards/Policies%20and%20Procedures/PESC%20Guidelines%20for %20XML%20Architecture%20and%20Data%20Modeling%20-%20v%203-0.doc.
You may consider adding some of the PESC guidelines to this rule.

Rule 5:
This rule is hard to know when to apply it since it requires that Rule 4 cannot produce a set of short word codes. This is equivalent to the PESC rule for codes: "If a code list item name cannot be simplified to 3 words, schema designers may consider using short, two or three character codes as code list items." Perhaps, the rule could be refined to be more specific about when Rule 4 cannot be used.

Tuan also indicated that we need to determine if CDS was going to do a cross walk of list items between PESC, SIFA and CDS. Michael indicated that this should be an issue for the addressed by the CDS implementation and adoption team.

Tuan also mentioned that our architecture guide should include UTF-8 as our XML character set.

SIFA Discussion:

Schools Interoperability Framework (SIF) Approach to schemas"
1. Includes a communication and messaging architecture and protocol (Zone Integration Server, Context, Agent, Requester, Provider, Responder, etc.)
2. Defines set of objects that can independently be instantiated and given a 32 hex digit GUID. For example, we can have an assessment object with the Title, "The ACT" and a GUID for that object.
3. Each object type has its own schema
4. Some common elements and types are provided in Common schema files
5. Generally defines complex elements in place using <xs:complexElement> sub structure.
6. Elements are usually defined by reference to a global element instead of through types. They may be in the local schema or in another schema.
7. Individual schemas are not valid in that they reference other elements but do not import all the schemas containing those elements.