**Work Item 0809010**: Regards discussion (12/06/2004) on policy of making informative documents available to non-members: There was a previous decision at a Board Meeting. If the standard is government mandated it is provided free of charge. If not government mandated it is currently held as benefit of membership.

**Source**: BPR Committee (Freida Hall, Chair) from Board of Directors meeting minutes

**Ratified by the EC**: 09/08/2008

**GOC analysis/rationale**: The mention of “informative documents” seems to indicate that the focus of the discussion was implementation guides; however, that is conjecture. In any case, the issue is one of creating a stated policy that government mandated intellectual property will be publicly available through the web site much as the EHR-S functional model is now. Given that model, it may not be necessary to create such a policy, which would have to accommodate all possible considerations. For example, an organization (governmental nor not) could agree to fund the development of a document with the proviso that it be made freely available. Instead, it could simply be a document-by-document decision of the TSC. The intent to produce a ‘public’ document would be included as a ‘check box’ on the project initiation form triggering a TSC decision process.

**Proposed revision**:

1. **09 The Working Group**

2. **09.01 The Technical Steering Committee (TSC)**

3. A Technical Steering Committee (TSC) shall be established to facilitate the coordination and activities of the Working Group. It shall be comprised of a representative and alternate from each of the four Steering Divisions (SD), two Affiliate representatives, the Chief Technology Officer (CTO), a representative of the Architecture Board (typically the ArB chair), and appropriate HL7 staff. Should the TSC identify an imbalance or the need for specific expertise, they may vote to include an ad hoc member to correct the situation. The TSC shall elect its chair from among its members; excluding the CTO, chair of the ArB, and the ad hoc member if seated. The TSC shall be responsible for product project approval and management oversight including:

4. a) Establishing and maintaining an HL7 Architecture, development methodologies, and work processes to be used by The Working Group in developing HL7 protocol specifications

5. b) Ensuring that the efforts of The Working Group to produce protocol specifications proceeds at a reasonable pace

6. c) Ensuring that The Working Group collaborates smoothly and covers the scope of work in a consistent manner.

7. d) **Arbitrating the ballot and distribution process for those HL7 Protocol Specifications identified as intended to be freely available to the public.**