

Standards Australia

Applications for Travel Grants

Meeting notes, Selection Panel
comments and outcomes

10 April 2014

Context

Standards Australia administers funding from the Australian Government Department of Health to subsidise Australian participation at international health informatics standards forums.

On 4 March 2014, Standards Australia invited IT-014 members and health informatics stakeholders to apply for subsidy grants related to the HL7 International Working Group Meetings to be held in Phoenix, AZ USA, during the period 4-9 May 2014. The same day another email was sent out for subsidy grants related to the ISO/TC 215 Meeting to be held in Karuizawa, Japan, during the period 19-23 May 2014.

Selection Panel Teleconference

In accordance with the Standards Australia Funding Conditions and Selection Policy, the Selection Panel met on 21 March 2014 to discuss the applications for subsidy grants.

Represented on the Selection Panel were:

- The Commonwealth Department of Health (Department)
- The National E-Health Transition Authority (NEHTA)
- HL7 Australia (participated in selecting HL7 meeting applicants only)
- The Standards Australia IT-014 Technical Committee member appointed by Standards Australia

Standards Australia representatives attended the meeting to record the discussion, and did not participate or contribute to the deliberations or decision making process.

Summary of Selection Panel Deliberations

Standards Australia opened the meeting and invited participants to commence discussions.

It was noted that there were four applicants for the HL7 meeting and nine applicants for the ISO meeting. All applicants were considered to have demonstrated varying but significant levels of skills, competencies and attributes, and previous engagement in relevant international standards work. Two applications were received for the mentored position at the ISO meeting.

The Selection Panel scored the applications in accordance with the funding policy criteria. Each applicant's skills, competencies and attributes, previous involvement in national and international work, leadership and relevance related to priority area were scored by panellists. After scoring, a general discussion was held where panellists provided some explanation surrounding the scores they had submitted.

The panel agreed that applicants employed by jurisdictions or NEHTA were ineligible for funding support.

Standards Australia provided the Department with details of the panellists' scoring immediately after the teleconference.

The Department further assessed the highly ranked applicants, and provided its final selections and reasoning on 9 April 2014.

Two delegates were selected by the Department to attend the HL7 meeting with a particular focus on Clinical Decision Support; Electronic Health Records; Mobile Health; Infrastructure and Messaging; and Security.

One applicant was selected by the Department for the ISO meeting. The applicant was considered to have been the most highly ranked individual.

The applicant was selected to cover two health informatics topic areas at the ISO meeting: Security, Safety and Privacy; and Pharmacy and Medicines Business Working Groups.

Standards Australia informed the Selection Panel of the final selection provided by the Department.

The HL7 Australia representative and the IT-014 representative noted that the final selections of the Department were not reflective of the views of all of the members of the selection panel. These panellists nonetheless accepted that the ultimate decision for funding and the criteria for selection were determined by the Department.

Standards Australia noted that it would inform all applicants as to the outcomes of their applications.

Actions

- a) Standards Australia to inform all applicants of the outcomes of their applications.
- b) Standards Australia to circulate to the IT-014 Technical Committee the outcomes of the selection process (this document).