

THE HEALTH ICT ARCHITECTURE & INFORMATION EXCHANGE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG)

DESCRIPTION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

PREAMBLE

The TWG will encourage, foster, and support Health Information Exchange (HIE) to help achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC)

MISSION STATEMENT

To offer information exchange and architecture driven technological support to the Nigerian healthcare ecosystem by constant review of its technology status; identifying process weaknesses, recommending cost-effective technology solutions with minimal duplication of functions, and supporting development of efficient monitoring and evaluation (M&E) processes.

CORPORATE COMPOSITION

The corporate composition of the TWG shall be “drawn” from government and private organizations whose operational mandates involve healthcare delivery and management, medical and clinical research, and relevant Information and Communication Technology (ICT) provision and management. Volunteer teams or subject matter experts may be co-opted into the TWG based on technical relevance and potential impact.

RESOURCE COMPOSITION

The resource composition of the TWG shall be a gathering of professionals and stakeholders representing the corporate composition and mandated to further the cause of Health ICT Architecture and HIE in the context of the emerging National Health ICT Framework.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The TWG shall achieve these by providing the Health ICT ecosystem with strategic support and technical assistance to:

1. Encourage the adoption of requirements, standards, policies, processes, etc. needed to enable HIE services required for the nationwide deployment of UHC.
2. Review the status of existing technology standards within the healthcare sector in Nigeria at various levels.
3. Identify the extent to which health information technology standards, and exchange can promote better outputs within the sector.
4. Educate stakeholders on notable HIE case studies and identify areas of adoption and adaption.
5. Define a governance system (structure & process) for HIE that can be conveniently domesticated by Nigeria.
6. Participate in and assess the realignment of duplicated technology-enabled healthcare initiatives across the entire healthcare ecosystem.
7. Succinctly define health information standards and datasets (eg. for patient information, health facility, providers) for HIE in order to support UHC services, such as enrolment, unique identification, etc.
8. Ignite ad-hoc partnership, where necessary, with renowned expert groups researching global best practices and technological advances in healthcare matters.
9. Propose best practice with respect to technology standards, records acquisition, records maintenance and records management, HIE aggregation, information sharing etc.
10. Review & update existing inventory of the architecture of eHealth implementations and the HIE, and identify stakeholder interrelationships in the areas of organizational structure, applications in use and adoption processes.
11. Undertake other activities as may be necessary to achieve the mission of this TWG.

PERFORMANCE CHECKLIST

The TWG is committed to an open and inclusive health technology harmonization process in its mandates. It shall therefore periodically evaluate its progress and compile progress reports for discussion on a regular (to be determined) basis.