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# IHTSDO in Europe

## Update on SNOMED CT Developments

Semantic Interoperability Workshop, Brussels, May 16, 2008

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# The Vision

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- To enhance the health of human-kind by facilitating better health information management
- To contribute to improved delivery of care by clinical and social care professions
- To facilitate the accurate sharing of clinical and related health information, and the semantic interoperability of health records

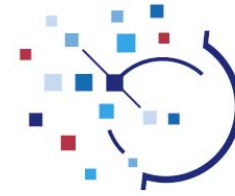


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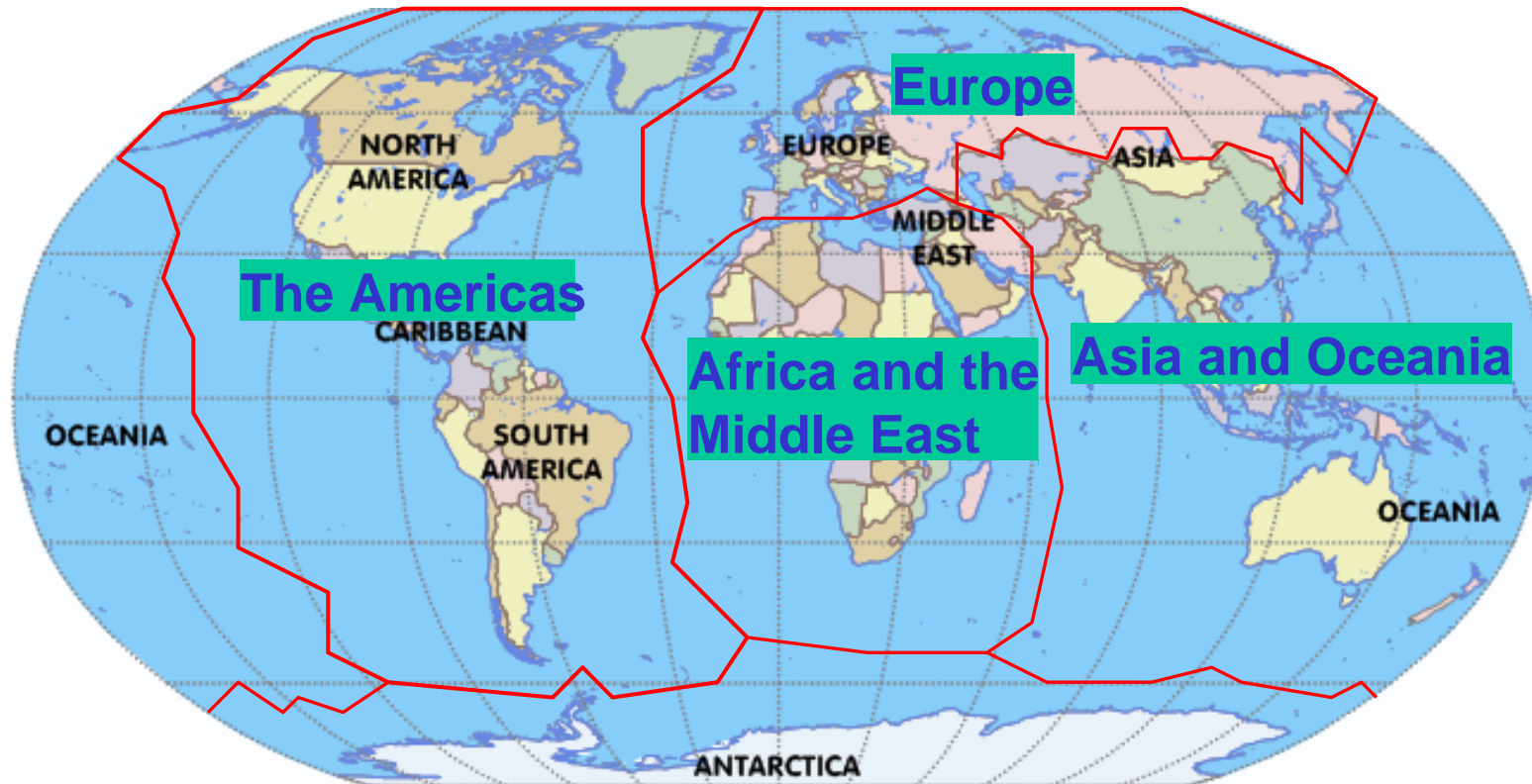
## Achieving the Vision will require

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- A globally co-ordinated effort
- Agreement on a core Terminology for recording and sharing of health information
- Pooling of resources to share the costs and benefits relating to the development and maintenance of the Terminology Products
- Consistent promotion of the uptake and correct use of the Terminology
- Active harmonization activity with other SDOs



# European Base with Global Membership & Global Outlook





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## Status Updates (1)

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- IHTSDO provides new organizing structure
  - Broader participation and use, including by researchers
  - New ways to access and influence SNOMED CT
  - User-driven priorities for progress
  - Active discussions with potential new members & users – others always welcome!
- January 2008 Release
  - > 311,000 active concepts, ~ 800,000 descriptions, 1.36M semantic relationships in international release
  - Continuous improvement focus



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## Status Updates (2)

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- Multilingual and multi-cultural/dialect support
  - Guidelines for concept-based translation
  - Input from broader range of countries/cultures
    - Also opportunity for extensions and subsets
  - Number of translations increasing
- Harmonization efforts with others
  - Variety of models to respond to unique circumstances of different SDOs and user communities
  - Open Health Tools consortium with 24+ others
- Growing implementation base
  - Within and outside member countries