



# **WorldVistA Vendor Advisory Council Terms of Reference**

**Version 1 Draft 3**

## Document History

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Status</b>
1 Draft 1	4th March 2009	First draft for discussion by Board of WV
1 Draft 2	14th April 2009	Second draft for discussion
1 Draft 3	21st April 2009	Updated following Board discussion 18/04/09

### ***Purpose of the Vendor Advisory Council***

The VAC exists to provide the WorldVistA Board with considered advice relating to all aspects of the WorldVistA mission: "to improve healthcare worldwide by making medical information technology better and universally affordable".

### ***WorldVistA Vendor Advisory Council***

The VAC is established according to the provisions of Article 6, Section 3 (Advisory Committees) of the WorldVista bylaws:

*The corporation shall have such other committees as may from time to time be designated by resolution of the board. Such other committees may consist of persons who are not also members of the board. These additional committees shall act in an advisory capacity only to the board and shall be clearly titled as "advisory" committees.*

The WV VAC will be comprised of representatives of VistA vendors invited by the WorldVistA Board.

Vendors represented on the VAC should be committed to WorldVistA principles and values (see below) and to advancing VistA as an open source resource.

Membership of the VAC may be withdrawn by the Board without notice or explanation.

Note. A vendor is defined as any for profit business that derives income from VistA related activities

### ***Terms of Reference***

1. The VAC will be self governing – electing its own officers, deciding its own ways of working, timetable etc.
2. The VAC will appoint a Chairman and a Secretary from among their membership.
3. All meetings of the VAC shall be minuted and these minutes made available to the WorldVistA Board.

4. The WorldVistA Board will consult with the VAC on matters of concern to the Board, but the VAC is free to consider any VistA related issues and make recommendations to the WorldVistA Board as it sees fit.
5. The WorldVistA Board is not bound to act upon the recommendations of the VAC but undertakes to provide a written response to all communications from the VAC and where not subject to legal or confidentiality restrictions will publish these to the WorldVistA membership
6. The Chairman of WorldVistA will nominate a representative of the Board to act as the point of contact for communication between the VAC and the Board.

### ***Statement of Principles & Values***

1. WorldVistA is committed to making and keeping VistA and related software freely available under an open-source software community model.
2. WorldVistA encourages the use and support of other VistA-related open source software such as open-source host operating systems, MUMPS language environments, and client, desktop and other packages.
3. WorldVistA believes that the success of VistA is best assured through the adoption of the values, principles and practices of the open-source software movement and successful open-source software communities.