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2 **FOUNDATION FOR INTELLIGENT PHYSICAL AGENTS**

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5 **FIPA ACL Message Representation**

6 **Library Specification**

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18 *Geneva, Switzerland*

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19 **Foreword**

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21 industry of intelligent agents by openly developing specifications supporting interoperability among agents and agent-
22 based applications. This occurs through open collaboration among its member organizations, which are companies and
23 universities that are active in the field of agents. FIPA makes the results of its activities available to all interested parties
24 and intends to contribute its results to the appropriate formal standards bodies.

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29 participation in FIPA.

30 The FIPA specifications are developed through direct involvement of the FIPA membership. The status of a
31 specification can be either Preliminary, Experimental, Standard, Deprecated or Obsolete. More detail about the process
32 of specification may be found in the FIPA Procedures for Technical Work. A complete overview of the FIPA
33 specifications and their current status may be found in the FIPA List of Specifications. A list of terms and abbreviations
34 used in the FIPA specifications may be found in the FIPA Glossary.

35 FIPA is a non-profit association registered in Geneva, Switzerland. As of January 2000, the 56 members of FIPA
36 represented 17 countries worldwide. Further information about FIPA as an organization, membership information, FIPA
37 specifications and upcoming meetings may be found at <http://www.fipa.org/>.

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42 **1 Scope**

43 This document is part of the FIPA specifications and deals with message transportation between inter-operating agents.

44 This document also forms part of the FIPA Agent Management Specification [FIPA00023] and contains specifications
45 for:

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47 Different syntactic representations of ACL.

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48 2 ACL Representations

49 ACL messages need to be encoded in a particular representation before they are transported by an ACC. The
50 representation in use for a particular message is expressed in the `:acl-representation` parameter of the message
51 envelope of that message. The FIPA defined representations are given in *Table 1*.
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Representation Name	Description	Specification
<code>fipa.acl.rep.bitefficient.std</code>	A bit-efficient representation of ACL.	See [FIPA00069]
<code>fipa.acl.rep.string.std</code>	A string based representation of ACL.	See [FIPA00070]
<code>fipa.acl.rep.xml.std</code>	An XML based representation of ACL.	See [FIPA00071]

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Table 1: ACL Representations

56 **3 References**

57 [FIPA00023] FIPA Agent Management Specification. Foundation for Intelligent Physical Agents, 2000.
58 <http://www.fipa.org/specs/fipa00023/>

59 [FIPA00069] FIPA ACL Message Representation in Bit-Efficient Encoding. Foundation for Intelligent Physical
60 Agents, 2000.
61 <http://www.fipa.org/specs/fipa00069/>

62 [FIPA00070] FIPA ACL Message Representation in String Specification. Foundation for Intelligent Physical Agents,
63 2000.
64 <http://www.fipa.org/specs/fipa00070/>

65 [FIPA00071] FIPA ACL Message Representation in XML Specification. Foundation for Intelligent Physical Agents,
66 2000.
67 <http://www.fipa.org/specs/fipa00071/>