

## Increasing access to health workers in remote and rural areas through improved retention

First expert consultation  
2–4 February 2009, World Health Organization, Geneva  
Salle C, 5<sup>th</sup> floor

### Provisional agenda

#### Monday, 2 February 2009

08:30 Registration of participants

#### 09:00 **Session I – Welcome and introduction**

**Co-chairs:** Manuel M. Dayrit, Director, Department of Human Resources for Health, WHO  
Armando Guerra Vilanova, Ministry of Health, Cuba

Welcome and opening remarks from the co-chairs

Address by Carissa F. Etienne, Assistant Director-General, Cluster of Health Systems and Services, WHO

09:20 **Health workforce development – WHO perspectives**

Manuel M. Dayrit, Director, Department of Human Resources for Health, WHO

09:35 **WHO programme of work on health workforce retention**

Jean-Marc Braichet, Coordinator, Health Workforce Migration and Retention Unit, WHO

09:50 **General discussion**

10:15 – *Coffee break*

#### 10:45 **Session II – Scope of the global recommendations and mapping of interventions**

**Co-chairs:** Charles Normand, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland  
Carmen Dolea, Health Workforce Migration and Retention Unit, WHO

**Presentation from the WHO Guidelines Review Committee**

Faith McLellan, WHO Guidelines Review Committee, WHO

11:00 **Increasing access to health workers in remote and rural areas: issues, challenges and potential solutions. Background paper and introduction to the work of the expert group.**

Carmen Dolea

11:30 **Moderated discussion – Scope of the global recommendations and mapping of interventions**

12:00 – *Lunch break*

13:00 **Moderated discussion (continued)**

**Working groups: mapping of current evidence**

Working group 1 (suggested theme: education and regulatory related interventions)

Working group 2 (suggested theme: monetary compensation – direct and indirect financial incentives)

Working group 3 (suggested theme: management, environment and social support)

16:00 – *Coffee break*

16:30 **Feedback from working groups on mapping of current evidence**

17:30 End of Day One

18:00 – *Cocktail, WHO main restaurant*

## Tuesday, 3 February 2009

### 09:00 **Session III – Evidence gaps, methodological challenges and potential solutions**

**Co-chairs:** Charles Normand, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland  
Taghreed Adam, Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research, Geneva, Switzerland

#### Summary of Day One

#### 09:15 **Challenges and innovative research approaches for health system policy analysis – panel**

Gilles Dussault, Instituto de Higiene e Medicina Tropical, Lisbon, Portugal  
Laurence Codjia, Human Resources Specialist, Dakar, Senegal  
Françoise Jabot, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Santé Publique, Rennes, France  
Marjolein Dieleman, Royal Tropical Institute, Amsterdam, the Netherlands  
Tim Martineau, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Liverpool, United Kingdom

10:30 – *Coffee break*

#### 11:00 **Working groups - evidence gaps, methodological challenges and potential solutions**

12:00 – *Lunch break*

#### 13:30 **Feedback from working groups on evidence gaps, methodological challenges and potential solutions**

### 14:30 **Session IV – Challenges for country level implementation**

**Co-chairs:** Grace Allen-Young, Ministry of Health, Jamaica  
Shambu Acharya, Country Focus, WHO

#### Challenges for country level implementation – country presentations and global perspectives

Country 1 – Romania  
Country 2 – Canada  
Country 3 – Mali / Madagascar / Benin  
Country 4 – Niger  
Global Perspectives -- Global Health Workforce Alliance

16:00 – *Coffee break*

#### 16:30 **Working groups – challenges and lessons learned for country level implementation**

17:30 End of Day Two

## Wednesday, 4 February 2009

### 09:00 **Session IV – Challenges for country level implementation (continued)**

#### Summary of Day Two

#### 09:15 **Feedback from working groups on challenges for country level implementation**

10:30 – *Coffee break*

### 11:00 **Session V – Plan of action for the coming months**

**Co-chairs:** Estelle Quain, USAID  
Jean-Marc Braichet, Health Workforce Migration and Retention Unit, WHO

#### Working groups - Plan of action for the coming months

12:00 – *Lunch break*

#### 13:30 **Feedback from working groups and moderated discussion - Plan of action for the coming months**

#### 15:00 **Next steps and programme of work**

#### 16:00 **Closure of the meeting** Carissa F. Etienne, Assistant Director-General, Cluster of Health Systems and Services, WHO