

PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES INFORMATION SHEET

Name of the Partnership/Initiative

Migration of Healthcare Workers

Expected date of initiation: October 2002

Expected date of completion: to be defined

Partners Involved:

Governments:

Intergovernmental organizations:

World Bank Institute

World Health Organisation

International Organisation for Migration

International Labour Organisation

Commonwealth Secretariat

Major groups:

International Confederation of Free Trade Union

International Council of Nurses

Other:

Rockefeller Foundation

Stakeholder Forum for Our Common Future

Leading Partner: Stakeholder Forum for Our Common Future (Interim)

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Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative

Please provide a brief description:

Goal

Employ a multi-stakeholder approach to find a global solution to the ethical and practical problems caused by the migration of healthcare workers, and agree a process by which such a solution could be reached.

Background

The question of how best to resolve the conflicting interests surrounding the migration of health care workers is long standing. Recent debates and resolutions, such as the SADC Health Ministers conference

in January and the World Health Assembly in May 2002, highlight the urgency of establishing an equitable, effective solution.

The need to improve the management of human resources in health care services is stressed in the Draft Plan of Implementation for the World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg. This partnership aims to establish a way forward in this critical area.

A number of organisations are engaged in multiple approaches being undertaken to addressing the issue and establish solutions, including the World Medical Association's taskforce (for physicians) and the Commonwealth Secretariat (for member countries). It is less clear whether the solutions being developed form a coherent overall approach, acceptable to all stakeholders.

Please also provide a brief description of the relationship of the Partnership/Initiative with the objectives of Agenda 21 as well as relevant goals and objectives of the United Nation Millennium Declaration:

Draft WSSD Plan of Implementation:

47. d) [Agreed] Improve the development and management of human resources in health care services;

Expected results:

Please provide a brief description:

- Increased exchange and collaboration among organizations and stakeholders working on the issue of migration of healthcare workers
- Developed strategies towards a global solution to the ethical and practical problems caused by the migration of health workers that is supported by all stakeholders
- Implemented such strategies and eventually solve the problem

Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement:

Stakeholder organisations affected by and concerned with the migration of health workers, including, in particular, those that are developing solutions to the problems caused, are developing this initiative. Partners will agree a specific work programme during Stakeholder Forum's Implementation Conference, Johannesburg, August 24-26.

Outcomes under development include:

- Agreement of the need for and shared understanding of the role of a global, broadly represented network (central coordination group), with commitments from working group members to work together to address this issue over time;
- Agreement of the need for a multi-stakeholder group to be established to develop a global solution to the issue, acceptable to each stakeholder group; identification of which organisation(s) should commission such a group and proposals as to how to select the different members of the group, including in particular how to select government representatives; and
- a clear, agreed plan of how to proceed.

Specific steps of action under development include:

- Identification and sharing of available data (at local, national, regional and global level) and factors contributing to changes in supply (e.g. training, education) and demand (e.g. demography, financial

and other 'pull' factors).

- Efforts to promote 'coping strategies' in countries with net emigration.
- Efforts to promote multilateral approaches, through sharing of experience and agreements achieved to date and identifying the methods used to bilateral agreements between nations to address the wider issue multilaterally.

Coordination and Implementation mechanism

Please provide a brief description of expected coordination/implementation mechanism of the Partnership/Initiative.

- Several suggested set-ups are under discussion, with partner organizations committing to collaborating on coordination and network management. A decision will be made at the Implementation Conference, 24-26 August 2002.

Arrangements for funding

Please describe available and/or expected sources of funding for the implementation of the Partnership/Initiative (e.g. donor government(s); international organization(s)/financial institution(s); foundation(s); private sector; other major groups, etc.)

- Some of the partners involved are interested in investing in this partnership. It is therefore unlikely that additional resources will be needed.

Arrangements for capacity building and technology transfer

Please include information if the Partnership/Initiative provides for training, informational support, institutional strengthening and/or other capacity building measures:

Please also provide here a brief description of expected arrangements for technology transfer (if applicable).

Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level (if any)

Please provide a brief description:

- The partnership builds on existing programmes of data gathering, research of coping strategies, etc. Thus, it aims to coordinate ongoing activities between the partner organizations, and thus increase the impact of efforts addressing the problem of migration of healthcare workers.

Monitoring Arrangements

Please describe expected arrangements for monitoring of progress in the implementation of Partnerships/Initiative after it will be launched at the WSSD:

(e.g. frequency/modalities of preparation of progress reports; electronic updates, news-letters, etc)

- The partnership will develop internal monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, based on a multi-stakeholder approach. Specific arrangements depend on detailed work programme.
- Reporting to CSD desired for monitoring, learning and knowledge management.

Other relevant information:

Web-site (if available): This partnership is part of Stakeholder Forums Implementation Conference process; more information at www.earthsummit2002.org/ic

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