



MIP/2003/2

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

MEETING OF INTERESTED PARTIES

GENEVA, 3 TO 7 NOVEMBER 2003

Timetable and annotated agenda

Please note that the timetable is indicative and that the timing of discussions may vary according to the daily scenarios.

**WHO MEETING OF INTERESTED PARTIES: TIMETABLE
3 TO 7 NOVEMBER 2003**

	Monday, 3 November	Tuesday, 4 November	Wednesday, 5 November	Thursday, 6 November	Friday, 7 November
Themes	Public health as a global responsibility	Millennium Development Goals	Focusing on countries	Building the knowledge base for health	Partnering for better health
09:00-12:30	Opening by Director-General Global health security <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Health Regulations: global alert and response • Biological and chemical threats 	Reaching the unreached: health and human rights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce child mortality (Goal 4) • Improve maternal health (Goal 5) 	Strengthening country work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenges of health systems and structures • Access to essential medicines 	The knowledge base <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge management and information technology • Health metrics 	Working with partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global alliances and mechanisms
Lunch					
14:00-17:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity strengthening for surveillance and response • Food safety • Diet and physical activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases (Goal 6) • Ensure environmental sustainability (Goal 7) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scaling up WHO technical support • Countries in crisis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and product development • Global public goods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working in countries: achieving results through cooperation
17:15-17:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary and conclusions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary and conclusions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary and conclusions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary and conclusions 	Closure by Director-General

N.B. Coffee breaks are scheduled for 10:30-11:00 and 15:30-16:00. However, timing may vary according to the discussions. The Director-General's cocktail reception for participants will be held on Tuesday evening from 18:00 to 20:00.

ANNOTATED AGENDA

Public health as a global responsibility

Monday, 3 November 2003

Coordinators: **Dr A. Asamoah-Baah, Assistant Director-General, Communicable diseases**
Dr C. Le Gales-Camus, Assistant Director-General, Noncommunicable diseases
and mental health

09:00-10:00 **Opening by the Director-General**

10:30-12:30 **Global health security**

- International Health Regulations: global alert and response
- Biological and chemical threats

The session will address the challenges we face to ensure global health security in view of the constant threat of infections – natural, accidental or deliberate – and the need for building capacity to secure our response to this threat. The discussion will focus on coping with severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) at the country level (Viet Nam); coping with deliberate release of infectious agents; the global action needed to coordinate the response; the economic costs of such infections; and the importance of systems to prevent and control the spread of infections. Key points raised in the debate will be summarized and linked to WHO's strategy and activities.

Panel: representatives of Member States, WHO country offices and the private sector.

14:00-17:15 The afternoon session will be composed of three sub-themes:

Capacity strengthening for surveillance and response

The session will examine key issues involved in strengthening surveillance at the global, regional and country levels. Panelists will highlight the importance of working with countries, through utilization of good-quality data to improve multipurpose surveillance and health information systems. The presentations will be linked to a case study on Mozambique. The session will cover surveillance for both communicable and noncommunicable diseases.

Food safety

This session will focus on the Codex Alimentarius and the increasing role of WHO in addressing food safety as a public health issue. Presentations will cover food safety, public health and trade and efforts to reduce the burden of foodborne diseases. The operationalization of WHO's food safety medium-term plan 2004-2009 will also be discussed.

Diet and physical activity

The first part of this session will consider country examples from Brazil, China and the United States of America on how to move from scientific evidence to action. The deliberations will focus on evidence, partnerships and country action. The second part will deal with the elaboration of the WHO global strategy on diet, physical activity and health.

17:15-17:30 **Summary and conclusions**

Millennium Development Goals

Tuesday, 4 November 2003

Coordinators: Ms J. Phumaphi, Assistant Director-General, Family and community health
Dr D. Oluwole, Director, Family and reproductive health, Regional Office for Africa
Dr Z. Hallaj, Director, Communicable diseases, Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean

09:00-09:30 Introduction: putting the Goals in context

The theme of the day's discussions will be WHO's response to the health-related Goals, with emphasis on "reaching the unreached" in the context of health and human rights. The discussions will address the need for WHO and international health partners to intensify their cooperation with Member States in order to speed up progress towards achieving the Goals and to ensure that gains are made by those most in need.

09:30-12:30 Goals 4 and 5

A panel of experts and participants from a variety of countries (Bahamas, Bolivia, Côte d'Ivoire, Tunisia and Viet Nam) will review issues and challenges relating to the attainment of the Goals from different perspectives: namely, child and adolescent health, reproductive health, and gender and women's health. **Reduce child mortality (Goal 4)** is a composite measure, which is associated with underweight children and poverty (Goal 1) and inversely related to child health and health expenditures. Large-scale implementation of a known and limited set of preventive and treatment interventions that are evidence-based and cost-effective, is required to reduce child mortality. Additionally, mechanisms to assess and reinforce progress towards achieving Goal 4 include the Convention on the Rights of the Child. **Improve maternal health (Goal 5)** is also closely associated with poverty (Goal 1) and the status of women (Goal 3), as maternal mortality is highest among the poor and uneducated. While effective interventions are known, they nevertheless require an effective health system with reliable referral mechanisms together with integrated reproductive health services.

Plenary discussion: on Goals 4 and 5.

14:00-15:30 Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases (Goal 6)

The session will focus on the challenge of human resource needs at country level posed by HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases. WHO will give a global overview of the challenges and its vision of how to meet them. A presentation will follow on the country perspective (Uganda). A panel of representatives from Member States, the World Bank, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the International Organization for Migration and WHO will facilitate the discussion.

16:00-17:15 Ensure environmental sustainability (Goal 7)

Short presentations from WHO staff, regions, countries and partners on: the health and environmental work of WHO in the context of the Goals; water and sanitation contribution to achieve Goal 7; healthy environments for children, a key partnership for achieving the Goals; the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council, grassroots action in support of Goal 7; basic hygiene and communicable diseases: the SARS experience. A discussion will follow.

17:15-17:30 Summary and conclusions

Focusing on countries
Wednesday, 5 November 2003

**Coordinators: Dr D. López Acuña, Director, Program Management, Regional Office for the Americas
Other Regional Offices**

09:00-09:15 Introduction

The day's sessions will highlight support for reaching national health and development goals within the changing public health environment, including national participation in relevant regional and international public health actions.

09:15-10:30 Challenges of health systems and structures

Representatives of various regions and panelists will hold a discussion (with the involvement of participants) on the central issues concerning the extension of health services and the strengthening of the national public health authority: the extension of social protection in health; strengthening the national health authority and the performance of essential public health functions; and challenges confronting human resources in helping to meet the health needs of the population.

11:00-12:30 Access to essential medicines

New ways of working will be required to improve the access to and delivery of antiretroviral, antimalarial and antituberculosis drugs to the millions who need them. The session will consider the strategic plan for medicines for 2003-2005, with particular attention to these priorities, and how they can be implemented at the global, regional and country levels in order to achieve prompt results. Short presentations on respective roles and activities will be followed by discussions.

14:00-15:30 Scaling up WHO technical support

Representatives of various regions, panelists and participants will discuss the adaptations or managerial changes required at global, regional and country levels to implement the decentralization of technical cooperation (e.g., capacity building, knowledge management, information systems and connectivity) and the contribution of WHO Common Country Strategies to a more systematic planning of technical cooperation.

16:00-17:15 Countries in crisis

Panelists and country representatives will present the different issues and obstacles that WHO faces in assisting countries to prevent, prepare for and respond to disasters, including the question of reducing vulnerability.

17:15-17:30 Summary and conclusions

Building the knowledge base for health

Thursday, 6 November 2003

Coordinators: Dr T. Evans, Assistant Director-General, Evidence and information for policy
Dr V. Lepakhin, Assistant Director-General, Health technology and pharmaceuticals

09:00-9:05 Introduction

The day's sessions will explore a broad and diverse use of knowledge management in public health. At the centre of the debate will be the key question of how to translate information and knowledge into implementation and innovation.

09:05-11:00 Knowledge management and information technology

- **What it means for public health.** A panel of experts and practitioners, representing both WHO and external partners, will facilitate an open discussion on the problems of "bridging the gap" between knowledge/information creation, and its application for new products, policy-making and local problem-solving in the health sector.
- **Applied solutions at work today.** Projects that provide knowledge solutions at the local and global levels will be presented. These involve IT network solutions and making aggregations of local information more usable for clinics and district decision-making. A panel will lead a discussion on key knowledge solutions in the public sector, particularly in resource-poor settings, focusing on the challenges, constraints and opportunities involved.

11:30-12:30 Health metrics

Global collaboration to strengthen health information systems. In this session, there will be a presentation of a new initiative under development: the health metrics network. This initiative aims to improve health information for public health action at global, regional, national and subnational levels. The discussion will consider the challenges to effective knowledge translation across these levels, paying special attention to equity issues.

14:00-15:30 Research and product development

WHO's added value in research and innovation. The session will examine the objectives and rationale behind strategic and product-directed research; and look at global research needs for pro-poor products. An expert panel, representing public sector research in developed and developing countries, product research and development from industry together with philanthropic foundations, will discuss topics including: agenda setting; public-private partnership; the increase in new research organizations and initiatives; the public sector role in product research and development; best practices in clinical research and bioethics; and capacity building.

16:00-17:15 Global public goods

Enhancing access of communities to products. An introductory presentation will outline the research requirements, partnerships and broader prerequisites for ensuring that outcomes benefit communities and that innovative tools and methodologies can be accessed by those in need. The panel will include experts from the fields of country-level research and health policy, industry, civil society, economics and health systems research. The following topics will be discussed: research to inform policy; research to improve access; financial mechanisms for scaling up and promoting access; and health systems research.

17:15-17:30 Summary and conclusions

Partnering for better health

Friday, 7 November 2003

Coordinators: Dr J. Chow, Assistant Director-General, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria
Dr K. Leitner, Assistant Director-General, Sustainable development and healthy environments

09:00-09:10 Introduction

The day's sessions will review examples of the different types of partnerships in which WHO is involved; their added value; and the lessons learned to date. The obstacles and solutions for the future will also be considered. Partners will be invited to share their views on how to strengthen these joint endeavours.

09:10-12:30 Working with partners: global alliances and mechanisms

- **Global alliances for service delivery.** This session will review best practices based on the following experiences: the Global Polio Eradication Initiative and the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in their work with civil society; Stop TB including the Global TB Drug Facility whose innovative mechanisms to increase access to high-quality antituberculosis drugs may be expanded or replicated for other diseases; and the Partnership for Safe Motherhood and Newborn Health, which seeks to revitalize global, regional and national maternal and newborn health efforts in the context of the Millennium Development Goals.
- **Public-private partnerships for research and product development.** A review will be made of best practices based on experiences in working with partners such as the pharmaceutical industry to develop and deliver drugs for neglected diseases; the vaccine industry to develop and supply vaccines vital to low-income countries under the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization; and biomedical journal publishers to improve access to the world's biomedical literature for low-income countries under the Health InterNetwork Access to Research Initiative.

Panel: representatives of various partners including a foundation, a nongovernmental organization, a United Nations system organization, the World Bank and the European Commission.

14:00-17:00 Working in countries: achieving results through cooperation

The afternoon session will discuss the lessons learned, the impact and difficulties of country-level partnerships, and will take into consideration the ongoing work to strengthen WHO country offices. Case studies will highlight experiences in the Philippines (tuberculosis: the lessons learned from an interagency coordinating committee which later became essential for the Country Coordination Mechanism); Zambia (measles and malaria: a new partnership for child survival); Kyrgyzstan (where WHO is developing innovative mechanisms for facilitating partnerships in health); Bangladesh (where WHO has a long track record of supporting the government in the development of the health sector); and Kenya (HIV/AIDS: WHO has been mobilizing partners in preparation for the rapid scale up of antiretroviral therapy).

Panel: representatives of Member States and WHO Country Representatives.

17:00-17:30 Closure of the MIP by the Director-General

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