

November-December 2011

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Readers,

As we come to the close of this year, on behalf of the Alliance, I would like to thank you for your continued support for gaining traction for health workers during 2011. The Alliance is inspired and committed to step up our collective efforts to address the persisting health workforce shortages, the uneven distribution of health workers between urban and rural areas, the international migration of health personnel and the wider performance and management challenges that hinder delivery of essential health services.

We rely on your continued dedication to take the HRH agenda forward over the next few years, to ensure health workers are empowered to do their job within robust and supportive health systems.

On behalf of my team at the Secretariat, I'd like to take the opportunity to wish you and your families a joyful holiday season and a happy new year!

Dr Mubashar Sheikh

NEWS



Increased impetus for HRH in Nigeria

Health workforce issues recently received an impetus in Nigeria, which organized its first First National Conference On Human Resources For Health (LINK) in late October. This is a case of demonstrable national ownership and leadership to address the HRH crisis, with a clear commitment by the Federal Government. The Global Health Workforce

Alliance played an active role in various sessions and also delivered the keynote address. The Alliance currently works closely with Nigeria, providing catalytic support for the country coordination and facilitation (CCF) process for human resources for health (HRH).

[Read more](#)

HIGHLIGHTS



Addressing the challenges associated with health worker migration

Since the adoption at the World Health Assembly 2010 of the WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel, several meetings have taken place to review and renew good practises and innovations. The Health Worker Migration Global Policy Advisory Council recently met to review its mandate and launch innovative initiatives to reward countries that have pioneered innovations to address the challenges of health

worker migration. [Read more about other important meetings on the health worker migration issue](#)

Upcoming event

[Meetings of the governing bodies of WHO, including the subsidiary organs - 2012](#)

19-20 January
[Multi-Stakeholder Midwife Education Providers Meeting, The Hague, Netherlands](#)

Call for Abstracts: [Irish Forum for Global Health International Conference](#)

"Global Health Workforce: Pathways to Health" hosted by Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, 2-3 February 2012

⇒ [More events](#)

New resources

[Health Worker Shortages and Global Justice](#)

Milbank Memorial Fund Report

[eMOCHA TB Detect Free Android Application from Johns Hopkins](#)

Android Application from Johns Hopkins

[Tanzanian lessons in using non-physician clinicians to scale up comprehensive emergency obstetric care in remote and rural areas](#)

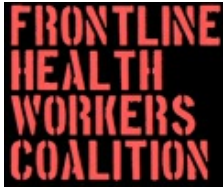
Article published on the Human Resources for Health journal

[State of Maternity Services Report](#)

Royal College of Midwives report, 2011

[Governance and human resources for health](#)

Article published on the Human Resources for Health journal



Launch of the Frontline Health Workers Coalition

The new US based Frontline Health Workers Coalition is urging greater and more strategic US investment in frontline health workers as a cost-effective way to save lives and accelerate progress on all global health goals. Their objective is to have the US Global Health Initiative (GHI) support an additional 250,000 new frontline health workers and to better deploy, train and support existing frontline health workers where the need is greatest. Coalition members include AMREF, Family Care International, IntraHealth, Partners In Health, Save the Children, White Ribbon Alliance and others. For Coalition membership application or to learn more - <http://www.frontlinehealthworkers.org/>



Course on Improving HRH through responsible governance, 30 January – 3 February 2012, Amsterdam

To address the factors hindering appropriate policy development and implementation, and to mitigate the HRH crisis, the relationship between HRH and governance requires strengthening at all levels. The aim of the short course is to enable participants to apply the concept of responsible governance to HRH issues and to develop approaches improving the formulation and implementation of national and regional HRH policies and plans. For more information: <http://www.kit.nl/-/INS/49298/Royal-Tropical-Institute/KIT-Development>



"Aid Effectiveness for Health" - 2011 policy report of the Alliance members Action for Global Health(AfGH)

[Aid Effectiveness for Health Towards the 4th High-Level Forum, Busan 2011: Making Health Aid Work Better](#)

Launched ahead the 4th High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, South Korea in December 2011 the report draws extensively on original research developed by Alliance civil society member Action for Global Health (AfGH). In this report, AfGH identified three central problems that require urgent attention:

1. Donor coordination and alignment efforts that are not improving health outcomes;
2. Civil society, including Parliament's exclusions from health policy decision-making.
3. Managing for results is being misinterpreted as financing by results. These three aspects of the aid effectiveness agenda are examined in depth in corresponding



MEMBERS' CORNER

H4+ 'High Burden Countries Initiative' (HBCI)

Building on the UN Secretary-General's *Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health*, a group of United Nations health agencies - the H4+ UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNICEF, World Bank and WHO - launched the **High Burden Countries Initiative (HBCI)**. The objective is to strengthen the implementation of key maternal and newborn health interventions in the following eight countries facing the highest burden of mortality and morbidity: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, India, Mozambique, Nigeria and the United Republic of Tanzania.

As part of its continuous engagement in improving maternal, newborn and child health, the Alliance is committed to working with its network of members and partners to support the HBCI. In early 2012, the Alliance will assist HBCI's Technical Working Group in the development of comprehensive **National Needs Assessments**, that would explore in detail the most challenging issue facing maternal and neonatal health: **human resources for health with midwifery competencies at the community level** (i.e. midwives, nurse-midwives and community health cadres).

More information including a call for photographs on "midwifery in the community" will be made available in

[Lay health worker attrition: important but often ignored](#)
World Health Organization
Bulletin vol. 89, December 2011

[Health workers at the core of the health system: Framework and research issues](#)
Peer reviewed article, 2011

[The global health workforce crisis: an unfinished agenda](#)
Report of the Health Workforce Session at the World Health Summit, Berlin 2011

[Human resources for mental health care: current situation and strategies for action](#)
Fifth in a Series of six papers about global mental health

⇒ [Visit the Knowledge Centre](#)

Multimedia



[Investing in the Health Care Workforce \(NUY Summit, 13 Oct. 2011\)](#)



[Dominic West Merlin Heroes appeal](#)



[Meet Lorenzo Dorr: one of our Merlin heroes in Liberia](#)



[An AMREF Village Health Team - Uganda](#)



early 2012.



Call for submissions - The Resolve Award of the Aspen Institute's Global Leaders Council Members

The Resolve Award celebrates progress made by governments towards delivering on the promise of universal access to reproductive health. This **highly competitive, non-monetary award** is designed to honor innovative and scalable approaches in accelerating progress towards universal access to reproductive health, including workforce expansion, task shifting, training curricula, and educational approaches. Innovations and awards will be considered in financing (for identifying or developing new ways to fund reproductive health services), policy development (for adapting, developing or improving the design and implementation of policies that remove barriers or facilitate progress towards universal access) and service delivery (or expanding access to reproductive health services and information). Deadline for submission is 15 January 2012. [Read more](#)



FHI 360 Experiences with Strengthening Human Resources within the Health System

"Retired but Not Tired", "Adherence Support Workers" or "Community-Based Distribution (CBD) of Injectables" are among the innovative and successful projects carried out by Alliance member FHI 360 as part of its work on strengthening human resources for health (HRH). In addition to family planning, reproductive health and HIV/AIDS, FHI 360's experience in HRH spans several different domains that affect human resource performance and address human resource shortages. Here is an overview of selected HRH activities recently conducted by FHI 360. [Read more](#)



[First Human Resources for Health Conference, Nigeria \(Path2Nigeria\)](#)



[Save the Children's Health Workers: Sadya, Afghanistan](#)



[Living Proof | Ethiopia Community Health Workers](#)



[=> Alliance YouTube Playlist on health workforce crisis](#)



HRH IN THE PRESS THIS MONTH

ABC News - [Report tackles rural doctor shortage](#)

Country Health SA (South Australia) hopes the recommendations of a new report will help it to attract, train and retain regional GPs.

Reuters - [Obama administration launches \\$1 billion healthcare drive](#)

The Obama administration on Monday said \$1 billion of federal funds allocated in last year's health reform law will go toward innovation programs designed to boost jobs and improve patient care.

UN News - [Ban lauds Bangladesh's progress on women's and children's health](#)

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon today spotlighted the progress made by Bangladesh in advancing women's and children's health, lauding the South Asian nation for its efforts to end the tragedy of millions of needless deaths

Guardian - [NHS should emulate good HR practices of private sector](#)

Department of Health's workforce chief says NHS should learn from companies like Sainsbury's and British Gas where the workforce is valued

BBC - [Jobs hope over new 'connected health' scheme in Northern Ireland](#)

Enterprise Minister Arlene Foster has claimed 400 jobs could be created as part of a joint initiative between her department and the Department of Health.

Swissinfo - Swiss doctors shortage - [Taking action to fight growing doctor deficit.](#)

Moves to abolish 'numerus clausus' to counter doctor shortage

Le Monde - [A-t-on besoin d'un numerus clausus ?](#)

Tous les français, à la possible exception de ceux qui habitent les centres des grandes villes, expérimentent une difficulté qui ne fera que s'accroître dans l'accès aux médecins, généralistes comme spécialistes.

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