Global and Regional Policy Drivers

There are a number of global and regional policy drivers that will influence future directions of the Code implementation, key of which are:

- The UN General Assembly adopted a 2014 resolution on the “Global health and foreign policy” that focuses on the protection of health workers. The Global Health and Foreign Policy Initiative was launched by the Oslo Ministerial Declaration in 2007, spearheaded by the foreign ministers of Brazil, France, Indonesia, Norway, Senegal, South Africa and Thailand. These founding Ministers renewed their commitment to the Oslo Ministerial Declaration in 2010. The reports and resolutions resulting from this initiative explore different areas of collaboration between health and foreign policy, with close reflection of expanding global consensus in support of universal health coverage as an essential component of sustainable development;

- The Sustainable Development Goals to be committed by the UN General Resolution in 2015 contains Universal Health Coverage and strengthen health workforce;

- The United Nations Declaration of High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development advocates an-eight point agenda of action aimed at protecting human rights of all migrants; reducing the costs of labour migration; eliminating migrant exploitation (including human trafficking); addressing the plight of stranded migrants; improving public perceptions of migrants; integrating migrants in the development agenda; and, enhancing migration partnerships (via government, private and civil society stakeholders) and cooperation;

- Expansion of access to health services and increased demand for health workforce in a number of countries that had achieved universal health coverage;

- The Ebola outbreak elevated the international community consensus on the danger paused by weak health systems and severe health worker shortages and the fundamental need to invest in health system resilience for effective response;

- Health system sustainability in fragile states;

- The emergence of regional integration, especially in Ibero American Ministerial Network (2014) and the 2015 ASEAN Economic Community which facilitates free flow of capital and labour including health workforce;

- The expanding knowledge and information-base improved the understanding of the trends, patterns and flows of health worker mobility – policy-makers and planners need to maintain capacity to capture those and the resulting impact on the health labour market;

- The propagating standardization of health worker educational curricula and growth of mutual recognition agreements;

- The flourishing trend in the internationalization of higher education;

- The notable anti-immigration sentiments in some countries, and

- The unfolding refugee crisis.