LAUNCH OF THE
WHO QUALITYRIGHTS PROJECT & TOOL KIT
Assessing and improving quality and human rights in mental health and social care facilities
Organized by WHO with the financial support of CBM and Virgin Unite
Millennium UN Plaza Hotel, New York, 28 June 2012
Diplomat Ballroom, 12:00 - 14:30

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Chair:
Dr Oleg Chestnov, Assistant Director-General,
Non Communicable Diseases and Mental Health, WHO

Moderator:
Mr Gary Foster, Hollywood film producer, mental health advocate

12:00 - 12:30 - Registration

12.30 Welcome
Dr Oleg Chestnov, Assistant Director-General, Non Communicable Diseases and Mental Health, WHO

12.35 Opening Remarks
H.E Mr Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, President of the sixty-sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly
Mr Gary Foster, Hollywood film producer and mental health advocate

12.45 WHO QualityRights Project and Tool Kit: Act, Unite and Empower for mental health
Dr Michelle Funk, Coordinator, Mental Health Policy and Service Development, Mental Health and Substance Abuse, WHO

13.00 The country perspective
Ambassador Carlos Enrique Garcia Gonzalez, Deputy Permanent Representative of El Salvador to the United Nations

13:10 Violations experienced by people with psychosocial disabilities
Mrs Robinah Alambuya, President, Pan African Network of People with Psychosocial Disabilities, Uganda

13:20 CBM's experience on the ground & commitment to QualityRights
Dr Julian Eaton, Mental Health Adviser, CBM West Africa Regional Office

13:30 Reflections on the WHO QualityRights Project and Tool Kit
Mr Gregory David Roberts, bestselling author of ‘Shantaram’

13.50 Open discussion - comments from the floor
Moderator: Mr Gary Foster
Panel: Mrs Robinah Alambuya, Ms Natalie Drew, Dr Julian Eaton, Dr Michelle Funk, Mr Gregory David Roberts, Ambassador Carlos Enrique Garcia Gonzalez

14:30 Closing remarks
Dr Jacob Kumaresan, Executive Director, WHO Office at the United Nations, New York
Dr Oleg Chestnov, Assistant Director-General
Non Communicable Diseases and Mental Health, WHO

Dr Chestnov was appointed Assistant Director-General for Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health in February 2012. Prior to that, he was the Deputy-Director for International Relations at the Ministry of Health and Social Development of the Russian Federation. During his career at the Ministry, he acquired broad technical experience in public health at both the national and international level. He began his career as a physician and worked for 10 years at the primary care level in various states within the former Soviet Union. Dr Chestnov holds a degree in Medicine from the Saratov State Medical Institute and a doctorate of Philosophy in Medical Sciences from the Russian Federation.

His Excellency Mr Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser
President of the sixty-sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly

His Excellency Mr Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser is the President of the sixty-sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly. A veteran diplomat, Mr Al-Nasser has the rank of Minister, granted by His Highness the Emir of the State of Qatar. For over four decades, Mr Al-Nasser has contributed to advancing the multilateral agenda in the realms of peace and security, sustainable development and South-South Cooperation. Mr Al-Nasser served for 13 years as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations in New York, during which he represented his country on the UN Security Council for two-year term of Qatar as non-permanent member. He has also held diplomatic postings worldwide.

Mr Gary Foster
Hollywood film producer and mental health advocate

Mr Foster is the producer of the Oscar and Golden Globe-nominated hit film *Sleepless in Seattle* as well as producing *The Score*, *Tin Cup*, *Daredevil*, *Elektra* and *Gloria*, among others. In 2009, Mr Foster produced *The Soloist* starring Jamie Foxx and Robert Downey, Jr. Based on the true story of the friendship between Steve Lopez an LA Times journalist and Nathaniel Ayers, a musician with schizophrenia who resides on Skid Row in Los Angeles. The film has garnered recognition for its accurate portrayal of the plight of homeless people with mental disability. He is a supporter of the QualityRights project and has been influential in raising the visibility and public profile of the project.

Dr Michelle Funk, Coordinator
Mental Health Policy and Service Development, Mental Health and Substance Abuse, WHO

Dr Funk has been leading the work in mental health policy, planning, service development, human rights and legislation at the World Health Organization’s HQ in Geneva since 2000. She has been responsible for establishing the global framework for supporting countries to develop their mental health policies, laws and services in line with international best practice and human rights standards. One recent landmark publication is the Global Report on Mental Health and Development launched at the United Nations in New York 2010. Dr Funk has overseen the development of the WHO QualityRights Tool Kit and is responsible for its implementation in countries around the world.

Mrs Robinah Alambuya, President
Pan African Network of People with Psychosocial Disabilities, Uganda

Ms Alambuya is the President of the Pan African Network of People with Psychosocial Disabilities. In Uganda she is now a new and pioneer Programme Manager of the Brain Gain Project – Peer Support worker, promoting the Recovery Model in service delivery in the National Referral Mental Health Hospital Butabika. Ms Alambuya is well acquainted with Psychosocial counseling, lobbying and advocacy for vulnerable groups and rights of persons with psychosocial/mental disability in particular. She holds a post graduate Diploma in Education from Makerere University Uganda, and a certificate in Mental Disability Law in Practice from Central European University Budapest, Hungary.
Ambassador Carlos Enrique Garcia Gonzalez  
Deputy Permanent Representative of El Salvador to the United Nations  
Ambassador Garcia has served as Deputy Permanent Representative of El Salvador to the United Nations since 2010. He has served his country in the United Nations since 1996. Ambassador Garcia has actively followed issues of the United Nations agenda involving Social, Humanitarian & Human Rights during his post. He is currently Vice-Chairman of the Commission on the Status of Women. He has also represented El Salvador in the Economic and Social Council and many other subsidiary bodies including the former Commission on Human Rights, the Commission on Social Development, as well as the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA, UNICEF, and UN-Women. He holds a Special Course’s degree in International Relations from the Diplomatic Academy of Madrid and a bachelor’s degree in International Relations from the University of El Salvador.

Dr Julian Eaton, Mental Health Adviser  
CBM West Africa Regional Office  
Julian Eaton, a British psychiatrist, is a mental health advisor for CBM in West Africa and Coordinator of their technical Advisory Working Group on Community Mental Health. His task is to support projects that include mental health in their work, some community-based rehabilitation and some specialist psychosocial health services. Based on CBM’s focus on working for an inclusive society, much of his work aims to empower stakeholders such as service users in psychosocial health services to help them advocate more effectively. He also supports governments to improve their policies and legislation, as well as practical aspects of implementation of those policies.

Mr Gregory David Roberts  
Author of the best-selling novel ‘Shantaram’  
Born in Melbourne, Australia, Gregory David Roberts has led an extremely unusual life that has seen him overcome drug addiction, survive imprisonment on 3 continents, study philosophy, literature, politics, particle physics, psychology, comparative religion, anthropology, history, and cosmology.  
He is a film-producer and screen-writer, the author of the critically acclaimed, best-selling novel, Shantaram, an international public speaker, ambassador for several NGOs, a consultant to business leaders and corporations, and created the ethical foundation documents and constitution for The Elders.

Dr Jacob Kumaresan, Executive Director  
WHO Office at the United Nations, New York  
Jacob Kumaresan, MD, DrPH is currently Executive Director, WHO Office at the United Nations in New York. Earlier he was Director at WHO Centre for Health Development in Kobe, Japan from 2008-11 and president of the International Trachoma Initiative, a non-profit organization dedicated to eliminating the leading cause of preventable blindness from 2003-07. He joined World Health Organization headquarters in Geneva in 1992, where he eventually headed the Stop TB Partnership expanding efforts to meet the global targets to stop TB. He has wide spread public health experience and worked with the governments of Zimbabwe and Botswana during 1980s.

Ms Natalie Drew, Technical Officer  
Mental Health Policy and Service Development, Mental Health and Substance Abuse, WHO  
Ms Drew is responsible for the work related to mental health, human rights and legislation. This involves supporting countries to put in place national mental health legislation in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and other international human rights standards. Ms Drew played a critical role in developing the WHO QualityRights Tool Kit and also provides capacity building to national stakeholders on human rights and quality issues as part of the WHO QualityRights project.