Fifth Meeting of the Country Support Unit Network

Manila, Philippines 01 July 2006





WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific Department of Country Focus

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KEY RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

The Fifth Meeting of the Country Support Unit (CSU) Network was organized in Manila, Philippines on 01 July 2006, immediately following the First Joint Meeting of the Planning Officers and CSU Networks (29 to 30 June 2006). Whereas the joint meeting addressed a common agenda of the two networks, this meeting specifically addressed matters of direct concern to the CSU Network. A number of issues related to the core business of the CSU Network were discussed, debated and agreed upon during the meeting. The following key recommendations and next steps for action were the culmination of rich discussions.

Ke	y recommendations and next steps	Deadline
Co	mmunication strategy for the Country Focus Policy and intelligence on co	ountries
1.	 CSU Network Portal Each CSU will provide the support required by its regional portal focal point for the development and maintenance of the portal. The CSU Network agreed to endorse and support the following proposals: Structure and layout for the portal Plan of action leading to a first launch at the end of October 2006 Workload and commitment of one portal focal point per region Provision of relevant access and clearance of essential information Initial target audience of a small group, to be later expanded English as the default working language for the portal Need to develop a communication and support strategy, including a high level official launch. 	Ongoing Oct. 2006
2.	Country Focus communication strategy Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) briefs • All CCSs will have a corresponding CCS brief with at least an original or translated version in English. Each region will define the process for updating the CCS briefs.	Ongoing
	 The updated CCS Guiding Framework will include the template for developing a CCS brief. Upon request, the Department of Country Focus will provide useful tips, broad guidance and support for the development of a CCS brief. Country Focus events CSUs will share proposals for country events in headquarters, including one 	Upon request
	for the next World Health Assembly (WHA). • "Forgotten countries" (i.e. those receiving disproportionately lower levels of development assistance) will be given priority for all events based in headquarters.	2007
	ecific agenda items	
3.	 CCS analysis The CSU Network will develop a simple analytical framework that can be used as part of future regional analyses and global consolidation. The WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific (WPRO), with support from the Network as needed, will use this framework for its first CCS 	Jan. 2007
	analysis. Based on lessons learnt from this initial experience, the framework will be revised and discussed at the next CSU Network meeting.	2007

Spe	ecific agenda items (continued)	
4.	Second-generation CCSs	
	 Regions will proceed with their CCS plans and will update their CCS guidelines as needed. 	Ongoing
	 The existing Organization-wide CCS document framework will be retained 	2007
	but the CCS Guiding Framework will be updated in order to take into	200,
	account the common elements identified across regions.	
	 The CSU Network will further discuss means for building capacity to 	March
	complement the CCS Guiding Framework.	2007
5.	Development assistance in health: Are there 'forgotten countries'?	
	Progress of the analysis will be shared at the next Network meeting and	Oct.
	lessons learnt will be applied to future analysis for other regions.	2006
	 The analysis will be further developed and revised such that: 	
	- It includes a review of WHO's resources at country level	Dec.
	 Other relevant indicators are identified and analysed 	2006
	- All data are validated for accuracy and consistency	
6.	CSU Network: Beyond 2006	_
	The CSU Network Report 2006	Oct.
	• The next report in 2006 will be called "WHO Country Focus Report 2006"	2006
	and it will report on the core business and progress of major Network	
	activities with prominence given to CCSs.	
	• CSUs will provide country inputs to the Department of Country Focus, as	
	secretariat, by October 2006. Distribution of Core Voluntary Contributions	July
	 In principle, it was agreed that the two-criteria model for distributing the 	2006
	core Voluntary Contributions will be used, provided that it is not set as a	2000
	precedent for future distribution. The WHO Regional Office for Africa	
	(AFRO) will confirm by 05 July 2006 following discussion with senior	
	management. Once approved, the Department of Country Focus will	Oct.
	disburse resources accordingly.	2006
	• The WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia (SEARO) will propose an	
	alternative model to be considered by the Network for future exercises.	July
	Senior Staff/Managers' Meeting	2007
	• The Department of Country Focus will share with CSUs the e-mail sent by	
	the Office of the Director-General regarding planning for the Senior	
	Staff/Managers' Meeting. Following this, each CSU (through the	A
	Directors of Programme Management) will request the involvement of the	Aug. 2006
	Department of Country Focus in the planning of the Senior	2006
	Staff/Managers' Meeting. Medium-term Strategic Plan - Strategic Objective 15 targets for indicators	
	The Department of Country Focus will propose baselines and targets to	
	CSUs.	
	 CSUs will then provide feedback, if any, on the baselines and targets for 	Sept.
	indicators to the Department of Country Focus before the Regional	2006
	Committee meetings.	
	Country workspace	
	The Department of Country Focus extends an invite to visiting WHO	
	Representatives/Liaison Officers (WRs/LOs) and Network members to use	
	its 'country workspace'. Secretarial support will also be provided.	

I Introduction

The Fifth Meeting of the Country Support Unit (CSU) Network was organized in Manila, Philippines on 01 July 2006, immediately following the First Joint Meeting of the Planning Officers and CSU Networks (29 to 30 June 2006) ¹ (See CD ROM Item 02: First Joint Meeting of the Planning Officers and Country Support Unit Networks - Manila - 29 to 30 June 2006). The aim of the Network is to strengthen WHO's support to Member States by enhancing the dialogue between regional offices, country offices and headquarters with regard to WHO's work at country level. To date, the Network has convened five times; three of which focused on specific themes² and two of which dealt primarily with internal matters of the Network. ³ This present report covers the specific agenda items discussed during the one-day meeting of the CSU Network.

A. Main objective of the meeting

To contribute to improve WHO's work at country level through the strengthening of the Country Support Unit Network.

B. Specific objectives

- 1. To follow-up on recommendations from the Fourth Meeting of the CSU Network Meeting in Montreux:
 - CSU Network Portal
 - Country Focus communication strategy
 - Mapping/identifying countries receiving lower levels of resources and attention
 - Country Cooperation Strategies (CCS)
- 2. To propose ways to further strengthen the CSU Network for better supporting WHO country teams beyond 2006.

C. Expected outcomes

- 1. Updates on progress made on the recommendations from the Montreux Meeting:
 - Agreement on information to be posted on the CSU Network Portal.

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