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WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2002–2005



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Design & layout by Renata Kerr Design

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This is the first global WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy. It was drafted following extensive consultation. However, given regional diversity in the use and role of traditional medicine, and complementary and alternative medicine, modifications may be necessary to take account of variations at regional levels. Additionally, it should be noted that difficulties persist in defining precise terminology for describing their therapies and products. The validity of related data is also frequently problematic. Methodologies used to collect data are often not comparable and parameters not clearly determined. The traditional medicine team at WHO Headquarters would therefore welcome comments on any of the data included in this strategy. They should be sent to: Dr Xiaorui Zhang, Acting Team Coordinator, Traditional Medicine, Department of Essential Drugs and Medicines Policy, World Health Organization, Avenue Appia 20, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland or emailed to: zhangx@who.int.



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Acknowledgements

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his strategy was developed by WHO Headquarters and Regional Office staff working in essential drugs and medicines policy, in consultation with other WHO programme staff and with key development partners. It was then finalized in consultation with representatives from Member States, the wider UN family, nongovernmental and other international organizations, WHO Collaborating Centres for Traditional Medicine and WHO Expert Committees.

It covers country, regional, interregional and global work, and builds on discussions held during the WHO Consultation on Methodologies for Research and Evaluation of Traditional Medicine (11–14 April 2000) attended by experts in traditional medicine, as well as by WHO Headquarters and Regional Office staff working in traditional medicine. The meeting was followed by a series of conference calls between WHO Headquarters and Regional Offices, as well as conference calls with Member States and UN partners, to review drafts of the *WHO Traditional Medicines Strategy 2002–2005*.

WHO gratefully acknowledges the active participation and constructive comments received from members of the global extended medicines family including:

Member States: Armenia (E. Gabrielyan), Australia (G. Morrison), Belgium (J. Laruelle), Canada (Y. Bergevin, P. Chan), China (M. Chan, T. Leung, L. Peilong), Denmark (P. Rockhold), Germany (K. Keller), Ghana (E. Mensah), India (S. Chandra), Indonesia (K. Ritiasa),

Italy (P. Procacci), Iran (M. Cheraghali), Japan (A. Yokomaku), Netherlands (M. ten Ham), Nigeria (T. Fakeye), Norway (O. Christiansen, E. Salvesen), Pakistan (F. Chowdhary), Republic of Korea (H.W. Han), Sweden (A. Nordström), Thailand (M.N. Songkhla), United Kingdom (J. Lambert), United States (B. Clay, L. Vogel), Viet Nam (L. Van Truyen), Zimbabwe (L. Matondo).

Other UN and multilateral agencies:

European Commission (L. Fransen), UNAIDS (J. Perriens), UNDP (M. Bali), UNESCO (M-F. Roudil), WIPO (S. Bhatti), World Bank (R. Govindaraj).

Nongovernmental organizations and

foundations: Ford Foundation (V. Davis Floyd), Islamic Organization for Medicinal Sciences (A. Awady), John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation (D. Martin), Rockefeller Foundation (A. So), WSMI (H. Cranz, J. Reinstein), Li Ka Shing Foundation (K. Lo).

WHO Collaborating Centres for Traditional Medicine:

National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, Bethesda (N. Hazleton), University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago (N. Farnsworth).

WHO Expert Committees and Panels:

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WHO Regional Offices:

AFRO (O. Kasilo, E. Samba), AMRO/PAHO (G. Alleyne, C. Borrás, R. D'Alessio, S. Land, D. López-Acuña, J.C. Silva), EMRO (H. Gezairy, P. Graaff, A. Salih), EURO (M. Danzon, K. de Joncheere), SEARO (P. Abeykoon, U.M. Rafei, K. Shein), WPRO (K. Chen, S. Omi).

WHO Headquarters (Department of Essential Drugs and Medicines Policy):

G. Baghdadi, A. Creese, J. Graham, H. Hogerzeil, Y. Maruyama, J. Quick, L. Ragö, J. Sawyer, G. Velásquez, D. Whitney, X. Zhang.

WHO Headquarters (other programmes):

O.B.R. Adams (EIP/OSD), A.D.A.S. Alwan (NMH/MNC), A. Asamoah-Baah (EGB), R. Bengoa (NMH/CCH), J. Cai (WKC), J. Frenk (EIP), D. Heymann (CDS), Y. Kawaguchi (WKC), B. Kean (EGB/ECP), A. Kern (GMG), M. T. Mbizvo (FCH/RHR), A. Mboi (FCH/

WMH), D. Nabarro (DGO), B. Saraceno (NMH/MSD), Y. Suzuki (HTP), D. Tarantola (Senior Policy Adviser), T. Türmen (FCH), E. M. Wallstam (SDE/HSD), D. Yach (NMH).

T. Falkenberg, J. Sawyer and X. Zhang drafted the strategy and J. Graham, J.D. Quick, J. Sawyer, P. Thorpe, D. Whitney and X. Zhang undertook revision and editing. V.A. Lee and Y. Maruyama provided secretarial support.

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