



Provisional Agenda

STRENGTHENING HEALTH SCIENCES EDUCATION IN THE WHO AFRICAN REGION

A textbook and instructional materials initiative supported by a regional educational fund

Washington DC, USA, June 28-30, 2010

Background

The Expanded Textbook and Instructional Materials Program (PALTEX) was created in 1966 with the purpose of improving the quality of health sciences' education and its practice in Latin America. For more than 40 years, the PALTEX program has acquired, produced, and sold at affordable prices nearly six million books and educational tools to students and health professionals (physicians, nurses, dentists, nutritionists, etc.) at 550 institutions in 20 Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Over the last 3 years, there has been a common interest between WHO/AMRO, WHO/AFRO and WHO/HQ to establish a formal dialogue aimed at exploring the feasibility of establishing a similar initiative in the African Region. This is in recognition of the extreme need for these teaching and learning materials in most of the African health sciences education and training institutions.

This technical cooperation is in line with strategic objective number 13 in the PAHO/AMRO Strategic Plan 2008-2012 to ensure an available, responsive and productive health workforce to improve health outcomes. It also contributes to WHO's strategic plan expected result, OWER 10.9 that supports the building of capabilities, with a focus on countries with critical health workforce shortages, to improve the production, distribution, skill mix and retention of their health workforce. In addition, it could be an important pillar in the implementation of the Strategy of Scaling up of Health workers according to WHA and AFRO Regional Committee resolutions on that item. In this context, it would be likely that a resolution could be developed, depending on the results of a feasibility study.

WHO was awarded a grant from the EC for 2009-11 for strengthening health workforce development and tackling the critical shortage of health workers. One of the activities under this grant includes a feasibility study for the establishment of a fund to facilitate access of health profession students to textbooks, diagnostic equipment and educational resources in the WHO African Region. The study aims to explore the feasibility of transferring an approach such as PALTEX to the region.

Objectives

- Share perspectives on health science education in WHO American and Africa Regions
- Present the PALTEX experience of WHO/AMRO and discuss needs and possibilities for the WHO Africa Region
- Analyze and agree if the program and its core characteristics are relevant for the African environment
- Agree on the scope and general design of a study to assess the feasibility of introducing an approach similar to PALTEX in the African Region
- Define next steps

Meeting Location

PAHO Headquarters, Washington, DC
525 Twenty-Third Street, NW - Room # 612
Washington DC - 20037

Coordination

Charles Godue – PAHO/WHO/AMRO
Silvina Malvárez – PAHO/WHO/AMRO

Rapporteurs

Rebecca Bailey – WHO/HQ
Thomé Nicocelli - PAHO/WHO/AMRO

Agenda

Monday - June 28, 2010

Chair – Silvina Malvárez – PAHO/WHO/AMRO
Rapporteur – Thomé Nicocelli - PAHO/WHO/AMRO

Morning session - 9:00 to 12:30

- Opening remarks from WHO/AMRO authorities
 - Mirta Roses – Director – PAHO*
 - Jose Luis Di Fabio – Manager – Health Systems based on PHC*
 - Charles Godue - PAHO*
- Introductions and orientation
 - Silvina Malvárez - PAHO/WHO/AMRO*
- Panel: challenges in health sciences education and training: global issues and trends in the WHO American and WHO Africa Regions
 - Mario Dal Poz and Rebecca Bailey - WHO/HQ*
 - Charles Godue - PAHO/WHO/AMRO*
 - Djona Avocksouma and Jennifer Nyoni - WHO/AFRO*
- Introduction to PALTEX
 - Silvina Malvárez –PAHO*
 - Edward Kadunc - PAHEF*

Reception: Lunch - 12:30 PM to 14:00 PM

Afternoon session - 14:00 to 17:30

- Panel: the PALTEX program (selection of materials, logistics, financing)
Eduardo Castro – PAHO/WHO/AMRO – PALTEX/WDC
Rossana Frías – PAHO/WHO/AMRO – PALTEX/WDC
Andrés Londoño – PAHEF – PALTEX/WDC
Ilse Roedel – PAHO/WHO/AMRO – PALTEX/México
- Questions and discussion

Tuesday - June 29, 2010

Chair - Jennifer Nyoni - WHO/AFRO
Rapporteur - Rebecca Bailey - WHO/HQ

Morning session - 9:00 to 12:30

- Summary of Day 1
Thomé Nicocelli - PAHO/WHO/AMRO
- Presentation of the draft terms of reference for the feasibility study
Mario Dal Poz – WHO/HQ

Afternoon session - 14:00 to 17:30

- Group work: refining the scope and general design of the feasibility study
- Discussion and agreement on the scope and general design of the feasibility study, including agreeing on the profile of the consultant who would further develop and implement the study.

Wednesday - June 30, 2010

Chair - Djona Avoksoouma - WHO/AFRO
Rapporteur - Rebecca Bailey - WHO/HQ

Morning session - 9:00 to 12:30

- Summary of Day 2
Rebecca Bailey - WHO/HQ
- Next steps and way forward
Coordination: Mario Dal Poz - WHO/HQ
- Closing session
Mario Dal Poz - WHO/HQ
Djona Avoksoouma – WHO/AFRO
Silvina Malvárez – PAHO/WHO/AMRO

Participants

WHO/AFRO

Djona Avocksouma

Regional Adviser
Human Resources for Health Program
Division of Health Systems & Services
Development
WHO Regional Office for Africa
Brazzaville, Republic of Congo
Phone: +47 241 39174
Fax: +47 241 39511
GPN 39236
avocksoumad@afro.who.int

Jennifer Nyoni

Regional Adviser, Human Resources for Health
Management
Human Resources for Health Program
Division of Health Systems & Services
Development
WHO Regional Office for Africa
Brazzaville, Republic of Congo
Tel: +47 241 39236
Fax: +47 241 39511
GPN 39236
nyonij@afro.who.int

WHO/HQ/Geneva

Rebecca J. Bailey

Technical Officer
Health Workforce Education and Production
WHO/HSS/HRH
Tel. direct: +41 22 791 1394
Mobile: +41 79 249 3506
Fax direct: +41 22 791 4747
baileyr@who.int

Mario Roberto Dal Poz

Coordinator, Health Workforce Information and
Governance
Human Resources for Health
Tel. direct: +41 22 791 3599
Fax direct: +41 22 791 3111
dalpoz@who.int

PAHO/WHO/AMRO

Charles Godue

Project Coordinator
Human Resources for Health
Area of Health System based on Primary
Health Care (HSS)
Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
525 Twenty-third St., N.W.
Washington DC, USA, 20037
Phone: +1 (202) 974 3296
goduecha@paho.org

Thomé Nicocelli

Specialist, Health Systems Development
PALTEX Program – HSS/HRH
Area of Health System based on Primary Health
Care (HSS)
Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
525 Twenty-third St., N.W.
Washington DC, USA, 20037
Phone: +1 (202) 974 3837
nicocelt@paho.org

Rossana Frías de Yaksic
Editorial Assistant - PALTEX
Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
525 Twenty-third St., N.W
Washington DC, USA, 20037
Phone: +1 (202) 974-3451
friasros@paho.org

Ilse Roedel
PALTEX Administrator in
PAHO/WHO Country Office in México
Horacio No.1855, Of.305
(Blvd. Manuel Avila Camacho 191)
Colonia Los Morales Polanco
México, D.F.,11510, México
Tel.: (52 55) 5980 0875
Fax: (52 55) 5980 0897
paltex@mex.ops-oms.org

Eduardo Castro Conroy
Regional Administrator - PALTEX
Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
525 Twenty-third St., N.W
Washington DC, USA, 20037
Phone: +1 (202) 974-3455
castroed@paho.org

Silvina Malvárez
Regional Advisor on Nursing and Allied Health
Personnel Development
Technical Coordinator of PALTEX
Area of Health System based on Primary Health
Care (HSS)
Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
525 Twenty-third St., N.W
Washington DC, USA, 20037
Phone: +1 (202) 974 3298
Fax: +1 (202) 974 3612
malvares@paho.org

PAHEF

Edward Kadunc
President
Pan American Health and Education
Foundation
1889 F St NW - Room #: 312
Washington DC – USA 20006
Tel. +1 (202) 974-3416
Fax +1 (202) 974-3658
Kadunced@pahef.org

Andres Londoño
Operations Assistant - PALTEX
Pan American Health and Education Foundation
1889 F St NW - Room #: 328
Washington DC – USA 20006
Tel. +1 (202) 974-3725
Fax +1 (202) 974-3658
londonoj@pahef.org