

Report of the 12th Country Support Unit Network Meeting

Manila, the Phillipines, 6 – 8 May 2013



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

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Table of Contents

List of Acronyms.....	4
Overview.....	5
Key Action points agreed at the 12 th CSU Network Meeting.....	6
Opening Session.....	7
Review of the Country Focus policy.....	7
Strengthening of WHO country offices.....	9
Roles and Functions of Country Support Units.....	11
Assessment of WHO's performance in countries, territories and areas.....	11
Renewal of Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS).....	13
Session on Selection, recruitment and development of HWOs.....	14
Update on 7 th Global HWOs meeting.....	15
Update on UN reform.....	15
Closure	16
Annex 1.....	18
Annex 2.....	20



List of Acronyms

AFRO	WHO Regional Office for Africa	ITT	Information Technology and Telecommunications
AMRO	WHO Regional Office for the Americas	JIU	Joint Inspection Unit
AusAid	Australian Government Overseas Aid Programme	LIC	Low Income Countries
CAS	Country Analysis and Support in AFRO	MDTF	Multi-Donor Trust Fund
CCS	Country Cooperation Strategies	MICs	Middle Income Countries
CSU	Country Support Unit	MOPAN	Multilateral Organization Performance Assessment Network
DaO	Delivering as One	NHPSP	National Health Policies Strategies and Plans
DFID	Department for International Development	NPOs	National Professional Officers
DG	Director-General	OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
DPMs	Directors of Programme Management	PRP	Planning, Resource Coordination and Performance Monitoring Department
EB	Executive Board	QCPR	United Nations' Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review
EMRO	WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean	RCs	Regional Committees
EURO	WHO Regional Office for Europe	RDs	Regional Directors
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization	SEARO	WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia
FCTC	WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control	SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
GHD	Global Health Diplomacy	SWAp	System-wide Action Plan
GPG	Global Policy Group	UNCT	United Nations Country Team
GPW	WHO's General Programme of Work	UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
HERA	Health Emergency Risk Assessment	UNDG	United Nations Development Group
HIC	High Income Countries	UNDOCO	United Nations Development Operations Coordination Office
HRD	Human Resources Department (of WHO)	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
HWOs	Heads of WHO offices in countries, territories and areas	UNRC	United Nations Resident Coordinator
IHP+	International Health Partnership and Related Initiatives	WHA	World Health Assembly
IHR	International Health Regulations	WPRO	Western Pacific Regional Office
ILO	International Labour Organization		
IOS	Office of Internal Oversight Services		

Overview

Since 2004, a Country Support Unit (CSU) Network meeting is hosted by the regions every year on a rotational basis. The WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific (WPRO) hosted the 12th Meeting, from 6-8 May in Manila, the Philippines. Participants included Heads of the CSUs in the five regional offices (ROs), one Head of WHO Office (HWO) from each region, one representative from the Office of Internal Oversight Services (IOS/HQ) and three staff from the Department of Country Focus (CCO/HQ).

The objective and agenda were developed based on i) WHO's ongoing reforms; ii) the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) recommendations on the review of management, administration and decentralization in WHO; and iii) the Global Policy Group (GPG) decisions in its March retreat.

The overall objective of the meeting was to reinforce the function to back-up and support WHO's work in countries, implementing the WHO reforms at country level. The expected outcomes were as follows:

- Establish a Taskforce to develop a draft roadmap for the renewed Country Focus policy to be submitted to the 7th Global Meeting of HWOs in November.
- As part of the renewed Country Focus Policy, agree on the common elements for strengthening country offices with specific focus on the elements highlighted by the GPG.
- Agree on the role, functions and proposed structure of the CSUs to be submitted to the GPG as part of the renewed Country Focus policy.
- As part of the renewed Country Focus Policy, identify common elements to develop a corporate framework for assessing WHO's performance in countries.
- Agree on the draft of a renewed corporate CCS framework and steps for its finalization
- Agree on the elements for the review of the selection, appointment and development of HWOs
- Agree on the role of the CSU Network in the organization of the 7th Global Meeting of HWOs with DG and RDs
- Update CSU Network on the latest development of the UN Reform related issues, specifically in UNRC funding modalities and standard operating procedures (SOPs) for delivering as one (DaO) countries.

Key Action points agreed at the 12th CSU Network Meeting

1. Renew the Country Focus policy.
2. Adjust the corporate CCS framework to WHO collaboration with all Member States.
3. Further strengthen WHO country offices.
4. Enhance the selection process and development of Heads of WHO offices in countries, territories and areas (HWOs).
5. Provide inputs to the DPMs Network and relevant units to make the planning process more country focused.
6. Provide continuing update to HWOs on the UN Reform
7. Further define, harmonize and strengthen the roles and functions of the country support units.
8. Develop a corporate framework for assessing WHO performance in countries.
9. Contribute to the success of the 7th global meeting of Heads of WHO offices in countries, territories and areas with the DG and RDs.

1. Opening Session

The WPRO Director of Programme Management (DPM/WPRO) opened the meeting. The Director of the Department of Country Focus (CCO) welcomed the participants, recalling the inception of the Network, conceived at the 3rd Global Meeting of HWOs in 2003. Over the past ten years, the Network has become stronger as HWOs from each regional office are invited to the meetings. The Regional Director for the WHO Western Pacific Region (RD/WPRO) highlighted the importance of the work of the CSU Network in the past and its potential ever increasing role especially in strengthening WHO country offices within the context of WHO reforms. The creation of CSU/WPRO in 2009 has enabled the implementation of several changes that are contributing to improve WHO's performance in countries in the Western Pacific Region. WHO needs to adapt to the changes taking place in health development and partners' environment. The Organization is no longer a sole provider of technical cooperation in health. The WHO reforms are addressing key challenges and the CSU Network can be an instrumental platform in facilitating the translation of these reforms into actions at the country level.

Introduction of WPRO CSU

As per tradition followed, the Head of the WPRO Country Support Unit gave a presentation on CSU WPRO, its role, functions and structures after the opening remarks. The presentation can be accessed at.

- <http://intranet.who.int/homes/ccu/documents/intoduction%20to%20csu%20wpro.pptx>

Follow-up on CSU commitments from 11th CSU Network Meeting

A summary paper on the actions agreed at the 11th CSU Network was reviewed and a document with the consolidated status of implementation of the agreed points was provided as background paper. The papers can be accessed at:

- <http://intranet.who.int/homes/ccu/documents/1.3%20consolidated%20progress%20report%20-11th%20csu%20meeting%20action%20plan%2018march13.docx>

The key highlights of the plenary discussion are summarized below:

- The Network explores how the GSM can better reflect WHO's work at country level particularly through partnering as well as the convening function performed by HWOs
- Enhanced dialogue with the Planning, Resource Coordination and Performance Monitoring Department (PRP) to make the planning process more country focused
- The planning process needs to be bottom-up and developed sequentially to ensure that money allocation is decided based on a country's current priorities and not only on retrospective expenditure or predetermined expected results and outputs.

Key action point

To provide inputs to the DPMs Network to make the planning process more country focused

2. Review of the Country Focus policy

Participants were provided with the following background documents and these documents can be accessed at: <http://intranet.who.int/homes/ccu/csunetwork/>

- Country Focus Initiative EB111/33 - Dec 2002
- Country Focus policy EB116/6 – April 2005
- WHO Country Focus policy: from developing CCS to assessing WHO's contribution to national health agenda: roadmap 2006-2013
- Power point presentation on WHO renewed country focus, May 2013

Introducing the session on Country Focus policy, the Head of CSU/AMRO mentioned that the CSU Network having come a long way needs to consider the changing health and development as well as partners' environment and diverse country contexts in the renewed Country Focus policy. Director CCO gave a historical account of the foundation of the Country Focus policy starting from the Oslo Study in 1997. From its inception, the Country Focus Initiative had the following six components:

- Core competencies and capacities of country teams
- Country cooperation strategies
- Coherent and coordinated technical support
- Enabling effective functioning of country offices
- Information sharing and intelligence in and around countries
- Working with the UN systems and development partners

Subsequently, the Country Focus Initiative evolved into a policy and included an additional component: "Assessment of WHO's performance in countries". The related PowerPoint presentations can be accessed at:

- http://intranet.who.int/homes/ccu/documents/2.4%20who%20renewed%20country%20focus_12th%20csu%20network%20meeting_manila%20may%202013.ppt

A lot has changed in ten years ranging from countries' contexts and capacities, to the aid environment and expectations from WHO's partners. WHO is undergoing reforms in order to better improve its effectiveness at country level. Within WHO reforms, the Country Focus policy needs to be re-oriented to meet the roles expected of WHO in countries such as supporting national health strategies and plans, engaging more effectively with partners, building capacity for risk assessment and response to crises situations and national public health emergencies, facilitating Member States' contribution to global health. The Country Focus policy should be adjusted at any time based on the global health environment.

In 2012, the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) conducted a review of the management, administration and decentralization in WHO which included various components of the Country Focus Policy. It concluded that "in countries, WHO is recognized by partners as the technical adviser and trusted broker that facilitates the development partners' contributions towards the NHPSP; and leads the international response to public health emergencies - for better and more equitable health outcomes". The Global Policy Group (GPG) in their meeting of March 2013 endorsed JIU's recommendation and tasked the CSU Network to renew the Country Focus policy.

The key highlights of the plenary discussion are summarized below:

The renewed Country Focus policy from 2013 onwards that is to be developed for sharing at the 7th Global meeting of HWOs with DG and RDs should include the following elements:

- Extensive use of Country Cooperation Strategies (CCS) to adjust WHO's collaboration to the needs

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_28165

