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HEALTH RESOURCES GROUP FOR PRIMARY HEALTH CARE (HRG)

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**GUIDELINES FOR ANALYSIS OF COUNTRY RESOURCE
UTILIZATION FOR PRIMARY HEALTH CARE**

*Health Planning Support
Guides Health Resources -*

In order to support the World Health Organization in the mobilization and rationalization of resources for health, in accordance with the international health policies determined by the Health Assembly, the Health Resources Group for Primary Health Care (HRG) is undertaking to review the results of the examination of resource flows for health in a number of selected countries which have prepared primary health care plans of action for the attainment of "health for all".

The HRG is not a policy-making or programmatic body, and does not intend to replicate, but only to make use of, technical and financial studies carried out by national authorities themselves, or jointly with WHO, in these countries.

In order to encourage a reasonable degree of uniformity of approach and form of presentation of reviews for consideration by HRG, the attached guidelines or framework are provided for analysis of country resource utilization for primary health care. Issues are presented in the form of a few key questions. Responses should be brief and to the point, and quantified or cross-referenced to official sources.

I. NATIONAL HEALTH POLICY & STRATEGY

Has primary health care been adopted as the main approach of the national strategy for the attainment of "health for all by the year 2000", and endorsed at highest policy level?

Indicate the executive and legislative authorities concerned and the nature of their endorsement.

Briefly indicate the main features of the national strategy including the principal targets relating to primary health care.¹

Has a plan of action for primary health care been developed? (If so, attach latest version of the plan.)

II. NATIONAL HEALTH DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Is the primary health care action plan specifically included in the:

- (i) national plan of action for health for all by the year 2000;
- (ii) national socioeconomic development plan;
- (iii) national health plan;
- (iv) country health programme; or
- (v) national programme budget for a specific period?

Indicate the authorities concerned in the preparation and approval of the primary health care action plan.

What are the principal means of coordination or mechanisms that have been established for ensuring coordination with other related sectors, such as education, agriculture, rural development and public works, and involvement of other governmental and non-governmental organizations, agencies and associations?

¹ See, for example, "Global Strategy for Health for All by the Year 2000", HFA Series No. 3, Section VII, containing key PHC-related indicators and targets, such as primary health care availability to the whole population.

III. PRIMARY HEALTH CARE SYSTEM DESIGN

Does the primary health care action plan provide for essential health programmes, services, coverage, manpower development, appropriate technology, facilities, equipment and supplies, including essential drugs, with full community and intersectoral involvement necessary for health development?¹

Does the primary health care action plan call for concurrent implementation of all components, or phased implementation starting with selected components of PHC, and what are the reasons for this approach?

Have the main components of the primary health care plan been validated by national officials and/or jointly by nationals and WHO?

Are existing medical services, manpower referral services and other programmes being integrated into or oriented in support of primary health care, and how is this being achieved?

Briefly indicate the inter-country and/or TCDC approaches envisaged in support of the national primary health care action plan.

Have procedures or mechanisms been developed for continuous monitoring of implementation of the primary health care action plan?

Does the capacity exist to carry out the plan, and how does this depend on the involvement and commitment of people, communities, governmental and non-governmental organizations, agencies and associations?

IV. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE PLAN

Have the cost components of the primary health care plan of action been identified and costed to arrive at a reasonably reliable estimate of the required total capital investment and recurrent costs over a specified period?

What are the total cost implications of the plan, and of these what share will be expended in local currency and what share will require foreign currency?

¹ See Report of the International Conference on Primary Health Care, Alma-Ata, USSR, 1978, Declaration and Recommendations on Essentials of PHC, HFA Series No. 1

What portion of these costs can foreseeably be met, at central, intermediate or local level within the country, from:

- (i) public, governmental sources, or
- (ii) nongovernmental, private sources?

Will the plan require reallocation of existing resources, and if so how will reallocation decisions be made?

To what extent have the estimates been, or will they be, included in official governmental plans or budgets?

(Attach additional tabulated summaries, if desired.)

V. EXTERNAL RESOURCES REQUIRED

What share of the estimated total costs, and what types of cost components or activities which cannot be covered from sources within the country, are proposed for funding from external sources?

How does the magnitude and pattern of the present flow of external technical cooperation (technical advice, supplies, equipment, research, training, financial transfers etc.) compare with the external requirements identified in the primary health care plan?

What means or mechanisms exist for national coordination of external resources, particularly those for health?

What bilateral or multilateral sources have already been considered or consulted, or have shown interest, promised, pledged or transferred resources for the primary health care action plan and for how long?

Are there any identifiable obstacles to external funding of the health sector that need further attention?

(If specific proposals for external funding have been prepared in support of the primary health care action plan, attach succinct summary as suggested in the Annex.)

VI. FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Is the primary health care action plan, with related specific proposals, recommended for international funding support?

What follow-up action is recommended at national and international level?

What specific actions by HRC will facilitate the mobilization and rationalization of the resources required for implementation of the national primary health care action plan?

ANNEX

SUMMARY

PROPOSAL FOR EXTERNAL FUNDING

I. TITLE

(Name of programme, project or activity proposed for external funding.)

II. DURATION AND TOTAL COST

(Duration and dollar equivalent amount proposed for external funding.)

III. BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION

(Relationship to overall primary health care action plan.)

IV. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS

(End-results to be achieved within planned time-frame.)

V. DESCRIPTION AND ACTION PLAN

(Approaches, activities and milestones for implementation.)

VI. BUDGETARY RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

(Cost estimates, including manpower, in local currency, foreign currency and dollar equivalent.)

VII. SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT

(List of required supplies and equipment, if available.)

VIII. PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

(Actual or potential collaborating partners.)

IX. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND PROCESS

(Criteria, method and mechanism for evaluation.)

X. NATIONAL APPROVAL

(Indicate date of submission to, or preferably approval by the national planning or other authorizing authority.)