

Global Advisory Group for Nursing and Midwifery (GAGNM)

Briefing note and recommendations to the DG 19 March 2010

GAGNM convenes its 13th meeting in Geneva on 18-19 March 2010.

GAGNM recognizes the importance of WHO regional nursing and midwifery programmes that support progress towards the achievement of health-related MDGs, particularly through:

- increasing the capacities and improving the quality of nurse and midwife education both at pre-service and post-qualification level;
- faculty development; and
- supporting countries in maximizing/expanding the scope of practice of nurses and midwives.

GAGNM is committed to mobilizing the vital and potential role of nursing and midwifery to contribute to national health systems strengthening.

GAGNM stresses the importance of optimizing the deployment of human resources for health and of inter-professional collaboration, as a strategy to enhance the performance of national health systems.

Accordingly, GAGNM will produce an evidence based Policy Summary on “Nurses and Midwives contributions to Primary Health Care” based on the progress report of the High Level Group. The policy summary will include an **Agenda for Action for supporting countries in designing and implementing their national health strategy and governance arrangements for system strengthening and redirection in line with the PHC agenda.** The Summary will be developed in close consultation with WHO clusters engaged in PHC strategy development. It will serve as a tool for the DG and the organization to take the lead in mobilizing this critical health workforce to make PHC renewal a reality.

GAGNM recommends that:

- (1) Member States be supported in implementing and monitoring the "Framework for action on inter-professional education and collaborative practices (WHO, 2010)", and to develop guidelines and tool-kits which offer guidance on the governance of education and health systems.
- (2) Resources be mobilized to support countries and WHO secretariat in scaling up nursing and midwifery education and practice to address national and regional health priorities.