



REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Committee of Experts on Immunisation (CoPI)

Second Meeting

Maputo, 14 to 16 de November 2011.

Recommendation on Human Resources of EPI and Epidemiologic Surveillance System

Recommendation R005/02/2011

Preamble

- A. The CoPI acknowledged that there is a shortage of human resources in EPI and Epidemiologic Surveillance System, at all levels, and there is a need to train those already working as well as those that recently joined the service.
- B. The CoPI acknowledged that the capacity for detection, research and case notification made by medical staff needs to be improved. Similarly, it has been noted that there are difficulties in the performance of the Epidemiologic Surveillance System due to gaps in field epidemiology and laboratory training.
- C. The CoPI was informed of the availability of the University of Antwerp to collaborate in the training process of PAV staff in view of the introduction of the anti-pneumococci vaccine. This institution is already working in similar programmes in Kenya and has already developed its material in English, but could collaborate in making it available in Portuguese.

Operative Paragraphs

Under these conditions, the CoPI recommends:

1. That the MOH develops the necessary mechanisms to reinforce the allocation of human resources to EPI and the Epidemiologic Surveillance System at all levels, if necessary, by requesting technical assistance from specialized agencies, but without hampering immediate actions to bridge gaps already identified.
2. That the MOH, with the support from its partners, organizes:
 - In-job training programmes, at all levels, for professional with clinical tasks, in order to improve the detection, research and notification of cases.
 - Training programmes in field and laboratorial epidemiology for the Epidemiologic Surveillance System staff, in order to improve their performance.

3. The CoPI instructed one of its members (Betuel SIGAÚQUE) to assess the quality of the training tools from the University of Antwerp for the introduction of the anti-pneumococci vaccine in Kenya, and if adequate and adaptable to the Mozambican reality, it recommends the MOH to develop a cooperation programme with this institution.
4. The CoPI reiterate that its members make themselves available to provide technical assistance to MOH (EPI and ESS), on an individual basis, according with each one speciality, in what concerns the facilitation and implementation of its recommendations.

Monitoring Indicators

- ➔ That, by 31 March 2012, immediate actions to bridge already identified gaps in human resources of EPI and the Epidemiologic Surveillance System, at least at Central and Provincial levels, so that those human resources are already allocated to their respective posts:

Responsibility: H.E. the Minister of Health and Provincial Health Directors.

- ➔ That, by the end of 2011, all needed actions to request external technical assistance to assess the effective needs of human resources of EPI and Epidemiologic Surveillance System have been taken:

Responsibility: H.E. the Minister of Health.

- ➔ That, by 30 June 2012, the assessment of the actual needs in human resources of EPI and the Epidemiologic Surveillance System has been carried out:

Responsibility: Deputy National Directors of Public Health.

- ➔ That by 30 June 2013, the allocation of human resources to EPI and the Epidemiologic Surveillance System has been reinforced, at all levels, in accordance to the assessment of needs made and the availability of MOH human resources:

Responsibility: H.E. the Minister of Health, Provincial Directors and Directors of District Health, Woman and Social Action Services.

- ➔ That, by 31 December 2012 in-job training in detection, research and case notification of at least 90 professionals with clinical tasks has been carried out, mainly, but not only, in the Provinces of Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Zambézia:

Responsibility: Deputy National Directors of Public Health for Disease Control

and of Human Resources for Training.

- ➔ That by 31 de December 2012 the in-job training in field and laboratorial epidemiology of at least 54 workers of the Epidemiological Surveillance System has been carried out:

Responsibility: Deputy National Directors of Public Health for Disease Control and of Human Resources for Training.

- ➔ That by 30 de November 2011 the quality, adequacy and adaptability to the Mozambican reality has been assessed of the training tools from the University of Antwerp for the introduction of the anti-pneumococci vaccine in Kenya,:

Responsibility: Betuel SIGAÚQUE.

- ➔ If the training tools of the University of Antwerp for the introduction of the anti-pneumococci vaccine in Kenya have quality and are adequate and adaptable to the Mozambican reality, by the end of 2011, the MOH should propose the University of Antwerp to develop a cooperation programme with this institution:

Responsibility: H.E. the Minister of Health.

- ➔ That the implementation of the CoPI recommendations are not jeopardized by the lack of technical assistance to MOH (EPI and ESS), by the CoPI members:

Responsibility: Deputy National Directors of Public Health and CoPI Members.

Maputo, 16 November 2011