REGIONAL PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY FRAMEWORK (RPRF)

Dorothy Namate, PhD, RNM
Global Fund Coordinator and GAGNM member
Ministry of Health, Malawi

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THE GLOBAL ADVISORY GROUP ON NURSING & MIDWIFERY (GAGNM)

A multidisciplinary group of professionals who provide the WHO Director General policy advise on strengthening nursing and midwifery within context of WHO programmes and priorities

Established during WHA of May 1992 by Resolution WHA45.5.

Members are nominated by WHO Regions and selected by a panel chaired by Chief Scientist for Nursing and Midwifery. ICN, ICM, WHO Technical Officers, WHO Regional N/M Advisors Secretariat of WHO CC

WHO Regions
Africa (AFRO)
The Americas (AMRO)
Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO)
Europe (EURO)
South-East Asia (SEARO)
Western Pacific (WPRO)
The RPRF was developed recognizing that:

• Quality Assurance in nursing and midwifery is of paramount importance.

• Accreditation and Licensing are key regulatory mechanisms that offer protection to the public.

• Regional disparities exist on regulatory mechanism.

• Increasing harmonization of professional regulation at national, sub-regional and regional levels essential hence the RPRF.
AFRO Region
46 Countries

20 Franchophone
21 Anglophone
5 Lusophone

Regional & Country situational analysis

Source of studies:
 i. SIDIEF 2008
 ii. WHO 2009

FRANCOPHONE

- Variation in N/M education ie: course content, admission requirements, name of diploma, job titles,
- No clearly defined competencies, no regulatory bodies.
- Training offered by private institutions
- No higher learning institutions offering N/M as recommended by ILO convention 149 on Nursing Personnel

ANGLOPHONE

- Lack of synergy between nursing & midwifery regulatory bodies and major stakeholders.
- Weak institutional capacity & leadership.
- Council’s inability to enforce education and practice standards
Regulatory status in WHO Afro Member States

**Regulatory Bodies exist**
- Botswana, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

41% of WHO Africa Region

**No Regulatory Bodies**
- Algeria, Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Vert, Congo, Comoros, Cote d’voire, Central Afrique, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gabon, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Togo, Tchad, Sao Tome & Principe, Senegal

52% of WHO Africa Region

**Regulatory Bodies in process**
- Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali

7% of WHO Africa Region
PROCESS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE RPRF

Draft RPRF 2009-2012

National Experts

Regional Experts

International Experts

Stakeholders
Resolution WHA 64.7, 2011 calls Member States to collaborate:

Tool to aid strengthening of country regulatory systems

Promote the creation of a common approach to educational preparation and practice of Nurses and Midwives in the African Region

Addressing variations that exist in Nursing and Midwifery

"...within their regions and with the nursing and midwifery professions in the strengthening of national or sub-national legislation and regulatory processes that govern professions, ..."

Position nursing & midwifery professions to respond effectively to challenges in regulatory environment.
WHAT THE RPRF OFFERS

Introducing the RPRF at National level

Key Definitions of Regulatory Terminology

Clear definition of "titles" Nurse & Midwife

Standards for basic nursing and midwifery education and practice

Monitoring and Evaluation

Essential competencies for the nurse & midwife’s entry into practice

Code of ethics for nurses and midwives

Educational and career pathways for professional nurse or midwife
INTRODUCING THE RPRF AT NATIONAL LEVEL

1. Collect and analyze available data
2. Generate and mobilize commitment
3. Determine objectives & regulatory elements
4. Design implementation strategy
5. Conduct broad consultations
6. Mobilize resources
7. Orient and train key groups
8. Design operational plan
9. Integrate RPRF into N & M management
10. Monitoring and Evaluation
The RPRF is key to aid a common approach to regulation, educational preparation and practice of nurses and midwives.

The RPRF is key to aid harmonization of professional regulation in the entire Africa region.

Franchophone countries have the main challenge of lack of Regulatory Bodies to develop, regulate and maintain standards.

The RPRF is NOT prescriptive, countries will contextualize to country specifics.
Can ARC live up to its name and support all parts of AFRICA?
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