

R E P O R T

Round Table on organization of Central Asian Training & Information Center for HIV Prevention among Migrants

Place: Dushanbe, Tajikistan, Mercury Hotel

Date: 21 May 2008

Participants:

40 participants represented by Deputy Ministries of Health, Labor and Social Protection of the population of the Republic of Tajikistan, Director of Health Personnel Postgraduate Training Institute, Director of Preventive Medicine Scientific-Research Institute, Director of Adult Population Training Center, Head Specialist of Employment Department under President of the Republic of Tajikistan, representatives of the Ministries of Health, Transport and Communication, Ministry of Home Affairs, representatives of AIDS Centers and non-government organizations from four Central Asian countries, international partners (WHO, WB, IOM, UNDP, CAPACITY) (full list of participants is enclosed).

Facilitators:

Azamdzon S. Mirzoev, Deputy Minister of Health of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Tilek S. Meimanaliev, Executive Director of Central Asian AIDS Control Project (CAAP).

Opening of the Round Table

Azamdzon S. Mirzoev, Deputy Minister of Health of the Republic of Tajikistan has made an opening speech who emphasized that in the Republic of Tajikistan like in the other Central Asian countries there is a great need for training of specialists of various specialties to HIV prevention among labor migrants. He focused the attention of participants on the fact that the Ministry of Health of Tajikistan fully supports the initiative of Central Asian AIDS Control Project on forming and developing of Regional Training Center working in this direction and is ready to provide overall assistance in promoting this initiative.

Tilek S. Meimanaliev, Executive Director of Central Asian AIDS Control Project has greeted the participants, explained the aims and objectives of the meeting, expressed the hope for coordinated collegial solution of the issue on organizing Central Asian Training & Information Center for HIV Prevention among Migrants (hereinafter "Center").

Presentations

1). **Saodat K. Olimova**, Head of "Shark" Scientific-Research Center Sociological Service has done a review of the situation on migration and HIV in Central Asian countries. She has shown the link between migration and HIV, touched migrants vulnerability factors, raised the issues on ensuring accessibility of labor migrants to preventive and clinical programs, reflected legal aspects on this issue.

2). **Subkhon B. Ashurov**, Deputy Minister of Labor, Social Protection and Population Employment of the Republic of Tajikistan, has spoken about the state and perspectives of Tajikistan labor market, gave a detailed analysis of the demographic picture of migrants including the annual growth dynamics of number of migrants, level of their education. The reporter said that on March 5, 2008 Adult Population Training Center was established in Dushanbe by the Government Regulation of the Republic of Tajikistan that will provide training in short-term courses on various specialties for individuals planning to depart for foreign countries with the aim to seek for labor. He expressed a hope that the established Regional Training & Information Center for HIV Prevention among migrants will be a serious partner and will assist to health protection of the citizens of Central Asian region.

3). Chinara T. Seitalieva, Central Asian AIDS Control Project Component Coordinator has explained to participants the essence of CAAP regional initiatives with a focus on efforts made by the Project to create and support Regional Training Center in Tajikistan. Especially, she emphasized the international partnership in their realization.

4). **Tatyana Y. Surdina**, Public Health Regional Specialist of Central Asian AIDS Control Project has reported a Draft Concept on establishment, development and support of Central Asian Training & Information Center for HIV Prevention among Migrants. The Draft Concept was proposed for discussion to Round Table participants with the aim to adapt it to inter-country conditions and accept it as a base for realization of this initiative (Draft Concept is enclosed).

5). Maira K. Shoinbekova, Regional Coordinator of Health Programs, International Program for Migration (IOM), Representative office in Kazakhstan, has presented a vision of IOM in broader implementation of initiative on establishing Regional Center. The reporter offered to integrate efforts of partnership organizations in developing regional sub-project proposal for CAAP third grant round. The report states the structure of the Center in detail and shows long-term perspectives.

Discussions, conclusions:

All participants of the Round Table took an active part in the discussion.

The following conclusions have been made:

- Taking into consideration the economical reasons contributing to development of labor migration in Central Asian region and complicating the epidemiological situation on HIV-infection it is necessary and reasonable to organize Training & Information Center for HIV Prevention among Migrants in Central Asian region;
- To approve unanimously presented draft Concept on establishment, development and support of Central Asian Training & Information Center for HIV Prevention among Migrants;
- To note that in perspective this Center should not get isolated only in medical objectives, for instance, HIV prevention among migrants. In the process of its development it should cover the problem of migration broader. The Center should be inter-sectoral.
- The Center should become a unified sector coordinating efforts of national and international partners in training of specialists of various agencies and ministries on HIV prevention among migrants, promoting the training programs to much higher quality level.
- Non-government sector should be considered as the most important target group for training taking into consideration their capability to reach this vulnerable population group and involve into coverage with training programs. In this respect, both, licensed training institutions of the Republic and Resource Centers can be basic-model organizations.
- It is necessary to solve the problems of training courses certification and inter-recognition of the awarded certificates by countries from the very first steps on organization of the Center.
- To agree with IOM's offer to prepare Regional sub-project proposal for development of the Center;

Next steps:

- To apply to the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Tajikistan with a letter on defining basic-model organization to locate the Center (CAAP, May 2008);
- To bring out the Concept to the nearest session of Regional Steering Committee for consideration and approval (CAAP, June);
- To assist in implementation of the training plan projected in the frame of CAAP for the first stage of development of the Center (2008);
- To support the initiative of International Organization for Migration in developing regional sub-project proposal for development of the Center, in this connection, it is necessary to negotiate with basic-model organization and other partnership organizations capable to be engaged into this grant (IOM, June 2008);