

2nd Meeting of ACP Ministers of
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Secretariat Note on the Review of the
Brussels Declaration on Health and its
Framework for Action(2007)

[ACP/83/009/14]

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- In 2010, the ACP Secretariat (PAHD Dept), undertook, with the support of an external consultant funded by the EU, a comprehensive review of the state of implementation of the 2007 Brussels Declaration on Health for Sustainable Development and its Framework for Action.

The objectives of this review were to:

- Assess the state of implementation of a) the Brussels Declaration on Health for Sustainable Development and its Framework for Action(2007) .
- Identify the current gaps and priority needs in the areas covered by the Declaration.
- Make recommendations on priorities and future actions.

The review's key findings included the following:

- Nutrition is still a major public health challenge in large number of ACP Countries, despite the fact that it is reflected in the hunger target of MDG1.
- The unmet needs in maternal health and other sexual and reproductive health aspects remain huge in most of the ACP Countries. Recognition was made of the continental and global commitments through the Maputo Plan of Action (Africa) and the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD +15) to improve SRH.

The review's key findings included the following

- Despite the progress observed globally and particularly in several ACP Countries, a majority of ACP Countries are not on track to meet the three health-related MDGs(4,5 and 6) .
- ACP Countries are , in general terms, amongst the countries in which the levels of health expenditures per capita are the lowest. In most ACP Countries the limited amount of resources for the health sector, remains a key developmental constraint, despite the several health international commitments and key initiatives.

The main recommendations from the review included the following:

- Nutrition-related indicators need to be included in the health sector support programmes funded by the EU in ACP Countries.
- Access to Reproductive Health services should be at the top of any Health System Strengthening intervention or programme.
- The ACP-EU Partnership could play a catalytic role and support a concerted action for the elimination of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) at both the political and operational levels.

The main recommendations from the review included the following

- Accelerated and focused interventions need to be developed and properly implemented by those Countries which are not on track to achieve the health-related MDGs.
- Flows of information between Countries and external partners, need to improved, to (i) better monitor Members States progress, (ii) disseminate lessons learned and (iii) enhance south-south cooperation.

The main recommendations from the review included the following

- Efforts must be made to:
 - improve health systems efficiency;
 - improve project management and aid effectiveness;
 - review EDF financing instruments with respect to health; and
 - develop new health financing mechanisms.



Thank you