



# Faculty of Public Health

Of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom

Working to improve the public's health

## International Committee

### Five year plan: 2007-2012

#### Introduction

- The members of the International Committee are involved in a wide range of rewarding activities to promote global health. The very nature of public health makes it an international discipline and the committee works to ensure the international role of the Faculty remains top of the agenda.
- Members have contributed to Lord Nigel Crisp's report (*'Global health partnerships: the UK contribution to health in developing countries'*) and are currently looking at how the Faculty can further contribute to this work and also the Chief Medical Officer for England's report *'Health is Global'*.
- In addition to this, the committee are:
  - Collaborating with Australasia, Hong Kong, Pakistan, WHO Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office and the Gulf Co-operation States through Memoranda of Understanding
  - Contributing to the work of the International Forum of the Academy of the Medical Royal Colleges
  - Collaborating with the WHO on a training programme on emergency planning
  - Exploring the setting up of a 'clearing house' for requests for assistance with overseas projects and/or job opportunities
- The Faculty has 390 overseas members and the committee works to ensure their needs are understood and represented in the work of the Faculty.
- The committee seeks to engage more members in developing how the Faculty works internationally through the:
  - International Public Health electronic network group
  - Faculty website and publications

#### Work Plan – 2007 to 2012

The International Committee held an away day on 14 September 2006 to develop a work plan for 2007-2012. There had been a number of changes to key post holders (including chair and vice chair of the committee, and international Faculty adviser and deputy), and it was considered an opportune time to review the committee's five-year work plan drawn up in 2002.

The aims for the work plan are:

**1. To engage more members in developing how the Faculty works internationally through the:**

- Development of the international section of the Faculty website
- Establishment of an International Electronic network group
- Dissemination of communications received from other bodies on international health matters (website/e-bulletin)
- Establishment of a regular section in the Faculty newsletter ph.com and monthly e-bulletin

**2. To mobilise the public health capacity in the UK to respond to requests for help through the:**

- Development of links with other organisations that receive requests for international help and/or support and assessing the feasibility of establishing a clearing house/consultancy service through which all such requests could be processed.

**3. To market the UK's public health tools through the:**

- Production of resources that deal generically with requests for advice/support, eg publications, policy guidance, signposting etc.
- Promotion of the Faculty's curriculum and examinations

**4. To support capacity building in developing countries through the:**

- Development of training courses for preparation for the MFPH examinations.
- Establishment of training the trainer courses for overseas trainers.
- Development of training modules in international public health
- Establishment of courses on working in developing countries, possibly with partner organisation(s), or signpost to existing training.

**5. To increase the committee's involvement in policy development by:**

- Increasing the Faculty's political voice on matters of international advocacy
- Strengthening links with other organisations with whom the Faculty might advocate jointly.
- Responding to consultations on international matters both from within the UK and the EU.
- Identifying two or three key issues each year to which the Faculty might respond

There was also an important need:

**6. To develop work on the Faculty's international MOUs by**

- Appointing a lead for each MOU, developing work plans and identifying areas of work/co-operation with partner organisations.