

Folder eCC\_00009142 is in stage Annual\_Report\_Due

**Name of the University, Hospital, Research Institute, Academy or Ministry**

University of Tromso

**Name of the Division, Department, Unit, Section or Area**

National Research Center in Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NAFKAM)

**City** Tromso **Reference Number** NOR-20

**Title** WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine

**Report Year** 02/2012 to 02/2013

**1. Please briefly describe the progress made in the implementation of your agreed workplan as WHO collaborating centre during the past 12 months (or the reporting period listed above). Please report on how each workplan activity was implemented, if any outputs have been delivered, if any results have been achieved and if any difficulties have been encountered during this time. If an activity has previously been completed, has not started yet, or been placed on hold, please indicate this.**

**Activity 1**

Title: Collaborate with WHO on analysis of global survey data on regulation and legal status of TM/CAM.

Description: NAFKAM will, together with WHO, in Geneva analyze the data collected from all member countries with regard to regulation and legal status of TM/CAM. The data have been collected by questionnaire, and the analysis will be done using descriptive statistics. The analysis will also involve appropriate standardization of information and presentation of the data online.

Regulation data for 39 countries in Europe is reported through the EU-funded FP7 Framework program CAMbrella in December 2012. A meeting between NAFKAM and WHO was arranged in June 18, 2012 in Tromsø, Norway. The purpose of the meeting: To discuss activities ID1 and ID2 in the designation document between NAFKAM and WHO. Agreements from the meeting: To include NAFKAMs representative in the analysis of the WHO global regulation questionnaire and to arrange discussion meetings with the WHO and stakeholders about a global web portal on CAM regulation. The agreed activities from that meeting have not been fulfilled.

**Activity 2**

Title: Collaborate with WHO on establishing and maintaining a proposed website for global access to country-specific data on regulation and legal status of TM/CAM

Description: NAFKAM has already developed country-specific data on regulation and legal status of TM/CAM in 39 European nations. This has been possible through EU funding from the 7th Framework Program on research. These data will be made available online for health administrators, clinicians, researchers and politicians.

Together with WHO, and partly based on the WHO global survey data, we will develop country-specific data for the rest of the nations of the world.

NAFKAM will be interested in strengthening the collaboration with WHO on regulation data and the development of a global web portal on T & CM regulation. 2013 Master's degree on CAM regulation and patient safety.

Solveig Wiesener passed in January 2013 a Master's degree in Risk Management and societal safety. The Master thesis is based on the CAMbrella data collection on regulation.

**Activity 3**

Title: Organize training programs/workshops/symposia on research approaches and evaluation of TM/CAM in collaboration with WHO and WHO CCs.

Description: NAFKAM will continue to host a yearly international training program/workshop/symposium in the field of research methodology in TM/CAM. The topics and venue will vary from year to year.

In the four coming years the topics will be chosen in collaboration with WHO and the other WHO CCs in TM. The arrangements will last 3 1/2 days and consist mainly of group work with the addition of two or three keynote presentations.

2012:

NAFKAM commented on the draft documents "WHO traditional and complementary medicine strategy".

May 2012:

NAFKAM representative Vinjar Fønnebø met at WHO working group for the new global strategy, Hong Kong.

2012:

NAFKAM representatives attended the ISAMS conference in Sydney, 2012

June 2012:

NAFKAM hosted the meeting between WHO and NAFKAM on June 18, 2012 in Tromsø. See ID 1 and 2.

2012:

Terje Alræk has collaborated during 2012 with Korean Institute of Oriental Medicine (KIOM) which is one of the WHO collaborating centers in Korea. Alræk has been invited to international conferences at KIOM.

2012:

Terje Alræk has attended many national and international conferences as speaker and lecturer. Main topics are within TCM and acupuncture.

2012:

NAFKAM arranged in Dec 2012 the Northern Lights and WHO research workshop entitled "Designing research aligned to the whole systems model of health, illness and healing". The workshop had 25 attendants from several countries in Europe and North America. More details in the NOR-20 annual report 02/12-02/13 forwarded to WHO 6 May 2013.

2012/2013

Terje Alræk and Jianping Liu are supervisors for medical students and PhD students in research programs within TCM and acupuncture.

Example of research collaboration in the Norway – China program in 2012/2013:

Alleviating treatment continues at Xiyuan – a TCM hospital in Beijing. The data from patients at that hospital have now been linked with matching data from the Norwegian colorectal cancer registry. Barthold Vonen has assisted in getting access to the Norwegian data and in communicating these to our Chinese collaborating partners.

2013:

Discussions with representatives for the WHO Patient safety group for including CAM in the WHO Patient safety development.

Discussions with WHO- the department of Technical Cooperation for Essential Drugs and Traditional Medicine (TCM) for combining the WHO and NAFKAM network building and public information about CAM in Europe.

January 2013

Terje Alræk organized a research workshop "East meets West" in Traditional East Asian Medicine (TEAM) January 2013 at the University College of Health Sciences-Campus Kristiania (UCHS-CK), Oslo, Norway. Participants were coming from Australia, China, Germany, US, and UK.

#### Activity 4

Title: Engage in international collaborative efforts, and to provide consultation relative to TM/CAM research and training, upon the request of WHO.

Description: NAFKAM will take an active part in international efforts with regard to collaborative research as well as information issues around TM/CAM. Such efforts can be, but is not limited to, research projects, surveys of TM/CAM practices, consulting with regard to organizational issues concerning TM/CAM, TM/CAM training, coordinated public information.

NAFKAM will provide consultation services globally in the same areas at the request of WHO .

2012-2015

Norway – China collaboration (NCC) on TCM.

Terje Alræk is the NAFKAM coordinator for our collaboration with China. Research programmes within TCM and acupuncture are still ongoing, and the collaboration is wanted from both parties.

2012:

WHO Regional office Copenhagen

WHO Europe Office in Copenhagen was visited by professor/director Vinjar Fønnebø in June 2012.

The agenda was to inform about our activities in the area of CAM, and to discuss closer collaboration with the WHO regional European office. The host in Copenhagen was Olexander Polishchuk.

**2. Please briefly describe your collaboration with WHO in regards to the activities of the WHO collaborating centre during the past 12 months (e.g. means of communication, frequency of contact, visits to or from WHO). Please feel free to mention any difficulties encountered (if any) and to provide suggestions for increased or improved communication (if applicable).**

The collaboration activities have been followed up by NAFKAM by emails, telephone conferences and meetings with WHO and collaborating partners. The communication has been constructive and positive. However, regarding activity 1 and 2, there has been little response from the WHO regarding supporting them on analysing the WHO questionnaires on CAM regulation in the member states. NAFKAM will be interested in strengthening the collaboration with WHO on regulation.

**3. Please briefly describe any interactions or collaborations with other WHO collaborating centres in the context of the implementation of the above activities (if any). If you are part of a network of WHO collaborating centres, please also mention the name of the network, and describe any involvement in the network during the last 12 months.**

Director Vinjar Fønnebø has met with the directors of the other T&CM collaborating centers.

Senior Adviser Solveig Wiesener has discussed possible collaboration on Risk and patient safety with the WHO Patient safety group.

Director Vinjar Fønnebø met in May 2012 at WHO working group for the new global strategy, Hong Kong, and NAFKAM commented on the draft documents for "WHO traditional and complementary medicine strategy."

**4. Please briefly describe any type of technical, programmatic, advisory or other support received from WHO during the past 12 months for the implementation of the agreed activities listed above (if any).**

None except for discussions already mentioned.