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

UiT The Arctic University of Norway

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

National Research Center in Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NAFKAM)

City Tromsø **Reference Number** NOR-20

Title WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine

Report Year 02-2015 to 02-2016

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.

Website on CAM regulation launched 11 March 2015.

Regulation data for 39 countries in Europe was reported through the EU-funded FP7 framework program CAMbrella in December 2012. A New website on CAM regulation, hosted by NAFKAM, was launched on 11 March 2015. (See Activity 2). NAFKAM is ready to assist in the analysis of the WHO database on regulation and legal status of T&CM as soon as the data are ready for analysis.

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.

A New website hosted by NAFKAM, on the regulation of T&CM in 39 European countries

(<http://nafkam-camregulation.uit.no/>) was launched on 11 March 2015. The website contains hard copies of the findings in the CAMbrella Project. New or changed regulation that has come to our attention after 2012 is included as news. References are included.

The data is searchable on countries and treatments, and available online for health administrators, clinicians, researchers, politicians and the public.

The redesignation agreement 2016-2012 contains follow-up activities on T&CM policy and 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.

In 2015 NAFKAM performed follow-up activities of the 2nd WHO working group meeting on Quality Assurance and Improvement of T&CM Services hosted by NAFKAM in Tromsø/ Sommarøy, Norway 10-12 December 2014. The minutes from the meeting in Tromsø/Sommarøy 10-12 December 2014 is pending.

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 .

Jeju, republic of Korea, 12 May 2015

Consultation on Traditional Complementary Medicine Integration with National Health Care Systems.

NAFKAM attended the meeting with Director Vinjar Fønnebø.

Summer and autumn 2015: The Strategy of Literature Retrieval for the Project on Safe and High Quality Acupuncture.

WHO Working Group Meetings on Quality Assurance and Improvement in T&CM Service in Shanghai, China and in Tromsø, Norway in 2014 (Sommarøy 10-12 Dec. 2014), acupuncture has been chosen as the first T&CM area that WHO will focus on. According to the Project Proposal on Safe and High Quality Acupuncture, the first objective is to compile an overview of knowledge and understanding of safety and quality challenges in acupuncture practices and to identify priority challenges. NAFKAM is invited to search and compile publications and information worldwide. NAFKAM representatives in the work: Vinjar Fønnebø, Terje Alræk, Arne Johan Norheim. WHO contact: Fang Zeng, Consultant, Traditional and Complementary Medicine (TCM), Service Delivery and Safety (SDS), World Health Organization (WHO).

Vinjar Fønnebø attended the working meeting on Quality Assurance and Improvement in T&CM Service in Beijing in November 2015.

Macao SAR of the People's Republic of China, 10-13 November 2015

2nd WHO interregional training workshop on clinical research in TM/CAM: Clinical research on TM/CAM II.

Vinjar Fønnebø was one of two invited speakers.

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).

WHO Collaborating Centers Directors meeting -Salsomaggiore, Italia 8-10 Juni 2015
Seventh Meeting of Directors of WHO Collaborating Centres (WHO CCs) for Traditional Medicine
Participants from NAFKAM: Vinjar Fønnebø, Agnes Gullingsrud Fjeldstad, Solveig Wiesener.

Redesignation as WHO CC 02.2016 – 02.2020.

Initial content discussions at WHO CC Directors meeting in Salsiomaggiore June 2015. NAFKAMs final draft of redesignation agreement forwarded on the WHO database on 22 October 2015. Final agreement confirmed on 8 December 2015 by WHO with a letter to Rector Anne Husebekk, UiT The Arctic University of Norway and by an email to NAFKAM director Vinjar Fønnebo dated 15 December 2015.

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 limited response from the WHO regarding supporting them on analyzing the WHO questionnaires on T&CM regulation in the member states. In the redesignation agreement 2016-2020 T&CM regulation and patient safety has been included in the activities.

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 and the other T&CM collaborating centers in several occasions.

Senior Adviser Solveig Wiesener has discussed possible collaboration on Risk and patient safety with WHO representatives in connection with the Redesignation 2016-2020 activities.

Vinjar Fønnebø, Solveig Wiesener and Agnes Gullingsrud Fjeldstad participated in the Milano Conference for collaborating centres.

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 the discussions already mentioned above.