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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 02-2023 to 02-2024

1. Annual report on the agreed workplan

Describe progress made on the agreed workplan. For each activity, detail (1) the actions taken, (2) the outputs delivered, as well as (3) any difficulties that may have been encountered. Three responses are expected. [maximum 200 words per activity]. Indicate, if an activity has been completed previously, has not yet started or has been placed on hold.

Activity 1

Title: At WHO's request, collect and analyse country-specific data on legal status and regulation of TCI globally

Description: The World Health Assembly Resolution on Traditional medicine WHA67.18 (2014) requests the Director General to facilitate, upon request, Member States' implementation of the WHO traditional medicine strategy: 2014–2023, supporting their formulation of related knowledge-based national policies, standards and regulations, and strengthening national capacity-building accordingly through information sharing, networks and training workshops.

This activity supports WHO in implementing Strategic Objective 1 (i.e. to build the knowledge base for active management of T&CM through appropriate national policies) of the WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2014-2023.

The information collated will be used, as required, by WHO to update the WHO global report on traditional and complementary medicine 2019 and WHO organized interregional training workshops. Regularly updating the information in the WHO global report on T&CM is listed as an activity under the 2020-2021 workplan of the TCI Unit.

Status: completed

NAFKAM maintained its comprehensive archive on the legal status and regulation of TCIM in Europe. NAFKAM continued to respond to requests, both from WHO and other institutions, and where needed provided updated information for specific enquiries.

At the request of WHO to the Norwegian Health Authorities, delegated to NAFKAM, we provided the required input for the Third Global Survey on Traditional, Complementary, and Integrative Medicine (July-August 2023).

Activity 2

Title: On WHO's request, support in expanding WHO's work on medication safety and quality of care in TCI

Description: One of the strategic objectives of the WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2014-2023 is to strengthen the quality assurance, safety, proper use and effectiveness of traditional and complementary medicine by regulating products, practices and practitioners. The WHA resolution on Global Action on Patient Safety WHA72.6 (2019) urges Member States to consider the use of traditional and complementary medicine, as appropriate, in the provision of safer health care. This activity is aligned with WHO TM Strategy 2014-2023 and WHA resolution WHA72.6.

It will contribute to GPW13 Output 1.1.1 and Output 1.3.1 and is included in the workplan of TCI unit for 2020-2021.

The Institution has expertise in the area of patient safety in TCI and in the past has supported WHO's work in patient safety and quality improvement of TCI services. The technical inputs and information support provided by the Institution will contribute to developing products that will further expand the integrative dimensions between patient safety, quality of care and TCI and contribute to integrated, people-centered TCI service delivery and UHC.

Status: ongoing

WHO Global Expert Consultation Meeting meeting on the draft of Traditional Medicine Strategy 2025-2034
On WHO's invitation, NAFKAM attended this 3-day meeting on 28-30 November 2023 in Geneva and contributed actively to consultation meeting.

Prior to the meeting, NAFKAM provided extensive comments and technical input to the draft strategy.

Activity 3

Title: On WHO's request, continue to provide technical support to WHO in the development of relevant products for appropriate integration of TCI

Description: Appropriate integration of traditional and complementary medicine in health services and health systems is one of the three strategic objectives of the WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2014-2023. The recently adopted United Nations Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage (2019) has included 'exploring ways to integrate, as appropriate, safe and evidence-based T&CM services within national and/or subnational health systems, particularly at the level of primary health care, according to national context and priorities' as a focus to scale up global effort to build a healthier world.

In the preceding period of designation, this Institution has provided technical support to the process of preparation of the draft report on 'Integration of Traditional and Complementary Medicine into Health Systems'.

Continued technical support from the Institution will contribute to WHO's efforts towards further crystalizing the WHO global report on appropriate integration of T&CM into health systems. Development of this report is included as an activity under Top Task 5 (leadership) in the TCI workplan for 2020-2021.

Status: completed

At WHO's invitation, NAFKAM originally chaired the working group developing the draft report on 'Integration of Traditional and Complementary Medicine into Health Systems, in particular primary health care'. The draft report was delivered to WHO and NAFKAM subsequently provided an in-depth review of the drafted report.

2. Annual report on other activities requested

Should WHO have requested activities in addition to the agreed workplan, please describe related actions taken by your institution [maximum 200 words]. Please do not include in this report any activity done by your institution that was not requested by and agreed with WHO.

WHO research priority setting exercise in traditional medicine
NAFKAM has accepted WHO's invitation to participate. In January 2024, NAFKAM completed step 1 by developing and submitting a research priority proposal as requested.

Presentation on invitation by WHO at several WHO meetings including:
WHO Traditional Medicine Global Summit, Towards Health & Well-being for All, 17-18 August 2023, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India. Parallel session 1A – Mapping of evidence: What we know, and how do we learn more?

Presentation

WHOC meeting at WHO Traditional Medicine Global Summit, 19th August 2023

- Presentation by NAFKAM about its profile and expertise (online).
- Key input to the new WHO strategy on TCI (online).

WHO meeting participation

NAFKAM participated in the regular briefings for WHO Collaborating Centres; online meetings held on 12th April 2023, 3rd July 2023, 10th October 2023.

Organized by the "The People's Declaration for Traditional, Complementary and Integrative Healthcare" (TCIH Declaration): Interactive Dialogue with the WHO Director General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, on the theme "Priorities on Traditional, Complementary and Integrative Medicine at global, regional, and country levels". virtual Monday 3 July 2023.

3. Resources

Indicate staff time spent on the implementation of activities agreed with WHO (i.e. those mentioned in questions no. 1 and no. 2 above). Do not include any data related to other activities done by your institution without the agreement of WHO. Please indicate staff time using the number of "full-day equivalents" – a day of work comprising 8 hours (e.g. 4 hours work per day for 7 days should be recorded as 3.5 full-day equivalents).

Number of staff involved (either partially or fully)

Senior staff	Mid-career staff	Junior staff, PhD students
4	2	0

Number of full-day equivalents, total for all staff involved

Senior staff	Mid-career staff	Junior staff, PhD students
25	10	0

Implementation of the agreed workplan activities (i.e. those mentioned in questions no. 1 and no. 2 above) normally require resources beyond staff-time, such as the use of laboratory facilities, purchasing of materials, travel, etc. Please estimate the costs of these other resources as a percentage of the total costs incurred (e.g. if you incurred costs of USD 100 and the value of your staff time was USD 50 which makes the total of USD 150, please report 33.3% and 66.7%).

Percentage of costs associated with staff time	Percentage of costs associated with other resources	Total
95.00	5.00	100.00

4. Networking