

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF A ONE DAY WORKSHOP ON HEALTH  
SECTOR REFORM AND REVITALIZATION OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE HELD AT  
THE CONFERENCE HALL, IBB SECRETARIAT, DAMATURU ON 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY  
2006

## 1. Preamble

A one day workshop was held for stakeholders on Health Sector reform at the conference Hall of the state secretariat complex Damaturu. It was organized by the Health Reforms Foundation of Nigeria (HERFON) Abuja in conjunction with the Yobe State Ministry of Health. The workshop was declared opened by His Excellency Alhaji Dr Bukar Abba Ibrahim FNIQS, FNIAE who was accompanied by the Deputy Governor, the representative of the secretary to the state government, the acting head of service, members of the state executive council, the emirs of Damaturu and Damagan. In attendance were 133 participants drawn from the public and private sectors including staff of the SMOH, PHC coordinators, civil society organizations, professional associations, religious organizations and students of the school of nursing. The objectives of the workshop were

- i. To create awareness about the on going HSR programme
- ii. To solicit the support of all for the programme
- iii. To obtain inputs about how best to implement the reform
- iv. To improve PHC service delivery
- v. To inform participants about the vision, mission and aims of HERFON
- vi. To re invigorate and inaugurate state chapters of HERFON

The methodology used included paper presentations, discussions and group work. The sessions were facilitated by Dr Ben Anyene, Zonal HERFON coordinator for the southeast zone assisted by Dr Uzodinmma Adirieje, the resource centre manager HERFON Abuja. The Yobe HERFON Coordinator also made presentation at the workshop. At the end of the workshop the following observations, recommendations and resolutions were made.

## 2. Observations

2.1. *Health Consumer*: the following observations were made from the consumers' perspective

- 2.1.1. Poverty and Ignorance
- 2.1.2. Lack of knowledge on Health Rights
- 2.1.3. Unfriendly attitude of health workers
- 2.1.4. Non involvement of communities
- 2.1.5. Inadequate access to health facilities
- 2.1.6. Lack of awareness
- 2.1.7. Taboos and customs

2.2. *Health Provider*: the following observations were made from the perspective of a the Health provider

- 2.2.1. Poor funding of health care activities
- 2.2.2. Lack of trained manpower
- 2.2.3. Inadequate working materials/facilities
- 2.2.4. Political interference in health activities such as staff postings
- 2.2.5. Lack of political will
- 2.2.6. Non involvement of private health sector
- 2.2.7. Lack of staff motivation of
- 2.2.8. Use of quacks
- 2.2.9. Inter professional conflicts/rivalry

### **3. Recommendations**

- 3.1. Improved Health Education And Economic Empowerment
- 3.2. Advocacy to stakeholders
- 3.3. Community involvement
- 3.4. Reorientation of health providers
- 3.5. Supervision
- 3.6. Improve Network of roads
- 3.7. Adequate funding of health care activities
- 3.8. Training and retraining
- 3.9. Recruitment of staff
- 3.10. Provision of appropriate infrastructure/ equipments
- 3.11. Motivation
  - 3.11.1. Prompt of salaries
  - 3.11.2. Prompt promotion
- 3.12. Programmes should be focus
- 3.13. Political will

The workshop was declared closed at about 5.00pm by the Honourable Commissioner of Health, Dr Sani Mohammed Chiromari, and a closing prayers by one of the participants.