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

University of Hospital of North Norway

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

Norwegian Centre for Telemedicine (NST)

City Tromsø **Reference Number** NOR-18

Title WHO Collaborating Centre for eHealth and Telemedicine

Report Year 09-2015 to 09-2016

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: Provide assistance to WHO on telemedicine & National eHealth strategy development activities.

Description: Facilitate telemedicine and e-health development by assisting with WHO activities at country level.

Disseminate lessons learnt from country implementation of the WHO-ITU National eHealth Strategy Toolkit.

Assistance with delivery of 1 regional training/workshop in accordance with the curriculum presented in the WHO-ITU National eHealth Strategy Toolkit.

Develop indicators for telemedicine and e-health for country monitoring and assessment.

The above description has not been updated for 2015-16.

Since 1 January 2016, the name 'Norwegian Centre for Telemedicine' (NST) is no longer in use. The New name is 'Norwegian Centre for E-Health Research' (NSE). The host institution is still the University Hospital of North Norway.

The NST/NSE has continued its e-health strategy and development support to the Republic of Moldova under the bilateral health agreement between Norway and Moldova. A joint conference on the health agreement and workshop on e-health was organised in Chisinau , 3-4 November 2015.

The long term collaboration with Northwest Russia has further developed and expanded to the Nenets Autonomous Region (NAO) and additional subject areas, in particular mental health, public health and information security. Results of the project have been reported within Russia and internationally.

The NST/NSE has contributed to the development of e-health indicators and analysis of the Global eHealth Observatory Survey (GOe, see activity 3) and through "the Nordic e-health research network" (NERN).

Activity 2

Title: Continuing development of the EURO Health Atlas

Description: This is an ongoing software development activity since 2012. Major phase is planned for release of new software version during this biennium.

The EURO Health Atlas was officially handed over to the WHO on 11 June 2015. An APW on additional work was signed in December 2015. The work has been put on hold due to pending clarifications on which databases to use as master.

Activity 3

Title: Contribution to the 2014-15 Global eHealth survey led by WHO/HQ.

Description: Providing assistance for conducting the survey as well as joint-development of a specific regional analysis report with WHO/Europe (as the NST did for the 2009 survey).

The NST/NSE has provided support to the 2014-15 Global eHealth survey led by WHO/HQ by conducting a comparative analysis of the data from the European region, provided case-descriptions and reviewed the draft report 'From innovation to implementation – eHealth in the WHO European Region 2016'.

The NST/NSE has also reviewed the chapters of the global report, and assisted with translation into Russian Language.

Activity 4

Title: Facilitate collaboration with WHO-CCs in ICT and health

Description: Organize a joint Who Europe - WHO CC workshop / event every 2nd year for WHO -CCs and other WHO agencies working in the area of telemedicine and e-health.

There has been no specific WHO-CC workshop in the periode but WHO has participated in the NERN-workshops on developing e-health indicators / e-health maturity index together with the NSE/NST and other partners.

Activity 5

Title: Assist WHO with issues on standardization and interoperability through the Norwegian Health directorate.

Description: Provide assistance to WHO in their implementation of standards for eHealth interoperability and data exchange including facilitating ongoing work with the EU in this area.

- Attend global eHealth interoperability forums.
- Assist WHO with communication to Member States so that activities are transparent and they are made aware of options for eHealth standards adoption.

Apart from the bilateral agreement between Moldova and Norway, there has been no specific requests on standards and interoperability from WHO or Member States in the period.

Activity 6

Title: Support the mHealth initiative for non-communicable diseases (NCD) proposed by WHO & ITU.

Description: Contribution to WHO Global and Regional efforts in the Be He@lthy, Be Mobile initiative by supporting implementation efforts in target countries. This is a priority area for Norad.

- Joint collaboration under the 'Diabetes4Life' proposal
- Proposed countries: Norway, United Kingdom, Tanzania, and Republic of Moldova

The above description has not been updated for 2015-16, hence the activities were reported last year. Support to mobile health through the BHBM initiative is anchored in the Norwegian Directorate for e-health. The NSE can facilitate contacts if need be.

Activity 7

Title: Facilitate capacity building and collaboration in e-learning

Description: Facilitate study visits and workshops on e-learning. The centre has planned one workshop on e-learning methodologies to be organized in Poland in spring 2015. In 2014 the centre has facilitated study visits from the Nenets Autonomous region in northwest Russia. The centre plans to facilitate more study visits on e-learning in various thematic fields, one planned for Portugal (on rare diseases).

The above description has not been updated for 2015-16.

The NSE has assisted WHO with e-health financing curriculum.

There has been no specific request on e-learning from WHO-side, but e-learning is an important part of the ongoing cooperation between the Ministry of Healthcare of the Arkhangelsk region, Russia and the University hospital Northern Norway. The aim of the project "Qualitative service improvement for people with mental and behavioral disorders in remote regions" is developing collaboration models between specialized mental healthcare (SMH) and primary health service (PHS) in the Arkhangelsk region, with the aim to improve mental healthcare by increasing the competence of mental disorders in rural districts.

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 NST has frequent contact with WHO through scheduled virtual meetings every month in addition to telephone and e-mail exchange on various topics. Physical meetings have taken place in the framework of workshops and conferences. Ideas for joint publications have been discussed.

3-4 November 2015: Conference and workshop on bilateral health agreement, Moldova-Norway with the participation of WHO-office for Moldova.

14-15 December 2015: Hosting a study visit of three persons from the Kyrgyz Republic to Tromsø and Oslo.

15-16 March 2016: Nordic e-health Research Network workshop in Tromsø with participation from WHO-Euro (video-link).

17-22 May 2016: Hosting a study visiting of six persons from Russia, Arkhangelsk to Tromsø. The project "Qualitative service improvement for people with mental and behavioral disorders in remote regions"

21-24 June 2016: Study visit from the Catholic University, Providencia, Chile (Dr Carol Hullin) which plans to become a WHO-CC.

5 September 2016: Meeting in WHO-Euro, Copenhagen: Claudia Stein, Clayton Hamilton, Carrie Peterson, Stein-Olav Skrøvseth, and Tove Sørensen.

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.

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).

APW on Health Atlas was signed at the end of 2015, and funding has been received.

The NSE has provided assistance on Russian translation on e-health topics to WHO.