

## **Interagency Working Group on Costing (IAWG-COSTING)**

### **Update, August 2011**

WHO hosted a meeting of the Interagency Working Group on Costing (IAWG-COSTING) June 27-30, 2011 in Geneva. The purpose of the meeting was to review progress made to date on the OneHealth model as well as to discuss critical aspects of the model development, and to plan support for early application of the tool in countries, training and roll-out. Country Reference Group (CRG) participants attended from four countries (Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Mali and Mauretania) with the purpose to review the tool and give feedback on its usefulness for informing national planning processes.

The group discussed progress made on the overall framework and linkages of the various modules as well as overall issues relating to the tool application process. CRG participants shared their experiences of strategic and operational planning in countries and advised on improvements to the model that will align it further with planning frameworks used in country. Overall there was positive feedback from CRG members and in particular the ongoing work to expand the model further to include modules for Governance, Health Information Systems and non-communicable diseases was commended. CRG participants reported that the added value of OneHealth compared to existing tools was clearly visible, and expressed great interest in using the tool once available.

Overall the IAWG-Costing concluded that overall structure and functionality of the MDG modules plus the service delivery components and fiscal space module is satisfactory, and pending a few software programming fixes, the model will be ready for release shortly. It was agreed to aim for making version 1 available in September 2011. The IAWG discussed a list of key action points to be implemented in 2011 to support early application of the tool as well as further development and eventually capacity building and technical support to rollout to countries. Key areas of focus over the next 6 months will include improving the usability, enhancing training materials and development of modules including the non-communicable diseases.