

## Workshop 1

### Health Care Delivery Systems in Sudan

#### Introduction

SDU (UK&I) was founded in 1976 as an integral branch of the Doctors Union in Sudan. Our main objectives are to assist the members to improve their career prospective here in the UK & I, and to liaise and promote professional links to improve the delivery of health care in the UK and in the Sudan.

We have been actively engaged for over a year now with SAS (Specialist Associations in the Sudan), discussing the health care situation in the Sudan. Our collective vision is to have a health care system that addresses the physical, mental and social needs of the individual and an environment that caters for the dignity of both the patient and the doctor.

We have organised our first conference in April 2006, in Birmingham - UK. The meeting was well attended by doctors mainly from the UK & Ireland as well as Dr.Tabita Boutros, the Federal Minister of Health. Different topics were discussed and it became very clear by the end of the conference that there is a real need for urgent and structured change to the health care system in the whole of Sudan.

An advisory think tank was recommended to support this development and to prepare for a National Conference in Sudan by 2007.

These proposals were fully supported by her Excellency, the Federal Minister of Health and the other delegates from the MOH.

#### The Workshops

We all know to some extent, what are the real needs in Sudan. It is obvious that eradicating Malaria and stopping our children from getting malnourished are by far more important and needed than by-passing coronaries and replacing knees.

We needed to reflect deep into the current situation and analysis critically what is good, bad and ugly about the current system in Sudan.

We have identified 4 areas that are important for achieving our goals. These areas were:

1. The Health care delivery systems in the Sudan.
2. The status of the professional regulations and self governance.
3. The situation with the undergraduate training.
4. The career structure and its development.

We thought it will be useful if these areas were discussed in a workshop format and I was assigned by the executive board to facilitate the first workshop.

#### The objectives of the Workshop are:

- To analyse the current status of the health care delivery systems in the Sudan.
- To agree on a collective vision.
- To priorities the areas of needs.
- To come up with recommendations for the National meeting in Khartoum.

#### The Pre-workshop forum

In order to ensure the success of the workshop and to achieve our objectives, it would be useful to have pre-workshops forums. These will play an advisory role to the delegates at the workshop and hopefully assist in reaching scientific and practical recommendations to take forward to the meeting in Khartoum in January 2007.

Our aim is to have a diverse and wide range of experience and views together. We would like to propose for you to take part in the forum of the first workshop (Health Care Delivery Systems) and I sincerely hope that you will accept.

We tried to utilise expertise from the Sudan as well as from our membership here and abroad. The following are the proposed group but we are very much open for suggestions.

**The Proposed Group** (in alphabetical order)

1. Abdelgaleel Ali (UK)
2. Abdel Malik Hamid (WHO)
3. Ahmed Gassim (UK)
4. Amir Ali Hassan (UK)
5. Asad Al-abbass (Ireland)
6. El-ham Omer (Sudan)
7. Hamid Rushwan (UK)
8. Huda Hassan (UK)
9. Hisham Hassan El-Khider (UK)
10. Ibrahim Sukar (WHO)
11. Ibtihal Anwar (Sudan)
12. Khatim Elyas (KSA)
13. Mohamad Ali Idris (MoH-Sudan)
14. Osman El-Nusairi (UK)
15. Salih Khalfallah, (UK)
16. Sami Saad Omer (UK)
17. Taha Umbelli (Sudan)
18. Zein Karrar (Sudan)

**The objectives of the Forum are:**

- To identify the current status.
- To analyse the current practices.
- To identify the areas of needs and the priorities.
- To reflect on the role of the health care worker.
- To reflect on the demographic, the cultural and religious backgrounds in the Sudan in relation to the health delivery.
- To discuss the political status in the Sudan and its impact on the delivery of health.
- To look into the ways the profession could undertake to influence the political decision making process for now and the future.
- The role of the other statutory, professional and voluntary organisations in the delivery of health care.
- To reach a consensus for the practical recommendations.
- Other areas that you feel relevant to our workshop.

May I recommend that we communicate mainly with e-mails and if deemed appropriate and essential, I could organise telephone conferences. I suspect it will be difficult to meet before the 4<sup>th</sup> of November where your physical presence will be very valuable.

With kind regards

**Nassif Mansour**  
**On behalf of the Executive Committee, SDU (UK& I)**