

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC



REPORT

**REGIONAL WORKSHOP OF NATIONAL FOCAL POINT LIBRARIANS ON THE
GLOBAL HEALTH LIBRARY**

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

23-25 May 2005

Manila, Philippines

July 2005

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REPORT

**REGIONAL WORKSHOP OF NATIONAL FOCAL POINT LIBRARIANS ON THE GLOBAL
HEALTH LIBRARY**

Convened by:

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

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NOTE

The views expressed in this report are those of the participants, observers, temporary adviser, and secretariat in the Workshop and do not necessarily reflect the policies of the World Health Organization.

This report has been prepared by the World Health Organization Regional Office for the Western Pacific for governments of Member States in the Region and for the participants, observers, temporary adviser, and secretariat in the Regional Workshop of National Focal Point Librarians on the Global Health Library which was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 23 to 25 May 2005.

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SUMMARY

The WHO Department of Knowledge Management and Sharing (KMS) would like to develop a Global Health Library (GHL) to address the need for reliable, timely, and targeted health information in all areas across the world. This will ensure global sharing of health

knowledge that could bridge the "health information divide" between developed and developing countries. The Global Health Library provides a platform for a worldwide knowledge base of reliable information collection and systems where various users can access the knowledge that best suits their information needs. It acts as a facilitator to access information contents produced by a wide variety of providers. To achieve the full potential of this initiative, the World Health Organization shall convene partners and collaborators from various sectors to map the way forward. Among these partners are WHO depository and reference libraries designated in Member States.

In November 1999, WHO/WPRO supported a meeting on the application of new information technology on resource sharing among medical/health libraries in the Western Pacific Region that was held in Beijing, China. Among the major conclusions of the meeting were: (1) the need to strengthen the regional health information network; (2) the need for training to build capacity for networking/resource-sharing; and (3) the need for the national focal point librarians to meet periodically (every three or four years) to discuss progress, decide on policies, and plan the future directions of the network.

This follow-up workshop of focal point librarians from selected countries of the Western Pacific Region was convened to carry out the conclusions of the 1999 meeting and discuss several activities that would promote the aim of the Global Health Library and expand the network of participating libraries, thus, leading to efficient management and sharing of health information and knowledge at regional and global levels.

1. INTRODUCTION

A regional workshop of national focal point librarians on the Global Health Library was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 23-25 May 2005. The purpose of the workshop was to promote the aim of the Global Health Library and expand the network of participating libraries. The workshop

also followed up on the conclusions of the 1999 meeting on resource sharing among medical and health libraries in the Western Pacific Region and discussed several activities that would ensure the efficient management and sharing of health information and knowledge at the regional and global levels.

1.1 Objectives

At the end of the workshop, the participants will have:

- (1) promoted the aim of the Global Health Library by:
 - (a) having identified the activities required to produce a regional index medicus;
 - (b) having identified the necessary steps in the production of a regional union list of medical periodicals;
- (2) expanded the network of participating libraries by:
 - (a) having identified several networking and training activities; and,
 - (b) having identified ways to promote WHO publications through medical/health libraries.

1.2 Participants

The three-day workshop was participated in by librarians and information professionals from thirteen (13) countries in the Western Pacific Region, namely, Australia, Cambodia, China, Fiji,

Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, and Viet Nam. Also in attendance was a temporary adviser, six observers, and six members of the Secretariat from the WHO Headquarters Office as well as from the WHO Southeast Asia Regional Office and the WHO Western Pacific Regional Office. Due to illness, the participant from Laos was unable to attend.

The list of participants is shown in Annex 1.

1.3 Opening ceremony

Mr. Charles P. Raby, Chief, Translation, Publications and Library Services, WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific (WPRO), opened the workshop. He welcomed the participants and observers, as well members of the Secretariat and temporary adviser and explained the objectives of the Workshop.

The participants, observers, the Secretariat and the temporary adviser introduced themselves to the body.

1.4 Appointment of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Rapporteur

Mr. Raby proposed the Chair, Vice-Chair and Rapporteur who were unanimously approved by the participants. They are:

Chair: Ms Nik Zakiah bt Nik Abdullah, Librarian, Library and Information Resource Unit, Institute for Medical Research, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Vice-Chair: Ms Achamma Alexander, Director, Library, Department of Health and Ageing, Canberra, Australia

Rapporteur: Mrs Shirley Aw, Senior Manager and Head, Medical Library, National University of Singapore, Singapore

2. PROCEEDINGS

2.1 Presentation / Discussion on the Global Health Library, HELLIS Network, and WPRO Knowledge Management Activities

Ms Yvonne Grandbois, Coordinator, Library and Information Networks for Knowledge (LNK), World Health Organization, presented a paper about the "Global Health Library (GHL)". She explained that the GHL could be the proper venue to provide reliable health information to people who need it most. WHO believes that improving health and health systems is the antidote to poverty.

According to Ms. Grandbois, GHL is envisioned to bring together health information knowledge that exist and are scattered worldwide but otherwise accessible. The idea for the GHL was conceived less than a year ago because it was felt that WHO has the convening power to bring together partner countries with health information resources to produce a global health library. The GHL aims to: 1) provide the first step to access reliable health information in paper, electronic, and/or other media, 2) point to reliable information collections and systems, thus, facilitating and enabling access to information contents produced by key providers, and 3) strive for universality, focusing on developing countries, and its role as a resource locator for print materials needed in areas with no or limited access to electronic content.

At present the GHL has the following modules: Global Health Index, World Health Libraries Directory, paper based health information, mobile libraries, and HINARI. It has been endorsed by the six WHO regions and a business plan has been drafted for implementation. Ms. Grandbois identified several issues that need to be resolved and areas where libraries can contribute. These are: 1) mapping existing resources, 2) fund raising, 3) World Health Libraries Directory, 4) paper based health information, 5) mobile libraries, 6) multilingual sources, and 7) the Global Health Index.

Ms. Anchalee Chamchuklin, Librarian, WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia, presented a paper on the Health Literature, Library and Information Services (HELLIS) Network. She presented the background, organization, activities, and future directions of HELLIS. According to Ms. Chamchuklin, the HELLIS Network was conceptualized in 1979 by the Advisory Committee on Health Research for the WHO South-East Asia Regional Office (SEARO) and was formally launched

in 1980. Today, on its 25th year, it is composed of 350 health libraries from 11 WHO SEARO member states.

According to Ms. Chamchuklin, the primary objective of HELLIS is to better serve the information needs of policy makers, administrators, researchers, and health care professionals by sharing resources among health science libraries in the region. The network had changed with time in terms of technology but it remains a decentralized network for development, resource-sharing and information dissemination. Each member state has its own HELLIS network. The national focal point HELLIS library is designated by the respective government in consultation with WHO. National HELLIS network activities include formulating strategies, library and human resources development, management of national information resources, and information sharing and dissemination. The WHO SEARO coordinates all activities but the country HELLIS networks could freely communicate directly with one another. Today, there is a regional HELLIS information portal, www.hellis.org, which serves as a one-stop gateway to information resources found in the HELLIS network. It also serves as a key player in implementing other WHO initiatives related to information such as the Health InterNetwork Access to Research Initiative (HINARI), the Reproductive Health Library (RHL), the Blue Trunk Library (BTL) in the region. It welcomes partnerships with other information networks and information providers for sharing HELLIS resources across geographical and organizational boundaries. HELLIS is now starting its activities in the “Tacit” area of knowledge-sharing in some countries.

Mr. Charles P. Raby, Chief, Translation, Publications and Library Services, WPRO, reported on the recent activities of the WPRO to support the development of library and health literature services of Member States. He highlighted the promotion of translation, especially in training materials, focus guides on TB HIV etc., and the mobile library or the “Blue Shelf Library.” The “Blue Shelf Library” displays selected recent information materials produced by WHO Headquarters and its Regional Offices. The display is updated every after six months and the superseded items are donated to the participating library. He also reiterated WPRO’s commitment to human resource

development. At present, two training courses are being planned, the first will be a HINARI workshop for Pacific Island librarians and the second will be on "Information Management" for general service staff in WHO offices located in the Pacific island countries. Other training courses will be offered to other countries in the near future.

2.2 Discussion on the "Blue Shelf Library" Project

The Chair opened the floor for discussion.

The participants asked Mr. Raby about the commitment of the participating library in the "Blue Shelf Library" project. Mr. Raby replied that the project is designed to disseminate information, promote the publications of WHO, and help the libraries improve their collections at no cost to the library. He, however, requested the libraries to put up the blue shelf if possible as this will speed up the dissemination of the materials in the region.

2.3 Country reports

Two countries, namely Korea and Japan, are producing their national index medicus and have existing medical information networks. They appear ready and able to join the GHL and/or HELLIS Network as soon as issues of platform compatibility and other problems could be resolved. Several countries are in the other extreme end. These countries do not have an index medicus and need further training, funding, and advice on how to manage and implement such activities. These countries are Fiji, PNG, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Mongolia. A third group of countries have indexes to medical literature in their respective institutions but are not yet networked at the national level. These countries are Australia, China, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines and Singapore.

Australia

Ms Achamma Alexander, Director, Library, Department of Health and Ageing, Canberra, gave the country report for Australia. According to Ms. Alexander, Australia has initiatives towards a national system for medical information. For the regional medical information system, she made

the following recommendations: 1) to undertake, as a priority, the Regional Union List of Medical Periodicals, 2) to form a consortia of Regional Focal point Libraries to purchase journals and databases, 3) to look at ways of using medical online alert services that are already available, 4) to work out how best to train and mentor Librarians in the Region, and 5) to pool marketing ideas and to learn from each other.

Cambodia

Mrs Saray Vannat, Head of Library, Information and Computer Unit, National Institute of Public Health (NIPH), Cambodia, presented the country report for her library. According to her, the NIPH Library and Resource Center is a research library serving the staff of the NIPH and the staff of its co-operation partners. It provides a specialized collection of approximately 5 500 books and documents on public health, medicine, and related topics. The NIPH Library and Resource Center subscribes to over 30 periodicals and journals and provides access to many more electronic journals and other Internet resources. According to her, Cambodia is not yet producing its index medicus and therefore can not yet join the GHL and the HELLIS. She pointed out the need for assistance in the area of training.

China

Mr Fang An, Deputy Director for Computer and Communications, Institute of Medical Information, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, China, presented his country report entitled "The Network-based Medical Library Resources-sharing and Document Delivery in China – The Progress and the Prospects". He discussed the following: the goal of organizing resources-sharing among Chinese medical/health libraries, the cooperative activities and the network development among medical libraries in China, new steps of medical literature resource sharing in China, and the prospect of the Network-based Medical Literature Resources Sharing. In 2004, he reported that the 1983-2000 Union Catalogue Database of Foreign Medical Journals in China (5,870 titles) was finished and that it can be accessed freely through the Internet. The network includes 201 member

libraries, covering six regions of 30 provinces throughout the nation. By the end of 2004, he estimated that the database would contain 29,950,000 records.

Fiji

Ms. Violet Taukave, Deputy Librarian, Fiji School of Medicine, presented the country report for Fiji. According to Ms. Taukave, Fiji has several medical/health libraries and three medical journals. One is, however, published in New Zealand but with major contributions from academics in the Pacific Islands and is edited by the staff of the Fiji School of Medicine. Fiji currently does not have a national index medicus for these publications and does not have a union list of medical and health journals. She recommends resource sharing, training and for the Fiji School of Medicine Library to become the lead institution for the Pacific Island group.

Japan

Dr Yumiko Mochizuki, Chief, Information Design Section, Center for Information Research, and Library, National Institute of Public Health, Saitama, Japan, reported on the “Medical Bibliographies and Library Cooperation in Japan.” She wrote her paper in cooperation with Mr. Naohiko Yamaguchi, Manager, Toho University Medical Center. The paper discussed the activities/initiatives on library and information services in Japan. These include the state of the national index medicus or national medical literature index, national union list of health/medical journals, training, library networking, and future plans to improve access and dissemination of health information. According to Dr. Mochizuki, the members of the Japan Medical Library Association (JMLA) and other health science-related organizations make their cooperation through the network infrastructure and bibliographic databases supplied by the National Institute for Informatics (NII)

Korea

Professor Jeong-Wook Seo, Director, Medical Information Center, Seoul National University Hospital, volunteered to present the first country report. The paper entitled “Current Status of Health Information and Libraries in Korea,” provided insight on the state of medical information systems in

Korea. He discussed three trends in health information, namely, a content-oriented digital library, the regional indexing and citation report, and the integration of the hospital information system. The digital library contains imaged text, images, historical materials, and audio-visual tapes. The regional indexing and citation report provides access to a union list of journals, an index to the articles and a citation report for each article/author. The integration of hospital records in the health information system provides closer monitoring of patients and illnesses. His suggestions for the WPRO health information network include: bi-directional communication, contents and resource sharing, integration of efforts and investments and "more often we should meet and touch". He concluded his report by discussing the changing trend in health information strategies and suggestions on the role of WHO in health information. He recommended that WHO continue its activities in the traditional ways of knowledge sharing and also pave the way for knowledge sharing in the digital age for the next generation.

Malaysia

Ms Nik Zakiah bt Nik Abdullah, Librarian, Library and Information Resource Unit, Institute for Medical Research, presented the country report for Malaysia. According to Ms. Nik there are 85 hospital and health-related libraries located in government departments, academic and private institutions, of which 70 libraries are under the Ministry of Health, Malaysia (MOH). Within the organization of MOH, the Institute for Medical Research (IMR) Library, being the first special library to be established in Malaysia, plays a vital role in the development of the biomedical research collection. It functions as a depository center, controls the bibliographic identification number for all publications of the Ministry of Health, Malaysia, and acts as a coordinating library for Southeast Asian Medical Information Center (SEAMIC) activities in early 1990's, as well as a National Focal Point for the WHO Regional Biomedical Information Programme. Malaysia has a union list of medical journals but it is out of date. It has a Medical Librarians Group, formed in 1992, which published a directory of medical and health libraries in Malaysia in 2003. Other initiatives in Malaysia include training, telehealth virtual library, and MOH Knowledge Hub. Problems mentioned

include: lack of professional staff, lack of funds, and great disparity in the development of the libraries. She concluded by recommending that “in the era of information technology and globalization, libraries should find new ways for cooperation and integration in the field of medical library and information through implementation of programme, activities and resource sharing among libraries on national and regional level.”

Mongolia

Ms Terbish Batjargal, Librarian, Public Administration Division, Ministry of Health, gave the country report for Mongolia. According to Ms. Batjargal, Mongolia has several medical libraries that have LANs but are not integrated into a national medical information network. They do not have either a union list of medical journals or integrated e-cataloguing systems. Among the problems she cited are: lack of professional staff, lack of training opportunities, software compatibility, Mongolian font, and limited access to international journals. They plan to encourage resource-sharing, network their libraries, obtain training for their librarians on ICT and other aspects of library work.

New Zealand

Mr Stuart Edward Cretney, Acquisitions Librarian, Ministry of Health, presented the country report for New Zealand. His report was “structured around the main purposes of the workshop, in particular, proposals for a “regional index medicus”, a regional union list of health/medical journals, and the expansion of the network of participating libraries”. According to Mr. Cretney, there is no indexing done in New Zealand using the Index Medicus standard, ie. using the (United States) National Library of Medicine format and Medical Subject Headings (MeSH). He reported that in 2005, there are 26 journals published in New Zealand being indexed by the National Library of Medicine for Medline (previously Index Medicus) and 11 journals are being indexed on CINAHL, which has similar indexing standards as Medline, using a more nursing-specific set of subject headings. Mr Cretney further reported that 33 journals, containing articles on New Zealand health and medicine, mostly published in New Zealand, but including a few published overseas, are indexed by Index New Zealand, a unit within the National Library of New Zealand. Most health and medical

libraries subscribe to the Index New Zealand database. The National Library's national bibliographic database (NBD) of journal (and monograph) provides access to a union list of journals. Network activities include interlibrary loan, training, consortium purchase of databases, and access to a listserv "health-info". Future plans include the continuation of access to PubMed, full text journals, consortium purchase and possibly the provision of evidence based medicine.

Papua New Guinea

Mrs Dillie George, Medical Librarian, Medical Library, University of Papua New Guinea, School of Medicine and Health Sciences, presented the country report for Papua New Guinea. According to Ms. George, the Medical Library is part of the Information Resources Centre of the University of Papua New Guinea. The library uses the MeSH for assigning subject headings to its collection. It has access to HINARI and uses PubMed to meet requirements of users for abstracts.

Philippines

Ms Adawey F. Racal, Head Medical Librarian, Dr F. B. Herrera Jr. Medical Library, College of Medicine, University of the Philippines, presented the country report for the Philippines. She gave a brief historical background on the Philippine Index Medicus and also described some online reference indexes such as the HERDIN health databases, produced by the Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (PCHRD), which are accessible online and on CD-ROM, and the National Union List of Medical and Health Periodicals, published by the Medical and Health Librarians Association of the Philippines (MAHLAP), in print and online, among others. Mrs Racal also described the support provided by the Southeast Asian Medical Information Center (SEAMIC), when it was still operational, and the current Philippine *e-Lib* project. She concluded her paper by lauding the revival of the focal point libraries for the Western Pacific index medicus and she believes that this collaborative project will foster greater cooperation among the medical libraries and librarians in the Western Pacific Region, and that commitment is essential to sustain the viability of the project.

Singapore

Mrs Shirley Aw, Senior Manager and Head, Medical Library, National University of Singapore, gave an overview of the number, size, and resources of medical/health libraries in Singapore. She described the collection, services, facilities of the National University of Singapore Medical Library (NUSML) and also the Health Information Centre established by the Health Promotion Board. Ms Aw mentioned that three editions of the Singapore Medical Literature Index were published through SEAMIC support and the data for these indexes were extracted from the PERIND database produced by the NUS libraries. She also mentioned that medical/health journals of Singapore were included in the Union List of Medical Periodicals in Southeast Asia, published by SEAMIC, and the electronic equivalent of the national union list of medical journals in Singapore is not available yet. Mrs Aw described the training activities for librarians and she mentioned some future plans to improve the access and dissemination of health information in Singapore.

Viet Nam

Dr Nguyen Tuan Khoa, Director, Central Institute for Medical, Science Information (CIMSI), described the application of information technology in the health sector of Viet Nam and also discussed the Vietnam Health-Medical Information System (VHMIS) which comprises the medical libraries and information centres of medical and pharmaceutical universities, institutes, health offices, and some other organizations. He mentioned several activities done in CIMSI to enhance the access and dissemination of health information. He also discussed several medical library and information activities for the next ten years. He ended his paper with the great hope to receive support and cooperation from WHO and WPRO member countries, as well as other international organizations.

2.4 Global Library Services Network

Mr Cameron Esslemont, Director, Global Library Services Network Pty Ltd presented the Global Library Services Network (GLSN). The talk is about this particular software that may be adopted for the GHL project. GLSN is used as a managed infrastructure provider:

- deploy digital library to remote communities
- protect copyright for authors and publishers

- provision of system to support creation of local content.

It is like a composite of repository libraries:

- template to build digital libraries
- can build f/t collection, e-books (pdf or html docs)
- kw search, phrase search, copyright instructions, Unicode, dictionary
- input in Chinese and the system translates and searches in English
- continuing education module
- allows changing

2.5 Promotion of WHO publications

Mr. Rolando Hernandez, Assistant, Publications Unit, WPRO, presented the marketing strategy of WPRO in promoting WHO publications. The group welcomed the idea of the “blue shelf.”

2.6 Group Presentations

Group I: to discuss the activities in the production of the index medicus and union list of medical journals. The group was composed of Korea, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Mongolia, observers from Japan and Malaysia and one secretariat member from WHO SEARO. There was much discussion during the Q&A section about standards, platforms, status of the countries, etc. However, all members agreed that an index medicus and union list for each country would be needed and that open access to all must be provided.

Group II: to discuss activities on training, capacity building, and other staff development strategies. The group was composed of Australia, Cambodia, Fiji, Malaysia, observers from Japan and Malaysia, and one secretariat member from WHO HQ. The group agreed that training is a priority in all the countries. Possible funding sources were discussed. It was also agreed that WHO and the national medical library associations spearhead the training programmes.

Group III: to discuss activities on knowledge sharing between libraries, networking, and other collaborative activities. The members are China, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, Vietnam,

observers from Japan and Australia, and one secretariat member from WHO-HQ. The issues discussed were mostly in the area of compatibility, standards, and procedures. It was agreed that networking must be established and cooperative activities towards this end should be programmed. Mr. Cameron mentioned the possibility of using a “federator” to search all the databases through a common interface.

2.7 Open debate on Asia-Pacific HELLIS Network

The group likes the HELLIS network. They discussed issues related to procedures, standards, training, hardware, and software, strengths and weaknesses of the HELLIS. All agreed that such a network is good for the region. Mr. Esslemont proposed that a “federator” could also be an alternative approach. The creation of a HELLIS Asia Pacific (HELLISAP) or Index Medicus Asia Pacific (IMAP) was also discussed. Some countries requested that an invitation to join HELLIS and HELLISAP or IMAP be sent to their respective governments.

2.8 Group expectations and contributions on the proposed Global Health Library Website

Mr Tomas Allen, Librarian, WHO/HQ presented the proposed Global Health Library Website and requested the participant to give feedback/suggestions on what type of information should be provided to maximize the use of the GHL website to countries. The participants were asked to group themselves as in the previous day.

Following are the items the participants would like to see on the GHL website:

- direct link to the proposed Regional index medicus, Union list of periodicals, discussion groups
- dropdown menu (filters) should be provided
 - list of countries
 - languages
 - topic/subject
 - authors

- date (of publication?)
- ability to search through available country databases (HELLIS AP and TELEHEALTH)
- E-learning modules (librarianship, medical and health personnel training)
- Links to forthcoming meeting and trainings
- ability of the system to adapt/read the different format/databases of each country
- ability to produce a print version of the data/researched material
- constant update

To attain the above goals, the participants express their willingness to contribute the following:

- training materials in local languages
- link to country databases/catalogue online, (KoreaMed, etc.)
- contribute content to E-learning, link to training modules of contributing libraries
- advertising of WHO publications on discussion lists

2.9 Closing session

Mr Raby thanked the government of Malaysia for hosting the meeting. Ms. Yvonne Grandbois also thanked the body for their participation. The observers also thanked everyone for the chance to participate. Mr. Raby thanked everyone for his or her help.

The Chair declared the workshop closed at 12:10 p.m.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the deliberations of the participants who were divided into three groups, the following recommendations are presented:

3.1 Group I: Recommendations on the Production of the Regional Index Medicus and Union

List of Medical Journals

1. Journals to be indexed for the Regional Index Medicus should cover the fields of medicine and allied health sciences and these are published in the member countries of WPRO;
2. The journals should be "peer-reviewed" and published in English or in non-English language but with abstracts and bibliographic citations in English;
3. WHO should provide guidelines for the basic requirements and evaluation process for the selection of journals to be included in the regional medical index;
4. WPRO should support member countries to establish their national index medicus and union list of journals;
5. WPRO should form a working group from selected member countries to formulate the guidelines and criteria for the selection of journals and the indexing, as well as the data entry of articles;
6. WPRO should organize training on indexing and data entry at the national and regional levels;
7. WPRO should collaborate with HELLIS, SEARO to start the Regional Index Medicus service;
8. Member countries without a national union list of journals should establish their own and those that have it should consider launching theirs together on a common interface;
9. Using a common format, the data entry elements should be standardized;
10. The web site for the union list should be established as soon as possible.

3.2 Group II: Recommendations on Training, Capacity-building and other Staff

Development Activities

1. Training on basic internet skills should be organized and conducted for professional and non-professional library staff and other information providers, as well as users;
2. HINARI training should be organized and conducted at the national, regional, and bioregional levels, for staff at selected HINARI-registered institutions to build up their capacity as trainers for others;
3. Training on basic library skills and management should be offered to non-professional library

personnel;

4. Training on the use of thesaurus and other indexing tools should be organized for professional and non-professional library personnel;
5. Customer service training should be organized and offered to professional and non-professional library staff;
6. Non-professional library staff should have exposure to other libraries at the national or intercountry level;

3.3 Group III: Recommendations on Knowledge-sharing, Networking, and Other Collaborative Activities

1. The GHL web site should have facilities to search for and retrieve health information;
2. Each member country should have a page in the GHL web site that points to key sites containing relevant country information;
3. A "concept map" should be incorporated in the GHL web site to help users navigate to country information;
4. National focal point librarians should have a more direct avenue to find/share information using the blog concept;
5. An e-mail list of WPRO national focal point librarians should be created;
6. Face-to-face/virtual meetings on the progress and directions of the GHL should be made more often, to be facilitated by WPRO and to involve the member countries;
7. The GHL project should be cognizant of the language translation issue in several member countries and to support translation, base templates should be provided for all multi-media elements;
8. WPRO should keep the member countries informed about the project plan and its milestones.

3.4 Added recommendations

1. A project coordinator should be hired to oversee the operation and maintenance of the Regional Index Medicus and Union List of Journals;
2. Workshops to assess the progress of the Global Health Library initiative in WPRO should be

convened on a biennial basis.

3. Investigate different alternatives in providing access to the national index medicus.
4. WPRO should form a working group from selected member countries to support the initial phase of operation and activities in formulating a regional model of the Global Health Library.
5. WHO collaborating centres are to be established to manage the knowledge exchange system at the national, regional, and global levels, and to develop new models of the Global Health Library.
6. WHO will select standard database software for member countries that need to establish their national union list of journals.

ANNEX 1

REGIONAL WORKSHOP OF NATIONAL FOCAL POINT LIBRARIANS ON THE GLOBAL
HEALTH LIBRARY

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

23-25 May 2005

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS, TEMPORARY ADVISER, OBSERVERS AND SECRETARIAT

1. PARTICIPANTS

AUSTRALIA

Ms Achamma Alexander

Director

Library

Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

GPO Box 9848

Canberra ACT 2601

Tel: (612) 6289-5787

Fax: (612) 6289-5799

E-mail: titi.alexander@health.gov.au

CAMBODIA

Mrs Saray Vannat

Head of Library

Information and Computer Unit

National Institute of Public Health

#2 Kim Il Sung Boulevard

Phnom Penh

Tel: +855 12 842 442

+855 23 880 345 ext. 103

Fax: c/o (855-23) 426034/426841

E-mail: saray_vannat@yahoo.com.kh

CHINA

Mr Fang An

Deputy Director for Computer and Communications

Institute of Medical Information

Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences

3, Yabao Road, Chaoyang District

Beijing 100020

Tel: 8610-65287421

Fax: c/o 8610 6879 2279

E-mail: fangan@imicams.ac.cn

an_fang@hotmail.com

FIJI

Ms Violet Taukave

Deputy Librarian

Fiji School of Medicine

Private Mail Bag

Suva

Tel: 679 3311700 ext. 1803

Fax: 679 3304669

E-mail: v.taukave@fsm.ac.fj

JAPAN

Dr Yumiko Mochizuki

Chief

Information Design Section

Center for Information Research and Library

National Institute of Public Health

2-3-6 Minami, Wako City

Saitama 351-0197

Tel: +81-48-458-6206

Fax: +81-48-469-0326

E-mail: yumiko@niph.go.jp

MALAYSIA

Ms Nik Zakiah bt Nik Abdullah

Librarian

Library and Information Resource Unit

Institute for Medical Research

Jalan Pahang

50588 Kuala Lumpur

Tel: +603-2698 6033

Fax: +603-2692 8894

E-mail: nikzakiah@imr.gov.my

MONGOLIA

Ms Batjargal Terbish

Librarian

Public Administration Division

Ministry of Health

Olympic Street 2

Sukhbaatar District

Ulaanbaatar

Tel: +976-11 263 609

Fax: +976-11 320 916

E-mail: batjargal@moh.mn

NEW ZEALAND

Mr Stuart Edward Cretney

Acquisitions Librarian

Ministry of Health

PO Box 5013

Wellington 6040

Tel: +64-4-496-2014

Fax: +64-4-496-2340

E-mail: stuart_cretney@moh.govt.nz

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Ms Dillie George

Medical Librarian

Medical Library
University of Papua New Guinea
Taurama Campus, PO Box 5623
Boroko N.C.D. 111
Tel: +675 324 3838 / 324 3839
E-mail: georgedg@upng.ac.pg

PHILIPPINES

Ms Adawey F. Racal
Head Medical Librarian
Dr. F. B. Herrera Jr. Medical Library
College of Medicine
University of the Philippines - Manila
The Health Sciences Center
Manila
Tel: (632) 526-4263
Fax: (632) 526-5851
E-mail: adfora@mail.upm.edu.ph

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Professor Jeong-Wook Seo
Director
Medical Information Center
Seoul National University Hospital
28 Yeongon-dong
Seoul 110-744
Tel: +82-2-2072-2174
Fax: +82-2-762-8463
E-mail: jwseo@snu.ac.kr

SINGAPORE

Mrs Shirley Aw
Medical Librarian
Senior Manager
Medical Library
National University of Singapore
14 Medical Drive
Singapore 117599
Tel: +65 6874-2045
Fax: +65 6778-6084
E-mail: mlbaws@nus.edu.sg

VIET NAM

Dr Nguyen Tuan Khoa
Director
Central Institute for Medical Science Information (CIMSI)
13-15 Le Thanh Tong Street
Hoan Kiem District
Ha Noi
Tel: c/o (844) 826 40 40
Fax: c/o (844) 826 26 68
E-mail: vtyh@hn.vnn.vn

2. TEMPORARY ADVISER

Mrs Lourdes T. David
Director
Ateneo de Manila University

Rizal Library

Katipunan Road, Loyola Heights

1108 Quezon City

Philippines

Tel: (63 2) 4266001 loc. 5800-5801

Fax: (63 2) 4265961

E-mail: lt david@ateneo.edu

3. OBSERVERS

Mr Cameron Esslemont

Director

Global Library Services Network Pty. Ltd.

Level 11, St George Centre

60 Marcus Clarke Street

Canberra ACT 2601

Australia

Tel: (+61) 417721454

Fax: (+61) 0262435143

E-mail: cameron@gl sn.com

Mr Kohei Iwanami

Kitasuna 5-20-3-206

Koto-ku, Tokyo 136-0073

Japan Tel: 81-3-3648-8916

Fax: 81-3-3648-8916

E-mail: kyoko-i@h5.dion.me.jp

Mr Masamichi Kitagawa

Librarian

Medical Information Center

The Jikei University School of Medicine

3-25-8, Nishi-Shinbashi

Minato-Ku, 105-8461

Tokyo, Japan

Tel: +81-3-3433-1111 ext 2121

Fax: +81-3-3435-1922

E-mail: kitagawa@jikei.ac.jp

Mr Naohiko Yamaguchi

Manager

Toho University

Medical Media Center

5-21-16, Omori-Nishi

Ota-Ku, Tokyo 143-8150

Tokyo, Japan

Tel: +81-3-5763-6531

Fax: +81-3-3762-5077

E-mail: naohiko@med.toho-u.ac.jp

Mrs Maimunah bt Kadir

Head, Library

Hospital Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

Jalan Dr Jaacob Latif

Bandar Tun Razak, Cheras

50586 Kuala Lumpur

Malaysia

Tel: 60-3-9170 2288 / 26924677

Fax: 60-3-9173 8610

E-mail: mai@mail.hukm.ukm.my

Mr Zainal b. Ahmad

Librarian

Medical Library, Kuala Lumpur Hospital

Jalan Pahang

50186 Kuala Lumpur

Malaysia

Tel: 603 2615 5980

Fax: 603 2698 9845

E-mail: zainal@hkl.gov.my

4. SECRETARIAT

Mr Charles P. Raby

Chief, Translation, Publications and

Library Services

WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific

United Nations Avenue

1000 Manila, Philippines

Tel: (63 2) 528-9983

Fax: (63 2) 521-1036

E-mail: raby@wpro.who.int

Mr Julio Dizon, Jr.

Special Assistant (Library)

WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific

United Nations Avenue

1000 Manila, Philippines

Tel: (63 2) 528-9840

Fax: (63 2) 521-1036

E-mail: dizonj@wpro.who.int

Mr Rolando Hernandez

Assistant (Publications)

WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific

United Nations Avenue

1000 Manila, Philippines

Tel: (63 2) 528-9994

Fax: (63 2) 521-1036

E-mail: hernandezb@wpro.who.int

Ms Yvonne Grandbois

Coordinator

Library and Information Networks for Knowledge (LNK)

World Health Organization

Avenue Appia 20

CH-1211 Geneva 27

Geneva, Switzerland

Tel: (+41 22) 791 2081 / 2077

Fax: (+41 22) 791 4150

E-mail: grandboisy@who.int

Mr Tomas Allen

Librarian

Library and Information Networks for Knowledge (LNK)

World Health Organization

Avenue Appia 20

CH-1211 Geneva 27

Geneva, Switzerland

Tel: (+41 22) 791 2633

Fax: (+41 22) 791 4150

E-mail: allent@who.int

Ms Anchalee Chamchuklin

Librarian

WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia

World Health House

Indraprastha Estate

Mahatma Gandhi Road

New Delhi 110 002

India

Tel: (+91 11) 2337 0804 ext 6308

E-mail: chamchuklina@whoaea.org

ANNEX 2

REGIONAL WORKSHOP OF NATIONAL FOCAL POINT LIBRARIANS ON THE GLOBAL

HEALTH LIBRARY

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

23 – 25 May 2005

AGENDA

1. Opening ceremony
 - Self-introduction of participants
 - Designation of Chair, Vice-chair and Rapporteur

- Administrative announcements
- 2. Presentation of Ms Yvonne Gandbois on Global Health Library
- 3. Presentation of Ms Anchalee Chamchuklin on HELLIS Network
- 4. Report of Mr Charles P. Raby on activities to support the development of library and healthliterature services of Member States
- 5. Presentation of country reports of participants
- 6. Presentation of Mr Cameron Esslemont and other observers
- 7. Group discussion of participants and observers
- 8. Report of each group on the results of the discussion of their assigned topics
- 9. Discussion on the promotion of WHO publications
- 10. Open debate on Asia-Pacific HELLIS Network
- 11. Discussion/critique on the workshop
- 12. Open forum and formulation of recommendations
- 13. Closing ceremony