First Meeting for the Eastern Mediterranean and Arab Forum on Bioethics in Research
Cairo, Egypt, 12-14 August 2008

Provisional Programme

Tuesday, 12 August 2008
8:00 - 09:00 Registration

09:00 – 09:40 Opening Session
09:00 - 09:10 Opening Remarks: WHO/EMRO
Dr Abdullah Assa’edi, Assistant Regional Director, WHO/EMRO
09:10- 09:20 Opening Remarks: MERETI
Dr Henry Silverman, Program Director, MERETI, University of Maryland, USA
09:20 - 09:30 Opening Remarks: UNESCO
Dr Tarek Shawki, Director, UNESCO Office in Cairo
09:30 - 09:40 Opening Remarks: ISESCO
Dr Aicha Bammoun, Science Directorate, ISESCO

09:45 – 11:00 SESSION I
Ethical Principles in International Instruments
Chairing: Dr Nouzha Guessous Idrissi, Honorary Professor, Hassan II University, Ain Chock of Casablanca, Morocco

09:50 – 10:05 UNESCO’s declarations in the area of bioethics – promotion and application in the region
Ms Orio Ikebe, Programme Specialist, Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO Office in Cairo

10:05 – 10:20 WHO Guidelines on Bioethics
Dr Marie-Charlotte Bouësseau, Ethics, Equity, Trade and Human Rights Department, WHO/HQ

10:20 – 11:00 Open Discussion

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 – 13:15 SESSION II
Research Ethical Issues in the Region
Chairing: Professor Gamal Serour, Chairman, FIGO Committee for ethical aspects of human reproduction and women’s health, Cairo, Egypt

11:30 – 11:45 Informed Consent in Biomedical research: Realities and issues in the context of Arab countries
Dr Nouzha Guessous Idrissi, Honorary Professor, Hassan II University, Ain Chock of Casablanca, Morocco

11:45 – 12:00 The need for developing ethics codes and research guidelines
Dr Tawfiq Khoja, Director-General, Health Ministers’ Council for Gulf Cooperation Council States, Saudi Arabia

12:00 – 12:30 Open Discussion

Presentation of papers: Informed consent – Theme 1
12:30 – 12:40
1. Respecting Persons: Cultural Context & the Practice of informed consent
Dr Pablo Rodriguez del Pozo, Cornell University/Qatar
Maintaining ethical principles in the field – luxury or necessity
Dr Jihad Makhoul, American, University of Beirut, Lebanon

Informed consent in genetic research in Oman
Dr Asya Al Riyami, Ministry of Health, Oman

Open Discussion

Lunch Break

SESSION III
Enhancing Research Ethics Capacity and Sustainability
Chairing: Dr Tawfiq Khoja, Director-General, Health Ministers’ Council for Gulf Cooperation Council States, Saudi Arabia

Monetary incentives for kidney donation: saving lives or exploiting the poor
Dr Mohamed Abdur Rab, WR/Sudan, WHO/SUDAN

Human Research Protection Programs: Assessment Approaches and Practical Applications
Ms Karen Hansen, Director, Institutional Review Office, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, USA

Open Discussion

Presentation of papers: What do people know about research and what is their willingness to participate in research – Theme 2

Attitudes and concerns of patients towards participating in dental research in Jordan
Dr Suhail Al-Amad, Ministry of Health, Jordan

Attitudes of Egyptians Patients toward Research Participation and storage of Human Biological Specimens
Dr Magdy Shehata, Ain Shams University, Egypt

Expressions of Therapeutic Misconception amongst Egyptians
Dr Susan Khalil, Ain Shams University, Egypt

Quagmires in defining health care from medical research in developing countries
Dr Abdu Salam El Gatit, Omar El Mokhtar University, Libya

Community genetic program in Bahrain and ELSI
Dr Shaikha Salim Al Arrayed, Salmaniya Medical Complex, Bahrain

Open Discussion

Wednesday, 13 August 2008

SESSION IV
Emerging Ethical Challenges in Research
Chairing: Dr Khalid Al Ali, Director of the Foundation Unit, University of Qatar, Qatar

Developing guidelines on human embryo stem cells research in the Eastern Mediterranean Region
Professor Gamal Serour, Director, International Islamic Centre for Population Studies & Research, Al Azhar University, Egypt

Experience from the Global Forum for Ethics in Research
Dr Sandra Realpe, Ethics Officer, Global Forum on Bioethics in Research, Switzerland
09:30 – 10:15 Open Discussion

10:15 – 11:00 Coffee Break

Presentation of papers: Knowledge of research ethics among researchers – Theme 3

11:00 – 11:10 1. Knowledge of Sudanese researchers of research ethics
Dr Dya Eldin Elsayed, AlZaiem Al Azhari University, Sudan

11:10 – 11:20 2. Knowledge, attitudes and practice of research ethics by Egyptian medical investigators of Ain Shams University
Dr Maged El-Setouhy, Ain Shams University, Egypt

11:20 – 11:30 3. Constrains to research and research ethics among teaching staff in Hadramout University
Dr Abdulla bin Ghouth, Hadramout University, Yemen

11:30 – 11:40 4. Perceptions of Physicians and Researchers in the NRC
Dr Wafaa Abdel-Aal, National Research Centre, Egypt

11:40 – 12:10 Open Discussion

Presentation of papers: Knowledge of research ethics among researchers – Theme 3

12:10 – 12:20 1. Challenges to Ethical Considerations in Research in Eastern Mediterranean and Arab Region
Dr Nabil Dowidar, University of Alexandria, Egypt

12:20 – 12:30 2. Assessment of knowledge, attitudes and practices of faculty members towards Research Ethics: A comparative study between Dental Schools in Ain Shams and King Abdul Aziz Universities
Dr Hadir El-Dessouky, Ain Shams University & King Abdul Aziz University (Egypt & SAA)

Dr Nahed Kandeel, Mansoura University, Egypt

12:40 – 13:15 Open Discussion

13:15 – 14:15 Lunch Break

14:15 – 16:15 SESSION V
Education and Training on Research Ethics
Chairing: Dr Mohammad Abdur Rab, WHO Representative, Sudan

14:15 – 14:30 Role of Education Program in Enhancing Capacity and Sustainability
Dr Aasim Ahmad, Chairperson, Bioethics Group, Aga Khan University, Pakistan

14:30 – 14:45 Medical Research Publications in Egypt and The use of IRB's during the last two decades
Dr Mohammed El Guindi, Vice Dean, Hepatology Institute, Menoufeya University, Egypt

14:45 – 15:00 Open Discussion

Presentation of papers: Training of research ethics committee members – Theme 4

15:00 – 15:10 1. Enhancing research ethics capacity in Developing Countries: experience of an Egyptian Workshop Committee
Dr Nahed Moustafa, Suez Canal University, Egypt
15:10 – 15:20 2. Identifying Resources and Needs of Research Ethics Committees In Egypt  
*Dr Hany Sleem, National Hepatology and Tropical Medicine Research Inst. Egypt*

15:20 – 15:30 3. Implementation of the virtual collaboratory of an Egyptian Network of research ethics committees  
*Dr Azza Saleh, Theodor Billharz Research Institute, Egypt*

15:30 – 15:40 4. Ethical Conduct of Clinical Studies in Jordan – A Case Study Providing a Map for Regulatory Oversight  
*Dr Wafaa Al-Khateeb, Jordan Food and Drug Administration, Jordan*

15:40 – 15:50 5. Is there any place of ethics in research education: An experience with PhD students on Health Sciences  
*Dr Berna Arda, Ankara University, Turkey*

15:50 – 16:30 Open Discussion

**Thursday, 14 August 2008**

**09:00 – 10:30 SESSION VI**  
*Developing Ethics Codes and Research Guidelines*  
Chairing: *Dr Marie-Charlotte Bouësseau, Ethics, Equity, Trade and Human Rights Department, WHO/HQ*

09:00 – 09:15 Developing Codes of Ethics of research in Qatar  
*Dr Khalid Al Ali, Director of the Foundation Unit, University of Qatar, Qatar*

09:15 – 09:30 Ethical issues and Stem Cell Research  
*Dr Sheikh Riazuddin, Director, Centre for Applied molecular Biology (CAMB)*

09:30 – 09:45 Open Discussion  
**Presentation of papers: Developing Formal Structures for Research Ethics**

09:45 – 10:40 1. Research Ethics in Syria  
*Dr Fatein Akad, Ministry of Health, Syria*

10:00 – 10:15 2. Establishing Governing Bodies for Health Research Ethics in Developing Countries: A case from Sudan  
*Dr Sumaia Al-Fadil, WHO, Sudan*

10:15 – 10:30 3. A research study on the protection of ethics, human rights and justice in the clinical trial  
*Dr Alessandra O’Neil, United Nations Interregional Crime & Justice Research Institute*

*Dr Abdul Aziz Swailem, King Abdul Aziz City for Science and Technology, Saudi Arabia*

10:45 – 11:00 Open Discussion

**11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break**

**11:30 – 13:30 SESSION VII**  
*Closing Session - Ways Forward*  
*Moderator*  
*Dr Sandra Realpe, Ethics Officer, Global Forum on Bioethics in Research, Switzerland*
**Panelists**

11:45 – 12:00  **Dr Henry Silverman, Program Director, MERETI, University of Maryland, USA**

12:00 – 12:15  **Dr Aicha Bammoun, Science Directorat, Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO)**

12:15 – 12:30  **Ms Orio Ikebe, UNESCO Office in Cairo**

12:30 – 12:45  **Dr Abdul Ghaffar, Regional Advisor, Research Policy and Cooperation, WHO/EMRO**

12:45 – 13:00  **Closing Remarks**  
*Dr Abdullah Assa’edi, Assistant Regional Director, WHO/EMRO*

13:00 – 14:00  **Lunch Break**

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**Note:**

This Programme will be followed by a satellite meeting, from 14:30 – 17:30, organized by the World Medical Association regarding the revision on the Helsinki Declaration in which all interested are welcomed.