## **Regional Meeting of the**

## Southern and Eastern African Parliamentary Alliance of Committees of Health (SEAPACOH): Repositioning Family Planning and Reproductive Health in Africa: Lessons Learnt, Challenges and Opportunities

Imperial Royal Hotel, Kampala, Uganda 27-29 September 2011

## **Follow-Up Survey Results**

- This was a short questionnaire to help us determine the best methods for SEAPACOH and partners to follow-up with your in-country work and promote the sharing of information throughout the year.
- 45 surveys were returned
- 1. What would be the best method for SEAPACOH to share information with you outside of meetings?
  - Email/ email list: 96%
  - Website: 27%
  - Other: 18% (fax, telephone, correspondence, Facebook, exchange visits)
- 2. What is the best way for you to share information, best practices, and lessons with your fellow parliamentarians in other countries?
  - Email/ email list: 80%
  - Website: 27%
  - Other: 16% (workshops, briefing meetings)
- 3. How could SEAPACOH keep you updated on issues related to your work?
  - Share information and news through email: 71%
  - Have a website where global and regional agreements (e.g. Maputo, Abuja, etc.) can be downloaded: 51%
  - Have a website where examples of members bills can be downloaded: 31%
  - Have a website where you can post information on progress in your country: 36%
  - Other: 11% (workshops, through office of the Secretary of the National Assembly)
- 4. What would be the best follow-up mechanism for members of parliament to report on their incountry work?
  - Quarterly report to SEAPACOH Secretariat by email: 40%
  - Bi-annual report to SEAPACOH Secretariat by email: 51%
  - Other: 9% (annual, annual general meeting, exchange visits)
- 5. Do you have any other suggestions for how SEAPACOH can improve coordination and reporting mechanisms between members?

## 82% made a comment

- A permanent/ full-time secretariat would improve communications- 8
- Annual meetings- 5
- More regular/ (bi-annual or quarterly) regional meetings- 5
- Rotate meeting location- 4
- Current communication methods are in order and should be maintained- 4

- Interactive (increased) email list- 4
- Use the media if funds allow- 2
- Contact person(s) in each parliament to coordinate- 2
- Exchange visits- 2
- Have the parliamentary committee clerk as a contact person for monitoring progress
- Enhance work with individual MPs
- Increase participation in SEAPACOH to additional committees and forums and countries, and to more women- 4
- Arrange to have permanent member[ship] from committees of health from member countries so as to create continuity and sustain efforts
- Benchmarking and networking
- The steering committee meets to discuss reports and ensure commitment more frequently
- If it is possible to expand the working languages to French and Kiswahili . . .
- SEAPACOH should be more aggressive with MPs in ensuring activities are carried out and reported on—this will increase visibility- 1
- Restricted website/blog