

## **REPORT FROM THE TC-SWAP TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP**

The Health Care Financing Technical Working Group (HCFTWG) was appointed to oversee progress of the Health Care Financing Component, which is one of the 11 strategies in HSSP III. It comprises of members from MOHSW, MOF, WHO, GIZ, USAID, SDC, Private Sector (APHTA), Faith Based Organization (CSSC), SIKIKA, KfW, NHIF, NSSF, World Bank and PMORALG.

Since the last Joint Annual Health Sector Review (JAHSR) meeting the Group was able to hold 10 out of 12 planned meetings. The Group had been alert to collaborate as needed with other Technical Working Groups like HRH-TWG, DS-TWG and PP-PTWG.

### **PERFORMANCE/ACHIEVEMENTS**

The HCFTWG has five (5) strategies in the HSSP III namely: (i) reducing the budget gap in the health sector by mobilizing adequate and sustainable financial resources, (ii) enhancing complementary financing for provision of health services, (iii) increasing the share in the total budget to 10% of Government budget by 2015, (iv) improve equity of access to health care, and, (v) improving management of complementary funds raised at local level and increasing efficiency and effectiveness in use of financial resources.

The Ministry together with other partners managed to mobilize resources and therefore managed to reduce budget gap. The Abuja declaration suggests a budget allocation of 15% of the total budget by 2015. In 2010/11 budget allocation to the health sector was 12.1 %

Access to health Services has been improved by the increase of coverage of CHF/TIKA from 1.2m in 2009 to 2.7m March 2011, which is equal 9.8 percent. NHIF coverage is around 9.3% of the total population in 2011. Management of Complementary Funds has also improved in terms of use of funds (HSF) as well as improving quality of matching funds application.

The Group had a responsibility of monitoring a 2010/11 milestone of developing a Health Financing Strategy of which Cost drivers study, PER 2010, NHA, regulatory framework and costing study are the inputs. Currently, the Financing Strategy preliminary thoughts have been collected. PER has also been prepared and has been completed. NHA is on going, data analysis already done. Initial work has started on regulatory framework, costing of health services and cost drivers study. The Final draft of the Financing Strategy was planned to be completed by the end of December 2011.

### **Major Challenges/Constraints**

Inadequate funds and shortage of staff for the timely implementation of the intended activities. Low enrollment in CHF caused by a number of challenges like quality of health services.

### **Way Forward**

To complete all studies which are the inputs in Health Financing Strategy (NHA, Cost drivers study, costing study and Regulatory Framework), to develop an action plan for the Strategy implementation and mobilize funds for financing activities carried out in the Technical Working Group. Moreover, we want to put more efforts next year on increasing coverage of prepayment schemes and helping councils use complementary funds where utilization is very low.