

SYMPOSIUM 5: PROMOTING, PROTECTING AND SUPPORT FOR BREASTFEEDING THROUGH THE BABY FRIENDLY HOSPITAL INITIATIVE

13 December 2016

Background:

The Joint WHO/UNICEF Statement: Protecting, promoting and supporting breastfeeding: the special role of maternity services, in 1989 called on the leadership of those working in maternity services to sustain or if necessary, re-establish a “breastfeeding culture”. The Innocenti Declaration of 1990 calls on governments to ensure that all maternity services fully practice all the Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding. Furthermore, the Global Strategy for Infant and Young Child Feeding indicates the need for implementation of BFHI, monitoring and re-assessment of already designated facilities and expanding the Initiative to include clinics, health centers and paediatric hospitals. The Global Criteria published in 2009 continues to be the minimum requirement for all baby-friendly facilities. Implementation has been successful in certain countries and faced obstacles in others, specifically in reaching universal coverage and sustainability.

In 2015, WHO and UNICEF started a process to review, revise and update the BFHI. The process include three key steps: Documentation of experiences with BFHI implementation, a global BFHI Congress held in October 2016 and a review of the evidence for the Ten Steps in November 2016. It is expected that an updated BFHI guidance package will be ready around mid-2017.

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| | Symposium 5: <i>Promoting, Protecting and Support for breastfeeding through the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative</i> | | |
| | Convener: UNICEF | | |
| 11:30 - 13:00 | Moderator: TBC | Objective: Discuss BFHI implementation over the past 25 years and provide information about the process of updating the global guidance package. | Method of Presentation: Panel of Discussants |
| <p>Presenters: Introduction to the session [5mins] Maaïke Arts, UNICEF – Overview of the current status of the BFHI and Country Experiences [20mins] Grummer Strawn Laurence, WHO – Overview of the proceedings and outcomes of the BFHI Congress [20mins]</p> <p>Panellists/Discussants [45mins] BFHI Roundtable: 25 years of BFHI-Keeping quality everywhere: Maryse Arendt, IBFAN-GIFA - Europe Arun Gupta, IBFAN Asia - Asia Vilneide Braga - South America Betty Sterken, IBFAN-INFACT – Canada Rejoice Mkhambule, Ministry of Health, Swaziland- Africa</p> | | | |
| Focal Person: Maaïke Arts | | | |