

F.No. V.15016/49/2009-PH-I  
Government of India  
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi – 110108  
Dated 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2011

Subject: Constitution of a Policy Group to frame a Mental Health Policy for India.

With the approval of the competent authority, it has been decided to constitute a Policy Group to work on framing a Mental Health Policy for India keeping in mind internationally accepted guidelines and also the specific context of mental illness in India. Accordingly, a Policy Group to frame a Mental Health Policy for India as follows:-

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|-------|--|--------|
| i)    | Dr. Vikram Gupta<br>Sir Ratan Tata Trust, Bombay House, Homi Modi Street, Fort,<br>Mumbai – 400001   | Member |
| ii)   | Dr. Vikram Patel<br>Professor of International Mental Health & Wellcome Trust<br>Senior Research Fellow in Clinical Science, Centre for Global<br>Mental Health, London School of Hygiene & Tropical<br>Medicine, UK<br>Sangath Centre, 841/1 Alto Porvorim, Goa, India – 403521 | Member |
| iii)  | Dr. Soumitra Pathare<br>Coordinator, Centre for Mental Law & Policy, ILS Law College,<br>Indian Law Society, Law College Road, Pune – 411004   | Member |
| iv)   | Dr. Alok Sarin<br>Consultant Psychiatrist, Sitaram Bhartia Institute & Senior<br>Fellow, Nehru Memorial Museum & Library, Teen Murti<br>House, New Delhi   | Member |
| v)    | Dr. Anirudh K. Kala<br>Clinical Director, North India Psychiatry Centre, 95-A, Model<br>Gram, Ludhiana – 141002  | Member |
| vi)   | Dr. S.K. Deuri<br>Director, LGB Regional Institute of Mental Health, Tezpur,<br>Assam – 784001   | Member |
| vii)  | Dr. Sanjeev Jain, Professor of Psychiatry, NIMHANS, Hosur<br>Road, Bangalore – 560029  | Member |
| viii) | Ms. Vandana Gopikumar<br>The Banyan Centre, 66/5B, Spurtank Road, Chetpet, Chennai<br>– 600031   | Member |

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| ix)  | Ms. Nirmala Srinivasan<br>Director, Action for Mental Illness (ACMI), Sector C, 358, Jal Vayu Vihar, Kammanahalli Main Road, Kalyan Nagar, Bangalore – 560043   | Member                         |
| x)   | Mr. Akhileshwar Sahay<br>Whole India Foundation, S-238, Greater Kailash Part – II, New Delhi – 110048   | Member                         |
| xi)  | Dr. Thelma Narayan<br>Centre for Public Health & Equity, Society for Community Health, Awareness, Research and Action (SOCHARA), 27, 6 <sup>th</sup> Cross, (1 <sup>st</sup> Floor), 1 <sup>st</sup> Main, 1 <sup>st</sup> Block, Koramangala, Bangalore – 560034 | Member                         |
| xii) | Sh. Keshav Desiraju<br>Additional Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi – 110108   | Convenor & Member<br>Secretary |

2. The **'Terms of Reference'** for the Policy Group shall be:

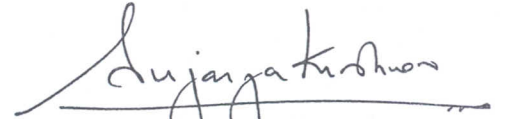
- a. To prepare a Situational Analysis of the need for mental health care in the country and the current provision of mental health care in the country, including issued of human resources, essential drug procurement and distribution, advocacy, prevention of mental illness, rehabilitation and care and promotion of mental health and rehabilitation.
- b. To carry out a systematic review of the evidence base for the policy measures proposed below.
- c. To take the draft Mental Health care Bill, 2010 into account when drafting the National Mental Health Care Policy and Plan and recommend changes to the proposed draft Mental Health Care Bill, if necessary, to support the National Mental Health Care Policy and Plan.
- d. To prepare an evidence based National Mental Health Care Policy for the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare stating the guiding values, principles and objectives of such a policy and identifying priority areas for action.
- e. To prepare a National Mental Health Care Plan, with specific reference to the National Mental Health Programme and District Mental Health Programme, with specific strategies and activities to implement the priority areas of action identified in the National Mental Health Care Policy, and to further prepare an estimate of financial resources required to implement the Plan.
- f. To conduct broad-based consultations on the above issues with mental health stakeholders in the country before finalizing the Situational Analysis, the National Mental Health Care Policy and the National Mental Health Care Plan.

3. It is further stated that the Policy Group shall be free to frame its own procedures, make visits and call consultation meetings, seek advice and opinion of national and international experts and complete the above tasks and submit a final report to the Ministry containing the Situational Analysis, the National Mental Health Policy and Plan and Financial Estimate within a period of 12 months from

the date of constitution of the Policy Group. To enable us to meet the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan deadlines, outlines of Plan and Financial Estimate may be submitted to this Ministry within 6 months.

4. The secretarial assistance to the Policy Group shall be provided by the Centre for Mental Health Law & Policy, Indian Law Society, Pune which would include organizing the group meetings, travel, consultations, preparing the documents, administer the reimbursement of travel etc.

5. Expenditure on the work of the Policy Group including would be met from the 'Other Administrative Expenses' component of the Budget for the National Mental Health Programme as per the admissible rules.



(Ms. Sujaya Krishnan)

Director

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To:

1. All Members of the Policy Group.
2. Sh. Keshav Desiraju, Additional Secretary (Health) and Convenor & Member Secretary, Policy Group.