



# COMMONWEALTH *of* LEARNING

## Report on the Regional Focal Points Meeting

May 19th - 21st, 2011



## Africa & The Mediterranean, Ebene City, Mauritius

**Ms Alison Mead Richardson  
Dr. Aburrahman Umar**

# Report on the Regional Focal Points Meeting - Africa and the Mediterranean

## Executive Summary

The Focal Points meeting for the Africa and Mediterranean region was held in Mauritius from 19 – 21 May 2011. Sir John Daniel and Prof Asha Kanwar gave the general background on COL and its programme before Dr Abdurrahman Umar and Alison Mead Richardson organised discussions on the Education and Livelihoods and Health sectors respectively. During his opening address, Dr the Hon. Minister Rajesh Jeetah, Minister of Tertiary Education, Science, Research and Technology gave the background to the economic and social development of Mauritius since Independence and linked their remarkable growth to the provision of free basic education. He expressed his pleasure in hosting the meeting and this was evidenced by his participation in several events.

Through presentations, plenary and group discussions on the COL programme and activities, the participants identified the educational and development challenges facing the region and identified priorities for COL activities. Priorities include:

- Capacity building in the use of ICT in all educational sub-sectors
- TVET, agriculture and health skills development through ODL
- National ODL advocacy and policy development
- Quality assurance
- Support for learning materials development

The Focal Points made useful observations regarding COL's Vision statement, noting that it was not very 'visionary'. Suggestions for alternatives were made. The draft outcome statements for the next COL Three Year Plan were reviewed and revisions suggested. Focal points noted that some statements in the draft logic model related more to the output level and needed to be revised to reflect outcome level results.

FPs found the gender session very useful and proposed some clear ideas on what more needs to be done in terms of addressing issues of gender imbalance. Gender priorities in the region were identified as; national and institutional gender policy, gender advocacy, career guidance for girls, sensitization for boys and girls to participate in TVET science and technology.

The session on the roles of Focal Points also generated a lively discussion. They identified the challenges they face in being fully effective in their roles and shared strategies for mitigating these. They found 'coordination with other ministries such as health and agriculture' the most challenging of their responsibilities.

The meeting included the launch of the new learning materials and website for "Life Long Learning for Women's Empowerment" attended by a large number of potential beneficiaries of the programme. The programme is a joint initiative of COL and the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare. The objective is to empower women on relevant legislation and to improve their livelihood through lifelong learning.

Over 50% of the Focal Points had participated in the previous meeting and even though many were first-timers, there was a greater awareness of COL and what it does in the region. There seemed to be a general consensus that COL must continue to do more of what it is already doing. Sir John concluded that the Focal Points of the Region are supporting COL well and urged them to continue their cooperation.

## In Introduction

The Focal Points meeting for Africa and the Mediterranean region was held at The Link Hotel, Ebene City, Mauritius from 19th to 21st May 2011. The meeting was attended by 18 out of 21 Focal points (see List of participants in Appendix 1). It was facilitated by Sir John Daniel, Prof Asha Kanwar, Dr Abdurrahman Umar and Ms Alison Mead Richardson.

The aims of the meeting were to:

1. share information about the status of open and distance learning (ODL) in each participating country;
2. provide a mid-term report of what COL has done in each country; and
3. identify the education and training priorities that COL can support in its next Three Year Plan 2012-2015.

The meeting progressed according to the planned Agenda – Appendix 2.

## The Opening Ceremony – Thursday 19th May 2011

The opening session was attended by Sir John Daniel, COL President & CEO; the Hon. Minister Dr. Rajesh Jeetah, Minister of Tertiary Education, Science, Research and Technology; Prof Asha Kanwar, Vice-President; Mr. R. Duva-Pentiah, Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Tertiary Education, Science, Research and Technology; Ms Alison Mead Richardson, Education Specialist, Skills Development and Dr Abdurrahman Umar, Education Specialist, Teacher Education, Commonwealth of Learning; 18 regional Focal points and members of the Press.



Mr Ricaud Gervais Auckbar, COL's Focal Point in Mauritius, welcomed all participants and also served as the Master of Ceremony for the session.

In his address, Sir John Daniel, COL President & CEO outlined the purposes of the meeting and informed participants about COL's objectives, organisational structure and activities. His address focused on the following:

- The values of the Commonwealth
- What is COL?
- Who governs COL?

- Who pays for COL?
- Stakeholder engagement
  - Focal points – country reports and country action plans
  - Signed agreements with Commonwealth Secretariat and UNESCO
- Planning Process
  - Country Reports
  - Networking
  - Country Priorities
  - Country action plans 2012 – 2015
- What COL offers to countries
  - Expertise in learning and technology
  - South-south collaboration
  - Development without donors
  - Successful and transferable models
- COL's expectations from Focal Points
  - Dialogue of priorities
  - Track Country Action Plans
  - Get involved
  - Facilitate country contributions

He emphasised the importance of the inputs made by the Focal Points and expressed the hope that their input in this meeting would make COL and the 2012-2015 Plan more responsive to national and regional needs and plans.

In his opening address, Dr Rajesh Jeetah, the Hon. Minister, Ministry of Tertiary Education, Science, Research and Technology gave an overview of the Mauritian economy and business environment, explaining that upon Independence in 1968, Mauritius faced many problems and lacked the requisite resources for development. There was no proper water or power supply, people were poor and they relied totally on the sugar crop. In 1975, the government decreed that education should be free and very quickly development took off in their country. At Independence per capita income was U\$320, now it was currently about \$8000 and the aim was to raise it to U\$20,000 by 2020. He expressed his ministry's delight for being given the opportunity to host the Focal Points meeting and wished the participants fruitful deliberations. He then declared the Focal Points meeting open.

### **Sessions 1 and 2 – 19<sup>th</sup> May 2011**

Professor Kanwar facilitated the session which began with adoption of the draft Agenda and followed by her presentation entitled: "Overview of COL: Value, Mission, Structure and Function". The presentation dwelt on a range of issues including:

- COL's Purpose, Vision and Mission.
- The Initiatives in the Education sector and the Livelihoods and Health Sector as articulated in the 2009-2012 TYP.
- How the Initiatives are based on and seek to assist Commonwealth developing countries to achieve the MDG goals and EFA goals.

Professor Kanwar presented some interesting regional statistics on: enrolments at the secondary school, TVET and tertiary levels, shortfalls in teacher supply, poverty and hunger, child and maternal mortality, internet users and mobile phone ownership, which graphically illustrated the magnitude of the needs/gaps that existed in the region vis-à-vis the MDG and EFA goals.

There were many comments and questions from the participants on some of the issues and the statistics presented. Professor Kanwar responded to the comments and questions in the context of COL's overall mission and activities.

### **Session 3: Education Sector Priorities – 19th May 2011**

The objectives of the session were:

- to engender a common understanding of the educational issues, priorities and challenges in Africa;
- to determine what the region's education priorities are for the period 2012-2015 vis-à-vis COL's TYP; and
- to harmonise the region's priorities with COL's Education Sector Outcomes 2012-2015.

It had two components: a presentation by Dr Abdurrahman Umar, the Education Specialist (Teacher Education) and group work on the region's priorities/challenges. In his presentation, Dr Umar highlighted the aims of each of the four Initiatives in the Education sector and their activities in the region.

Three groups were constituted to undertake the following tasks:

- Identification of three key challenges being faced by the region in: a) primary and secondary education, (b) Higher education, and c) technical and vocational education; and
- Prioritisation of the challenges identified by the groups and determining the priorities that COL and its partners in the region should address in the 2012-2015 Three-Year Plan.



The challenges identified by the groups included:

- 1) **Primary and secondary education:** shortage of trained teachers, inadequate access, inadequate teaching-learning materials and facilities, large number of untrained teachers, poor quality of tuition, out-dated curricula, lack of internet connectivity, and low transition rate from primary to secondary education.
- 2) **Higher education:** inadequate access: limited facilities and resources are major impediments to access; low quality of tuition due to inadequate teaching staff, irrelevant curricula, dearth of teaching-learning facilities, inadequate funding and lack of robust monitoring and evaluation systems, the neglect of research and innovation, and inadequate networking and collaboration among institutions in the region.
- 3) **Technical and Vocational Education:** inadequate access, public perception of TVET as a low status area of education, lack of political will/commitment and international advocacy, dearth of teaching-learning facilities such as laboratories and workshops, shortage of qualified teachers, low quality of provision, and lack of networking of TVET institutions and quality assurance agencies.

The second part of the group work was the identification of five regional priorities for each of the following COL Initiatives and the explication of the criteria used to identify them:

- Open Schooling
- Teacher Education
- Higher Education
- VUSSC

The five priorities identified for each of COL's Education Initiatives are listed below:

- 1) **Open schooling:** i) Capacity building; ii) Research on Open schooling; iii) Integration of ICT; iv) Curriculum renewal/materials development; v) Quality assurance.
- 2) **Teacher education:** i) Capacity building on: ICT, use of ODL to train/upgrade teachers, integration of ICT; ii) Quality assurance; iii) Development/adaptation of OERs; iv) Multi-grade teaching; v) Enhancing access to teacher education including CPD programmes particularly for teachers in remote/rural areas.
- 3) **Higher education:** i) Enhancing access through the establishment of Open universities and assisting institutions to transform into dual mode universities; ii) Quality assurance (COL RIM); iii) Policy development; iv) Research (RD&D) and networking/collaboration; v) capacity building on: integrating ICT, e-learning.
- 4) **VUSSC:** i) Capacity building; ii) Promoting the use of OERs; iii) Quality assurance; iv) Monitoring and evaluation; v) Promoting the TQF.

The criteria used by the groups to identify the aforementioned priorities included: EFA and MDG goals and the fact that most of the region needed to do more to attain them by 2015; and the existing national and regional policies and plans e.g. NEPAD, ECOWAS, SADC.

## Life Long Learning for Women's Empowerment

Before dinner, delegates attended a launch presentation on “Life Long Learning for Women's Empowerment”. Speakers at the launch ceremony included: Sir John Daniel, COL President & CEO; Professor Asha Kanwar, COL Vice President; The Hon. Sheila Bappoo, Minister of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare; The Hon. Dr Rajeshwar Jeetah, Minister of Tertiary Education, Science, Research and Technology and Dr K Coonjan, Executive Director of the National Productivity and Competitiveness Council. It was “standing room only” at the launch which was attended by potential beneficiaries of the programme from all over Mauritius and there was great excitement as the website and DVDs on legal aspects of women's rights were launched.



The programme is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare and the Commonwealth of Learning (COL) through the National Productivity and Competitiveness Council, which acted as facilitator. The objective is to empower women on various legislation and to improve their livelihood through lifelong learning.



Dinner was provided by the Ministry of Tertiary Education, Science, Research & Technology kindly hosted by the Minister.

## Session 4: Livelihoods and Health Sector Priorities – 20th May 2011

The objectives of the session were:

- An analysis of the priorities identified in Africa and the Mediterranean in 2008 and the COL activities undertaken to address these
- To determine the current Livelihoods and Health (L&H) challenges facing the region
- Identify priorities for the period 2012-2015 vis-à-vis COL's Three-Year Plan.

We started this session by asking for a show of hands to indicate which sector the Focal Points most closely identified with in COL's programme. As expected, all the Focal Points aligned themselves with the Education sector rather than L&H. To facilitate their engagement with the development issues of the sector we started with a brainstorm in plenary which resulted in a list of relevant concepts/aspects of livelihoods and health:

- Women empowerment
- Nutrition
- Farming & fishing
- Craft training
- Cultural practices
- Food preservation
- "the poor"
- Hygiene
- Entrepreneurship
- Coops and syndicates
- Community development
- Human and citizen's rights
- Healthy living – exercise, family life
- Prevention programmes – epidemics
- Environment
- Indigenous/traditional production systems
- Hospitals
- Online help and information
- Water management
- Reproductive health
- Carpentry – employment/self

Ms Alison Mead Richardson, Education Specialist for Skills Development, made a presentation on the challenges identified at the Focal Points meeting in Malawi in 2008, the aims of the initiatives in the L&H sector and the activities carried out in the current TYP.

From there we were able to move into group work and focus on the challenges and issues facing each country in this sector.

### Challenges and Issues faced in Livelihoods & Health

- Preservation of natural culture & tradition
- Unemployment
- Food security
- Climate change
- Low income/poverty
- Vulnerability to pandemics
- Lack of access to information & training in remote & rural areas/islands
- Lack of community radio stations
- Mobile phones available but not enough local content
- Knowledge and skills to actively participate in development
- Tension between policy and implementation (even if good policies exist they are not being implemented)

## Priorities in Livelihoods & Health

Despite their professed lack of knowledge about the Livelihoods and Health sector, there was lively debate about the priorities in the different countries of the region and the three groups were able to identify 5-6 priorities for each initiative.



The priorities identified for COL's Livelihoods and Health Initiatives are listed below:

**Skills Development:** Entrepreneurship training; vocational skills training; training for disadvantaged groups – informal sector; ODL training for health workers & educators; advocacy for ODL in TVET

**Learning for Farming:** ODL courses in agriculture; food preservation, environment & water management; research on modernization of farming; networking between farmers; strengthen local practices

**Healthy Communities:** Reproductive health and nutrition; community ethics and values – promotion of indigenous knowledge; community health & sanitation; training in radio skills; management & care of support groups; life skills promotion

**Integrating eLearning:** ICT training; capacity building for trainers in ICT; using elearning in vocational education; digital literacy – ATMs, mobile phones; use of multimedia for improved livelihood training; use of youth in promoting elearning

### Session 5: The Role of Focal Points – 20th May 2011

Prof Kanwar opened this session by presenting the changes which COL made to the way it communicates with Focal Points following the last regional consultation meetings in 2008. She showed the Focal Points page on the COL website and highlighted the country information provided there.

We then moved into group work and considered the role of Focal Points in COL's programme. The groups were invited to consider:

1. The role of the Focal Point – emphasising the most important aspect of the role
2. How can this role be enhanced? By COL? By Focal Points?
3. The main challenges faced by Focal Points.

1. The groups identified that the most important role of the focal point is two-fold:
  - Coordinating L4D interventions in countries
  - To act as a liaison between COL and the country

Other aspects of FPs role include:

- Facilitate COL's activities in country
- Make known, COL's actions/activities to relevant institutions and at national levels
- Encourage regular payments of financial contribution to COL
- Coordinate and ensure follow-up of COL activities in country
- Coordinate regular reporting to both governments and COL
- Ensure media coverage of COL's activities

2. Enhancing the role of FPs

What can COL do?

- provide the Focal Points a networking focus through Basecamp
- provide detailed and frequent communication
- Help FPs better understand their role and tasks
- Provide all information about all COL activities in country
- Financial support for FPs to promote COL's activities in country
- Facilitate one annual in-country meeting to make COL more visible

What can FPs do to enhance their role?

- Do more of what they do
- Update COL more frequently on country issues, changes in Minister etc.
- Be more aware of country needs
- Identify contact points in other Ministries and civil society

3. Challenges of Focal Points

- Lack of resources for networking regarding COL activities in country
- Change in national or institutional leadership affects continuity of understanding and prioritisation of COL's work
- Attracting interest – being more visible – to attract resource
- Getting information and cooperation from other Ministries
- No recognition of role of FP in own institution and in other institutions
- Lack of access to Ministers and senior officials
- Lack of information on COL activities in advance of them happening.

The session finished with a review of the role of the Focal Point as envisaged by COL, presented by Prof Kanwar. Again there was some useful interaction as people tried to correlate the challenges they had identified with the role as envisaged by COL. Most of the Focal Points in this region have been in place for some years although those who were newer in the job found this session especially useful.

### **Session 6: Gender – Friday, 20th May 2011**

This session addressed the following issues:

- Why do we need to focus on gender and development?
- COL's work in Gender
- Stimulating our thinking on gender
- Gender priorities?



There were two plenary sessions and one group session.

The first plenary session began with a presentation by Professor Asha Kanwar, COL's Vice President, which dwelt on: the importance of addressing gender disparities in the region and how these disparities have impeded the region's development; COL's gender policy and activities; and the identification of regional gender priorities/activities to be integrated into COL's TYP 2012-2015.

This was followed by another plenary session on "Stimulating our Thinking on Gender" during which the focal points were shown seven pictures depicting different gender scenarios and asked to reverse the roles contained therein and express their perceptions and feelings about them. The key question addressed was: "What the pictures convey to us about how development and our own work are portrayed"?

During the group sessions, participants discussed some of the achievements made and the problems faced in their field of work with respect to gender. Each group presented a short report on this to a plenary session. The achievements identified by the groups are listed below:

1. The appointment of women to top management positions such as Vice Chancellor, CEO of public and privately owned companies, Member of Parliament etc.
2. Increase in access to JSS by girls
3. Gender-sensitive policies enacted by governments and institutions.

The important gender-related problems identified by the groups are: relatively low levels of retention of girls in basic and secondary education and inadequate representation of women in science and technology courses in the universities and polytechnics.

In addition, regional gender priorities were identified and discussed during the session. The gender priorities are:

- Gender policy: national and institutional
- Gender advocacy
- Development of integrated science kit for girls
- Sensitise boys and girls to participate in science, technology, and TVET

The groups suggested that gender should remain a cross-cutting issue and every Initiative should be gender-sensitive in all its activities. According to them, COL should in the next TYP focus on the following:

- Support the development of gender policy frameworks
- Career guidance for girls
- Capacity building for gender mainstreaming
- On-line gender training
- Capacity building for women's rights
- ODL teacher training on gender

The last activity for the day was a public lecture by Sir John Daniel (COL President & CEO), entitled: "Tertiary education: how open?" The lecture was attended by academics from various institutions, staff of the Ministry of Tertiary Education, Science and Technology (MOTEST) and the Focal Points.

In his welcome address Mr Juabeng Dayan, Permanent Secretary MOTEST emphasised the importance of tertiary education to Mauritius and the government's determination to harness the potential of ODL in order to enhance access to higher education. Towards this end, the Open University of Mauritius would take-off this year.

In his presentation, Sir John emphasised the urgent need for greater harnessing of the potentials of ODL and new technology for the provision of quality higher education cost-effectively.

### **Session 7: Priorities for the next Three Year Plan – 21st May 2011**

The session began with a presentation by Professor Asha Kanwar, in which she used relevant statistics such as the Horizon Report 2011, e-Learning Outlook for 2011, and statistics on the "Digital Divide" to outline the context within which COL operates. She also presented excerpts from Patrick Spaven's 2010 report on stakeholders' views on COL's work and mandate. Finally she presented COL's Vision and Mission statements and the draft Outcome statements and Performance Indicators for the next TYP.

The Focal Points were then divided into two groups – one for Education, one for L&H – to critically review the Vision, Mission and draft Outcome Statements and suggest how they could be improved.

#### **Report of the Livelihoods & Health Group**

The group observed that the COL vision was not very "visionary" and suggested an alternative:

To be the global leader in quality lifelong learning for development through innovative ODL technologies  
They also wished to include the important ODL advocacy role envisioned for COL in the mission statement (new concepts highlighted):

To **promote** ODL and appropriate technologies and **support** governments, institutions and communities to equitably expand the scope, scale and quality of **lifelong** learning for development

Comments on the livelihoods and health outcome statements and performance indicators centred around the observation that some of them seemed to relate more to the output rather than the outcome level. However, this group stated that they were not very comfortable with commenting in detail on the L&H outcomes as this was outside their area of expertise.

#### **Report of the Education Group**

The group observed that the Vision Statement was not properly articulated because it did not indicate what COL would like to be in the future. It was a mere slogan. They suggested that it should be reformulated as: **"To become the internationally recognised leader in the harnessing of ODL and**

**technology for quality learning and development.”** However, they endorsed the draft “Mission statement” and made no modifications to it.

As regards the Outcome statements, the group noted that some of them sounded more like output statements and their corresponding Performance Indicators were still at the output level. They suggested that COL should re-draft the outcome statements and Performance indicators.

After the presentations made by the two groups, Professor Kanwar thanked them for their suggestions and informed them that the new TYP was “work-in progress” and COL would welcome any further inputs from its stakeholders.

### **Session 8: Valediction and Closing – 21st May 2011**

The session was facilitated by Sir John. He stressed the importance of the Focal Points in promoting COL’s work and thanked them for their inputs and suggestions. He then requested each focal point to say what they would tell their respective ministers about COL when they returned to their countries. Samples of their responses are listed below:

- “COL is a dependable partner and we can collaborate....”
- “COL can advise and support us on how to enhance access and quality.”
- “We should support COL because they are not just about education but they work with other stakeholders like health and agriculture.”
- “COL can help but they need their money.”
- “COL is a powerful partner... can help advance the ministry’s mandate.... Let us contribute.”
- “COL is an excellent useful partner... we need to strengthen our relationship.”
- “COL is a key partner in our vision to combat policy through an ICT-led economy.”

Sir John closed the Focal Points meeting by thanking the Focal Points for all that they do and asked them to stay engaged with us. He also thanked the Hon. Minister of Tertiary Education, Science and Technology for hosting the meeting for his personal attendance at two events on each day of the meeting. Sir John thanked Mr Ricaud Auckbur for his excellent organisation and for ensuring that everything went smoothly. He also thanked COL staff for their contributions to the success of the meeting.

Dr Abdurrahman Umar & Ms Alison Mead Richardson  
June 9, 2011



## Appendix 1

### Africa & Mediterranean Focal Points

Country	Name
1. Botswana	Dr Godson Gatsha
2. Cameroon	Dr. Daniel Akume Akume
3. Cyprus	Prof. George Papadopoulous
4. Gambia, The	Mr. Musa Touray
5. Ghana	Professor Jophus Anamuah-Mensah
6. Lesotho	Prof. H.M. Lephoto
7. Malawi	Mrs. Bethel Masauli
8. Malta	Mr. George Borg
9. Mauritius	Mr. Ricaud Auckbur
10. Mozambique	Ms. Lurdes Nakala (representing Zaida Baule)
11. Nigeria	Mrs. Loveth I.C. Amaku
12. Rwanda	Dr. Erasme Rwanamiza
13. Seychelles	Ms. Marie-Reine Hoareau
14. Sierra Leone	Mrs. Musu Gorvie
15. South Africa	Ms Mapaseka Letho (representing Pat Bulling)
16. Swaziland	Mr. Peterson Dlamini
17. Tanzania	Ms. Lambertha Mahai
18. Uganda	Ms. Elizabeth Gabona

## Appendix 2

# REGIONAL FOCAL POINTS MEETING (Africa and the Mediterranean)

## Details

Date: 19-21 May 2011

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 16:00 p.m.

Place: Ebony 2, The Link Hotel, Ebene City, Mauritius  
(The Opening Ceremony will be held in Ebony 1)

## Purpose

The purpose of the meeting is to;

- 1) Share information about the status of open and distance learning (ODL) in each participating country;
- 2) Provide a mid-term report of what COL has done in each country; and
- 3) Identify the education and training priorities that COL can support in its next Three Year Plan 2012 – 15.

## Draft Agenda

Thursday, May 19

Expected Outcomes:

At the end of the day participants will:

- Understand the value, mission, structure & function of the Commonwealth of Learning;
- Have an overview of COL's Programme in the Three Year Plan 2009 – 2012; and
- Identify challenges and priorities to consider in the Education Sector for the Africa and the Mediterranean.
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Time	Session	Format	Facilitator/Presenter
9:00 – 10:00	Inauguration (Opening Ceremony) – Ebony 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome and objectives of meeting</li><li>• Introduction to COL</li><li>• Round of introductions by participants</li><li>• Address by the Hon. Dr. Rajeshwar Jeetah, Minister of Tertiary Education, Science, Research &amp; Technology</li></ul>		Prof Asha Kanwar Sir John Daniel All The Hon. Minister Dr. Jeetah
10:00 – 10:30	Tea/Coffee and Group Photo		

Time	Session	Format	Facilitator/Presenter
10:30 – 11:15	Session 1 – Ebony 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adoption of the agenda</li> <li>• Overview of COL: Value, Mission, Structure &amp; Function</li> <li>• Questions and answers</li> </ul>	Plenary presentation Plenary discussions	Sir John Daniel
11:15 – 12:00	Session 2 Introduction to COL Programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to the COL Programme</li> </ul>	Plenary presentation	Prof Asha Kanwar
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch – Main Restaurant		
13:00 – 14:15	Session 3 Education Sector – Priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Session Introduction – Analysis of priorities identified in Africa and the Mediterranean in 2008 &amp; activities addressing it</li> <li>• Challenges in the Education Sector in Africa and the Mediterranean</li> <li>• Group Report and discussions</li> </ul>	Plenary presentation 2 Groups - group work Groups report back Plenary discussions	Dr. Abdurrahman Umar
14:15 – 14:45	Tea/Coffee		
14:45 – 15:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priorities in the Education Sector</li> <li>• Group Report and discussions</li> <li>• Priority Grid</li> </ul>	2 Groups - group work Groups report back Plenary discussions Plenary discussions	Dr. Abdurrahman Umar
16:00 – 17:30	Launching of the Lifelong Learning for Women’s Empowerment Ebony 1, The Link Hotel		
	Dinner hosted by the Ministry of Tertiary Education, Science, Research & Technology Link Hotel		

Friday, 20 May 2011

Expected Outcomes:

At the end of the day participants will:

- Identify challenges and priorities to consider in the Livelihoods and Health Sector for Africa and the Mediterranean;
- Have an awareness of how gender fits within COL's programme and how they can better support the organisation's gender-inclusive mandate and programme activities; and
- Review and clarify the role, responsibilities and expectations of Focal Points; address challenges experienced by Focal Points; and propose Focal Point Networking activities.

Time	Session	Format	Facilitator/Presenter
9:00 – 10:15	Session 4 Livelihoods and Health Sector – Priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Session Introduction – Analysis of priorities identified in Africa and the Mediterranean in 2008 and activities addressing it</li> <li>• Challenges in the Livelihoods and Health Sector in Africa and the Mediterranean</li> <li>• Group Report and discussions</li> </ul>	Plenary presentation 2 Groups - group work Groups report back Plenary discussions	Ms. Alison Mead Richardson
10:15 – 10:45	Tea/Coffee		
10:45 – 11:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priorities in the Livelihoods and Health Sector</li> <li>• Group Report and discussions</li> <li>• Priority Grid</li> </ul>	2 Groups - group work Groups report back Plenary discussions Plenary discussions	Ms. Alison Mead Richardson
11:45 – 12:45	Session 5 Role of Focal Points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Role, responsibilities and functions of Focal Points</li> <li>• Challenges experienced by Focal Points</li> <li>• Focal Point Networking activities</li> </ul>	Plenary presentation and Group work Plenary discussions	Prof Asha Kanwar Ms. Alison Mead Richardson
12:45 – 13 :45	Lunch – Main Restaurant		
13:45 – 15:00	Session 6: Gender <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand gender at different levels</li> <li>• Identify good and bad practices</li> <li>• Ideas for gender programming</li> </ul>	Group work Group work and plenary report	Prof Asha Kanwar Dr. Abdurrahman Umar
15:00 – 15:30	Tea/Coffee		
15:30	Shuttle bus to venue of public lecture		
16:00 – 17:30	Public Lecture (Conference Hall, Cybertower 1, Ebene) The Hon. Minister will introduce Sir John. Sir John Daniel will deliver a lecture on Tertiary Education: How Open?		Sir John Daniel
18:30	Pick-up at Hotel for dinner		
19:00	Dinner hosted by COL - Domaine Anna Restaurant		

Saturday, 21 May 2011

Expected Outcomes:

At the end of the day participants will have identified education and training priorities that COL can incorporate in its next Three Year Plan 2012 – 15.

Time	Session	Format	Facilitator/Presenter
9:00 – 11:00	Session 7 Priorities for next Three-Year Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Logic Model for 2012 – 15               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What is the external environment that COL will work in?</li> <li>- Identifying the exact needs in the Africa and the Mediterranean</li> <li>- How to address cross-cutting issues?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Presentation of a synthesised report on priorities</li> </ul>	Plenary presentation Presentation Group work Group work Plenary presentation	Professor Asha Kanwar Ms. Alison Mead Richardson Dr. Abdurrahman Umar
11:00 – 11:30	Tea/Coffee		
11:30 – 12:30	Session 8 Valediction and Closing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Valediction- What does COL mean to you?</li> <li>• Discussions</li> <li>• Closing</li> </ul>	Individual report Plenary discussions	Sir John Daniel
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch – Main Restaurant		
14:00	Sightseeing organised by the Ministry		
	Free Evening		

**Facilitators:** Sir John Daniel, Prof Asha Kanwar, Professor Abdurrahman Umar and Ms. Alison Mead Richardson

**Rapporteurs:** Dr. Abdurrahman Umar and Ms. Alison Mead Richardson