



First decade in review WHO Kobe Centre, 1996-2005



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Rise of an idea: WHO and the Kobe Group offer

Amid concern over escalating health care costs, rapid urbanization and the rise of chronic disease, the idea of creating a research centre in Kobe was first proposed to the World Health Organization (WHO) in December 1990 by the Governor of Hyogo Prefecture and the Mayor of Kobe City, as a contribution to international health work. At the WHO Executive Board's request, a study group was set up by WHO in February 1992 to explore the feasibility of establishing such a centre and to consult broadly within the Organization on the concept of the Centre, its functions, research orientation and status [EB89(5)].

The report on the feasibility study¹ was presented in 1994 to the Executive Board, which then posted the Centre's establishment on its agenda for January 1995. Despite the wrenching trauma of the Great Hanshin-Awaji earthquake that struck Kobe and surrounding areas a week before the meeting, assurance was given that the Hyogo-Kobe offer remained valid. The offer represented "the motivation of the Hyogo-Kobe community to give durable evidence of its commitment to social progress and modernity" by contributing to health research as a "meaningful investment". It was a unique opportunity for the WHO to develop its research capacity, with negotiation of the Centre's identity starting from the baseline that it be located at the donor site, and that its activities be of benefit to the local community. With its clear international status, the coordination of activities and work objectives were the responsibility of WHO. This mode of operation fit with the policy to decentralize the work of the Organization's secretariat [p3, *Background, perspectives and research priorities*, document of the first meeting of the Advisory Committee of the WHO Centre for Health Development, November 1996].

On 23 January, the Executive Board welcomed this generous offer to contribute to international health, and invited the WHO Director-General to pursue the process leading to the establishment of the WHO Centre in Kobe. The Centre was officially named was the WHO Centre for Health Development.

A Memorandum of Understanding on the Establishment of a WHO Office was signed on 22 August 1995 by the Director-General of WHO and the Japanese founding authorities, or the "Kobe Group" represented by the Governor of Hyogo Prefecture, the Mayor of Kobe City, the Chairman of the Kobe Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the President of Kobe Steel, Ltd. This document defined the legal framework for the WHO Centre in Kobe and the responsibilities of the parties.



Behind the signing of the Memorandum were the efforts of working groups on both sides: the "WHO Kobe Centre Group", set up at the WHO/HQ Secretariat following

¹ EB95/INF.DOC./14 dated 26 October 1994

establishment of the Feasibility Study Group in 1992 and its counterpart in Kobe, the “Hyogo Committee for the WHO Kobe Centre”. The Hyogo Committee’s initial membership in addition to the local governments included Kobe Steel, Kobe University and the Kobe Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Following the endorsement of the Centre in January 1995, the committee narrowed its focus to its funding role and was renamed the “Cooperating Committee of the WHO Centre for Health Development”. The Cooperating Committee, referred to today simply as the “JCC” (Japan Cooperating Committee), has continued to work in parallel with the Centre to liaise with the Kobe Group and ensure a timely and appropriate administrative infrastructure is provided. Meanwhile, WHO has continued to provide technical and administrative guidance and support from its Geneva headquarters.



A founding vision that continues to guide

According to the first Memorandum of Understanding between WHO and the Kobe Group, the Centre’s research would:

...aim particularly at demonstrating the place of the health system in society, assessing health needs from development perspectives, and highlighting the ways that health improvements contribute to increased economic and social productivity, as well as the mechanisms involved in breaking the ‘ill-health-poverty-ill-health’ cycle. (*WHO press release of 22 August 1995, “WHO Centre for Health Development Gets Green Light in Kobe, Japan”*)

The major functions (roles) of the WHO Centre for Health Development in Kobe for its initial years were:

- 1) information-gathering and analysis, particularly with respect to development of Public policies in economic, social welfare and health sectors;
- 2) interdisciplinary research on health development, particularly with respect to the role of better health in higher productivity and in greater reduction in poverty;
- 3) dissemination of methodologies and findings emanating from analytical and research activities;
- 4) training to enhance national and international capability in interdisciplinary research on multisectoral issues.

Rather than “health status”, that the Centre would focus on “health development”, the notion of health as a dynamic process rather than a state. Its research findings and methodologies were to be disseminated and training given to enhance national and international capability in interdisciplinary research on multisectoral issues. The research activities were expected to be performed through a network of research institutions in selected megacities around the world.

It was envisaged in the feasibility study for the Centre that nine internationally recruited experts would provide core scientific services, supported by total staff of around 25. A fellowship programme would allow visiting researchers to work on the premises.

Humble beginnings

The Director-General of WHO, Dr Hiroshi Nakajima, appointed Dr Andrzej Wojtczak as Director of WKC in February 1996. Dr Wojtczak had served as Director of the European Regional Office of WHO in Copenhagen for eight years, with responsibility for Health Policy and Systems, Research and Human Resources. He once held the position of Deputy Minister of Health in Poland. Working from a room in the south wing of Kobe Port Island's Portopia Hotel, equipped only with a telephone, fax, laptop and printer, Dr Wojtczak quickly took measures to select key staff members and led a small team of scientists in setting the research course and carving out an identity and plan of work for the Centre.



Dr Andrzej Wojtczak,
Director,
1996-98



Dr Hiroshi Nakajima,
WHO Director-General
1988-1998

In commencing its work, the Centre focused on establishing working relations with a number of research institutions and individual scientists, as well as with local scientific and administrative authorities. It also created a platform for mutual understanding and cooperation with organizations whose agenda was pertinent to the planned research programme of the Centre. Links were forged with the School of Public Health, Los Angeles, USA; Tokai University, Kanagawa, Japan; World Institute for Development Economics Research, Helsinki, Finland; United Nations University, Tokyo, Japan; School of Public Health, Berkeley, USA, and the Federation for International Cooperation of Health Services and Systems Research (FICOSSER), Paris, France.

In the early stages of its development, the processes of urbanization and the ageing of societies were perceived as urgent issues that should be included in the research agenda. They were issues that could only be tackled through intersectoral action, and WHO was eager that the Centre should be a leader in promoting this kind of complex crosscutting research, a difficult area for WHO Headquarters due to its traditional structure.

The establishment of powerful IT facilities hosting a meta-database of information on health-related issues in different countries was also seen as a unique opportunity for

WHO and a tool which could assist in providing evidence for national policies to promote healthy urban development.

Official inauguration and early activities

WKC's offices were officially inaugurated on 17 March 1996, in temporary offices at the Kobe Chamber of Commerce and Industry building, Port Island, Kobe. Dr Hiroshi Nakajima, Director-General of WHO, participated in the ceremony and acknowledged the role of the Ministry of Health and Welfare of Japan and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



The ribbon-cutting was also attended by representatives of the Kobe Group, Mr Toshitami Kaihara, Governor of Hyogo Prefecture; Mr Kazutoshi Sasayama, Mayor of Kobe, Mr Fuyuhiko Maki, Chairman of the Kobe Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Mr Sokichi Kametaka, President of Kobe Steel. From the national government, the Ministry of Health and Welfare was represented by its Director of International Affairs, and the Director of the Office of UN Specialized Agencies Administration, Ministry of Foreign Affairs also attended.

In its first three years, the Centre's work focused on raising awareness and promoting international exchange and understanding. It organized scientific meetings, research forums, consultations and symposiums with participants from more than 85 countries representing national and local policy- and decision-makers, academics and other stakeholders.

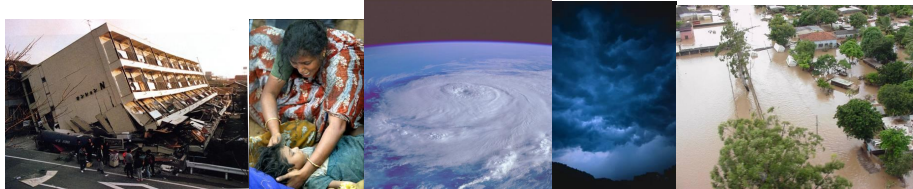
To mark its inauguration, the Centre held a symposium called "Urbanization: a global health challenge" (18–20 March 1996). Experts in various sectors from around the world voiced their support for intersectoral research in relation to the complex health issues implicated in urbanization.

Appropriately for its location, the second international symposium was held by WHO Centre in Kobe² in January 1997 explored the theme of "Earthquakes and People's Health: vulnerability reduction, preparedness and rehabilitation". Held on the second anniversary of the Great Hanshin-Awaji earthquake, the meeting attracted 200 participants including 20 specialists of diverse fields, broad media coverage and community interest. Recommendations from this meeting informed development of Kobe's reconstruction and disaster prevention plans.

² Originally referred to as the "WHO Centre in Kobe (WCK)", the Centre changed its name to the WHO Kobe Centre (WKC) in 1999.

Box 1. Achievements in disaster health research

After a hiatus in the area of disaster preparedness and health, WKC became a member of the Disaster Reduction Alliance (DRA), an initiative of the Kobe Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institute (DRI), in 2003. In 2004, a Health Emergency Preparedness and Response component was added to the Cities and Health Programme, with the aim of collaborating with the DRA on research and preparing for the World Conference on Disaster Reduction to be held in Kobe in January 2005.



The conference, held just weeks after a devastating tsunami roared across the Indian Ocean, killing hundreds of thousands, was an extremely high-profile event, attended by the United Nations Secretary-General, Kofi Annan. WKC was actively engaged in development of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters”, which was adopted by 160 Member States. Following up on this contribution, the Centre developed a research framework on disaster risk reduction and supported creation of a training kit on the health dangers of climate change for city officials.

A related development was a disaster mental health research initiative, essentially a survey of post-disaster mental health in a tsunami-affected region.

As a field of enormous interest to local partners, and to WHO, the Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Programme instituted under Dr Kreisel evolved into the Urbanization and Emergency Programme to carry the work forward in the second decade within the theme of Healthy Urbanization.

A regular schedule of international academic events positioned Kobe as a point of convergence for multidisciplinary discussions and sharing on the broad determinants of health and how they could best be addressed. The proceedings and recommendations from these discussions are documented in a large number of publications that are a rich source of insight for research and policy development. The series of international symposia and meetings convened in the first three years raised awareness of the Centre and its work and developed effective networks for future collaborative activities.

Two pressing global concerns formed the basis of the early research programme: people’s health in fast-growing urban settings, and the ageing of societies. One of the early research projects sought to identify the main research priorities to be followed in the urbanization process; to develop a set of indicators suitable to monitor socioeconomic and environmental determinants of health; and to develop guiding principles for better management of health issues in the urban development process. Activities in this area began in 1996 and continued through the following year.

In April 1998, the Centre held a meeting to conclude its 1997 Working Group on Determinants and Indicators of Urban Health with 15 urban health-related experts from a range of disciplines. The group identified intra-urban differences in six areas – demographic, socio-cultural, physical environment, political-legal-institutional and health services – as a new integrative approach for analyzing determinants of urban health.

Distinguishing this from the traditional biomedical approach was the use of integrating themes (life-cycle, equity, exclusion, cohesion, empowerment) to highlight how determinants relate to each other. It also focused on health as a dynamic process rather than a state, and placed health development in the broader context of social and economic development, the “ultimate goal”.

Following the intention that WKC research be action-oriented, three cities were selected to provide profiles crucial to planning interventions on urban health. The reports from Jakarta, Indonesia and Ruhrgebiet, Germany explained the interrelationships among determinants of violence, while a report from Karachi, Pakistan focused on the determinants of traffic accidents.



Box 2. Achievements on violence

Violence was identified early as an area of interest for WKC. It held the Global Symposium on Violence and Health, “The Health Implications of Violence in Urban Settings”, 12–15 October 1999 in Kobe. The symposium called attention to the globalization of suicide and child abuse, highlighted the urgency of intervention. Subsequently, consultations on child abuse prevention and control were increased in Japan. As a follow-up to the Symposium, Hyogo Prefecture established the Hyogo Institute for Traumatic Stress in March 2004. The meeting was accompanied by publication of a *Global Atlas on Violence and Health* setting out the situation worldwide in graphic form and culminated in the Kobe Declaration on Violence and Health declaring the issue a public health priority. This work eventually led to the creation of a Violence and Health component within the Cities and Health programme.

At the end of 2005, inspired by publication of the World Report on Violence and Health in 2002, WKC published the reports of five countries in Asia on the status of violence and health. It also released a collaborative research project completed at the request of Hyogo Prefecture, “Preventing Juvenile Delinquency and Crime: the Japanese experience with special reference to Kobe”.

Towards the end of the first three years, a landmark conference was held in honour of the 1999 UN International Year of Older Persons. The International Symposium on Ageing and Health: a global challenge for the 21st century (10–13 November 1998, Kobe, Japan), preceded by publication of the *World Atlas of Ageing*, was attended by 234 participants from 36 countries.

Working groups made recommendations on research, training and policy for ageing, as well as highlighting the socioeconomic and health implications of ageing in society. This conference was the beginning of a long and productive engagement on the issue of ageing.



Box 3. Ageing

Following the 1998 symposium on ageing and health, this became a major programme for WKC. The International Meeting on Community Health Care in Ageing Societies was held in Shanghai, 12-14 June 2000. Some 200 Chinese participants shared their experiences of aged care. Next in the series was the International Meeting on Community Health Care for Older Persons in Urban Areas, Bangkok, 10-12 July 2001. Based on this meeting, the programme worked on indicators for cities to assess care.

The Global Consultative Meeting on Ageing and Health, Kobe, 23-25 January 2002, was held in preparation for the Valencia Forum for the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Spain. It was a collaboration with the Ageing and Life Course Programme, HQ to revise the WHO policy document, "Active Ageing". At Valencia, WKC organized Thematic Activities on "Health and welfare systems development – adjusting to ageing".

The Ageing and Health programme also held regular international symposia for the public to promote healthy living. One theme was good oral health in ageing societies, Tokyo (2 June) and Kobe (10 November) 2001.

Good dietary practice was another theme of healthy ageing (6 April 2002, Kobe). A Global Symposium on Food, Dietary Practices and Health was held in Kobe (29 November 2003), culminating in the Joint FAO/WHO Workshop on Fruit and Vegetables for Health, 1–3 September 2004, with endorsement of the FAO/WHO Kobe Fruit and Vegetables Promotion Framework to promote consumption in Member States.

Later, mental health research was included in the programme, with specific investigation of mental care for older people in ageing societies. WKC prepared a symposium and working group on the theme for the XVIII World Congress of Social Psychiatry, 24–27 October 2004, Kobe.

Finally, the Centre contributed a display for Expo 2005 Aichi entitled "Ageing society and cardiovascular diseases – active ageing throughout the life cycle". The display stood for six months and was viewed by around 1.5 million people.

A list of the meetings convened is provided in Annex 2 and a list of WKC publications appears at Annex 3.

Development of a health telematics programme was an early priority to enhance the advancement, transfer and sharing of knowledge and the dissemination of health information for capacity building on health information technology in Member States. Tokyo and Shanghai were the first cities to provide data for the programme.



From the outset, outreach to the local research and academic community and the general public was an important activity for the Centre. Within six months of opening, Dr Wojtczak was invited to deliver more than 10 lectures and public speeches at universities in Kobe, Osaka, Nagoya and Tokyo, in addition to attending international scientific meetings. Meanwhile the fledgling institute was visited by dozens of local authority representatives, diplomatic staff, professors, and more than 30 articles or interviews



appeared in the local and national press. In the first three years, the Director and staff delivered a total of 66 lectures, published 12 articles in newspapers and periodicals, and gave 33 interviews to diverse media. In fact, local interest in the Centre never abated, as the continued stream of media and public enquiries, interviews with Director, news articles and website hits attests. Groups of students, overseas trainees,

local volunteers and others visited regularly to receive orientations on the work of WHO and the Centre.

Box 4. What is the role of the ACWKC?

To ascertain the scientific soundness of its complex intersectoral health research agenda, the Centre is supported by a committee to advise the Director-General on technical and programmatic issues related to its work, and to advise the Centre on intersectoral health research options according to WHO priorities. The specific responsibility of the Advisory Committee is to review the research activities of the Centre, monitor their execution, and evaluate their results from the standpoint of scientific and technical soundness.

The group of experts was initially composed of eight members appointed by the Director-General of WHO, each with a tenure of three years. Six members are selected on the principle of balanced regional representation. Two seats were offered to experts representing the Japanese local and national scientific community respectively.

In principle, the ACWKC meets annually in November. For a complete list of past members of the Advisory Committee, see Annex 1.

The First Advisory Committee meeting was convened on 18–19 November 1996 and included individuals with expertise in social security, women’s health, public health, food and drug safety, chronic diseases and medical sciences. The Committee met nine times during the first ten years of the Centre’s operations.

The ACWKC meeting is an important part of the annual calendar for the Centre, as the main formal opportunity for direct interaction with WHO HQ. In the first two years, when the Centre was directly supervised from the office of the Director-General, the DG attended the meetings in person. Following the appointment of Dr Brundtland in 1998, WHO HQ was reorganized into nine clusters to improve intersectorality and encourage the shift away from a purely biomedical focus. Thus in 1999, WHO was represented by Dr Y Suzuki, Executive Director of the Social Change and Mental Health cluster. The following year, Dr Derek Yach of the Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health (NMH) cluster attended, and the administrative and technical relationship with Headquarters has since remained under the aegis of the NMH cluster. The Director-General’s office nevertheless continues to offer advice and oversight.

The Advisory Committee was strengthened in 2005 with the inclusion of an additional member from the Kobe Group of donors.



A home at last

On 23 April 1998, the Centre moved from its temporary location on Port Island into new premises on the top floor of the International Health Development Centre, a new nine-storey office building in the Kobe New Eastern City Centre/Eastern urban restoration area, known as “HAT (Happy Active Town) Kobe”. Historically a major steelmaking hub serving Kobe’s shipbuilding industry and manufacturers across Japan, the area was redeveloped after

Kobe Steel closed its plant in 1994. Following the 1995 earthquake, HAT Kobe became a

hope for residents whose homes and businesses had been destroyed and a symbol of the renewal of the city. Some 20 000 new dwellings rose in the form of apartment blocks around the area as rapidly as the offices for WHO and other international organizations.

Inauguration ceremony

Her Imperial Highness Princess Sayako, the Director-General of WHO, Dr Hiroshi Nakajima, and 150 guests were invited to the inaugural ceremony of the new office in the International Health Development Centre Building, Wakinohama-Kaigandori, Kobe the following day. In her opening address, the Princess stressed the importance of the WHO mission in the context of increasing health disparities between developed and developing countries.

The Centre began publishing an annual report on its activities and the programmatic and administrative details in 1999. Reports are available online from 2002 at <http://www.who.or.jp/reports.html>.

Global health and social welfare development

Dr Yuji Kawaguchi, with 18 years of service with WHO Headquarters in various posts including Director for Interagency Affairs, was appointed Director of the Centre from January 1999 following the retirement of Dr Wojtczak.



Under Dr Kawaguchi's leadership, the Centre's research activities were revamped under a unifying theme of "global health and social welfare development". The Director saw the role of WKC as a global interdisciplinary research centre "dedicated to defining and explaining practical strategies to respond to current and future global health and social welfare needs." Citing the mixed legacy of health and welfare systems, he felt that the aim of the Centre's work was ultimately to "support the efforts of people to attain and maintain a self-reliant health status". [AR1999, 3]

Box 5. Achievements in traditional medicine

With its theme of “contribution to human health development in the new century”, the International Symposium on Traditional Medicine, Kobe on 6 November 1999 marked the launch of the traditional medicine initiative by WKC. Some 200 practitioners and WHO officers joined the International Symposium on Traditional Medicine, Awaji Island, 11-13 September 2000, concluding with the Awaji Declaration that endorsed the integration of traditional medicine into health systems.

The International Consultative Meeting: Global Information on Traditional Medicine/Complementary and Alternative Medicine Practices and Utilization was held the following year in Kobe. While use of such practices was extensive and interest great, few countries had national policies on TRM/CAM, likely due to the dearth of information available. This conference laid plans for the Global Atlas on Traditional Medicine, a project furthered at a meeting 17–19 June 2003 of researchers, policy-makers, representatives of NGOs and other stakeholders from various countries. The Global Atlas was finally published in 2005 in text and map volumes.

The Women and Health programme took shape in 2000 with the inaugural International Meeting on Women and Health, entitled “Better Health and Welfare Systems: Women’s Perspectives”, 5–7 April and culminating in the Awaji Statement: “Women’s health – the surest road to quality of life for all”. [p33, AR00] Initially, the research programme focused on reviewing what women consider to be the major obstacles to reforming health and welfare systems in ways that more appropriately reflect



their needs. From 1999, “programmes” or research domains were instituted, the first two of which were “Cities and Health” and “Ageing and Health”. They were soon complemented by a Health and Welfare Systems Development programme, and two cross-cutting programmes on Women and Health and Traditional Medicine, which emerged after the first visit by Dr

Kawaguchi and several technical advisers to the three largest cities of China in June that year.

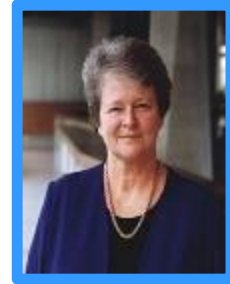
Box 6. Women and health achievements

-The Canberra Communique, from the Second International Meeting on Women and Health, Canberra, April 2001, urged that women’s capacities and leadership be maximized and that their perspective be integrated into decision-making at all levels for the sake of health and well-being.

-The Third International Meeting on Women and Health, Kobe, 8–10 April 2002 produced the Kobe Plan of Action for Women and Health, a call for gender-based analysis in health, knowledge sharing and advocacy. The International Symposium on Gender-Sensitive Medicine, Chiba, 1 March 2003 was devoted to following up on improving knowledge sharing. Meanwhile, progress on the Kobe Plan of Action was reported to the Fourth international meeting on women and health, Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, 5-8 October 2003. The Expert Group Meeting on Gender-Sensitive Leading Health Indicators held in Kobe, 3-5 November 2003 discussed the drafting of a core set of gender-sensitive leading indicators.

The Kobe Plan of Action informed the work of the programme through to the end of 2005. The core set of leading indicators as well as a women’s empowerment and leadership toolkit for decision-makers were piloted successfully and adopted in a number of countries.

Indeed, this period saw an unprecedented number of international events held. Dr Gro Harlem Brundtland, appointed as WHO Director-General in 1998, attended a WHO HQ-organized meeting in Kobe, the WHO International Conference on Tobacco and Health – Making a Difference to Tobacco and Health, 15–18 November 1999. Its focus was on how to avoid a tobacco epidemic among women and youth, and nearly 400 of Asia’s leading public health experts and campaigners attended.



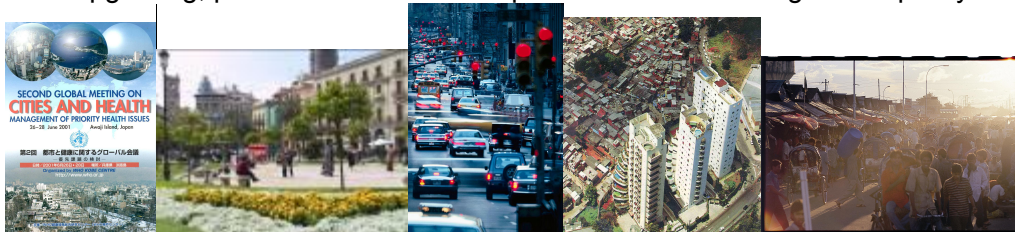
In September 2001, a mission was led by Dr Kawaguchi to Mississauga, Ontario, Canada at the invitation of Mayor Hazel McCallion, to represent the Centre as part of its novel public health collaboration with Canadian universities and the city of Mississauga.

Box 7. WKC’S work with cities

The Consultative Meeting on Cities and Health held in 1999, reviewing all work to date by the Centre on cities and health, recognized and agreed that there was a “severe lack of research actually being used to inform policy-making”. It called for an initial focus on research in ten mostly Asian and Pacific rim cities to bridge the gap between academia and cities. A Global Meeting on Cities and Health in May 2000 brought together decision-makers and researchers from 25 cities. The vision was carried forward by three meetings in 2001, including the International Meeting on Cities and Health: Towards the betterment of citizens’ health and welfare systems, Mississauga, Ontario, 3-5 September 2001. A key facet of WKC’s project would be the creation of the Cities and Health Information Package (CHIP) as a database of evidence, policy and management information for cities to share with each other from around the world. The database would support an evidence-based approach to problem-solving with regard to health and welfare systems in cities.

Much inspiration came from the “Mississauga model”. The triangular partnership model, first developed by Mississauga City, Ontario, Canada, in 2000. With WKC engaged as a global partner supplying data, web-based communication tools and access to networks, Mississauga City reached out to the University of Mississauga, Toronto (UTM), a leader in environmental education, for assistance with health and quality of life issues in planning. By 2004, partners of the Cities and Health Programme included 43 cities including Dunedin, New Zealand, Bangkok, Shanghai, four municipalities of Hyogo Prefecture and Sao Paulo, Brazil, all pursuing stronger links with research institutes located in their jurisdictions.

In 2005, the Centre published a series of reports on drinking water quality, solid waste management, the impact of housing and energy poverty on health, alcohol-related harm, youth mental well-being and interagency collaboration from Dunedin, and reports on slum-upgrading, peer education for STD prevention and drinking water quality from Brazil.



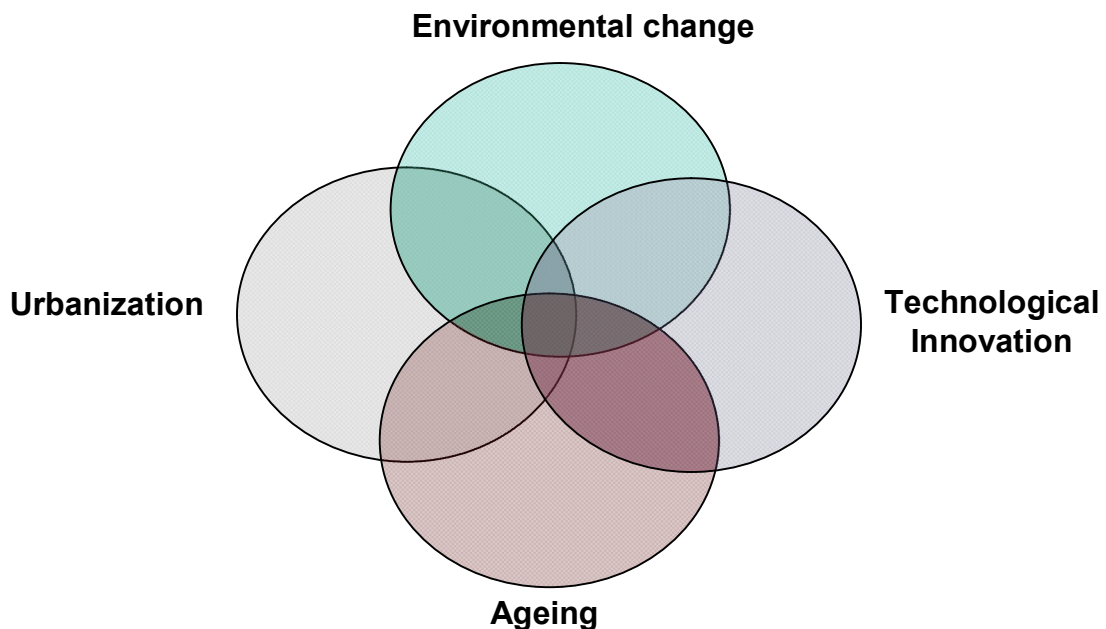
New director leads transition to second decade

Dr Wilfried Kreisel, a German national with a distinguished career in WHO, notably in the field of environmental health, was appointed Director of WKC in January 2004. The approved programme of work for the 2004–2005 biennium was adjusted following discussions internally and with the JCC. With the arrival of Mrs Valerie Hay, a veteran WHO administrator with more than 30 years of services with the Organization, as Assistant Director in April 2004, the administrative staff was also strengthened, and various WHO tools and automated procedures were introduced.



This was a pivotal period for WKC, marking the transition from the first ten-year period of operations to the future; providing an opportunity to reflect and build on the Centre's past achievements, learn from its shortcomings and chart a course for the next decade.

During the first year, the new leadership instituted regular management and programmatic reviews and research was streamlined and restructured. New priorities were introduced including the development of a health emergency preparedness and response programme; mental health in and after emergencies, and in the context of urbanization and an ageing population; activities related to violence and health; climate change and health; and the development of health promotion and noncommunicable disease prevention and control initiatives. Fundamental adjustments to the staffing profile and changes in the number of staff were made to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the Centre's work.



Driving forces that shape health in development. Research Advisory Committee, 2004

The task of Dr Kreisel and his Assistant Director was “honouring the past in building the future” – to both draw out the lessons of the first decade of work and to map a future for the Centre. The convening of a Research Advisory Group in the summer of 2004 to develop a framework to guide future research work was thus a key step. WHO officials including Dr Margaret Chan (then head of environmental health at HQ – left) and Dr Susan Mercado (right), head of health promotion at WPRO and research team leader at the Centre since 2005), researchers and others in the public health field gathered in a series of meetings. The resulting framework, entitled “A Proposed Research Framework for the WHO Centre for Health Development”,³ called for health research with a focus on understanding the complex dynamics of four “driving forces” that shape health in development: ageing, urbanization, technological innovation and environmental change. The Research Advisory Group and its three sub-groups, arranged according to the driving forces, are given in Annex 5.



The vision that emerged from this series of meetings was “Healthier people in healthier environments”, and this remains the vision of the Centre today.

The group also recommended a process for selecting priorities for research based on the input of both WHO and the Kobe Group. For illustrative purposes, some priority issues were tested, including public health emergency preparedness and response in emergency settings, and social determinants of health – themes that reappeared in the Centre’s plans for its second decade.



The Research Advisory Group, August 2004, including Dr Kreisel (lower centre) and Ms Hay (lower right), and prominent technical contributors Drs Vivian Lin, Margaret Chan and Susan Mercado (second row, right of centre)

Partners determined to sustain the vision

Following a series of meetings between senior representatives of the Centre and the JCC, an Exchange of Letters was signed by representatives of WHO and the Japanese authorities for the extension of the Memorandum of Understanding for a further ten years, from 2006 to 2015.

A ceremony was held on 15 June 2005 in the Centre’s offices in which Dr Lee Jong-wook, the WHO Director-General; Mr Toshizo Ido, Governor of Hyogo Prefecture; Mr Tatsuo Yada, Mayor of Kobe City; Mr Koshi Mizukoshi, Chairman, Kobe Chamber of Commerce and Industry; and Mr Yasuo Inubushi, President of Kobe Steel Ltd. signed the memorandum. Officials from the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as an ACWKC member from Japan were present to witness the event.

³ The Framework can be seen on the Centre’s website (http://www.who.or.jp/GENERAL/rag_rf.pdf)



Under the agreement, the Kobe Group was to provide \$3 million each year to continue the Centre’s work, in addition to office premises, furniture, informatics equipment, security and janitorial services. Coupled with funds that were already in hand from the first ten years, this meant that an annual budget of approximately \$5.4 million would be available.

Dr Kreisel completed his assignment at the end of 2005, but not before he and his technical staff, together with efforts of externally contracted specialists, had defined a renewed mission for the Centre in its second ten years beginning in 2006.

Based on discussions with the Kobe Group as well as a two-day staff discussion in April 2005, and the recommendations of the ad hoc Research Advisory Group, a scientific research work plan for the 2006–2007 biennium was prepared with principal focus on the area of urbanization and health, with specific attention to “new urban settings”, characterized by vulnerability and epitomized by the informal settlements spreading at the edges of every city in the developing world. Where the Research Advisory Group had presented advice on the four “driving forces” worthy of the Centre’s research attention, it was now decided that the research concern with the most scope for more focused attention from WHO was urbanization.



Dr Kreisel and Dr Lee in Kobe

For the new biennium, the programmatic structure would be replaced by three projects under the theme of “healthy urbanization”. A core project was planned with the title “Optimizing the impact of social determinants of health on exposed populations in urban settings”. Two priority projects, “Preparing health facilities for disaster in cities” and “Effects of urbanization on selected risk factors for noncommunicable diseases” would round out the programme.

The reorientation to the urban poor seen in the core project (later named the “Healthy Urbanization Project”) was in some ways a return to the early focus of the Centre, it also coincided with the launch by WHO Director-General Dr Jong-Wook Lee of the Commission on Social Determinants of Health in 2005. The adjustment was key to the Centre’s successful bid to host one of the Commission’s nine hubs of research, on urban settings. A social determinants of health, or “the causes behind the causes of ill-health”, perspective represents an approach to public health that, in line with the



multisectoral thrust of the original WKC mission, offers very broad scope for research and upstream interventions in public health. The ultimate aim of “health equity”, perhaps the biggest and most intractable public health challenge in a world where urbanization advances most rapidly where economic development is absent, will provide a mission for years to come. Meanwhile, the priority projects on emergency and NCDs were strategic initiatives closely bound to the Healthy Urbanization theme.

Thanks to the foresight and generosity of its donors, the vital intellectual and administrative contribution of the WHO and its committed staff – all as vital to the Centre during its first ten years as now – the Centre continues to build on this vision, maintaining as always its resolve and responsiveness in the face of a dynamic and challenging global public health picture.

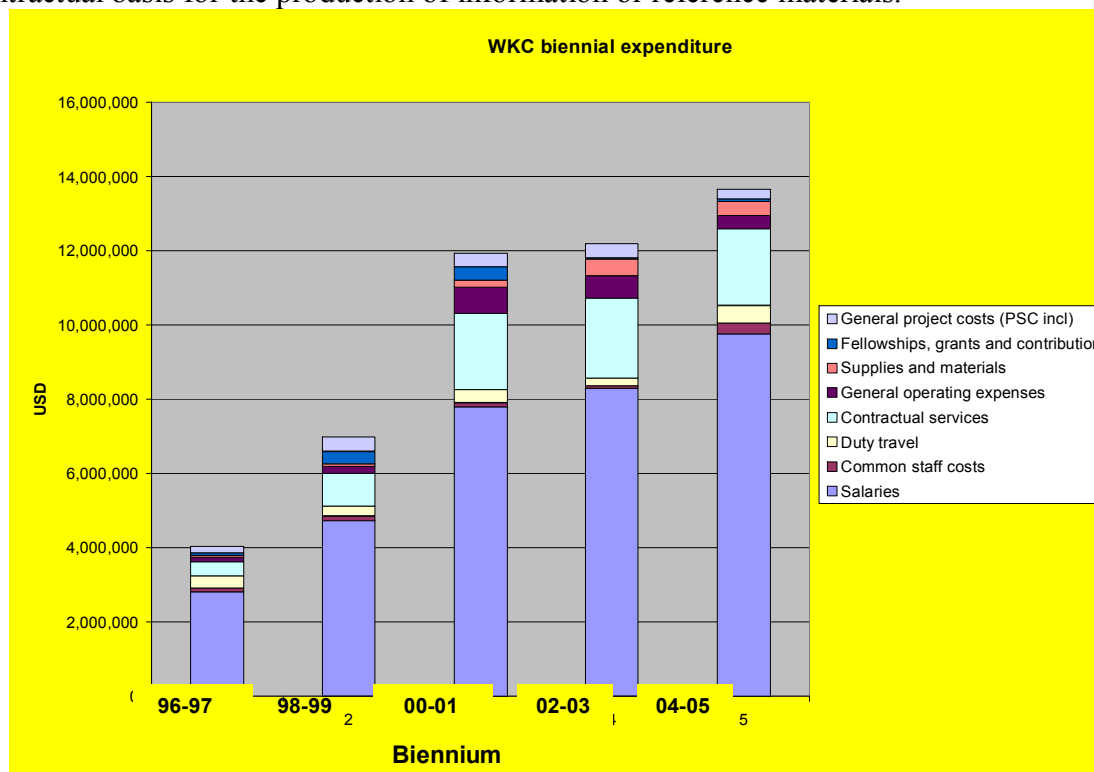


Budget and the JCC

As noted, the work of WHO Kobe Centre is fully funded by the Kobe Group. The public-private consortium makes voluntary in-kind contributions including office space and equipment, advanced computer and communications technology, document storage space, furnishings and conference facilities, office maintenance services and security. In addition, the donors pledged US\$ 6 million each year for operational research, over the ten years 1996–2005. This excluded programme support costs (PSC), a certain percentage paid to cover the resources of WHO Headquarters committed to the administration of WHO Kobe Centre. In addition to ongoing logistical support from the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, some funding was also received for urban research in the early part of the decade from the Ministry of Health and Welfare.

By the last biennium, 2004–05, annual implementation in financial terms was \$6.8 million. As the largest expense of running the Centre within the United Nations system is for salaries for General Staff, Professional Staff and Director-level staff, historical expenditure closely tracks staff levels at the Centre. Common staff costs include benefits, allowances and other expenses. Staffing peaked during in 2004 at 42 but by the end of 2005 had stabilized at 24.

The second-largest category is contractual services, which provides a good insight into how WHO works. For many of the Centre’s research activities, external public health experts around the world are commissioned to conduct surveys, write reports or other tasks that cannot be effectively fulfilled by staff in Kobe. Also included in this category are parties such as printers, designers, video producers and others hired on a contractual basis for the production of information or reference materials.



Timeline of the WHO Centre for Health Development

22 August 1995	Memorandum of Understanding signed by representatives of WHO and the Kobe Group
February 1996	Appointment of Dr Andrzej Wojtczak as the first Director of the WHO Kobe Centre
17 March 1996	Opening of WHO Kobe Centre on temporary premises in the Kobe Chamber of Commerce and Industry Building in Port Island
18–20 March 1996	International Symposium: Urbanization – A Global Health Challenge
November 1996	First Advisory Committee Meeting (the ACWKC met annually thereafter)
January 1997	International Symposium: Earthquake and People’s Health: Vulnerability Reduction, Preparedness and Rehabilitation
April 1998	Official opening of WKC permanent premises in International Health Development Centre in Wakinohama-Kaigandori, Kobe
November 1998	International Symposium for UN Year of: Ageing and Health – A Global Challenge for the 21 st Century
January 1999	Appointment of Dr Yuji Kawaguchi as the second Director of the WHO Kobe Centre
January 2004	Appointment of Dr Wilfried Kreisel as the third Director of the WHO Kobe Centre
July–August 2004	Meetings of the Ad Hoc Research Advisory Group on Health in Development and associated subgroups on Ageing and Health; Urbanization and Health; and Technological Innovation and Environmental Change and Health
June 2005	Memorandum of Understanding to extend the work of the WHO Kobe Centre for a further 10 years from 2006–2015 signed by representatives of WHO and the Kobe Group
January 2006	Appointment of Dr Soichiro Iwao as the fourth Director of the WHO Kobe Centre and start of a new decade under the theme of Healthy Urbanization

Advisory Committee of the WHO Centre for Health Development

MEMBER LIST

Terms: 1996–1998

Dr Abdul Rahman Al-Awadi, President, Islamic Organization for Medical Sciences, and Executive Secretary, Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME), Kuwait

Professor Shigeaki Baba, Chairman, International Institute for Diabetes Education and Study (IIDES), Kobe, Japan

Dr Sadayoshi Kitagawa, Supervising Director, Department of Health and Human Service, The Saitama Prefectural Government, Saitama, Japan

Professor Lennart Köhler, Former Dean, Nordic School of Public Health, Göteborg, Sweden

Professor Jesús Kumate, Adviser to the Director-General, Mexican Institute of Social Security, Hospital de Especialidades, Mexico City, Mexico (ACWKC Chairperson)

Professor Adepeju Olukoya, Coordinator, Women's Health Organization of Nigeria, Lagos, Nigeria

Dr Zuo Huan Chen, Vice Mayor, City of Shanghai, People's Republic of China

Terms: 1999–2002 (with 1 year extension)

Professor Shigeaki Baba, Chairman, International Institute of Diabetes Education and Study, Kobe, Japan

Dr Mahmood M.A. Fikree, Assistant Under-Secretary for Preventive Medicine, Ministry of Health, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Dr Katele Kalumba, former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lusaka, Republic of Zambia

Dr Wendy McCarthy, Chancellor of the University of Canberra and Executive Director, McCarthy Management Pty Ltd, Darlinghurst, New South Wales, Australia (ACWKC Chairperson)

Professor Dr Prasop Ratanakorn, Secretary-General, International Medical Parliamentarians Organization (IMPO), Bangkok, Thailand and Honorary Adviser, Senate Committee on Public Health, Thailand

Ms Heide Simonis, Minister-President, Government of Land Schleswig-Holstein, Kiel, Germany

Dr Louis Sullivan, former President, Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia, United States of America and Former Secretary of Health and Human Services of the United States of America

Terms: 2003–2005

Honourable Anna Abdallah, former Minister of Health and Member of Parliament, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Dr Abdul Rahman Al-Awadi, President, Islamic Organization for Medical Sciences Sulaibekhat, Kuwait

Her Worship Hazel McCallion, Mayor, City of Mississauga, Ontario, Canada

Dr Hideo Shinozaki, President, National Institute of Public Health, Saitama, Japan

Honourable Niletthi Nimal Siripala de Silva, Minister, Ministry of Health Care, Nutrition and Uva Wellasa Development, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Professor Jerzy Szczerban, Director, Medical University of Warsaw, Department of Public Health, Central Clinical Hospital, Warsaw, Poland

Mrs Sukhi Turner, Former Mayor of Dunedin City and Trustee, Dunedin Primary Health Organization, Dunedin, New Zealand

Professor Hiroko Minami, Vice President, University of Hyogo, Kobe, Japan*

Mr Tomio Saito, Vice Governor of Hyogo Prefecture, Kobe, Japan*

* Terms 2005–2007

WKC meetings 1996–2005

1996

WHO Symposium on Urbanization: A Global Health Challenge, 18–20 March 1996, Kobe, Japan.

1997

WHO Symposium on Earthquakes and People's Health: Vulnerability Reduction, Preparedness and Rehabilitation, 27–30 January 1997, Kobe, Japan.

Working Group on Determinants and Indicators of Urban Health, 20–23 August 1997, Kobe, Japan

1998

Expert Group on Urban Health Determinants, 20–23 April 1998, Kobe, Japan

Consultative Meeting for Training Programme Development, 25–28 May 1998, Kobe, Japan

Training Course: Internet and Public Health, 31 August–11 September 1998, Kobe, Japan

Meeting of the Consultative Group on Urban Health Research, 15–18 September 1998, Kobe, Japan

International Symposium on Ageing and Health: A Global Challenge for the 21st Century, 10–13 November 1998, Kobe, Japan.

1999

International Symposium on Active Life and Positive Ageing, 7 April 1999, Kobe, Japan.

International Meeting on Cities and Health, 5–7 May 1999, Kobe, Japan.

International Symposium Tobacco or Health: It's Time to Leave the Pack Behind, 31 May 1999, Kobe, Japan.

International Consultative Meeting on Healthy Ageing Development, 1–3 September 1999, Kobe, Japan.

Global Symposium on Violence and Health, 12–15 October 1999, Kobe, Japan.

International Symposium on Traditional Medicine: Its Contribution to Human Health Development in the New Century, 6 November 1999, Kobe, Japan.

International Symposium on World AIDS Campaign with Children and Young People, 29 November 1999, Kobe, Japan.

2000

G8 Follow-Up International Symposium: Hashimoto Initiative – Global Parasite Control for the 21st Century, 27 March 2000, Kobe, Japan.

International Meeting Women and Health: Better Health and Welfare Systems: Women's Perspectives, 5–7 April 2000, Awaji Island, Japan.

Global Meeting on Cities and Health, 29–31 May 2000, Kobe, Japan.

International Meeting on Community Health Care in Ageing Societies, 12–14 June 2000, Shanghai, China.

International Symposium on Traditional Medicine: Better Science, Policy and Services for Health Development, 11–13 September 2000, Awaji Island, Japan.

Global Symposium on Health and Welfare Systems Development in the 21st Century, 1–3 November 2000, Kobe, Japan.

2001

Consultative Meeting on Private Sector Involvement in City Health Systems, 14–16 February 2001, Dunedin, New Zealand.

Second International Meeting on Women and Health: Maximizing Women's Capacities and Leadership, 4–6 April 2001, Canberra, Australia.

International Symposium on Good Oral Health in Ageing Societies: Filling the Gap between Dental Health and Life Expectancy, 2 June 2001, Tokyo, Japan.

Second Global Meeting on Cities and Health: Management of Priority Health Issues, 26–28 June 2001, Awaji Island, Japan.

International Meeting on Community Health Care for Older Persons in Urban Areas, 10–12 July 2001, Bangkok, Thailand.

International Meeting on Cities and Health: Towards the Betterment of Citizens' Health and Welfare Systems, 3–5 September 2001, Mississauga, Canada.

International Consultative Meeting on Global Information on Traditional Medicine/Complementary and Alternative Medicine Practices and Utilization, 19–21 September 2001, Kobe, Japan.

Second Global Symposium on Health and Welfare Systems Development in the 21st Century, 29–31 October 2001, Kobe, Japan.

International Symposium on Good Oral Health in Ageing Societies: To Keep Healthy Teeth for Your Healthy Life, 10 November, Kobe, Japan.

International Symposium on Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS: Ethical Aspects, 29 November, 2001, Kobe, Japan.

WHO International Meeting on Economic, Social and Health Issues in Tobacco Control, 3–4 December 2001, Kobe, Japan.

2002

Global Consultative Meeting on Ageing and Health, 23-25 January, Kobe, Japan.

Cities and Health: Summit on TB Control, 20 February 2002, Osaka, Japan.

WHO Kobe Centre Thematic Activities at the Valencia Forum on Development of Health and Welfare Systems: Adjusting to Ageing, 1–4 April 2002, Valencia, Spain.

Third International Meeting on Women and Health, 8–10 April 2002, Kobe, Japan.

International Symposium on Healthy Life from Good Dietary Practices, 6 April 2002, Kobe, Japan.

WHO Cities and Health Advisory Task Force Meeting: Organization and Management of Health Services in Large Cities, 23–24 May 2002, Shanghai, People's Republic of China.

Third Global Symposium on Health and Welfare Systems Development in the 21st Century, 6–8 November 2002, Kobe, Japan.

International Symposium on Town Meeting: Who is Responsible for Your Life?– Preventive Risk Management for People's Health, 16 November 2002, Kobe, Japan.

WHO Kobe Centre International Symposium on Cities and Health: Achievements with WKC Partner Cities, 29 November 2002, Kobe, Japan.

Consultative Meeting to Review Information Collection Systems for Global Atlas Development on TRM/CAM (Case Study Japan), 13 December 2002, Kobe, Japan.

2003

International Symposium on Gender-Sensitive Medicine, 1 March 2003, Chiba, Japan.

International Meeting on Global Atlas of Traditional Medicine, 17-19 June 2003, Kobe, Japan

Fourth International Meeting on Women and Health: Gender Perspective for Better Health and Welfare Systems Development, 5–8 October 2003, Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania.

WHO Kobe Centre Expert Meeting on Glossary of Terms for Community Health Care in Ageing Societies, 28-30 October 2003, Kobe, Japan.

Expert Group Meeting on Gender-Sensitive Leading Health Indicators, 3–5 November 2003, Kobe, Japan.

WHO Kobe Centre Consultative Meeting on Health Planning and Delivery at City Level, 25-27 November 2003, Kobe, Japan

Global Symposium on Food, Dietary Practices and Health, 29 November 2003, Kobe, Japan.

2004

Consultative Meeting to Finalize the Protocol for Research Studies on the Role and Impact of Public–Private Partnerships in Health and Welfare Systems Development, 24–26 March 2004, Kobe, Japan.

International Symposium on Mental Health in Post-Crisis Restoration/Rehabilitation – Strengthening Traumatic Stress Studies in Japan, 28 March 2004, Kobe, Japan.

Meeting of Health and Environment Area of Work Focal Points, 28–30 April 2004, Kobe, Japan.

Consultative Meeting to Finalize a Core Set of Gender-Sensitive Leading Health Indicators, 1–3 August 2004, Kobe, Japan.

Meeting of the Ad Hoc Driving Force Sub-Group on Ageing and Health, 27–29 July 2004, Kobe, Japan.

Meeting of the Ad Hoc Driving Force Sub-Group on Urbanization and Health, 4–6 August 2004, Kobe, Japan.

Meeting of the Ad Hoc Driving Force Sub-Group on Technological and Environmental Change and Health, 11–13 August 2004, Kobe, Japan.

Meeting of the Ad Hoc Research Advisory Group on Health Development, 23–26 August 2004, Kobe, Japan.

Joint FAO/WHO Workshop on Fruit and Vegetables for Health, 1–3 September 2004, Kobe, Japan.

International Symposium on Fruit and Vegetables for Health – Eat Smarter, Live Better, Longer and Healthier , 4 September 2004, Kobe, Japan.

WHO Consultation on a Coordinated Response for the Fast-Track Development of Diagnostic Tools for New and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases, 20–22 September 2004, Kobe, Japan.

A Consultation on the Development of National Reports on Violence and Health with Countries in the Asia Pacific region, 12–14 October 2004, Kobe, Japan.

WKC Thematic Activities at the XVIII World Congress of World Association for Social Psychiatry, Kobe, Japan.

WKC Thematic Activity (I): International symposium on mental health care for older persons in ageing societies, 25 October 2004

WKC Thematic Activity (II): Int'l Symposium on preparedness and responsiveness of mental health services for complex emergency situation, 26 October 2004

WKC Thematic Activity (III): Working Group Session on developing a mental health research agenda for WKC, 27 October 2004

Meeting of Regional Advisers/Focal Points for Health Promotion, 27–29 October 2004, Kobe, Japan.

2005

Preparatory Workshop on Proposed Indicators for Monitoring and Evaluating Capacity Building for Disaster Reduction 2005–2015, 15–16 January 2005, Kobe, Japan.

WKC Thematic Session at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR) Thematic Session 3.10: Capacity Building and Disaster Reduction, 21 January 2005, Kobe, Japan.

WCDR APN/WKC Public Forum on Climate Calamities and Human Health, 22 January 2005, Kobe, Japan.

WHO Preparatory Meeting on the 7th International Congress on AIDS in the Asia and Pacific (ICAAP), 10–11 February 2005, Kobe, Japan.

Conference Organizing Committee and Programme Committee Meeting for the 6th Global Conference on Health Promotion, 21–23 February 2005, Kobe, Japan.

World Health Day Symposium on Maternal and Child Health, 7 April 2005, Kobe, Japan.

WHO Workshop on Developing INTRA III Methodology Protocol, 18–20 April 2005, Geneva, Switzerland.

Meeting on Oral Health in Ageing Societies: Integration of Oral Health and General Health, 1–3 June 2005, Kobe, Japan.

WHO Expert Meeting on Childhood Obesity: A contribution to the implementation of the Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health, 20–24 June 2005, Kobe, Japan.
International Symposium on Prevention of Childhood Obesity – through Proper Dietary Practices and Sufficient Physical Activity, 25 June 2005, Kobe, Japan.

Satellite Meeting linked with the 7th International Congress on AIDS in the Asia and Pacific (ICAAP), Kobe, Japan.

Satellite Meeting “Pediatric HIV/AIDS – Accelerating Care and Treatment for Children Across Asia-Pacific”, 2 July 2005

Satellite Meeting “HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care Integration (Including Issues on Harm Reduction), 3 July 2005

Module 1, Prolead II, 25 July – 3 August 2005, Bangkok, Thailand.

Consultative Leaders Forum on Capacity Building for Health Promotion, 4–6 August 2005, Bangkok, Thailand.

Meeting of WHO Regional Stakeholders on Sharing Evidence of the Effectiveness of Regional Healthy Cities Initiatives in the Context of the Commission on Social Determinants of Health, 12 August 2005, Bangkok, Thailand.

WHO Workshop for National Team Orientation on NCD InfoBase in the South-East Asia Region, 5–9 September 2005, New Delhi, India.

WHO Workshop on Developing Community-Based Intervention Monitoring Guidelines for NCD Prevention, 26–30 September 2005, Jakarta, Indonesia.

Consultative Meeting on the Development of WHO Assessment Instrument for Mental Health Systems–Emergencies (WHO-AIMS-E), 4–5 October 2005, Kobe, Japan.

In-house Preparatory Workshop on the Work of the Knowledge Network on Urban Settings (KNUS), WHO Commission on Social Determinants of Health (WHO CSDH), 20–21 October 2005, Kobe, Japan.

WHO Workshop on Physical Activity and Public Health, 24–27 October 2005, Beijing, China.

WHO Kobe Centre 10th Year Anniversary Celebration: A Symposium on Social Determinants of Health in Urban Settings, 17 November 2005, Kobe, Japan.

Module 2, Prolead II, 28 November –2 December 2005, Kobe, Japan

WKC PUBLICATIONS 1996–2005

Urbanization: A Global Health Challenge. Proceedings of a WHO Symposium, Kobe, Japan, 18–20 March 1996.

WHO Centre for Health Development in Kobe: Its establishment, role, tasks and organization. Hyogo Prefecture and Kobe City, April 1996.

Earthquake and People's Health: Vulnerability Reduction, Preparedness and Rehabilitation. Proceedings of a WHO Symposium, Kobe, Japan, 27–30 January 1997.

Ageing and Health: A Global Challenge for the 21st Century. Proceedings of a Symposium, Kobe, Japan, 10–13 November 1998.

Global Atlas of Ageing, 1998.

Global Atlas on Violence and Health. 1999.

Active Life – Positive Ageing. Proceedings of a Symposium, Kobe, Japan, 7 April 1999. (Japanese only)

Cities and Health. Report of an International Meeting, Kobe, Japan, 5–7 May 1999.

Tobacco or Health: It's Time to Leave the Pack Behind. Report of an International Symposium, Kobe, Japan, 31 May 1999.

Healthy Ageing Development. Report of an International Consultative Meeting, Kobe, Japan, 1–3 September 1999.

Violence and Health. Proceedings of a Global Symposium, Kobe, Japan, 12–13 October 1999.

Traditional Medicine: Its Contribution to Human Health Development in the New Century. Report of an International Symposium, Kobe, Japan, 6 November 1999.

World AIDS Campaign with Children and Young People. Report of an International Symposium, Kobe, Japan, 29 November 1999.

Annual Report of the WHO Centre for Health Development 1999. (English and Japanese)

Global Parasite Control for the 21st Century. Meeting Report of the G8 Follow-up International Symposium: Hashimoto Initiative, Kobe, Japan, 27 March 2000.

Women and Health: Better Health and Welfare Systems: Women's Perspectives. Proceedings of an International Meeting, Awaji Island, Japan, 5–7 April 2000.

Cities and Health. Report of a Global Meeting, Kobe, Japan, 29–31 May 2000.

Community Health Care in Ageing Societies. Proceedings of an International Meeting, Shanghai, China, 12–14 June 2000. (English and Chinese)

Traditional Medicine: Better Science, Policy and Services for Health Development. Proceedings of an International Symposium, Awaji Island, Japan, 11–13 September 2000.

Health and Welfare Systems Development in the 21st Century. Proceedings of a Global Symposium, Kobe, Japan, 1–3 November 2000.

Annual Report of the WHO Centre for Health Development 2000. (English and Japanese)

Private Sector Involvement in City Health Systems. Proceedings of a Consultative Meeting, Dunedin, New Zealand, 14–16 February 2001.

Global Health Expectancy Research among Older People. Ageing and Health Technical Report (1). March 2001.

A Framework for Understanding Community Health Care in Ageing Societies. Ageing and Health Technical Report (2). March 2001

Women and Health: Maximizing Women's Capacities and Leadership. Proceedings of the Second International Meeting, Canberra, Australia, 4–6 April 2001.

Good Oral Health in Ageing Societies: Filling the Gap between Dental Health and Life Expectancy. Proceedings of an International Symposium, Tokyo, Japan, 2 June 2001.

Cities and Health: Management of Priority Health Issues. Proceedings of the Second Global Meeting, Awaji Island, Japan, 26–28 June 2001.

Community Health Care for Older Persons in Urban Areas. Proceedings of an International Meeting, Bangkok, Thailand, 10–12 July 2001.

Cities and Health: Towards the Betterment of Citizens' Health and Welfare Systems. Proceedings of an International Meeting, Mississauga, Canada, 3–5 September 2001.

Global Information on Traditional Medicine/Complementary and Alternative Medicine Practices and Utilization. Proceedings of an International Consultative Meeting, Kobe, Japan, 19–21 September 2001.

Health and Welfare Systems Development in the 21st Century. Proceedings of the Second Global Symposium, Kobe, Japan, 29–31 October 2001.

Good Oral Health in Ageing Societies: to Keep Healthy Teeth for Your Healthy Life. Proceedings of an International Symposium, Kobe, Japan, 10 November 2001.

Urban Violence and Health: Determinants and Management. Report on A Study in Jakarta, Karachi and Conurbation Ruhrgebiet, 2001.

Annual Report of the WHO Centre for Health Development 2001. (English and Japanese)

Cities and Health: Summit on TB Control. Meeting Report, Osaka, Japan, 20 February 2002. (English and Japanese)

Development of Health and Welfare Systems – Adjusting to Ageing. Proceedings of the WHO Kobe Centre thematic activities at the Valencia Forum, Valencia, Spain, 1–4 April 2002.

Women and Health. Report of the Third International Meeting, Kobe, Japan, 8–10 April 2002.

WKC Partnership Model: The Mississauga Model: Bridging the Gap Between Policy and Research as City and University meet. Technical Report, 2002. (English and Japanese)

The Solidarity Triangle and Community Health: A pilot evaluative study of Costa Rica's participatory development strategy. Country Report Series 2002. (English and Japanese)

Global Review on Oral Health in Ageing Societies
Ageing and Health Technical Report (3). October 2002.

Annual Report of the WHO Centre for Health Development 2002. (English and Japanese)

Economic, Social and Health issues in Tobacco Control, Report of a WHO International Meeting, Kobe, Japan, 3–4 December 2001.

International Symposium on Healthy Life from Good Dietary Practices. Proceedings of an International Meeting, Kobe, Japan, 6 April 2002. (English and Japanese)

Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS: Ethical Aspects. Report of WHO Kobe Centre International Symposium, Kobe, Japan, 29 November 2001.

Health and Welfare Systems Development in the 21st Century. Proceedings of Third Global Symposium, Kobe, Japan, 6–8 November 2002.

Cities and Health Advisory Task Force Meeting: Organization and Management of Health Services in Large Cities. Proceedings of a WHO Task Force Meeting, Shanghai, People's Republic of China, 23–24 May 2002.

Cities and Health: Achievements with WKC Partner Cities. Proceedings of a WKC International Symposium, Kobe, Japan, 29 November 2002.

Country Studies on Health and Welfare Systems: Experiences in Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran and Sri Lanka. Health and Welfare Systems Country Report Series 2, 2003.

Progress Report on the Kobe Plan of Action for Women and Health. Technical Report, 2003.

Gender Sensitive Medicine. Proceedings of an International Symposium, Chiba, Japan, 1 March 2003. (English and Japanese)

Town Meeting: Who is responsible for your life? – Preventive risk management for people's health. Report of an International Symposium, Kobe, Japan, 16 November 2002. (English and Japanese)

Technical Report on Gender Sensitivity and Gender-based Analysis in Women's Health Development. 2003.

Technical Report on Comparative Evaluation of Indicators for Gender Equity and Health. 2003.

Technical Report on the Impact of Women's Leadership in Health and Welfare Systems Development. 2003.

A Coordinated Response for the Fast-Track Development of Diagnostic Tools for New and Reemerging Infectious Diseases. Report of a WHO Consultation, Kobe, Japan, 20–22 September 2004.

A Glossary of Terms for Community Health Care and Services for Older Persons. Ageing and Health Technical Report Vol. 5, 2004.

Annual Report of the WHO Centre for Health Development 2003. (English and Japanese)

Consultative Meeting to Finalize the Protocol for Research Studies on the Role and Impact of Public-Private Partnerships in Health and Welfare Systems Development. Report of a Meeting, Kobe, Japan, 24–26 March 2004.

Consultative Meeting to Review Information Collection Systems for Global Atlas Development on TRM/CAM (Case study in Japan). Report of a Meeting, Kobe, Japan, 13 December 2002.

Gender Perspective for Better Health and Welfare Systems Development. Proceedings of the Fourth International Meeting on Women and Health, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, 5–8 October 2003.

Gender-Sensitive Leading Health Indicators. Report on an Expert Group Meeting, Kobe, Japan, 3–5 November 2003. (PDF only)

Global Atlas of Traditional Medicine. Proceedings of an International Meeting, Kobe, Japan, 17–19 June 2003.

Health in Development - Healthier People in Healthier Environments. A Proposed Research Framework for the WHO Centre for Health Development, August 2004.

Health Planning and Delivery at City Level. Proceedings of a WKC Consultative Meeting, Kobe, Japan, 25–27 November 2003.

Mental Health in Post-Crisis Restoration/Rehabilitation – Strengthening Traumatic Stress Studies in Japan. Report on an International Symposium, Kobe, Japan, 28 March 2004.

The Development of Community Health Care in Shanghai – Emerging patterns of primary health care for the ageing population of a megalopolis. Ageing and Health Technical Report Vol. 4, 2004.

Annotated Bibliography on the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake

Annual Report of the WHO Centre for Health Development 2004 (English and Japanese)

APN/WHO Public Forum on Climate Calamities and Human Health, Kobe, Japan, 22 January 2005: Proceedings

Fruit and vegetables for health: Report of a Joint FAO/WHO Workshop, Kobe, Japan, 1–3 September 2004

Public health policy and approaches for noncommunicable disease prevention and control in Japan: a case study. Ageing and Health Technical Report Vol. 6

Recommendations on mental health research for the WHO Centre for Health Development: Report of a working-group session and international symposia organized at the XVIII World Congress of Social Psychiatry, 24–27 October 2004

Report of the Consultative Meeting to Finalize a Gender-Sensitive Core Set of Leading Health Indicators, Kobe Japan, 1–3 August 2004

Report on Consultative Leaders Forum on Capacity Building for Health Promotion, Bangkok, Thailand, 4–6 August 2005

Substance Use among Young People in Urban Environments

WHO Global Atlas of Traditional, Complementary and Alternative Medicine (Text and Map Volumes available)

Reports in collaboration with Dunedin, New Zealand:

- *Alcohol-related Harm in Dunedin City*
- *Health Impact Assessment of the Changes in the Quality of Dunedin's Drinking Water 1995–2003*
- *Impact of Housing on Health in Dunedin, NZ*
- *Interagency Cooperation Between the Dunedin Police and the Dunedin City Council*
- *Solid Waste Management: Kerbside Recycling and User Pays Refuse Collection*
- *Young People at Risk?*

Reports in collaboration with São Paulo, Brazil:

- *An Evaluation of the Harm Reduction Project in São Paulo*
- *An Evaluation of the Satisfaction Level of Inhabitants in Two Slums Upgraded under the Guarapiranga Programme*
- *Youths on Duty: Reception and Care for Adolescents and Young People at Testing and Counselling Centres*

Ad Hoc Research Advisory Group List of Participants

Meeting of the Ad Hoc Research Advisory Group Meeting on Health Development

Place: WHO Kobe Centre, Kobe, Japan

Dates of Meeting: 23–26 August 2004

Temporary Advisers

Dr Narimah Awın, Director, Family Health Development, Ministry of Health, Malaysia

Dr Annette David, Consultant to the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Tamuning, Guam, United States of America (Philippines)

Professor Nay Htun, Executive Director for Asia and the Pacific, University for Peace - New York Office, United States of America

Dr Robert J. Kim-Farley, Director, Communicable Disease Control and Prevention, Public Health Programs, Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, United States of America

Professor Vivian Lin, Head of School, School of Public Health, La Trobe University, Australia

Dr Hiroki Nakatani, Executive Director, Health Science Division, Minister's Secretariat, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japan

Professor Norman Sartorius, Switzerland

Dr Hideo Shinozaki, Director-General, National Institute of Public Health, Japan

Dr Kate Taylor, Director, Global Health Initiative, World Economic Forum, Switzerland

Professor Taizo Yakushiji, Councilor for Science and Technology Policy, Council for Science and Technology Policy, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan, Japan

Dr Brent Powis, Director, Centre for Environmental Health Development, University of Western Sydney, Australia

World Health Organization

Mrs Pascale Brudon, Manager, Planning, Resource Coordination and Performance Monitoring, General Management, World Health Organization, Switzerland

Dr Margaret Chan, Director, Protection of the Human Environment, Sustainable Development and Healthy Environments, World Health Organization, Switzerland

Dr Catherine Le Galès-Camus, Assistant Director-General, Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health, World Health Organization, Switzerland

Dr Susan Mercado, Regional Adviser in Health Promotion and Focal Point
for Ageing and Health, World Health Organization Regional Office for the Western
Pacific, Philippines

Representatives - Secretariat of the Kobe Group

Mr Michihisa Kato, Director in charge of Health and Welfare Policy, Policy Planning and
Coordination Bureau, Health, Welfare and Environmental Services Department,
Hyogo Prefecture

Observers

Mr Martin Rice, Programme Manager, Communications and Development, Asia-Pacific
Network for Global Change Research (APN), Japan

Mr Sombo T. Yamamura, Director, Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research
(APN), Japan

WHO Kobe Centre Participants

(Present at all meetings)

Dr Wilfried Kreisel, Director

Mrs Valerie Hay, Assistant Director

Mr Stephen Tamplin, Programme Manager

Dr John G. Cai, Coordinator, Ageing and Health Programme

Dr Hamayun Rashid Rathor, Coordinator, Cities and Health Programme

Dr Gopal P. Acharya, Coordinator, Health and Welfare Systems Development Programme

Dr Kin Shein, Coordinator, Traditional Medicine Programme

Dr Faten Ben Abdelaziz, Technical Officer, Woman and Health Programme

Dr Kukan Selvaratnam, Technical Officer, Information Technology

Dr Qingfeng Zou, Technical Officer, Injuries and Violence Prevention

Meeting of the Ad Hoc Driving Force Sub-Group on Ageing and Health

Place: WHO Kobe Centre, Kobe, Japan

Dates of meeting: 27–29 July 2004

Temporary Advisers

Dr Gary R. Andrews, Director, Centre for Ageing Studies, University of South Australia and Flinders University, Australia

Professor Nana A. Apt, Dean, Academic Affairs, Ashesi University, Ghana

Dr Narimah Awin, Director, Family Health Development, Ministry of Health, Malaysia

Dr Hidetoshi Endo, Director of Comprehensive Geriatric Medicine, National Center for Geriatrics and Gerontology, Japan

Dr Ali Haeri, Acting Director-General and Director of Research, Pasteur Institute of Iran,

Dr Roberto Ham-Chande, Professor, Departamento de Estudios en Población - El Colegio de la Frontera Norte, Tijuana, Mexico, Mexico

Dr Russell E. Morgan, Jr., President, SPRY Foundation, United States of America

Dr Tadao Shimao, Chairman, Board of Directors, Japanese Foundation of AIDS Prevention (JFAP), Japan

Dr Alexandre Sidorenko, UN Focal Point on Ageing, UN Programme on Ageing, Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations, United States of America

Professor Oswaldo Yoshimi Tanaka, Professor, School of Public Health, University of São Paulo, Brazil

Professor C.A.K. Yesudian, Professor and Head, Department of Health Services Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India

World Health Organization

Dr Jose Manoel Bertolote, Coordinator, Management of Mental and Brain Disorders, Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health, World Health Organization, Switzerland

Dr Alexandre Kalache, Coordinator, Ageing and Life Course, Noncommunicable Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health, World Health Organization, Switzerland

Representatives – Secretariat of the Kobe Group

Mr Michihisa Kato, Director in charge of Health and Welfare Policy, Policy Planning and Coordination Bureau, Health, Welfare and Environmental Services Department, Hyogo Prefecture

Meeting of the Ad Hoc Driving Force Sub-Group on Urbanization and Health

Place: WHO Kobe Centre, Kobe, Japan

Dates of meeting: 4–6 August 2004

Temporary Advisers

Dr Neil R. Britton, EQTAP Chief Coordinator, Team Leader, International Disaster Reduction Strategies Research Team, Earthquake Disaster Mitigation Research Center, National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention (EDM-NIED), Japan

Mr Philip James Harland, Chief Executive, Dunedin City Council, New Zealand

Professor Ulrich Laaser, Head, Section of International Public Health (S-IPH), Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Bielefeld, Germany

Professor Vivian Lin, Head of School, School of Public Health, La Trobe University, Australia

Dr Michel Pletschette, Principal Scientific Administrator, International Scientific Cooperation Policy, European Commission, Belgium

Professor Tsutomu Takeuchi, Professor, Department of Tropical Medicine and Parasitology, School of Medicine Keio University, Japan

Mr David Tipping, Human Settlements Officer, Office of the Executive Director, UN-HABITAT, Kenya

World Health Organization

Dr Carlos Dora, Radiation and Environmental Health, Protection of the Human Environment and Health, Sustainable Development and Healthy Environments, World Health Organization, Switzerland

Dr Ilona Kickbusch, Professor, Division of Global Health, Yale School of Public Health, United States of America [Seconded to WHO-PAHO]

Observers

Mr Martin Rice, Programme Manager, Communications and Development, Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN), Japan

Mr Sombo T. Yamamura, Director, Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN), Japan

Meeting of the Ad Hoc Driving Force Sub-Group on Technological and Environmental Change and Health

Place: WHO Kobe Centre, Kobe, Japan

Dates of meeting: 11–13 August 2004

Temporary Advisers

Dr Johan Bierkens, Senior Scientist, Flemish Institute for Technological Research, Belgium

Dr Annette David, Consultant to the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Tamuning, Guam, United States of America (Philippines)

Dr Luis Diaz, President, CalRecovery Inc., United States of America

Dr John Haines, Senior Special Fellow, Chemicals and Waste Management, United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), Switzerland

Mr Pierre Moïse, France

Dr Masahisa Nakamura, Researcher, Environmental Systems Engineering, Lake Biwa Research Institute, Japan

Dr Brent Powis, Director, Centre for Environmental Health Development, University of Western Sydney, Australia

Dr Gurinder Shahi, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, BioEnterprise Asia, Singapore

Dr Kirk R. Smith, Brian and Jennifer Maxwell Endowed Chair in Public Health, School of Public Health, Environmental Health Sciences Division, University of California Berkeley, United States of America

World Health Organization

Dr Roberto Bertollini, Director, Division of Technical Support, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe, Denmark

Dr Margaret Chan, Director, Protection of the Human Environment, Sustainable Development and Healthy Environments, World Health Organization, Switzerland

Dr Steffen Groth, Director, Essential Health Technologies, Health Technology and Pharmaceuticals, World Health Organization, Switzerland

Dr Hisashi Ogawa, Regional Adviser in Environmental Health and Focal Point for Healthy Settings and the Environment, World Health Organization Regional Office for the Western Pacific, Philippines

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Observers

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Dr Hari Srinivas, Chief of Urban Programme, International Environmental Technology Centre, United Nations Environment Programme, Japan

Mr Sombo T. Yamamura, Director, Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN), Japan