



Towards safe motherhood and childhood

Working together to eliminate harmful practices affecting women and children  
and eradicate polio

Report of the Pilot Training

2017

## **Background**

The pilot student training workshop was successfully conducted on Wednesday, April 12 with around 45 expatriate students from Al Azhar University.

**Participants:** The majority of participants came from Nigeria, with about 4 from Somalia, 2 from Pakistan, 2 from Indonesia, 1 from Mali, and 1 from Liberia.

**Faculties' Affiliation:** The students study at three facilities at Al Azhar University campuses in Cairo: the Faculty of Shairah (which graduates lawyers and Islamic law scholars); the Faculty of Religious Fundamentals ('*Usoul Deen*, which graduates imams and preachers); and the Faculty of Arabic Studies.

**Opening Session:** The opening session was presided over by Dr. Gamal Serour, Director of IICPSR, and Dr. Ashraf El-Badweehy, Deputy Rector of Al Azhar University. Dr. Serour said that he had met with the Grand Imam of Al Azhar the previous day and discussed with him the workshop which the Grand Imam expressed great interest in and requested printed materials for.

### **The Procedures of the Pilot Course:**

- Dr. Gamal delivered a brief introduction to the IAG partnership and its history
- The authors gave extended presentations about their subject matters
- The technical sessions were presented with the support of Power Point presentations that displayed photos representing a diversity of countries and regions (especially in Dr. Usama Abdel-Aziz's presentation) and graphs (especially Dr. Serour's presentation)
- The religious sessions tackled Qur'anic verses, hadeeth's, and Islamic traditions that tackle the health issues at hand, and answered some frequently cited misperceptions about the associated behaviors. Dr. Hamed Abu Taleb's presentation was particularly commendable for explaining to the participants their roles as future advocates of polio

eradication and other health initiatives, while directly advocating for vaccinations and highlighting their positive impact on societies

- The students were encouraged to share during the Q&A sessions further misperceptions they had heard about which the lecturers duly responded to
- Dr. Ahmed Ragab delivered a presentations skills session towards the end in the form of quick tips
- Dr. Mervat Mahmoud wrapped up the workshop by dividing the participants into groups based on their country of origin and requesting them to prepare work plans which they handed in before they left
- A pretest and posttest were conducted

**Future Plans:** The students were divided into groups, by country, to draw plans for utilization of the training upon return to their countries. The students stressed on raising the community awareness through Friday talks. Few indicated that they will conduct public seminars. However, there is a need to point to them that they are going to works with and through the national committees and with the assistance of WHO country offices. A better format should be prepared in this regard.

**Results of the Pre and Post Tests:** Pre and Post tests were analyzed and the comparison showed, clearly, a marked improvement of their knowledge.

**Evaluation of the Workshop by the Students:** Evaluation forms were distributed to the participants. The vast majority of the students affirmed that, the workshop was an excellent one. Few expressed their concern of the timing as it contradicts their study schedule. In addition, few requested longer duration. Only one participant was not satisfied of all aspects (scientific and logistics) of the workshop.

**Recommendations:** The course needs to be extended to be two days, one day will be devoted to Polio and immunization and the second day will be concerned with safe motherhood and working groups.

- The session on the way forward needs to be adjusted to affirm the link with national committees and WHO country representative.
- The technical terms – of the scientific lectures on polio and immunization, needs to be simplified and, when possible it could be support with more illustrated pictures.

### Program

<b>Time</b>	<b>Lecture</b>	<b>Faculty</b>
<b>8.30-9.00</b>	<b>Registration</b>	
<b>9.00-9-30</b>	<b>Opening Remarks</b>	
<b>9.30-10.00</b>	<b>Introduction of the program, expectations and pre-test</b>	<b>Prof. Dr. Mervat Prof. Dr. Shokery and Prof. Ahmed Ragab</b>
<b>10.00-11.00</b>	<b>Medical Aspects of Polio</b>	<b>Prof. Dr. Usama Prof. Dr. Mussallam</b>
<b>11.00-11.30</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	
<b>11.30-12.00</b>	<b>Religious Aspects of Immunization (including Polio)</b>	<b>Prof. Dr. Hamed Abu-Taleb</b>
<b>12.00-12.30</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	
<b>12.30-1.00</b>	<b>Break and Prayer</b>	
<b>1.00-1.30</b>	<b>Safe motherhood from Medical Perspectives</b>	<b>Prof. Dr. Gamal Serour</b>
<b>1.30-2.00</b>	<b>Safe motherhood from Religious Perspectives</b>	<b>Prof. Dr. Abdallah El-Nagar</b>
<b>2.00-2.30</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	
<b>2.30-3.00</b>	<b>Communication Skills</b>	<b>Prof. Dr. Ahmed Ragab</b>
<b>3.00-4.00</b>	<b>The Way Forward (working groups to set plans for future advocacy)</b>	<b>Pro. Dr. Mervat Mahmoud and Prof. Dr. Shokery Abdel-Azim</b>
<b>4.00-</b>	<b>Post Test Conclusion of the Workshop</b>	

بالتعاون بين المركز الدولي للإسلامي للدراسات والبحوث السكانية بجامعة الأزهر ومنظمة الصحة  
العالمية

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الأربعاء ١٢ من أبريل ٢٠١٧ م الموافق ١٥ من رجب ١٤٣٨ هـ

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ا.د. أسامة عبد العزيز	التطعيمات	-
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	استراحة وصلاة الظهر	-
..	منة: الجوانب الطبية	-
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..	الجوانب الشرعية للأ	-

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ا.د. أحمد رجاء عبد الحميد		-
ا.د. ميرفت محمود ا.د. شكرى عبد العظيم	الطريق الى الأ :	-
	وتوزيع الشهادات	-