Decentralization of the Health Sector

Presentation at the Health Summit
12th May, 2014
On behalf of the TWG
OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

- INTRODUCTION
- PERCEIVED ADVANTAGES OF DECENTRALIZATION
- WHAT WOULD CHANGE
- PROPOSED STRUCTURES FOR THE HEALTH SECTOR
- CHALLENGES
- ROAD MAP
- ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
Introduction

Government policy on decentralization

- Decentralization process - 1988
  - devolution of governmental functions
    - executive, legislative, administrative, planning, service delivery, rating and budgeting authorities.
  - Legislations
    - Local Government law of 1988, PNDCL 207
    - local government Act, 1993, Act 462
    - Local government Service Act, 2003, Act 656

- Major review of decentralization -2009- 2010,
  - Decentralization policy framework and action plan for its implementation
Introduction

• To deepen decentralization in Ghana, the Government has made its intention known that Ministries of Health, Education and Agriculture should be fully decentralized.
• Although a semblance of decentralization exists in most Districts in Ghana, where the Health sector has been collaborating with the District Assemblies, these relationships need to be properly formalized.
Perceived Advantages

• Decentralization has the potential to:
  ➢ Improve equity
  ➢ Good governance
  ➢ Efficiency
  ➢ Access to service
  ➢ Local participation
What would change

- The working structure and relationships will change when fully implemented
GHS After Decentralisation

- GHS HQ
- Secondary level
- Primary Level
What would change

• Allegiance and loyalty from the Center to the District with reporting and relations directed to the DDHS
• Composite budgeting started in 2012 would be fully implemented
• Promotion of staff would be done at the District level
Proposed Structure

District level Structure

DMOH

- Clinical care to be headed by Hospital superintendent
  - Laboratory, Ambulance services, blood services, mental health services and all facilities

- Public Health
  - Disease control/surveillance
  - Health promotion and nutrition, RCH

- Regulation and quality assurance
  - Professional practice, patient complaint

- Environmental Health
  - Inspection, waste disposal

- Health Administration
  - NHIA liaison, HR, accounting/auditing

- Health Information and reporting
  - Inspection food safety, and waste disposal, prosecution of sanitary offenders
CHALLENGES

• MANAGING THE PROCESS AT THE MINISTRY/AGENCIES (WINNERS & LOSERS)
• WHAT HAPPENS TO OTHER AGENCIES: BLOOD SERVICE, AMBULANCE SERVICE, HEALTH REGULATIONS
• FULL FISCAL DECENTRALIZATION
• RELATIONSHIP
• FEAR OF THE UNKNOWN: CREATION OF A STRONG LGSC
• WHO WOULD BE THE HEAD OF MEDICAL CARE IN THE MMDAs (DMOH, DDHS). THIS CAN OPEN THE OLD WOUNDS AMONG THE VARIOUS PROFESSIONAL GROUPS AND MAY WEAKEN OUR COLLECTIVE STANCE
• FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMPOSITE BUDGET
# Road Map

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Remarks/Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June-July 2014</td>
<td>Consultation with stakeholders’</td>
<td>Stakeholders’ meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 2014</td>
<td>Steering committee meeting</td>
<td>Steering committee will review and approve recommendations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2014</td>
<td>Set up a committee to review and assess staffing situation</td>
<td>A staff norm will help rationalize staff distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2014</td>
<td>Set up committee to review relevant laws</td>
<td>Collaborate with IMCC and the AG’s Dept. to review the laws</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2015</td>
<td>Submit draft bill on Health Decentralization to Parliament</td>
<td>The working group will organize several stakeholder meetings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Acknowledgement

• The TWG acknowledges the following:
  – Dr. Eramus Agongo- D-PPME GHS
  – Dr. Gilbert Buckle- Executive Secretary CHAG
  – Dr. Kofi Sutherland-DMO, Agona Ahanta, WR
  – Dr. Moses Adibo- Senior Citizen
  – Prof David Ofori-Agyei- Rector, GCPS
  – Dr. Anthony Ofosu- PPME GHS
  – E. Owusu-Ansah-PPME MOH
  – Daniel Degbotse-PPME, MOH
  – Rahilu Haruna- PPME, MOH
  – Dr. Andreas Bjerung,-PPME, MOH
  – Inter Ministerial Coordinating Council (IMCC)
  – Dr. Callitus Mahama
  – Prof. Kwamina Ahwoi
END OF PRESENTATION

• THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION