Reviewer's report

Title: Editorial on Governance and Human Resources for Health

Version: 1 Date: 13 July 2011

Reviewer: Gustavo Nigenda

Reviewer's report:

Comments:

1) According to the authors the metaphor of the elephant in the room applies to the role of governance in the field of HRH. However I would like to invite the authors to consider the possibility of applying the metaphor in the following way. I think that the elephant is the Human Resources for Health and the room is the health system. In my view despite the efforts of international organizations to put on top of the agenda the HRH issue in most countries, HRH is still "the hot potatoe" and nobody wants to get to deep into re-engeneering its participation because of the political problems that this may create. Governance in such a case is the toolbox of possibilites that health systems have to make HRH (the elephant) behave according to desired objectives.

2) I think it would be recommendable to outline a little bit of the HRH Governance framework and try to show how the different article fit into this frame.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests:

"I declare that I have no competing interests"