**Maternal and Newborn Health Unit**

**External Advisory Group - Terms of Reference**

**Objective of External Advisory Group:**

As a leading global centre of excellence for Maternal and Newborn Health, the vision of the Maternal and Newborn Health Unit (MNHU) is

To:

Improve the availability and quality of health care for mothers and babies, contributing to a reduction in maternal and newborn mortality and morbidity and an improvement in quality of life.

By:

* Partnering strategically with governments and global agencies,
* Facilitating the sharing of knowledge and expertise,
* Encouraging lessons-learnt to be shared across national boundaries,
* Planning for the pro-active growth of our research, technical assistance and teaching,
* Designing and implementing innovative, evidence-based healthcare packages and new frameworks for the evaluation of effectiveness.

The External Advisory Group (EAG) is an advisory panel established to provide advice and assistance to the MNH Unit as required.

It will consist of a small number of experienced professionals who are not directly involved with MNHU programmes and who are drawn from MNH Unit stakeholder groups including:

* Organizations responsible for international policy (reproductive health and maternal and newborn health in particular)
* Organizations responsible for maternal and newborn health initiatives in developing countries
* Corporate and business world
* Professional associations
* Major funding agencies supporting MNH Unit projects.

**Remit**:

* To support the MNH Unit in achieving its objectives, developing and implementing its strategy and work-plan in order to reduce maternal and newborn mortality and morbidity.
* To alert the MNH Unit to current issues and advances in the field and their potential impact on their programme of activities.
* To advise about changes and developments of the needs of under-resourced countries to meet MDGs 4 and 5.
* To raise awareness of the work of the MNHU strategy and work-plan.
* To assist in identifying funding opportunities.
* To identify areas of particular need in developing countries where the MNHU Partnership might make a contribution.
* To advise on the ethics and value of proposed international work being undertaken by the MNHU