A WORKSHOP ON CAPACITY STRENGTHENING OF POLICY MAKERS AND PROGRAMME MANAGERS FOR PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES IN EAST & CENTRAL AFRICA

ZANZIBAR, APRIL 29TH - MAY 1ST 2009

The 3 day workshop programme comprised:

- **Day 1:** A session with an opening speech by Dr Jidawi, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health & Social Welfare, Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar and the presentation and introduction of all the participants and their respective work responsibilities;

- **Day 2:** A plenary on Global burden of CVD, risk factors and community mobilization, followed by presentation from 7 countries (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Zanzibar, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Mozambique) on their National NCD Plans/Strategy - updates, a plenary on Risk factor determinants (obesity, physical activity and diet). Each session was followed by 30 minutes of discussions/questions & answers;

- **Day 3:** Presentations on community actions in different countries informing participants of the many innovative community interventions on diabetes, smoking cessation, breast cancers, etc. These were followed by a plenary on research priorities & surveillance; African Declaration on Diabetes and CVD risk factors in HIV/AIDS affected individuals.

Dr Mary Amuyunzu-Nyamongo, Executive Director of the African Institute for Health and Development (www.aihdint.org), African Health Promotion Expert, member of the CDC/IUHPE Cardiovascular Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Epidemiology faculty and IUHPE Board member actively participated in the Zanzibar workshop and presented on The role of Health Promotion in NCD Control in Africa, representing IUHPE and making a link with current initiatives around addressing NCDs in Africa using a Health Promotion Approach.

This workshop identified key priorities and recommendations for moving forward and resulted in:

- The creation of a steering committee (4 members) to coordinate the NCD activities in the 7 participating countries and move the agenda forward,

- Agreement:

  1. To strengthen efforts and get the Ministers of Health from these 7 countries to meet and discuss NCDs,
2. That the steering committee will circulate a NCD questionnaire to each of the countries to obtain their current status,

3. That national NCD desk officers will coordinate NCD activities in respective countries and have a joint meeting with all the NCD stakeholders to obtain current status.

- All participants being more committed to make NCDs a priority.

A comprehensive detailed report will soon be available.