



Briefing 16 - West African Health Organization regional meeting: 14 countries start action plans for strengthening research capacity

In April 2008, the African Ministers of Health – in preparation for the Bamako Ministerial Forum on Research for Health – adopted the Algiers Declaration that expressed their commitment to reinforce national research systems for health. During the Bamako conference, health research leaders of western African countries, representatives of the West African Health Organization (WAHO) and international organisations discussed the status of research for health in West Africa. They highlighted a need to better understand the health research resources and challenges in the region and agreed that mapping of the current situation would help identify areas for improvement and cooperation in the region. To take this forward, WAHO convened a meeting of its member states to further explore these issues.