



Ministry of Health Malaysia Strategic Plan 2006 – 2010

"Towards Achieving Better Health through Consolidation of Services"

April, 2008

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Message from the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Health

The Ministry of Health, being the lead agency in health provides leadership on matters relating to health and also sets the direction for health care development in the country. During the Ninth Malaysia Plan period (2006 – 2010), efforts will be undertaken to consolidate health care services, enhance human resource development and optimize resource utilization.

The Strategic Plan for Health is a summary of the Country Health Plan, which was developed for the Ninth Malaysia Plan (NMP). It is intended to be a quick reference for all programmes, institutions and state departments under the Ministry of Health to ensure that all activities and resources are directed towards similar goals.

I wish to congratulate all members involved for their effort and invaluable input towards the development of this Strategic Plan. Achieving the Ministry's mission and goals will require sustained commitment. I hope that the plan will not only serve as a guide within the Ministry of Health, but will also provide a framework for other stakeholders to work together towards improving our health care system.

Dato' Sri Dr. Hj. Mohd Nasir B. Mohd Ashraf
Secretary-General of the Ministry of Health

Message from the Director-General of Health Malaysia

Without doubt, Malaysia has one of the best health systems in the region. However, it is our staunch belief that the pursuance of quality knows no end. Furthermore, new challenges and issues which impact the health system crop up at our doorstep almost every other day. It is only with careful and evidence-based planning, that we can hope to keep ahead.

The recently released Country Health Plan: 9th Malaysia Plan 2006-2010 has detailed out the health plan for Malaysia. Much effort had been put into its development. It involved months of deliberations and serious thoughts. Multiple parties, both from within and outside the Ministry of Health, had come aboard to contribute to its contents. Many a supporting document had been scrutinised.

This document, the Strategic Plan, presents the Country Health Plan at a glance. It is intended to be a guiding light, for all programmes, institutions and state departments under the Ministry of Health, to ensure that no activity and resources go astray; that they are aligned along the same intended path.

Needless to say, however, a plan is of little use without action. Towards this end, I urge each and every member of the Ministry of Health to play your role to the best of your ability in the execution, monitoring and evaluation of this Plan. Quoting Ralph Waldo Emerson, "To map out a course of action and follow it to the end requires some of the same courage that a soldier needs."

Let us create a positive difference to health by maximising health investments for multiple health gains. God Willing, with everyone's concerted effort, the 2006-2010 period will see us nearer towards realising our Vision for Health, and in turn, Malaysia's Vision 2020.

Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Hj. Mohd Ismail Merican
Director- General of Health Malaysia

Introduction

1.1 Background of the Strategic Plan

A Strategic Plan is a road map to lead an organisation from where it is now to where it would like to be in five or ten years time. The purpose of strategic or long-range planning is to assist the organisation in establishing priorities and to better serve the needs of its members. A strategic plan must be flexible and practical and yet serve as a guide to implementing programmes, evaluating how these programmes are doing, and making adjustments when necessary (Strategic Planning Handbook).

The Strategic Plan for the Ministry of Health (MOH) began since early 2005 with the development of the Country Health Plan. The Country Health Plan was a Health Plan for Malaysia for the 9th Malaysia Plan period. In developing this plan all the tools of a strategic plan, such as situational analysis and Strength-Weakness-Opportunity-Threat (SWOT) Analysis were employed. It also involved analysis of the 7th and 8th Malaysia Plan and the garnering of information from the 12 technical Working Groups (TWGs) reports. It required much probing, discussion, as well as examination of the views of the leaders who are responsible for the plan's preparation.

As the MOH is the custodian of health for the country, the above document was, in essence, the Strategic Plan for the MOH. Nevertheless, it was also felt necessary for the MOH to have a document that can give at a glance, a quick guide for all programmes, institutions and state departments under the MOH, so as they will not go astray during the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the plan. Thus the present document was developed.

1.2 What the Strategic Plan Addresses

This Strategic Plan is a summary of the Country Health Plan: 9th Malaysia Plan 2006-2010 documents, released earlier in 2006. It provides a clear destination for all programmes, institutions and state health departments under the Ministry of Health for the 9th Malaysia Plan period. Readers are recommended to refer to the Country Health Plan: 9th Malaysia Plan 2006-2010 Book 1 and the Programme Health Plan: 9th Malaysia Plan 2006-2010 Book 2 for further details on the background of its development as well as the action plans at ground level.

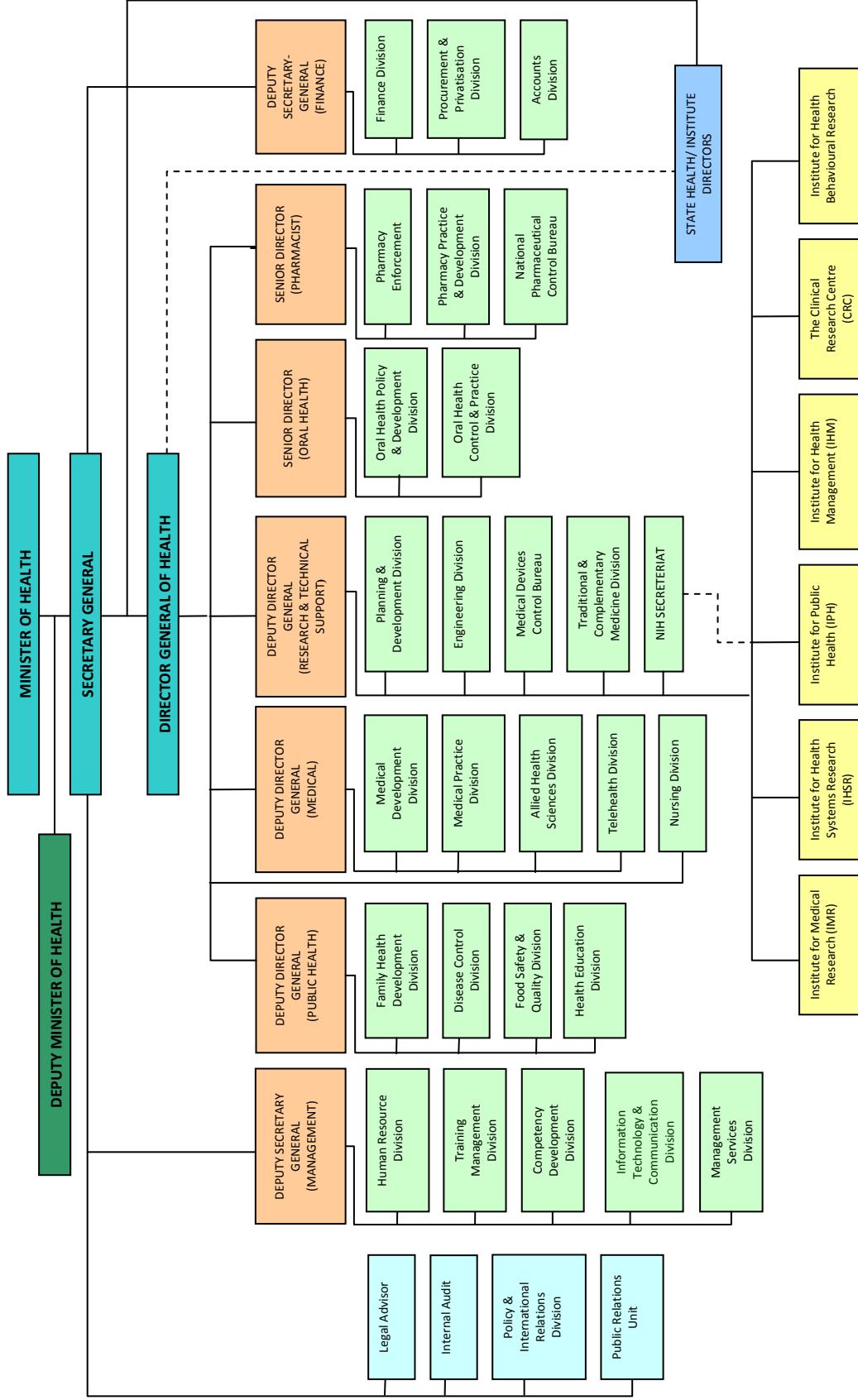
1.3 The Challenges of the Malaysian Health System

The health status of Malaysians has improved significantly since the nation achieved its independence in 1957. Despite such success, there remain issues and challenges that need to be addressed. These matters in question range from the evolution of disease patterns to the administration of health services.

As the custodian for health in the country, it is imperative that the MOH addresses these concerns in the interest of boosting the system which in turn will ensure the health of the people. The MOH shall give emphasis to the changing patterns of communicable as well as non-communicable diseases, including mental health. At the same time, it will persevere to provide universal coverage of healthcare services at affordable costs. Provision of quality of services and optimisation of health resources, in the forms of human, financial, infrastructure and technological will be given priority, both in the public and private sectors. The MOH will also not overlook the marginalised population such as the underprivileged and elderly as well as those living in the remote parts of the country.

At present, the MOH's initiatives at reforming healthcare are in progress to support these efforts. Its feat at enriching the health status of Malaysia depends greatly on the promotion of wellbeing to individuals and communities. It shall rely on the awareness, conduct and use of research evidence to continually improve its performance to meet local and global demands. The areas of health care quality, tourism and informatics shall be strengthened to provide the MOH with the competitive edge on the international platform.

1.4 Organisational Structure



Strategic Plan

2.1 Vision for Health

Malaysia is to be a nation of healthy individuals, families and communities, through a health system that is equitable, affordable, efficient, technologically appropriate, environmentally adaptable and consumer-friendly, with emphasis on quality, innovation, health promotion and respect for human dignity and which promotes individual's responsibility and community participation towards an enhanced quality of life.

2.2 Mission of Ministry of Health

The mission of the MOH is to build partnerships for health, to motivate and facilitate the people to:

- fully attain their health potential
- appreciate health as a valuable asset
- take positive actions to further improve and sustain their health status

2.3 Corporate Values of Ministry of Health

The MOH's vision for the future and the strategic objectives are based on its corporate values that incorporate professionalism, teamwork and caring.

2.4 Strategic Goals

- Prevent and reduce the burden of disease
- Enhance the healthcare delivery system
- Optimise resources
- Improve research and development
- Manage crisis and disasters effectively
- Strengthen the health information management system

2.5 Strategies

- Improve governance, and adoption of appropriate technology and service practices to empower individuals, families and communities towards attaining life long wellness.
- Develop skills and competencies to further reduce mortality and morbidity rates in furtherance of strengthening the quality of healthcare delivery.
- Establish effective business strategies to enhance organisational performance and the consumption of resources.
- Increase the use of evidence through research to support all levels of decision making.
- Elevate the level of preparedness in managing disasters and health-related crises effectively.
- Upgrade the standards of information and communication technology as well as health informatics to maintain sound health information management.

The MOH is a vast organisation comprising of different Programmes and Divisions, with varying functions and responsibilities. These components have in turn formulated strategies (Appendix 1) to uphold the above strategies of the MOH. These strategies together with the action plans can also be viewed in the Programme Health Plan: 9th Malaysia Plan 2006-2010 Book 2.

2.6 Measurements

The key indicators of health status include:

- Average life expectancy at birth
- Crude death rates
- Infant and toddler mortality rates
- Maternal mortality ratio
- Prevalence of road traffic injuries and selected diseases such as ischemic heart disease, mental illness, cerebrovascular diseases, cancer, asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, diabetes mellitus, dengue, HIV and others.
- Prevalence of health risk factors e.g. tobacco smoking, alcohol consumption, overweight, physical inactivity and others.

Conclusion

The MOH's Strategic Plan is a 5-year-scheme that charts the path in achieving health's vision and goals. The objectives of the MOH in the 9th Malaysia Plan have become the underlying principles of its development. It is the ultimate reference to guide all health departments with their respective action plans, programmes and activities for the future. Adherence to this Strategic Plan is indeed a major step towards realising Malaysia as a developed nation of healthy individuals and communities, to correspond with Vision 2020.

References

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2. Programme Health Plan: 9th Malaysia Plan 2006-2010. Book 2, Ministry of Health Malaysia
3. Strategic Planning Handbook, <http://www.sla.org/pdfs/sphand.pdf> Retrieved 11 Apr 2008.

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Appendix 1

Goal 1: Prevent and Reduce Disease Burden	Goal 2: Enhance Health Care Delivery System	Goal 3: Optimise Resources	Goal 4: Enhance Research and Development	Goal 5: Manage Crisis and Disasters Effectively	Goal 6: Strengthen Health Information Management System
PUBLIC HEALTH Programme* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote health & prevent disease 2. Enhance appropriate & timely management of infectious disease crises 3. Enhance disease reporting system 4. Provide adequate & effective health promotion 5. Strengthen the organisational structure for effective implementation of disease control programme 6. Prevent & reduce disease burden among various subgroups in the population i.e. pregnant mothers & newborn, infant & toddler, children & adolescents, adult & elderly, persons with disabilities 7. Enhance promotion of mental health of the population 8. Promote community action & empowerment for mental health 9. Strengthen prevention & control of mental illnesses through screening of mental health problems. 10. Reduce prevalence of macronutrient & micronutrient deficiencies 11. Control increase in prevalence of obesity 12. Control increase in prevalence of diet-related 	PUBLIC HEALTH Programme* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthen primary care services 2. Enhance quality of services 3. Enhance appropriate & timely management to limit morbidity & mortality from health priority diseases 4. Further develop skill & competencies, adopt appropriate protocols & technology for the prevention, diagnosis & management of diseases 5. Strengthen existing health services for prevention of mortality & morbidity, promotion & maintenance of health of various subgroups in the population i.e. pregnant mothers & newborn, infant & toddler, children & adolescents, adult & elderly, persons with disabilities 6. Strengthen implementation of community mental health services at national & state level towards improving mental health outcome 7. Develop service for early detection & treatment of common mental disorders among children & adolescents, adults, persons with special needs & elderly 8. Improve functioning of persons with severe mental illness & enhance their 	PUBLIC HEALTH Programme* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide optimal wellness-oriented health services 2. Manage human resources & financial allocations appropriately 3. Allocate all funding to optimise the organisation's performance in reducing disease burden 4. Plan & manage human resources to be able to provide optimal wellness-oriented health services 5. Optimise human resources in the delivery of services 6. Ensure effective delivery of mental health services at primary health care level 7. Have more competent staff to conduct nutrition-related activities 8. Improve collaboration & smart partnership between sectors, i.e. government, NGO's, private sector & international organisations 9. Ensure allocative efficiency in the planning & distribution of resources 10. Involve private General Practitioners in the delivery of primary medical care 	PUBLIC HEALTH Programme* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhance use of evidence-based PH research in decision making & care at all levels 2. Optimise availability of R&D resources for both R&D producers & R&D output users 3. Improve family health care services through R&D 4. Coordinate systemic research & programme evaluation in mental health 5. Make available appropriate nutrition data for policy & programme development 6. Strengthen capacity in conducting research through collaboration efforts with relevant agencies 	PUBLIC HEALTH Programme* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide adequate & appropriate emergency care services & facilities 2. Mitigate impact of disaster 3. Limit death & disability from disasters & health-related crisis 4. Expand & ensure complete national coverage of the MOH's Rapid Response Mechanism 5. Develop routine measurements of outcomes in mental health services 6. Establish routine collection & reporting of data by all types of mental health services 7. Improve the scope of Nutrition Surveillance System 	PUBLIC HEALTH Programme* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthen Public Health Information Management System (HMIS), 2. Provide health knowledge & information to users in appropriate format for optimal decision support 3. Develop a comprehensive data base for decision-support for the priority aspects of MOH services & operations 4. Consolidate family health information system into HMIS 5. Develop routine measurements of outcomes in mental health services 6. Establish routine collection & reporting of data by all types of mental health services 7. Improve the scope of Nutrition Surveillance System 8. Provide quality care through the convenience of ICT (Tele-primary care)

Appendix 1

<p><i>consumer through consumer education & advocating accurate & meaningful food labelling</i></p> <p>23. Create a nation with optimal lifelong wellness</p> <p>MEDICAL Programme</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide adequate & effective services for the prevention & reduction of disease burden 2. Provide appropriate & timely management to minimise morbidity & reduce mortality 3. Further develop skills, competencies & adoption of appropriate technologies for the management of diseases 	<p>RESEARCH & TECHNICAL SUPPORT Programme**</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct research to support MOH in provision of quality health services of all types so that mortality & morbidity consequences are minimal 2. Conduct research to support MOH to further develop skills & competencies & adopt appropriate protocols &technology for the prevention, diagnosis & management of diseases 3. Provide quality health facilities, policy & services to minimise morbidity & reduce mortality 4. Provide development budget to improve skills & competencies of human resource responsible for the prevention, diagnosis & management of diseases 5. Engineering support for effective & proper functioning of building, equipment & engineering system 6. Proper maintenance for healthcare facilities 7. Acquire appropriate medical equipment 8. Ensure reliability & efficiency of engineering installation facilities 9. Ensure all healthcare facilities are maintained to appropriate standards 10. Provide timely access to quality, safe & technologically appropriate equipment of ionizing & non ionizing 	<p>success & positive outcomes in pharmaceutical care activities provided by competent pharmacists with specialised training</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Influence changes in psychosocial-behavioural pattern of Malaysia population in relation to drug & healthcare products usage towards more rationality & objectivity 3. Empower consumers in choice of medication for minor illness by education & pharmacists' assisted self help/self-care 4. Improve quality use of drugs & increasing safety factors in drugs usage 5. Enhance & strengthen pharmaceutical care services & drug management towards achieving national health goals in preventive, curative & palliative care 6. Increase equity for quality pharmaceutical services throughout the country 7. Create a pool of pharmacists trained with post graduate degree specialising in legislations to carry out enforcement activity more effectively 8. Provide a better service for the public in term of law enforcement 9. Develop skills & competencies & adopt ISO 17025 (Good Laboratory Practice)
<p><i>education & advocating accurate & meaningful food labelling</i></p> <p>23. Create a nation with optimal lifelong wellness</p> <p>RESEARCH & TECHNICAL SUPPORT Programme **</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct research to support individuals, families & communities in attaining life long wellness 2. Review & change relevant structures, service practices & policy to promote & support the public's wellness 3. Provide adequate & effective health services for the prevention & control of diseases 4. Develop skills, competencies & adoption of appropriate technology 5. Optimise infrastructure, equipment & technology 6. Provide technical support services for medical & health 	<p>ORAL HEALTH Programme</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthen Oral Health Information Management System 2. Further strengthen Health Management Information System in Oral Health Services 3. Increase use of ICT for improved efficiency in various aspects of healthcare delivery <p>MANAGEMENT Programme***</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase network infrastructure & coverage 2. Provide one common platform for infrastructure to enable information sharing 3. ICT acculturation 4. Enhance public sector accountability through provision of accounting & management information 	<p>success & positive outcomes in pharmaceutical care activities provided by competent pharmacists with specialised training</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Influence changes in psychosocial-behavioural pattern of Malaysia population in relation to drug & healthcare products usage towards more rationality & objectivity 3. Empower consumers in choice of medication for minor illness by education & pharmacists' assisted self help/self-care 4. Improve quality use of drugs & increasing safety factors in drugs usage 5. Enhance & strengthen pharmaceutical care services & drug management towards achieving national health goals in preventive, curative & palliative care 6. Increase equity for quality pharmaceutical services throughout the country 7. Create a pool of pharmacists trained with post graduate degree specialising in legislations to carry out enforcement activity more effectively 8. Provide a better service for the public in term of law enforcement 9. Develop skills & competencies & adopt ISO 17025 (Good Laboratory Practice)

			system
			5. Support decision making in MOH
programmes			
7. Strengthen the monitoring & control mechanism of T/CM	radiation, & medical device	ORAL HEALTH Programme	
8. Promote public awareness & education on the availability of safe T/CM practice	11. Enhance the capability & efficiency of end users	1. Plan & manage human resources so that they are able to provide oral health services to achieve optimal oral health for improved health & enhanced quality of life	
PHARMACY Programme	12. Regulate T/CM practices & practitioners	2. Consolidate existing physical facilities	
1. Provide accurate, relevant & unbiased information on drugs, pharmaceuticals, & herbal medications to healthcare providers in the public & private sectors & the lay public, through Drug Information & Consumer Education Unit	13. Implement & enforce T/CM Act	MANAGEMENT Programme***	
2. Empower the utilisation of evidence-based drug information by healthcare professionals & public	14. Accreditate T/CM Training Centres	1. Plan & manage human resources so that they are able to provide optimal wellness orientated health services	
	15. Train (credential) registered practitioners	2. Further develop skills & competencies & adopt appropriate protocols/guidelines & technology	
	16. Train MOH personnel in selected T/CM practices	3. Reduce shortage of human resource	
	17. Pilot selected T/CM to be integrated into existing healthcare facilities	4. Attract & retain human resource within public service	
		5. Ensure equitable distribution of human resource	
		6. Improve values/ethics of MOH personnel	
		7. Assess competency level of MOH personnel	
		8. Improve MOH image	
		9. Cost control of healthcare expenditure	
MANAGEMENT Programme***		ORAL HEALTH Programme	
1. Empower individuals, families & communities in attaining life long wellness	1. Provide quality oral health services to reduce disease burden	1. Improve the quality of management system & structure	
2. Improve relevant organisational structure & service practices to promote and support public's services	2. Further develop skills & core competencies of oral health personnel & adopt appropriate guidelines for the management of oral diseases	2. Ensure financial operations &	

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activities of managing health care delivery system are carried out economically, efficiently & effectively	3. Nurture health care industry
	4. Enhance bilateral & multilateral cooperation within the health sector
	5. Provide continuous & high quality support services in financing

* Public Health Programme includes Disease Control, Family Health Development, Food Safety and Quality Control, and Health Education Divisions

** Research and Technical Support Programme includes the National Institutes of Health, planning and Development, Engineering and Traditional and Complementary Medicine Divisions

*** Management Programme includes Management Services, Internal Audit, Policy & International Relations, Human Resources, Competency, Finance, Manpower Planning & Training, Information Technology, Public Relations