



Contents

Acknowledgements	v
Acronyms, abbreviations & WHO Regions	vii
Key points: WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2002–2005	1
What is traditional medicine?	1
Widespread and growing use	1
Why such broad use?	2
Uncritical enthusiasm versus uninformed scepticism	2
Challenges in developing TM/CAM potential	3
The current role of WHO	4
Framework for action	5
Strategy implementation	6
1. Global review	7
1.1 What is traditional medicine? Towards a working definition	7
1.2 Broad use and appeal	9
1.3 Expenditure	12
1.4 Accounting for use and increasing interest	12
1.5 Responding to the popularity of TM/CAM	15
2. Challenges	19
2.1 What needs to be done?	19
2.2 National policies and legal framework	20
2.3 Safety, efficacy, quality	21
2.4 Access	24
2.5 Rational use	26

3. The current role of WHO	29
3.1 Developing TM/CAM and integrating it into national health care systems	29
3.2 Ensuring appropriate, safe and effective use of traditional medicine	31
3.3 Increasing access to TM/CAM information	32
4. International and national resources for traditional medicine	35
4.1 UN Agencies	35
4.2 International organizations	37
4.3 Nongovernmental organizations	38
4.4 Global professional associations	39
4.5 International and national professional associations	40
4.6 Specific initiatives	41
5. Strategy and Plan of Action 2002–2005	43
5.1 Policy: Integrate TM/CAM with national health care systems, as appropriate, by developing and implementing national TM/CAM policies and programmes	44
5.2 Safety, efficacy and quality: Promote the safety, efficacy and quality of TM/CAM by expanding the knowledge-base on TM/CAM, and by providing guidance on regulatory and quality assurance standards	46
5.3 Access: Increase the availability and affordability of TM/CAM, with an emphasis on access for poor populations	47
5.4 Rational use: Promote therapeutically sound use of appropriate TM/CAM by providers and consumers	48
Annex 1: List of WHO Collaborating Centres for Traditional Medicine	49
Annex 2: Selected WHO publications and documents on traditional medicine	51
National policy and monitoring	51
Quality, safety and efficacy	51
Rational use	52
WHO Collaborating Centres for Traditional Medicine	53
References	55
Index	59