

## **Statement of CISEPO Vision, Goal, Objective, Activities – October 2007**

### **Vision: Genetics and Child Health: Balanced work for peace in the Middle East**

**Goal: Peaceful professional cooperation as a model to motivate broader participation in the peace process by people in all countries of the Middle East.**

### **Objective: Building and sustaining peaceful professional cooperation among Arabs and Israelis through shared health initiatives:**

- Building essential trust, confidence and cooperation through regular and frequent transparent communication among medical specialists and professionals, academic researchers in countries of the Middle East;
- Equipping children, affected by genetically transmitted diseases and impairments, for life through shared research, provision of necessary equipment and social supports, long term follow through, thereby touching the lives of ordinary people and communities;
- Influencing public health policy by communicating and acting on the results of front line actions in support of children with genetically related disabilities;
- Promoting high quality ground-breaking mission-relevant scientific research - thus engaging the scientific research communities of the Middle East and the wider international scientific community to gain a deeper understanding of the connection between genetics and child health and well-being;
- Implementing innovative cross-border student exchanges – thus building cooperative young leadership in all countries of the region but who share a common commitment to peaceful cooperation;
- Fostering leading-edge continuing medical education, professional training and development, practical cooperative cross-border workshops and conferences for project planning and implementation – thus building on-the-ground needs-based capacity, international development and enduring interpersonal relationships;
- Conducting co-operative interactive medical, scientific videoteleconference rounds – thus facilitating transparent communication across borders, sharing knowledge, planning of national and regional joint efforts, extending multilateral people-to-people relationships and promoting network building;
- Developing health care, research, and service infrastructure, especially those facilities assisting children affected by genetically transmitted diseases and impairments.

### **Measuring success:**

- Number of small cross border initiatives, identified as 'confidence building measures' which motivate sustained collaborative work;
- Evidence of 'multiplier effect' through growing number of autonomous activities typical of peaceful professional collaboration across borders;
- Analysis of qualitative indicators indicating the quality of the processes in place encouraging cross border peaceful professional collaboration;
- Numerical evidence of youth participation and number of youth focused activities to ensure growth of professional youth committed to peaceful professional cooperation.