## THE BABY-FRIENDLY HOSPITAL DESIGNATION PROCESS

Facility appraises its own practices, using the Self-Appraisal Tool and studying the Global Criteria. Either: Meets high standards, as indicated by the self-Or: Does not meet standards but appraisal, and has 75% exclusively breastfeeding from recognizes need for improvements. birth to discharge. Facility requests the BFHI coordination group (BCG) to carry out an external assessment, or assign a BFHI Facility studies the Global Criteria, Designation Committee (BDC) to do so. (a first step analyses deficiencies and develops may be a "pre-assessment" by a local consultant/ plan of action to become babyassessor to help determine if the facility is ready, and to friendly. Requests Certificate of assist with any final improvements needed). Commitment\* and any support Facility invites external assessors to conduct an assessment using the Hospital External Assessment Tool. Facility implements plan of action, including further staff training, if needed, until baby-friendly Either: Meets the Or: Does not meet the practices become routine. Global Criteria for a Global Criteria for a (then requests external assessment) baby-friendly hospital. baby-friendly hospital. Notes: 1. If a mother is not exclusively BFHI coordination group breastfeeding but it is verified that it BFHI coordination may provide a Certificate is for an acceptable medical reason, group (BCG) awards she can be counted as meeting the of Commitment3 to the hospital the WHO/ become baby-friendly, or UNICEF Global BFH criterion. Award and Plaque.2 alternative notification. An external assessment team does not designate a hospital as baby-friendly. The national BFHI coordination Facility monitors its Facility analyses problem group makes the final decision, after practices and works to areas and schedules further checking that the assessment results maintain standards.4 action to become Babyare accurate. friendly. Requests support 3. Some countries include the *Certificate* needed. After 3 years (or a of Commitment as an interim step period decided by the towards designation as baby-friendly. Facility implements plan National Authority in In these settings, if a facility does not of action until babymeet standards after self-appraisal or consultation with the friendly practices become BCG) a reassessment after an external assessment, they can routine, then re-invites is needed, using the request a certificate. However, it is external assessor(s) as the responsibility of the national Assessment Tool or a above. authority or BFHI coordination group reassessment tool. to set the standards for such certificates. Some countries provide a Facility fails certificate of participation for Facility passes facilities at the early stage if facility reassessment and does reassessment and staff has conducted self-appraisal and not receive renewal BFH receives an extension needs to make further improvements of the BFH award. award. before requesting an external assessment. 4. A facility that attains baby-friendly status may consider immediate action to expand the Global Criteria based on needs of the community.