Contents

Preface	٧
I. Introduction	1
Maternal mortality and morbidity in developing countrie	s I
Maternity care in district health systems	4
2. Essential elements of obstetric care related to	o
causes of maternal death	8
Surgical obstetrics	9
Anaesthesia	18
Medical treatment	19
Blood replacement	23
Manual procedures and monitoring labour	26
Management of women at high risk	31
Family planning support	32
Neonatal special care	36
3. Implementation	37
Health personnel	37
Facilities	39
Equipment, supplies and drugs	42
Supervision	43
Evaluation	43
Research	43
Cost and financial considerations	44
References	46
Annex I. Technical Working Group on Essential Obstetric Functions at First Referral Level	48
Annex 2. Surgical and delivery equipment	49
Annex 3. Materials for side-ward laboratory tests and blood transfusion	d 58
Annex 4. Essential drugs for obstetric services	61
Annex 5. Maternity centre facilities and equipment	64