

**Table 4** Policies, regulations and guidelines ensuring the quality of family planning (FP) services in all 18 respondent countries and the 7 priority countries of the Eastern Mediterranean Region, 2009

Item	All countries		Priority countries <sup>a</sup>						
	No.	%	Afg	Irq	Mor	Pak	Som	Sud	Yem
<i>A competency-based national qualification system is in place that certifies health workers to provide quality FP counselling and services</i>	6	33	✓	✓	✗	n/r	✗	✗	✓
<i>To ensure the safety of FP services, national regulations set up-to-date minimum standards for:</i>									
Health facilities	16	89	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Medical equipment	16	89	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Medical commodities	18	100	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Infection prevention measures	17	94	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>National guidelines and protocols for FP counselling and service provision are:</i>									
Evidence-based	16	89	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Regularly updated	13	72	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓
An effective and functional quality assurance system is in place to ensure the quality of provided FP services	9	50	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓
<i>Supportive supervision system is in place to support service providers and improve their performance at:</i>									
Primary health care level	15	83	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Secondary health care level	9	50	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓

<sup>a</sup>Afghanistan, Iraq, Morocco, Pakistan, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen: classified as priority countries due to poor performance in achieving targets of millennium development goals 4A and 5A.

✓ = available; ✗ = not available; n/r = no response received from the country.