



**NDPHS Working Group on Expert Groups' Terms of Reference
First Meeting
Oslo, Norway
23 November 2009**

Reference	EGTOR 1/4/Info 5
Title	Preliminary remarks on the new ToR
Submitted by	HIV/AIDS Expert Group Chairman
Requested action	For discussion

Some preliminary remarks on the new ToR

1. Overall objectives for the EGs

Within the area of public health and social well-being, assigned to the EG by (PAC?)

- To initiate and support actions, projects or other public health interventions, that help NDPHS to achieve its goals (defined by the CSR?)
- The interventions should yield best possible impact to the development and management of regional collaboration, promote exchange of expertise and improve the health and social well-being of the people

2. Overall goals for each EG

For HIV EG the overall goals should be

- To facilitate regional collaboration of health authorities and civil societies focusing in issues dealing with HIV/AIDS that have special relevance to the people in the region.

3. Mid-term goals for each EG (Here HIV EG)

- To develop and implement Barents region collaboration with spin-offs in other regions. (Several projects are being established and implemented)
- To establish cross-border activities between Estonia and Leningrad Oblast as a project
- To initiate new projects dealing with the prevention of TB/HIV dual infections in high-risk populations
- To support the expert network by regular meetings and planning and implementation of new relevant projects through it.
- Demonstrate activities in the following fields: Prevention and care among most-at-risk-groups including IDU:s and their partners, MSM and youth.

(REMARK: THE SECRETARIAT WILL PROBABLY TRY TO INCLUDE AN OBLIGATION TO ACT AS THE COORDINATOR FOR THE EU BSR-POLICY ACTION CONCERNING HIV-AIDS. WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT THIS WILL MEAN OR IS THIS POSSIBLE WITH THE CURRENT EG)

4. Duties/responsibilities

Duties (from the current versions with suggested modifications)

Consistent with these provisions, the EG on (HIV/AIDS) has the following scope of responsibilities: (New suggestions in BOLD):

- **SUPPORT THE COLLABORATIVE WORK OF HIGH LEVEL EXPERTS IN A SUSTAINABLE WAY BY ORGANISING REGULAR MEETINGS THAT PROVIDE**

OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS AND EXCHANGE VIEWS BETWEEN THE MEMBERS AND WITH OUTSIDE EXPERTS

- Establish connections and co-operation with other NDPHS Expert Groups;
- Facilitate the project proposal processes such as by expediting relevant technical reviews, negotiating specific terms and conditions, and establishing assessment mechanisms, with an emphasis on performance and verifiable results. In this respect, the Expert Group can identify needs and develop initiatives for new projects, identify actors and new partners;
- In selected cases, act as a technical referee for new project proposals, project identification, planning, implementation and monitoring. This includes making recommendations on project proposals and implementation, as well as assisting in planning, as requested; (ACCEPTABLE ?)
- Contribute to the development of national policies that respond to the needs and requirements of Partner Countries;
- Map and identify Member Countries' needs for technical and financial support to scale-up national HIV/AIDS programmes, and encourage requests for assistance;
- BASED ON THE EXPERT VIEWS, DEFINE THE PRIORITIES FOR ACTIONS AND PROMOTE THEIR IMPACT IN NATIONAL POLICIES
- In association with Partners, and with assistance from the NDPHS Secretariat, support efforts to provide technical and other forms of assistance to governmental and national partners in planning, implementing and monitoring programs to scale up HIV/AIDS treatment, care and prevention.
- REPORT the results of projects and activities implemented under the Partnership TO CSR;
- PROMOTE DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE WORK OF THE EG USING APPROPRIATE CHANNELS INCLUDING THE WEBSITE AND OTHER CHANNELS OF NDPHS
- Provide feedback and report on progress to the CSR, and provide the NDPHS Secretariat with updated information and support, when appropriate; (ACCEPTABLE?)
- When relevant, review the Expert Group's Terms of Reference and advise on any necessary amendments; (ACCEPTABLE)
- Other responsibilities, as approved by the CSR or the Partnership Annual Conference (PAC). (ACCEPTABLE)
- The official language of the Expert Group is English. (ACCEPTABLE BUT SHOULD BE INCLUDED INTO THE NEXT SECTION)

5. Composition

As earlier.

6. Working principles

Each EG decides itself about the working format what comes to the invitation of partner representative and other permanent and temporary participants.

7. Monitoring and reporting

To be defined later. The EU assignment is important here!