



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



## **WORKING GROUP OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON STREAMLINING THE GOVERNANCE MECHANISMS OF PAHO**

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20 April 2006

### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

#### **Women, Health and Development Technical Advisory Group**

##### 1. Objectives

- (a) To advise the Director and the Secretariat regarding medium and long term objectives, strategies and mechanisms to effectively implement the PAHO Gender Equality adopted by the Directing Council (CD46.R16)
- (b) To strengthen policy dialogue among key actors and agencies involved in efforts to attain gender equality goals in health and development.

##### 2. Composition

The Women, Health and Development Technical Advisory Group (WHDTAG) will be composed of a core of eight experts from the Region in areas related to women, health and development; additional experts will be identified to address special problem areas. Members will be appointed by the Director of PASB. The Gender, Ethnicity and Health Unit of the Office of the Assistant Director will serve as the Secretariat for the WHDTAG.

Members will be appointed for a period of one year, with possible extension. At least one member should also be a member of the World Health Organization's Gender, Women and Health Department (WHO/GWH).

##### 3. Frequency of meetings

Meetings of the Women, Health and Development Technical Advisory Group will be convened as required, usually once every two years to discuss issues related to planning, progress and obstacles in the implementation of the Gender Equality Policy and programming. Targets and strategies will be reviewed and the recommendations issued

will be presented to the Executive Committee and disseminated throughout the Region. Members could also be consulted on an individual basis as required.

#### 4. Functions

- (a) Advise the Director and the Secretariat with respect to priorities to progressively implement the Gender Equality Policy in all the work of the Organization, including PAHO technical cooperation, national policy development, and human resource management.
- (b) Advise and guide the Director and the Secretariat concerning the optimal strategies and tactics to reach the overall goals of the PAHO Gender Equality Policy and other relevant international commitments in this area.
- (c) Monitor the implementation of a Regional Plan of Action to accomplish the above-stated goals.
- (d) Promote understanding and support for the goals of the above Regional Plan of Action among political leaders, technical institutions, bilateral, multilateral and private agencies, as well as among civil society organizations.
- (e) Participate in missions at the country level for program reviews and meetings.
- (f) Advise on the criteria, methodology and research needed to effectively mainstream a gender equality perspective in all the work of the Organization.

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