



**PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION**  
*Pan American Sanitary Bureau, Regional Office of the*  
**WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION**

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**COUNTRY FOCUS IN ACTION: THE CASE OF GUYANA**

**Thursday, 19 May 2005, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland**

**1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. – Salle XXII**

Dear Delegates:

I cordially invite you to participate in a meeting where we will share the progress of PAHO/WHO's country focus in Guyana including the Country Cooperation Strategy. As mandated by the Governing Bodies in the Strategic Plan for 2003-2007, Guyana is one of the five PAHO Key Countries which are designated as deserving priority technical cooperation due to the nature of their health situation, poverty levels and indebtedness.

The 58<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly represents a unique opportunity to share information and concerns about the challenges faced by Guyana and to ratify our commitment to support an urgent effort. As part of the Country Focus Policy, PAHO/WHO has developed its Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) with Guyana, an organization-wide reference framework which guides its planning, budgeting and resource allocation for country work. It states the priorities for PAHO/WHO cooperation through close interaction with the government, development partners and civil society.

The Country Cooperation Strategy is the main component of the Organization's Country Focus Policy to support and enhance our response to country needs. The CCS has helped the government of Guyana and partners learn about PAHO/WHO capacities and its potential, in line with the national policies and plans and in synergy with partners, and consistent with collective agreements. PAHO/WHO has learnt about the optimal "niche" for its technical cooperation with Guyana and the key components of its strategic agenda.

The expected outcomes of the meeting will be to:

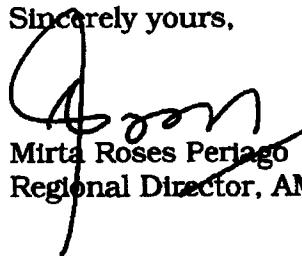
- Share PAHO/WHO's strategic agenda for Guyana, the achievements and the lessons learned.
- Build on the achievements and invite other partners to make a collective effort for improving the health status of the people of Guyana in line with the harmonization and alignment strategy.
- Call for integrated support from WHO technical units for an articulated technical cooperation response to Guyana needs.

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The WHO Director-General, Dr J.W. Lee will be present. The Honorable Leslie Ramsammy, Minister of Health of Guyana will make opening remarks, and the PAHO/WHO Representative, Dr B. Theodore-Gandi, will present the achievements and lessons learned through PAHO/WHO strategic agenda for Guyana. The floor will be then open for questions and discussion, including comments for key partners.

We look forward for your participation.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Periago', written over the typed name.

Mirta Roses Periago  
Regional Director, AMRO

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- Share PAHO/WHO's strategic agenda for Guyana, the achievements and the lessons learned.
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### **Agenda:**

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|---|---------|
| ○ Introduction by AMRO Regional Director            | 5 min.  |
| ○ Presentation by Guyana Minister of Health         | 15 min. |
| ○ Presentation by PAHO/WHO Representative in Guyana | 15 min. |
| ○ Comments by key partners                          | 10 min. |
| ○ General Discussion                                | 20 min. |
| ○ Remarks by Director-General                       | 10 min. |
| ○ Conclusions and wrap-up by the Regional Director  | 10 min. |

### **Participants:**

**Moderator: Dr. Kerstin Leitner, ADG/SDE**

- Director-General
- Regional Director, AMRO
- National Authorities from Guyana
- National Authorities from Member States, including neighbouring countries
- Assistant Director-Generals for technical areas relevant to the strategic agenda of Guyana
- Technical staff from WHO's relevant technical units
- Representative from the European Commission
- WEU Director
- Representatives from DFID, USAID, CIDA, and CARICOM
- Representatives from other partners and donors community attending the World Health Assembly, including NGOs