



## **“GUYANA DAY”**

**Monday, 4 October, 2004**

**Room A - 9:30 to 11:30 am**

### **WHO/PAHO COUNTRY COOPERATION STRATEGY: GUYANA FACT SHEET**

The Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS):

- Is a tool to improve the performance of the World Health Organization/Pan American Health Organization (WHO/PAHO) at country level. It reflects the medium-term (4-6 years) vision of WHO/PAHO for its technical cooperation with a given country and defines the strategic framework for working with the country. That is, the CCS highlights both *what* WHO/PAHO will do (areas of work) and *how* it will do it (functions).
- Represents a sound balance among country priorities, regional orientations, and global priorities. It is planned in a participatory way and takes into consideration the work of national, regional, and international development partners, and WHO/PAHO's comparative advantage.
- Places emphasis on wider partnerships with government, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, civil society, and other development agencies.

The Guyana CCS, 2004-2007:

- Highlights Guyana as one of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) in the Region of the Americas and a Key Country in the PAHO Strategic Plan 2003-2007.
- Builds on guiding frameworks such as the National Strategic Health Plan 2003-2007, the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper, and the Health Sector Analysis.
- Identifies national challenges, such as:
  - Widespread poverty, inequity, and disparities among various population groups
  - Slow economic growth, despite abundant natural resources
  - High burden of both communicable and non-communicable diseases
  - Limitation in quantity and quality of information for decision-making
  - Limited managerial capacity of the health sector
  - Difficulties in retaining qualified professionals
  - Imbalance in the distribution of health development aid



The Guyana CCS, 2004-2007:

- Notes challenges for the WHO/PAHO country office, such as:
  - Maintaining technical leadership in health, including attracting and retaining a critical cadre of technical staff
  - Working collaboratively with other agencies and partners in the health sector
- Describes the main strategic emphases for WHO/PAHO, namely:
  - Reducing excess mortality, morbidity, and disability, especially in poorer and marginalized populations;
  - Promoting healthy lifestyles and reducing risk factors to human health that arise from environmental, economic, social, and behavioural causes; and
  - Developing health systems that equitably improve health outcomes, respond to people's legitimate demands, and are financially fair.
- Identifies priority functions for WHO/PAHO, namely:
  - Providing specific policy advice; serving as a broker; and influencing policy, action and spending;
  - Supporting research and development; monitoring health sector performance; and
  - Information and knowledge sharing; providing generic policy options; standards; advocacy.
- Describes implications for WHO/PAHO as a whole, in particular the Country Office, where strengthening of technical capacity and review of its financial resources will be important.

