

TAC responses to FCH/HI Questions

October 16, 2009

Preamble

- TAC acknowledges the division of labor that has been agreed upon among the UN agencies and that PAHO is recognized as the lead agency in the area of treatment and care and its responsibility as the leader in health systems strengthening.
- In this context, TAC recommends that PAHO identify and continue to clarify its niche in the overall, ongoing response to the HIV epidemic and try to enhance its visibility.

Preamble

- TAC recognizes PAHO's key role in capacity building as a means to help countries to achieve sustainability and self-reliance

Question 1

- More explicit emphasis on PAHO's role in prevention
- Focus on HIV Incidence in addition to Prevalence
 - Promote studies of Incidence, recognizing the current technical difficulties in methodology (valid tests) in studies of this kind
- Focus on MARPs should include mobile populations

Question 1

- Inter-agency coordination
- Gathering strategic info to prioritize and plan ahead

Question 2

- Promote research to inform more rational allocation of resources
- Increase partnering with other organizations at sub-regional and local levels
- Tailor actions to different countries' needs
- Emphasize capacity building

Question 2

- Promote empowerment of local voices
 - Strengthen NAPs
 - Encourage South-South cooperation
 - Provide technical support

Question 3

- Focus the response to the HIV epidemic in the context of health systems strengthening
- Promote capacity building as a way to improve sustainability
- Increase PAHO's visibility
- Link HIV with primary care and other areas (TB/STI/Sexual & Reproductive Health)
- Continue to promote Evidence-Based Practice

Question 3

- Monitoring and Evaluation, including
 - NAP performance
 - surveillance of HIV drug resistance

Question 4

- Promote collaboration and integration of services, without weakening HIV programs (The diagonal approach)
- Continue to support implementation of integration of HIV into primary health care (AIEPI;AIPSA)
- HIV as “políticas de estado” (permanent national policies)

Question 5

- Improve cooperation with financial partners, including (but not only) GFATM
 - Continue to support CCMs
 - Identify priorities
 - Foster research to clarify priorities
 - Advocate for the region, including helping funding partners to prioritize countries
 - Helping funding partners to avoid overlapping plans and funding

Question 5

- Promote sustainability (preparing for “the day after”, recognizing the heterogeneity among countries)
- Monitor budget execution
- Contribute to reduction of brain drain by advocating for improvement of local working conditions

Question 5

- Promote South-South training
- Map potential private and public sources of funds
- Study the opportunity cost of not investing in priority programs
- Explore cost-sharing mechanisms

Question 7

- Incidence studies: know your epidemic
 - Detuned assays
 - Modelling
 - Cohort surveillance, etc.
- Capacity building
- Partner with CDC, UNAIDS and other agencies

Question 7

- Do/promote second generation surveillance
- Standardize M & E
- Improve and harmonize surveillance and information systems
- Support studies on Early Warning Indicators of emerging HIV Drug Resistance
- Use dynamic contextual analysis for needs assessment and programming

Questions 8 & 9

- Do mapping exercise of existing knowledge hubs and assess their relevance to PAHO's priorities
- Maintain and improve the current strategy of HIV DR surveillance and monitoring
- Discuss strategic framework for technical support

Questions 10-13

- Put into practice existing plan
- Monitor to ascertain if it is working and assess facilitators and obstacles to implementing aspects of the plan
- Reach women before they are pregnant and promote arrival at points of service earlier in pregnancy
 - Work with sexual and reproductive health services
 - Include approaches at different points of service delivery

Question 14

- Quantify size of MARPs and at risk activities among them
- Monitor levels of visibility of different groups and sub-groups of MARPs
- Monitor levels of coverage and types of services provided
- Foster community participation
- Pursue a human rights approach

Question 15

- Increase dialogue between and among agencies
 - Avoid duplication
 - Harmonize
- Deliver appropriate information on who does what

MUST DO

- **Achieve significant quantifiable progress towards...**
 - **sustainable universal access to treatment**
 - **elimination of vertical transmission of HIV and syphilis**
 - **integration of HIV prevention, treatment and care into Primary Health Care, with links to TB, Sexual & Reproductive Health and other programs**

MUST DO

Within the context of PAHO's role

- **Improve surveillance and information systems**
- **Strengthen more comprehensive preventive and care services to MARPs and beyond**

See you in 2011 or earlier!