

**Terms of Reference**  
**Regional Technical Team (RTT)**  
**Pan American Alliance for Nutrition and Development to Achieve**  
**the Millennium Development Goals**

**1. Background**

The Regional Directors of the UN Agencies in the Region of Latin America and the Caribbean are greatly concerned about the role of the social determinants of health and development, as well as the deleterious consequences of the current food crisis to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The Regional Directors Team (RDT, formed by Regional Directors of UN agencies<sup>1</sup>) met July 24-25, 2008 and established the Pan American Alliance for Nutrition and Development to achieve the MDGs. The purpose of this Alliance is to address the social determinants of health through the promotion and implementation of an inter-agency strategy that responds to the needs of the countries and includes the participation of relevant stakeholders. This Alliance will be governed by the Regional Director's Team (RDT), which is composed of the Regional Directors of UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP, PAHO/WHO, ECLAC, OCHA, UNIFEM, UNAIDS, ILO, UNEP, OHCHR, UNOPS, UNCHR and UN Habitat. FAO and UNESCO participate in particular meetings depending on the agenda.

**2. Purpose**

Under the direction of the RDT, the Regional Technical Team (RTT), chaired by PAHO, will provide technical support to UN Country Teams to ensure harmonization and synergy of the technical and financial cooperation to better support transnational and national efforts to improve nutrition and health and promote development.

**3. Functions**

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<sup>1</sup> The Latin American and the Caribbean (LAC) Regional Directors' Team (RDT) is formed by regional directors of UN Agencies who meet regularly since 2003 to offer strategic support and oversight to address the most pressing issues in the region and support developmental, environmental and humanitarian priorities to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

- To develop a social determinants-oriented UN Joint Plan of Action to strengthen transnational and national integrated response to nutrition, health and development, specially aimed at achieving MDGs.
- To identify inter-sectoral and interprogramatic strategies, interventions and tools for development (health, nutrition, education, water and sanitation, agriculture, trade, labor, social participation, gender and human rights).
- To provide technical cooperation to the UNCTs.
- To establish a common monitoring and evaluation framework within and across countries.

#### **4. Composition and Governance**

- Members include a focal point of each of the regional offices/bureaus of the UN Organizations.
- Pan American Health Organization will act as the Secretariat of the RTT.

#### **5. Meetings**

- The RTT will hold meetings twice a year. Additional sessions will be held, as needed.
- In consultation with the RTT, the Secretariat will prepare the agenda for the meetings and coordinate the preparation of any documentation required.
- Each Organization will cover the costs incurred for the participation of its focal point(s) at the meeting and other associated activities.
- Other stakeholders may be invited to participate on an ad-hoc basis, as needed.

#### **6. Monitoring**

- Yearly, the RTT will prepare a progress report on the Plan of Action of the Alliance to be presented to the RDT.
- The RTT will meet and operate on the basis of an annual work plan. The meetings will serve as a monitoring and evaluation mechanism of the alliance performance.