

**CONCEPT NOTE FOR JOINT MID-TERM REVIEW OF HIV-AIDS
NATIONAL MULTISECTORAL STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK
(NMSF) 2008-2012**

1. Background Information

The Tanzania Commission for AIDS has been established by an Act of parliament to coordinate the National multi-sector response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Tanzania mainland. The National Policy on HIV/AIDS (2001) and a National Multisectoral Strategic Frameworks (NMSF) for HIV/AIDS for the period 2003- 2007 and 2008 – 2012 have been established and operationalised. The 2008 – 2012 NMSF is now in mid term of its implementation and has been used to guide all sectors (MDAs, LGAs, NSAs and other stakeholders in planning and programming HIV/AIDS interventions. The Tanzanian Government recognises the urgent need to address the HIV/AIDS epidemic and to mitigate its effects upon the population and economy of the country. Because the disease has a profoundly negative impact upon the entire population it is closely linked with the issues of poverty, productivity and education. Through its multi-sectoral manifestation, HIV/AIDS is a major development crisis that affects all sectors for the past two decades.

The NMSF Strategic objectives are supposed to be implemented by different actors depending on their roles and responsibilities. The implementation of all strategic objectives means all most addressing the epidemic from the prevention point of view, care & treatment support, impact mitigation. It further looked at the overall monitoring and evaluation of the national response, resource mobilization and the use of resources allocated for HIV/AIDS activities.

In order to assess whether the response coordinated through NMSF has had much impact on the progression of the epidemic, it is necessary to carry out regular reviews of the implementation of activities carried out by all partners. The second National Multi Sectoral Strategic Framework (NMSF 2008 – 2012) is under implementation. TACAIDS will facilitate the fourth biannual

review process encompassing multiple components aimed at presenting a comprehensive and meaningful review of the multisectoral national response to HIV and AIDS in Tanzania Mainland. This review marks a critical time to strategically take stock on the prospects and challenges for the HIV response in Tanzania as it is also the Mid-Term year for NMSF 2008 - 2012 and the year for the evaluation of the Universal Access achievements.

The review is crucial for the successful achievement of the national development, growth and poverty reduction goals as stipulated in the MKUKUTA II document. To ensure that the dialogue is conducted effectively, TACAIDS in collaboration with partners has decided to carry out a series of desk reviews which will provide information and evidence on the current status of the HIV & AIDS epidemic in Tanzania.

2. Goal

The general objectives are to assess and take stock of the progress made in the implementation of the NMSF 2008-2012 by all sectors and stakeholders. It also aimed at evaluating progresses with regard to Universal Access targets set in 2006 and identifying constraints and opportunities for enhanced implementation.

3. Objectives:

- a) To establish and document the status of the epidemic in the country and the response by various stakeholders (MDAs, LGAs, DPs, CSOs, and private sectors) through the review of current programmes;
- b) To take stock of the current achievements with regard to Universal Access targets and define the way forward;
- c) To Share important developments in implementation of the NMSF with stakeholders and partners involved in HIV/AIDS interventions
- d) To agree upon specific priorities for the year 2011/2012 which will feed into GBS

4. The review process (Technical and Main review)

There will be two reviews:

- A Technical review which will involve technical people from Government, DPs, CSOs and private sectors. This technical review will go through the important reports (epidemiological and programmatic), field visits studies and strategies in order to highlight issues and options to be tabled at the following stage (see below).
- A Main review which will gather a wide range of stakeholders from the HIV-AIDS sector; the latter will include policy discussions on the findings and recommendations of the technical review. The main review will agree on the way forward.

These two reviews will be guided by a **Steering Committee** which will work with all partners for commissioning reviews and consultations in a timely manner (ToRs of the SC to be developed separately).

5. Specific Objectives:

- a) Assess to what extent Tanzania mainland has mounted a comprehensive and relevant HIV response of appropriate scale and to identify what should be done in future to improve it;
- b) Analyse the NMSF(2008-2012) translation to action which includes the extent of implementation of the strategic objectives as stipulated in the NMSF (2008-2012);
- c) Review reports from key technical areas and examine the epidemiological situation and trend of HIV-AIDS to assess the reasons for success or failure of specific aspects of the national response;
- d) Review the adequacy of financial resources available for the response and propose measures for further resource mobilization;

- e) Review the progress on implementation of milestones set up during the 3rd Joint review and make recommendations for mid-course corrections if need be; agree on main minimum number of milestones for the second phase of implementation of the NMSF
- f) Perform field survey on national response to assess implementation constraints and opportunities at decentralized level;
- g) Assess the relevance of the current institutional framework (policy and legal environment) to support the achievement of the NMSF (2008-2012) objectives.

6. Tasks

The various teams in charge of the work will specifically undertake the following:

- a) Identify documents and sources for information and analyse the information available. If needed proceed to fill gaps in the knowledge base as far as required and possible by proposing additional work to be done and discuss it in the inception report;
- b) Consult some MDAs, CSOs, private organisations, institutions, Developing Partners to assess the level of implementation for HIV/AIDS related activities as stipulated in the NMSF and to get feedback and information on other specific topics;
- c) Undertake field visits to selected districts to consult LGAs, NGOs, service providers, PLHIV and affected communities.

7. Outputs

The following documents and outputs are expected:

- a) The overall analysis of the trend of the epidemic taking into account the latest epidemiological information and M&E reports. This analysis should highlight areas where additional efforts from the national response are necessary and need for additional information and research;
- b) A programmatic and management desk review which will stipulate coverage and type of services available, uptake of services (estimate) and areas to be strengthened with a special emphasis at the decentralized level. This review should be done in light of the current NMSF priorities. This desk review will incorporate issues raised from decentralized level (field visit report);
- c) The Universal Access review will examine achievements against the UA goals and targets for the country. It will also propose the way forward to ensure that Tanzania is coming as close as possible of Universal Access to prevention, Care, Treatment and support services for the general population;
- d)** Recommendations, milestones and steps for the way forward so as to enhance implementation and management of the NMSF in 2011-2012. The review should also consider to design a road map for the preparation of the third NMSF (2013-2018).

8. Time frame:

The technical review will take place from 22nd to 24th September and the main review on 27th and 28th of September.

Reviews, studies and field visits have to take place in advance in order to meet this deadline. It is estimated that at least 45 working days will be necessary to complete the preparatory work before the technical meeting. Due to the nature of the task

and the need to get this information, at least four consultants will be necessary to carry out the task between July –August, 2010.

