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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Between
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE CONTROL OF IODINE DEFICIENCY
DISORDERS (ICCIDD)
and
WEST AFRICAN HEALTH ORGANISATION (WAHO)

Preamble

The memorandum, between International Council for the Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (ICCIDD) an international organisation committed to sustainable elimination of iodine deficiency and its consequences through USI, on request and through advice and facilitation at country or regional level, and the West African Health Organisation (WAHO), establishes the broad mutual understanding of our two Organisations regarding our strategic relationship in establishing and operating programmes to improve and sustain the iodine nutritional status and prevention of iodine deficiency disorders among the peoples that constitute the Countries of the ECOWAS sub-region. We recognise the autonomy of each Organisation and enter this agreement in a spirit of mutual trust and respect and a shared commitment for improving the conditions of life by creating awareness and opportunities for their well-being, through improved nutrition and prevention of iodine deficiency and its consequences. This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is therefore a statement of mutual intent to which the two Organisations are bound. For specific jointly developed programmes, agreements will be entered into in the form of grant agreements or other documents based on specific plans and budgets.

1.0. Organisations to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

- 1.1. Organisations to this Memorandum of Understanding are the International Council for the Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (ICCIDD) and the West African Health Organisation (WAHO).
- 1.2. This MOU does not preclude each Organisation from working independently with other sub-regional organisations engaged in nutrition and the prevention of iodine deficiency disorders. However, the Organisations shall be transparent about the establishment of these collaborations with other organisations, as they affect the coordination.

2.0. Identity of the Organisations

International Council for the Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (ICCIDD) worldwide and the West African health Organisation (WAHO) affirm that they are both autonomous Organisations with a common goal. The parties shall therefore work together to fulfil their common goal while affirming their different identities.

17/07/11
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3.0. Goal and Values

3.1. Goal

The Organisations shall work together, each according to the means it can contribute, for achieving their shared goals, while enhancing their respective capacities.

3.2. Values

The Organisations recognise they have a common vision for seeking to elevate the nutritional standards and the sustainable prevention of iodine deficiency and its consequences among the peoples in the countries that constitute ECOWAS.

The Organisations commit themselves to a relationship based on subsidiarity, mutual cooperation and understanding, complementarity, equitability, openness and sharing, mutual transparency, sustainability, community participation, strengthening civil society and regional capacity building.

4.0. Operating Principles

This Memorandum of Understanding shall be based upon the following operating principles:

4.1. Structure

The Organisations shall cooperate in order to sustain the gains already achieved in nutrition and prevention of iodine deficiency, in order to strengthen already existing local structures on the ground, as well as jointly establish any necessary new structures at the national level.

4.2. Implementation

Local structures shall be the primary implementers in undertaking programmatic activities.

The Organisations shall complement each other in the process of implementation of programmes, in full recognition of the requirements of being accountable to donors, communities and other stakeholders.

International Council for the Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (ICCIDD) shall facilitate the process of implementation with the assistance of the West African Health Organisation (WAHO).

4.3. Decision-Making

Decisions affecting the partnership will be made by mutual consent. One Organisation cannot make a decision affecting the other Organisation without its consent. All Organisations have the right to submit proposals that involve a mutual decision and will respect the particular characteristics of each Organisation and its right to mutual consent.

4.4. Resources

The Organisations shall pool together private and public resources, as well as resources from international organisations and other sources, for the purpose of empowering local structures in the implementation of the activities.

4.5. Programmes

Any shared programme interventions shall be undertaken in a joint manner, between ICCIDD and WAHO, while respecting the principle of subsidiarity and mutual cooperation.

The Organisations shall share the responsibility to take a participatory and holistic approach to technical issues and programme quality.

4.6. Fundraising

The Organisations shall be transparent in approaching funding agencies, and approach them together for funding joint ventures, whenever possible. Transparency will be maintained through dialogue, consultations, and sharing of reports and budgets. The ICCIDD Regional Coordinator for Africa (upon delegation from the ICCIDD Executive Director) and the Director General of the West African Health Organisation (WAHO) shall decide through their regular meetings and on a case-by-case basis what donors should be approached, based on the nature of the project.

4.7. Communication

The Organisations shall advocate for open communication between each other and other institutions at all levels and shall be committed to the ownership of the relationship thus equally bearing the responsibility for initiating the communication process.

Some modes of communication the organisation shall use shall be the following:

- Bi-annual technical meetings
- Joint communiqué.

4.8. Solidarity

Each Organisation undertakes the following:

- To respond openly, thoughtfully, collaboratively and promptly to a partner's request for assistance, especially in emergency situations.
- To find flexible and mutually agreeable solutions to situations beyond the control of either Organisation that affect programme implementation (e.g. social/political conflict, natural disaster, etc).
- To actively seek the way to build mutual trust by fully sharing information, confidences and problems with the other Organisation.
- To recognise and respect other stakeholders to which each Organisation is accountable (e.g. communities, donors, etc).
- To periodically review their partnership jointly and continually seek ways to nurture and strengthen it.
- To comply fully and promptly with the conditions of any projects involving the other Organisation and to act in a fiduciary relationship with mutual respect.
- If one Organisation believes that another organisation is not living up to the MOU, the first Organisation will communicate this to the other Organisation.

5.0. Organizations' individual contributions

Both ICCIDD and WAHO are committed to building a collaborative institutional relationship, by sharing their respective experiences and expertise.

Each Organisation agrees to share their respective material and approaches, in an attempt to develop new materials or approaches or enhance existing ones.

Each Organisation will contribute to this relationship in the following ways:

ICCIDD

Within the framework of this MOU, ICCIDD will provide to WAHO upon request:

- a). Technical, managerial, operational and analytic advice on policies relating to iodine nutrition and to national endeavours to achieve USI and virtual elimination of IDD.
- b). Professional support to review national USI and IDD Elimination programmes and propose solutions for removal of constraints on the request of governments.

c). In addition, ICCIDD will continue to offer collaboration to national governments and other national entities involved in achieving and sustaining USI and virtual elimination of IDD for: reviews of progress; analysis of operations; reviews and evaluations of laboratory and other quality assurance systems; consultations on training and management and other capacity building requirements. ICCIDD will maintain close contact with WAHO in these undertakings and share all experiences and results promptly.

d). ICCIDD will keep WAHO Secretariat informed regularly on the activities of the organization including meetings, studies, science, and opportunities for mutually beneficial collaboration.

WAHO

Within this MOU framework, regarding its mandate and mission, on harmonizing health policies in ECOWAS Member States, WAHO will provide to ICCIDD, under its internal regulations:

a) Institutional supports in order to facilitate implementation of all type of technical assistance requested in ECOWAS countries; ICCIDD to implement jointly with WAHO all activities linked to: reviews of progress; analysis of operations; reviews and evaluations of laboratory and other quality assurance systems; consultations on training and management and other capacity building, in ECOWAS member states

b) Information linked to research and programme development in the framework of the virtual elimination of IDD, and also aimed at providing to WAHO a regional data base on IDD.

c) ICCIDD will act for WAHO as technical advisor to be contacted in aspects linked to IDD,

d) WAHO can mandate ICCIDD, as representative, in joint activities to be developed and/or implemented in the sub region, in relation to IDD.

6.0. Conflict resolution

6.1. We enter into this MOU in a spirit of mutual trust and intend that all unforeseen matters on issues that arise, as the relationship evolves, will be resolved in a spirit of mutual understanding.

6.2. In the event that there is a conflict it shall be resolved in a peaceful and amicable manner. Every effort will be made to settle the matter through dialogue and negotiation and to accommodate the policies and intention of each other's respective governing bodies (board, donors and constituents)

7.0. Consultative Committee

A four-person Consultative Committee shall be established in the spirit of the MOU and shall consist of:

- 1) The Executive Director of ICCIDD or his/her representative
- 2) The Director General of West African Health Organisation or his/her representative
- 3) Two others appointed by each of the aforementioned members (one by WAHO, one by ICCIDD)

8.0. Modification of the MOU

8.1. Either party can initiate dialogue and call for a meeting of the Consultative Committee.

8.2. This MOU shall be subject to annual review by the MOU Consultative Committee to strengthen cooperation between the two Organisations.

9.0 Period of Memorandum of Understanding

This MOU shall remain in effect until changed or terminated by either Organisation, through mutual consent.

10.0. Withdrawal from the Memorandum of Understanding

Any Organisation may withdraw from the MOU by giving six (6) months written notice to the other Organisation.

11.0. Effective Date

This Memorandum of Understanding is effective from -----2005



Signed:

[Signature]
For International Council for the Control
Of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (ICCIDD)

Date: Sept 16 2005

[Signature]
For West African Health Organisation (WAHO)

Date: 10/06/05

Witnesses: *[Signature]*

Address: 909 Elizabethan Dr.
Greensboro NC 27410 USA

Designation: Executive Director ICCIDD

Date: 12 AUGUST 2005

Witnesses: ICABBA-T. JOINER

Address: WAHO/ODAS, BP 153 BOBO-DIOULASSO
BURKINA FASO

Designation: DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Date: 10/06/05

