



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
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August 10, 2007

DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL ORDER

No. 2007 - 2964

SUBJECT: Creation of a Technical Assistance Coordination Team in support of Health Sector Reforms (TACT)

I. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

The Department of Health (DOH) is currently leading the implementation of reforms in the health sector to bring about improvement in health outcomes, make health financing more equitable, and increase public satisfaction with health care services. Health sector reform under the FOURmula ONE (F1) for Health as the strategic framework includes operationalization of key flagship programs on financing, service delivery, regulation, and governance in both national and local levels.

DOH recognizes that various technical assistances (TA) are needed to fully implement these reforms particularly at the local government units. As such, DOH engages the cooperation of its various partners under the Sector Development Approach for Health (SDAH). SDAH is a way of planning, organizing, coordinating, and evaluating national and international support and assistance under a common sector policy and investments program led by the DOH.

This far, the DOH has been successful in soliciting commitment and support of donor/development partners on pursuing F1 implementation under the SDAH framework. A number of TA providers are already on board and working closely with the various DOH units. However, one emerging and immediate concern is the coordination and complementation of tasks/activities among these different TA providers. Hence, there is a need for a technical body to harmonize all these support to F1 goals and to ensure the same are appropriate to the needs of the different offices to minimize duplication and maximize complementation among all TA groups.

This Order is thus issued to create the Technical Assistance Coordination Team (TACT) to coordinate TA providers as they relate to each other and as they work with the various offices/bureaus/units within the DOH.

II. COMPOSITION OF THE TACT

The TACT shall be composed of the following:

Chair: Director, HPDPB - Ms. Maylene Beltran
Co-chair: Director, BIHC - Dr. Ma. Virginia Ala, OIC

Members:

Heads of Bureaus under SMCT Cluster
Director, BLHD - Dr. Juanito Taleon, OIC
Director, HHRDB - Dr. Kenneth Ronquillo
Director, IMS - Ms. Crispinita A. Valdez

Representative from the Operations Cluster
Director, NCDPC - Dr. Yolanda Oliveros
Director, NEC - Dr. Eric Tayag

Technical Secretariat:

Head: BLHD, Dr. Agueda Sunga

Members: HPDPB, Dr. Mar Wynn Bello
SMCO, Ms. Frances Rose Elgo

Administrative support shall be provided by the BIHC personnel.

Key partners and other stakeholders from other DOH units, donor agencies, other National Government Agencies, and Local Government Units (LGUs) shall be invited to the TACT meetings and activities as needed.

III. FUNCTIONS OF THE TACT

The primary function of the TACT is to harmonize technical assistance to DOH and its implementing partners towards F1 goals.

Specifically, the TACT shall perform the following functions:

1. Ensure that priorities and directions for TA provision are aligned with health sector reform programs

The TACT shall review the terms of reference (TOR) and work plans of TA providers and assess harmonization with reform programs. It shall also assess whether there is no unnecessary duplication, and whether timing and geographical scopes are synchronized.

2. Develop and update systems and standard operating procedures.

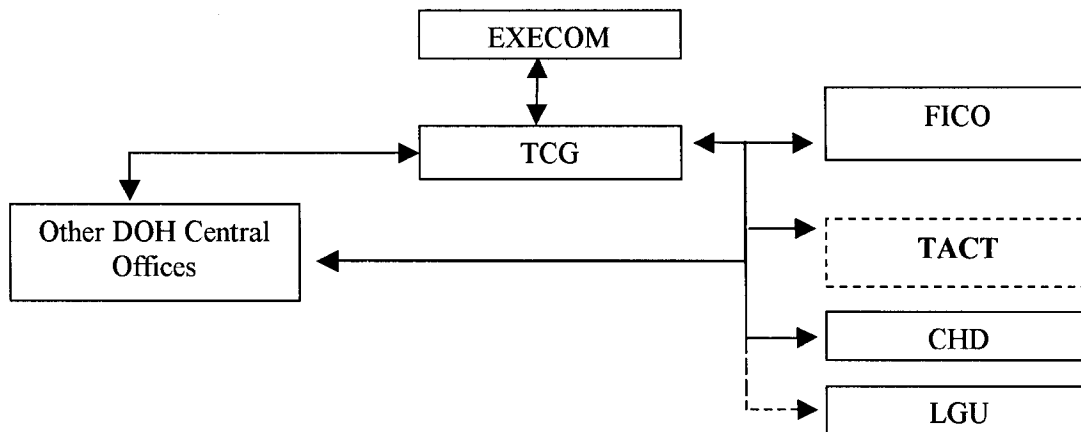
The TACT shall develop a system of collecting feedback from TA recipients regarding quality of work and system for monitoring and/or evaluating performance of TA providers as well as satisfaction of TA recipients.

3. Report the results of 1 and 2 above to the Technical Coordinating Group (TCG).

The TACT shall analyze the information gathered from two above mentioned functions and provide analysis and recommendations to the TCG for appropriate action(s). A more detailed guidelines shall be developed.

IV. IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Technical Assistance Coordination Team (TACT) shall report to the DOH Technical Coordination Group (TCG). It shall as necessary coordinate directly with the Field Implementation Coordination Office (FICO) where the TA recipients are the Centers for Health Development (CHDs) or Local Government Units (LGU) and with the DOH central office units receiving TAs.

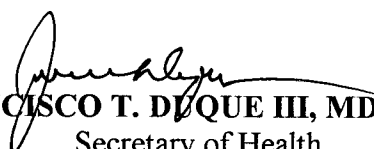


To support the TACT, the Technical Secretariat shall oversee the day-to-day operations that include among others, 1) assist the Health Policy Development and Planning Bureau in the development of a TA map 2) convene and document regular meetings, 3) follow-up agreed upon action points, and 4) perform tasks as deemed necessary by the Chair.

For funding of TACT operations and activities, all expenses shall be charged against SMCT Bureaus and other foreign-assisted projects subject to usual accounting and auditing rules

V. EFFECTIVITY

This Order shall take effect immediately.


FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III, MD, MSc
Secretary of Health