1. Background

From its inception PANCAP has been donor-dependent. A recent UWI-HEU’s Assessment of Financial Dependency in the Caribbean Region’s Response to HIV and AIDS found that this was also true for the region. A review of the data clearly indicates that this region continues to display a high degree of dependency on external support for their national and the wider regional response to HIV. This is reflected in over 60% of the countries where external support accounted for one half or more of their funding sources. While the assessment of spending allocation showed a concentration around Prevention and Treatment and Care, it was worth noting that Treatment and Care accounted for the largest share of HIV expenditure in those countries which displayed the highest degree of dependency on external funding.

According to the costing estimates of the 2015 - 2016 Caribbean Regional Strategic Framework on HIV and AIDS (CRSF) Operating Plan and HIV investment case analyses conducted in the OECS (Health Finance and Governance Project, 2014), the resources needed to fund the regional response and the national government and donor funds available yield substantial gaps at the national and regional levels. The 2015-2016 CRSF Operating Plan will require at least USD6.1 million in 2015 and USD5.2 million in 2016. This includes activities to be implemented by regional and national partners (not national governments) as well as CARICOM and CARPHA activities in support of the CRSF.

Cognizant of the current global financial landscape which has resulted in shrinking external funding for HIV, the tight fiscal space within Member States and the need to mobilise resources for sustaining and scaling up the regional HIV response PANCAP developed a Resource Mobilisation (RM) Strategy during the latter part of 2014. The RM strategy was also developed in response to the identified and stated priority of the PANCAP Partners and the PANCAP Coordinating Unit (PCU). This was expressed in a web-based survey conducted in May 2014, as well as during Executive Board meetings and the 13th Annual General Meeting held in November 2014, and was confirmed by external expert advice that an RM strategy is an important element for organisational strengthening of PANCAP¹.

The goal of this resource mobilisation strategy is to ensure that PANCAP is effective in facilitating the provision of regional public goods as articulated in the Caribbean Regional Strategic Framework (CRSF), 2014-2018 and in support of the stated public health goals in the CARICOM Strategic Framework, 2015-2019, and to position the Partnership for sustainability beyond the terms of those two strategies.

In order to attain that goal, this RM Strategy guides PANCAP to achieve the objectives of:

1. Securing adequate funding levels to meet the needs of PANCAP as a whole, and its Secretariat, the PCU;
2. Diversifying funding to mitigate risk and promote financial sustainability;
3. Securing ongoing, non-project-based funding for overhead and to fund core functions of PANCAP and the PCU;
4. Defining the what, when and how the implementation of this strategy should be realised.
5. Identify synergies between PANCAP programme and partners programmes and projects
6. Suggest a mechanism of funding through the contributions to PANCAP by CARICOM countries.

The RM Strategy proposes the establishment of a Task Force (Advisory Group on Resource Mobilisation) to provide guidance on resource mobilisation strategies and implementation.

2. Roles and Responsibilities

The Advisory Group on Resource Mobilisation will:

- Ensure that the needs of the CRSF and resource gaps for the Strategic Priority Areas are identified.
- Ensure that an operational plan for the resource mobilisation strategy is developed.
- Review and provide feedback on PANCAP’s Advocacy Strategy that includes its value proposition and positioning statement for the private sector.
- Support the identification of new funding sources and opportunities.
- Identify champions for soliciting support from national and regional entrepreneurs and determining incentives for their investments.
- Monitor the implementation of the operational plan for the resource mobilisation strategy.

3. Composition

The Advisory Group on Resource Mobilisation will consists of members drawn from:

- PANCAP Governance bodies
- Private Sector in the Caribbean
- Director, PANCAP Coordinating Unit
- A representative from CARICOM Resource Mobilisation and Technical Assistance Unit
- Other persons who can advance the resource mobilisation agenda

4. Operating Procedures
The Advisory Group on Resource Mobilisation will meet virtually at least once a quarter, however the frequency of meetings will be determined by the group. Decisions will be taken by consensus. The Advisory Group will be supported by the PCU which will facilitate the convening of meetings of the Group and recording the minutes of the meetings. The Advisory Group will report to the Priority Areas Coordinating Committee. Policy related matters will be brought to the attention of the Executive Board and the COHSOD and other governance bodies.