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TERMS OF REFERENCE (TORS) FOR THE MULTISECTORAL FAMILY PLANNING WORKING GROUP (FP WG)

1.0 BACKGROUND

Historically, Uganda has been associated with unfavourable demographic characteristics. These are high fertility, high but declining mortality, and negligible international migration. These have resulted in rapid population growth, high dependency ratio (especially child) and an age structure that is not conducive to production, savings, investment, and thereby development. This affects attainment of Uganda's vision 2040, which is "A transformed Ugandan society from a peasant to a modern and prosperous country within 30 years," with a per capita GDP increasing from US\$506 in 2010 to US\$9,500 by 2040.

Since Uganda's rapid population growth leads to a young age structure and consequent high child dependency burden, which are threats to the achievement of socioeconomic development, the Government of Uganda has appreciated the role of family planning (FP) in reaching Uganda's development goals. This has been witnessed in a number of commitments at both international and national levels. There has been increased funding and the policy environment has improved. However, the situation is different at district level, with some leaders still promoting big family sizes.

Family planning has been considered a health issue for a long time. It affects different sectors of the economy. FP has far reaching impacts in reducing unintended pregnancies and harnessing the demographic dividend. It has positive impact on health care costs, economic growth, education, maternal mortality and morbidity, child health, unsafe abortions, the environment, and gender equality. Promoting FP therefore calls for different sectors to play different roles.

2.0 COMPOSITION

The Multisectoral Family Planning Working Groups (FP WGs) are composed of representatives of the district technical team; political, cultural, and religious leaders; and representatives of implementing partners in each of the districts. In forming the

WGs, representation of the three Sub Counties where FHI 360 is implementing was put into consideration. However, districts are at liberty to co-opt other members they consider important for their implementation.

3.0 PURPOSE

The Multisectoral Family Planning Working Groups (FP WGs) were formed to spearhead implementation of the FP action plans developed during the launch of district-specific RAPID models.

4.0 VALUES AND PRINCIPLES

The multisectoral FP WG is based on principles of transparency, accountability, participation, equity, human rights, inclusiveness, and equal participation as well as sustainability.

5.0 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Build consensus among the various sectors on the need to prioritize FP in the Local Government planning and budgeting processes.
- Build a critical mass at Local Government level to advocate for resource allocation for effective FP programming (i.e., FP concerns taken care of).
- Seek commitment of the leaders and technocrats to lobby for integration/mainstreaming of FP in all development initiatives at Local Government level.
- Strengthen collaboration with key partners like media and religious and cultural leaders in promoting FP.
- Mobilize communities to seek FP services.
- Where possible, advocate with the Central Government and Development Partners to establish FP outreach services, especially targeting the underserved.

6.0 MEMBERSHIP TERMS

The multisectoral FP WG will meet quarterly. However, it may meet at any other time to attend to issues that may require urgent attention. The FP WG will be chaired by the Office of the CAO, and the secretary will be the District Planner.