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FEDERAL MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PLANNING, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

Ref. No. DHPRS/288/24/Vol.1

15th June, 2026

All Heads of Department/Unit, Federal Ministry of Health & Social Welfare
All Heads of Federal Health Agencies and Parastatals

Attention: All Heads of Planning Cells

2027 ANNUAL OPERATIONAL PLAN (AOP) CALL CIRCULAR

1. Background

- 1.1 The National Council on Health (NCH) enables a National Health System as defined by the National Health Act (2014). At its 64th Regular Meeting in Ado Ekiti in 2023, the NCH approved the Nigeria Health Sector Renewal Investment Initiative (NHSRII) for implementation by all 36 States, the FCT, and the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (FMoH&SW) health Departments, Agencies and Parastatals (DAPs). The NHSRII serves as the core initiative for achieving the goals of the Health Sector Strategic Blueprint (HSSB) 2023–2027. All FMoH&SW DAPs are therefore expected to continue implementing the HSSB 2023–2027 by ensuring that the preparation of their 2027 fiscal year government budget is guided by the Blueprint.
- 1.2 All 'Budget Centers' of the FMoH&SW DAPs are required to develop their Annual Operational Plans (AOPs) as a prerequisite for the 2027 government budget preparation. The AOPs shall be derived from the **2027 priorities set out in the HSSB 2023–2027** (development component), as well as from the **mandates and functions of the respective DAPs** (operational component). AOPs should reflect all potential funding sources, including government allocations, internally generated revenue (IGR), Development Partners (DPs), grants, loans, and others.
- 1.3 The formulated AOPs, which must include a mock government budget, will serve as the draft budgets for review during government budget preparation, in compliance with the Government Budget Call Circular (when released). No government budget line shall be submitted outside the AOP framework. It is therefore imperative **that all units within the DAPs prepare comprehensive annual plans for 2027**, inclusive of mock budgets.
- 1.4 This 2027 AOP Call Circular outlines the steps and timeline to be followed in the development of AOPs by DAPs of the FMoH&SW. All Heads of DAPs and planning officers are expected to adhere strictly to these instructions. A detailed roadmap, guidance notes, and access to an online planning tool will be provided by the Department of Health Planning, Research and Statistics (DHPRS), FMoH&SW.

2. AOP Development Steps, Schedule, and Recommendations

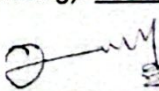
- 2.1 The AOP development process begins with a Situation Analysis (SITAN), which involves assessing population health outcomes, the health system, and the performance of current health plans. The SITAN should include the conduct of a Joint Annual Review (JAR), or at minimum, a rapid review of progress in implementing the 2026 AOP.
- 2.2 **Priority Setting:** The SITAN will be the basis for priority setting for 2027 by the FMoH&SW Top Management Committee (TMC) and the various departments/units within the DAPs. The TMC will identify which interventions in the HSSB 2023–2027 are to be prioritized by the

Ministry for 2027. Concurrently, each department/unit within the DAPs is to determine which of their statutory functions will be prioritized for implementation in 2027. These prioritization decisions should at the least be guided by resource availability and the expected impact of interventions. The TMC and departments/units are also expected to ensure baselines and output targets are set for their prioritized interventions, using indicators from the HSSB 2023– 2027. These priorities and targets will be integrated into the online planning tool by the Planning Secretariat for use by all DAPs. 71

- 2.3 The next step is the engagement of Planning Cell Heads from the DAPs on operational planning procedures, in line with the provided guidelines. This preparatory activity will facilitate the development of AOPs by Planning Cell Heads to within their respective DAPs.
- 2.4 Following the training, all DAPs must ensure that each of their units develops an AOP and corresponding mock government budget using the online planning tool. **Quality assurance** should be ensured through at least two of the following approaches:
- Prior training of Planning Officers of units.
 - Supervision during workshops.
 - Iterative reviews of submitted work.
- 2.5 **One Plan:** For each DAP, the AOPs developed by each unit should be reviewed at Branch, Divisional and Departmental levels. Subsequently, a 2-3-day review and finalization meeting will be convened, involving the Head of the DAP, Development Partner representatives, and other key stakeholders. This meeting will finalize the 2027 AOP for the DAP, including indicative resource allocations.
- 2.6 The finalized AOP will then be submitted to the FMOH&SW TMC for consideration and approval. Only TMC-approved AOPs shall be used for budget preparation by government and other funders. 3. **Further Information**

3.1 For further enquiries, please contact:

- Dr. Angus Ikpe (Head, Policy & Planning): angus.ikpe@health.gov.ng
- Dr. Chukwunonso Egbosi (Head, Strategic Planning): chukwunonso.egbosi@health.gov.ng
- Dr. Dozie Nwokedi (Strategic Planning): dozie.nwokedi@health.gov.ng


Dr. John Ovuoraye A. MBBS, MMCFM, MPH, FWACP
Director, Department Health Planning, Research & Statistics
For: Permanent Secretary

DHPRS

OIL,

2. Refers to the call circular received from the PMO & SW on the commencement of the 2027 Annual Operational plan.

3. As part of the verification & eligibility Criteria of the HOPE series, the ministry has been tasked with communicating the following to Agencies & Department for necessary action.

4. The above is for your review & forwarding to the HCH for necessary action, please.

~~Area~~

13/7/26

HOPE Health PC

PS~~Area~~

Above refers.

2. Request for approval to forward AOP call circular to respective organizations, pls.

BHCH

Ok & above refers

2. Why consider the approval to forward AOP call circular for 2027 to Agencies & Depts, pls.

13/7/2026
DHPRSCPS DPRS

Approved pl. - 17/7/26

~~Area~~
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17/7/26

SDO
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PLATEAU STATE GOVERNMENT MINISTRY OF HEALTH HEADQUARTERS

Office of the Honourable Commissioner

In replying please quote reference and date
All correspondence should be directed to
The Commissioner



JOSEPH GOMWALK
SECRETARIAT COMPLEX, P.M.B. 2014,
JOS, PLATEAU STATE
Email: plateaustateministryofhealth@gmail.com

Date: _____

SMH/11114/VOL.1/56

19th June 2026

To: All Heads of Agencies

COMMENCEMENT OF THE 2027 ANNUAL OPERATIONAL PLAN PROCESS

I write to formally notify you of the commencement of the 2027 Annual Operational Plan (AOP) process. This exercise is critical to ensuring that our collective priorities align with the overarching health sector goals and deliver measurable impact in the coming year.

2. You are hereby mandated to review your agency's priorities in close collaboration with the Department of Health Planning, Research and Statistics (DHPRS) and the Heads of Departments (HODs) within the agency. This joint review will foster better coordination, resource optimization, and strategic planning across the sector.
3. All agencies are expected to submit their reviewed priorities to the Ministry no later than 30th June 2026. Kindly ensure that submissions are comprehensive, realistic, and reflective of both current needs and long-term objectives.
4. The harmonized priorities will be presented to the State Top Management Committee at the conclusion of the State Joint Annual Review (JAR) for validation.

The JAR has been earmarked for the second week of July 2026

5. Thank you for your continued commitment to strengthening our health system.
6. Accept my renewed assurances, please.

Dr. Nicholas Baamlong

Hon. Commissioner for Health

