



PROGRAMME COORDINATING BOARD

Eleventh meeting
Geneva, 30 May - 1 June 2001

DECISIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

Agenda item 1 - Opening

1. The PCB endorsed the proposal to discuss the financing study under item 3 and the global fund under item 7.

Agenda item 1.2 – Election of Officers

2. India was elected as Chair, Portugal as Vice-Chair and Zambia as Rapporteur of the meeting.

Agenda item 1.3 – Consideration of the reports of the ninth and tenth meetings

3. The PCB adopted the reports of the ninth and the tenth (third *ad hoc*) meetings.

Agenda item 1.4 – Report of the Executive Director

4. The PCB:

4.1 noted with appreciation the Report of the Executive Director;

4.2 recommended that the challenges identified in the report be regarded as a foundation for an intensified, more effective and coordinated response by UNAIDS over the next biennium, that will have a greater impact on the epidemic.

5. Scaling-up

The PCB:

- 5.1 stressed the importance of facilitating the shift from pilot or small-scale interventions to programmes that cover much larger numbers of people in all areas set out in the Executive Director's report, including strengthening of health systems and activities in the area of orphans, voluntary counselling and testing, prevention of HIV in mothers and its transmission to children, protection of mother's health, other prevention activities and access to care;
- 5.2 recommended that HIV/AIDS be further integrated into mainstream development mechanisms such as national development strategies, the UN Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAF), Common Country Assessments (CCA), Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSP) and processes for Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC).

6. Synergy between prevention and care

The PCB:

- 6.1 emphasized that prevention and care are complementary pillars of the expanded response to AIDS, and that care and support are inextricably linked to effective prevention;
- 6.2 emphasized that prevention remains a mainstay of the expanded response to the epidemic, with particular attention to interventions targeted at vulnerable populations and specifically tailored to regional and local realities in all regions, with Africa remaining a priority as the hardest-hit region;
- 6.3 stressed the importance of investing in youth, by providing information and health services, including the need to integrate preventive measures and effective teaching methods into all formal and non-formal education programmes to reach all youth;
- 6.4 acknowledged the need for continuing efforts to promote comprehensive care and support, to fight against stigma, and to ensure that access to care and support includes voluntary counselling and testing, access to affordable medicines including antiretroviral drugs, and psychological, social, and food as well as nutritional support; also recognizes the role of faith-based groups in the areas of care and support.

7. Impact alleviation

The PCB:

- 7.1 requested that strong action to alleviate the economic and social impact of the epidemic be considered a priority in the following two years, with urgent attention to the material and social needs of women, young people including orphaned children, and others affected by HIV/AIDS.

8. UN system coordination

The PCB:

- 8.1 agreed that Cosponsor coordination and engagement at country level should be further strengthened through the operation of expanded UN Theme Groups on HIV/AIDS supported by the UN Resident Coordinator system and the development and implementation of integrated UN workplans in support of national strategic plans and implementation efforts.

9. Resources

The PCB:

- 9.1 supported the intensified resource mobilisation efforts at the global level, with a particular focus on a new global fund for AIDS and health;
- 9.2 encouraged national efforts involving increased domestic commitment and the mainstreaming of HIV/AIDS into development processes.

Agenda item 1.5 - Report by the Chairperson of the Committee of the Cosponsoring Organizations

10. The PCB took note of the report of the Chairperson of the Committee of Cosponsoring Organizations (UNICEF), as well as statements made by the Cosponsors WHO, UNDCP, UNDP, UNFPA and UNESCO.

11. The PCB recognized the contributions of the Cosponsors in scaling up the response through actions at national to global levels and encouraged a more complete reporting of the work and results of the Cosponsors at the country level.

12. The PCB encouraged the governing bodies of Cosponsoring Organizations to confirm the policy commitments outlined within the UN System Strategic Plan and establish the capacities and resources to reflect these commitments.

Agenda item 1.6 - Report by the NGO Representative

13. The PCB took note of the report by the NGO Representative, including concerns expressed about the need for more effective channelling of funds to communities in need.

14. The PCB also took note of the NGO delegates' support for the need, identified by the Executive Director in his report, to provide specific and targeted support to the different regions, each with different transmission dynamics of their own.

Agenda item 2 – UN System Strategic Plan on HIV/AIDS 2001-2005

15. The PCB commended the Cosponsors, other UN system organizations and the UNAIDS Secretariat on the development of the UN System Strategic Plan on HIV/AIDS 2001-2005 (UNSSP).

16. The PCB endorsed the overall content and strategic direction of the UNSSP and encouraged its urgent implementation.

17. The PCB requested the UNAIDS Cosponsors, other participating UN system organizations and partners, and the Secretariat to continue to strengthen and update the UNSSP, and provided the following guidance:

- 17.1 ensure greater relevance and responsiveness of the global and regional efforts outlined within the UNSSP to country-specific needs and plans;
- 17.2 further clarify the implementing roles, responsibilities and resource commitments of the UN system in general, and of the organisations participating in the UNSSP, with respect to achieving the UNGASS goals and targets, once established;
- 17.3 strengthen the ongoing performance monitoring efforts to guide implementation and further refinement, including prioritization of actions within the UNSSP.

18. The PCB endorsed the overall approach of the UNSSP to performance monitoring and evaluation and further requested:

- 18.1 a detailed description of a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system that is based on a limited number of qualitative and quantitative indicators that would serve as markers to demonstrate and document how the UN system adds value at the country and global levels;
- 18.2 the preparation of a mid-term performance report to be prepared by the Cosponsor Evaluation Working Group for review by the Interagency Advisory Group on AIDS (IAAG) prior to submission to the PCB in 2004.

19. The PCB recommended that further efforts be undertaken to strengthen system-wide accountability for the achievement of UN system strategic objectives, including through more explicit linkage of individual organization and Secretariat outputs to those objectives.

20. The PCB urged the UNAIDS Cosponsors and other UN system partners to mainstream HIV/AIDS in their global, regional and national level plans and programmes, and to direct their country offices to support the relevant national programmes in achieving this objective.

21. Noting ECOSOC Resolution 1999/36, the PCB urged Cosponsors and other UN system agencies to submit their institutional strategies and plans on HIV/AIDS to their governing bodies.

Agenda item 3 – UNAIDS Unified Budget and Workplan for 2002-2003

22. The PCB commended the Cosponsors and the Secretariat on the development of a second UNAIDS unified budget and workplan and its close link with the UN System Strategic Plan. The PCB endorsed its principles, structure and overall level, and approved:

22.1 the overall level of the core component of the UNAIDS unified budget and workplan for 2002-2003 of US\$190 million, as set out in approval table 1 of document UNAIDS/PCB(11)/01.4;

22.2 the distribution of the core component of the unified budget and workplan for 2002-2003 by area of work as set out in approval table 2;

22.3 the global and regional distribution of the core component of the unified budget and workplan for 2002-2003 by UNAIDS Cosponsor and Secretariat as set out in revised approval table 3a;

22.4 the overall level and distribution of the supplemental component of the unified budget and workplan for 2002-2003 as set out in approval table 4.

23. Consistent with previous decisions (UNAIDS/PCB(6)/98.12/ paragraph 19), the PCB authorized the Executive Director to increase or decrease resources up to a maximum of 25 per cent of the amount budgeted for each area of work in approval table 2, as part of periodic reprogramming exercises. Transfers exceeding 25 per cent should only take place following consultation with the CCO, the PCB Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

24. The PCB also authorized the Secretariat to transfer resources in advance of the new biennium, as available, to Cosponsors on finalization of workplans to enable early and urgent implementation of the 2002-2003 unified budget and workplan activities.

25. The PCB encouraged further efforts at clarifying the roles and comparative advantages of the different Cosponsors and the Secretariat.

26. The PCB encouraged the Cosponsors and Secretariat to further review, harmonize and refine budget outputs, particularly at thematic and sub-regional level. The PCB also encouraged the Cosponsors and Secretariat to continue refining and sharpening indicators, including qualitative indicators, where appropriate, and establishing baselines.

27. The PCB noted the regular budget/general resource contributions of the Cosponsors to the UBW, and encouraged them to increase these levels. The PCB also encouraged the Cosponsors to continue improving financial reporting on HIV/AIDS-related activities financed from their regular budgets/general resources, including estimates of country level expenditures. The PCB also encouraged the Secretariat to continue working with the Cosponsors and other partners on improving methodologies for estimating HIV/AIDS-related expenditures and on mapping the UN system country level resources.

28. The PCB urged the Secretariat and the Cosponsors to coordinate their fundraising efforts for the unified budget and workplan, to dialogue with donors in these efforts, including on the recommendations of the financing study and to report to the PCB on progress in this respect. The Secretariat shall have the primary responsibility for raising the core component of the UBW; the Cosponsors will have the primary responsibility for raising the supplemental component. Shortfalls within the core budget should be accommodated through reductions in the activities of the Cosponsors and the Secretariat agreed to through the CCO mechanism.

29. The PCB decided that the core component of the unified budget and workplan be funded as a priority and thereafter funds should be mobilized for additional activities included in the supplemental component of the unified budget and workplan.

30. The PCB encouraged governments and other partners to:

30.1 indicate, at their earliest convenience, the likely level of their 2002-2003 contribution to the UNAIDS unified budget and workplan, to provide written notification of forthcoming contributions at the earliest opportunity, and to make every effort to transfer funds as early as possible in the biennium;

30.2 ensure that contributions are sufficient to meet the approved core budget of US\$190 million, and to review possibilities for two-year pledges corresponding to the biennial budget cycle of UNAIDS.

Agenda item 4 – Financial and Budgetary Update

31. The PCB took note of the interim financial information for the 2000-2001 biennium and encouraged donor governments and other partners who have not yet done so, to release their 2001 contributions towards the Unified Budget and Workplan for 2000-2001.

Agenda item 5.1 – Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on HIV/AIDS

32. The PCB noted with appreciation the work of the UNAIDS Secretariat and the Cosponsors in supporting the UNGASS processes.

33. The PCB recalled its previous recommendation that the Global Strategy Framework on HIV/AIDS be used to guide the preparatory process of the Special Session and calls on PCB members to actively advocate for its principles and leadership commitments. The PCB further

called on the Secretariat to distribute widely the decisions and recommendations of the PCB, and encourage participation of non-PCB members as observers in its meetings to ensure better coordination between the PCB and the UNGASS process.

34. The PCB encouraged member states of the UN to work closely with civil society in their respective countries in their preparations for the UNGASS, and reiterated its recommendation that governments consider the request of the NGO representative to include representatives of the NGO community and of persons living with HIV/AIDS on their delegations to the Special Session and to provide support for this participation.

Agenda item 5.2 – Report by the Chairman of the Five-Year Evaluation Supervisory Panel

35. The PCB noted the report and oral statement of the Chair of the Evaluation Supervisory Panel, especially regarding the selection of the Evaluation Team.

36. The PCB agreed to the proposed extension of the original timeframe for the completion of the Evaluation. This will entail the presentation of a progress report on the Evaluation at the next regular session of the PCB. The final report will be submitted to the Chair of the PCB in October 2002, for discussion at the thematic PCB meeting to be held in late 2002.

37. The PCB encouraged the broad participation of stakeholders in the discussion of the inception report of the evaluation team.

Agenda item 6 – Next PCB meeting

38. The PCB recommended that its next meeting take place in Geneva from 29 to 31 May 2002.

Agenda item 7 – Other business

The global fund for HIV/AIDS and health

39. The PCB welcomed the creation of a global fund for AIDS and health and took note of the following broad principles expressed during the discussion:

- 39.1 the fund should be established with new, additional resources;
- 39.2 the fund should have broad and fully representative governance, including developing countries, and a central role for UNAIDS;
- 39.3 the fund should support national level priorities and development processes;
- 39.4 the fund should promote voluntary and private sector participation, and full involvement of civil society, including groups of people living with HIV/AIDS;
- 39.5 transparency, accountability and efficiency should be guiding principles in the establishment and the administration of the fund.