

Summary of the PCB Bureau meeting of 26 February 2010

Present: Monique Middelhoff (Netherlands), Carmen Elena Castillo-Gallandat (El Salvador), Yuji Otake (Japan), Evan Collins (Representing PCB NGOs), Alanna Armitage, Elizabeth Benomar and Steve Kraus (UNFPA, representing Cosponsors; E. Benomar and S. Kraus joined by phone).

UNAIDS Secretariat: Jan Beagle (DXD, MER), Helen Frary (Chief, BUR), Els Klinkert (PPD), Yuki Takemoto (BUR)

Meeting's agenda:

1. Draft agenda for 26th PCB meeting, June 2010
2. Update on Thematic Segment, 26th PCB meeting
3. Update from PCB Task Force
4. Thematic Sessions in 2011
5. PCB Bureau Workplan 2010
6. Any other business

1. Draft agenda for 26th PCB meeting, June 2010

The Bureau agreed the following:

- **Identification of key documents (ref. PCB 23/rec. 7.4)**
 - i. The determination of key documents for which a simple 'road map' will be prepared should be based on the following criteria – although the list is not exhaustive and should possibly be agreed and formalized in the future:
 - Subject / issue of strong interest for many
 - Important policy implications at country level
 - Possibly contentious agenda item for discussion
 - ii. When soliciting input from key constituencies, there should be greater clarity on how the inputs received will be reflected in the final document. While the ultimate responsibility rests with UNAIDS as the author of the document, efforts have been and will be made to incorporate and accommodate the comments received.
 - iii. The Secretariat explained efforts made in the past such as follow-up communication and discussions following comments submitted, response in writing, table of inputs and outcomes (for internal use) to explain what issues were addressed or not and for what reasons.

- **Outcome(s) of the thematic segment**

The Bureau reaffirmed that thematic segments should inform discussions and decision-making by the Board, but are not in principle intended for fixed outcomes. The PCB Chair's report to the Board on the outcomes of the thematic segment typically contains a considerable amount of information on the issues that were raised during the session. The Board normally takes note of the outcome(s) but could also ask that related issues be addressed as a substantive item at a future Board meeting if it so decides.

- **Report of the Executive Director**

- i. PCB NGOs, while recognizing the importance of prevention, shared their concern that other aspects of Universal Access also require attention especially in light of the importance of the year 2010 in the timeline for achievement of the goals of Universal Access. The Secretariat reaffirmed the importance of Universal Access and treatment as was emphasized in the

Executive Director's recent letter to partners (dated 16 February). Possibly the EXD can address this issue in his report to the PCB in June. Furthermore the Bureau agreed that it is desirable to have a substantive item at the 27th PCB meeting in December 2010 on Universal Access in part to reflect the outcomes of the MDG Summit scheduled for September 2010 and to clarify what UNAIDS' position and planned actions are in this regard.

- **Report by the CCO Chair**

- i. Despite the fact that the June PCB meeting will take place at the same time as the Executive Board meeting of UNFPA (who is scheduled to take over as Chair of the CCO as of 1 April 2010), efforts are underway to have Ms Obaid present the CCO report to the Board in person.

- **Report by the NGO representative**

- i. In preparation for the report, an on-line survey is being prepared in nine languages and is expected to capture the voices of around one thousand informants. There will also be focus groups and interviews to complement the survey.
- ii. Following their decision to focus on scheduled substantive agenda items in their report to the Board, this one will pay particular attention to issues related to non-discrimination as well as sexual and reproductive health.
- iii. The report will most likely contain some draft decision points for the Board to consider.
- iv. The Bureau praised the efforts being made and noted that the PCB NGOs are setting a high standard for others to emulate.

- **Non-discrimination and HIV responses**

- i. The Bureau identified this as one of the 'key documents.'
- ii. The Bureau agreed to revise the title of this agenda item as suggested by the Secretariat to "**Ensuring non-discrimination in responses to HIV**" in order to capture more fully what was requested by the Board in its decision at the 24th PCB meeting.
- iii. The Secretariat, who has the lead for this agenda item, reported that initial consultations have already begun with Cosponsors and PCB NGOs and that there will be a wider consultation process including Member States in the near future. The Bureau reaffirmed the importance of having an open and transparent process.

- **2010-2011 UBW and 2008-2009 reports**

- i. As this is an interim report to the Board, documents under this agenda item will not be subject to a consultation process.
- ii. It was noted that in preparation for the next 2012-2013 UBW, the UBW subcommittee may play a key role if the Board endorses its establishment. This also depends on possible recommendations by the PCB Task Force.

- **Follow up to the SIE**

The SIE implementation plan has been shared with Global Coordinators and the PCB Task Force members for comment and will be posted on the UNAIDS website soon. It was stressed that the plan is a 'living' document that it will continue to be revised to reflect inputs received and the evolving implementation process.

- **Reducing HIV transmission among MSM and transgender people**

- i. The Bureau identified this as one of the 'key documents.'
- ii. UNDP is leading the drafting process and has already been in touch with the Secretariat, PCB NGOs and some Member States.

- iii. A wider consultative process will be organized in the near future.
- **Gender-sensitivity of AIDS responses**
 - i. As this will be a progress report to the Board, it will not be subject to a wider consultative process.
 - ii. PCB NGOs expressed their wish to see concrete details around implementation including the resources that will be dedicated for that purpose.
- **Next PCB meetings**

The Bureau agreed to carry out a call for nomination of themes for the two PCB meetings in 2011, possibly to be discussed at the next PCB Bureau meeting.

2. Update on Thematic Segment, 26th PCB meeting

The Secretariat provided an update on preparations for the thematic segment [*“Linking Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) services with HIV/AIDS interventions in practice”*].

- The draft concept note has been sent to Cosponsors, civil society (through the Communications Facility for PCB NGOs) and Member States for input as well as expression of interest to join the core working group.
- Representation from partner country Member States is absent and was strongly encouraged. (At the meeting, El Salvador volunteered to join the working group.)
- A background paper will be drafted by UNFPA and IPPF (International Planned Parenthood Federation) to which the working group will be asked to provide input.
- A consultant will be hired to provide logistical and some substantive support.
- Once finalized, the concept paper and background paper will be posted on the UNAIDS website under the 26th PCB meeting.
- The first teleconference of the working group will take place on 9 March at 15:00.

The Bureau noted / agreed the following, citing in part discussions by the PCB Task Force:

- Importance of including all three constituencies (Member States, civil society, Cosponsors) throughout the preparatory process.
- Importance of paying attention to cultural aspects related to the theme.
- Need to focus on country and field experience and not be limited to global discussions.
- Ensure representation of key constituencies (e.g. sex workers).
- Clarify the process and expectations around how inputs will be handled and addressed.
- Non-traditional, non-didactic formats proposed so far should be planned carefully to ensure successful outcomes. Recognize the value of panel discussions that allow for representation of various constituencies.
- Possible use of best practice examples from developing countries (e.g. Thailand, Botswana, Rwanda).
- Importance of ensuring equal representation of the ‘North’ and ‘South’ – including in the selection of speakers.
- Welcome the inclusion of the Global Fund in the working group.
- Recognized the importance of maintaining the size of the working group at a reasonable and manageable level (maximum 30 members).

3. Update from PCB Task Force on SIE follow-up related to all aspects of governance

The Chair of the Task Force – also the Chair of the PCB Bureau – provided an update following the first face-to-face meeting by the Task Force on 24-25 February.

- A very productive 2 day meeting with the identification of areas of potential draft recommendations to be presented to the Board. Task Force members will further discuss these issues at its next meeting on 22-23 March in Geneva.
- Some of the issues raised:
 - Need for better reciprocity / linkages between the PCB and Cosponsor Boards
 - Need for better accountability – for UBW as well as supplementary budgets - at country level including issues related to allocation of human and financial resources and joint working.
 - Ensure implementation of key decisions from past PCB meetings – e.g. ‘PCB decisions to clarify responsibility and to be costed’ and to add ‘time frame, responsible body, cost implications and where the money would come from.’
 - Improve PCB working methods
 - Possibly strengthen the roles of the PCB Chair and the PCB Bureau
 - Define more clearly the roles and responsibilities of PCB officers
 - Define more clearly rules and practices around interventions at the Board
 - Establish clear guidelines for the drafting process
 - More clarity around and proposals to improve effectiveness of thematic segment and field visits
- The SIE Implementation Plan was shared for input by 8 March.

4. Thematic Sessions in 2011

As agreed when discussing “The next PCB meetings” under the draft agenda for the 26th PCB meeting, a call for nomination of themes will be sent out shortly.¹

5. PCB Bureau Workplan 2010

- The Bureau agreed that “4. Increased involvement of Cosponsors in the work of the PCB” would include activities that aim to have Cosponsors play a more active role in the Joint Programme – e.g. Cosponsors (along with members of the Secretariat) to meet regularly the PCB Chair and Vice Chair as is happening already with PCB NGOs before every PCB.
- The Bureau agreed the workplan for 2010, which will be made available through the PCB Bureau page on the UNAIDS website.²

6. Any other business

- Cosponsors reminded the Bureau that the Chair of the CCO will be taken over by UNFPA starting 1 April 2010. Following the departure of Steve Kraus as Global Coordinator, Elizabeth Benomar (Global Coordinator a.i., UNFPA New York) and Alanna Armitage (Director, UNFPA Geneva) will attend future Bureau meetings.
- The next Bureau meeting will take place on Wednesday, 24 March at 9:30am, Geneva time.

¹ The call for nominations was sent out on 3 March, 2010.

² The Workplan was posted on the UNAIDS website on 2 March, 2010.