



UNAIDS PCB BUREAU MEETING

DATE: Friday, 23 January 2026

TIME: 13:00–16:00 (CET)

VENUE: Hybrid (in person at UNAIDS building and virtually on Zoom)

PARTICIPANTS

Netherlands: Representing the PCB Chair: Ambassador Ms Erica Schouten, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the United Nations; Ms Zina Olshanka, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Geneva; Ms Lisa Bakels, Counsellor, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the United Nations; Ms Niké Buijze, Senior Policy Officer.

Philippines: Representing the PCB Vice-Chair: Dr Mary Ann Palermo-Maestral, Undersecretary, Department of Health, Mr Jeffrey Valdez, First Secretary, Philippine Mission in Geneva; Dr Joselito Feliciano, Executive Director, Department of Health; Ms Consolacion Ramos, Supervising Health Program Officer, Department of Health; Dr Jan Derek Junio, Medical Officer, Department of Health; Dr Marian Frances Ysaac, Medical Officer, Department of Health; Dr Joel Buenaventura, Director, Department of Health.

Kenya: Representing the PCB Rapporteur: Dr Douglas Bosire, Country support, National Syndemic Diseases Control Council, Ministry of Health; Dr Jean Gitau, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Kenya in Geneva.

Representing the PCB NGO Delegation: Ms Amanita Calderon-Cifuentes, HIV Research and Advocacy Officer, Trans Europe & Central Asia (TGEU); Ms Fionnuala Murphy, Head of Global Advocacy, Frontline AIDS.

Representing the Cosponsors : Mr Andy Seale, Advisor, World Health Organization.

UNAIDS Secretariat: Mr Mahesh Mahalingam, Chief of Staff; Mr Morten Ussing, Director of Governance; Mr Jason Sigurdson, Senior Adviser, Executive Office; Ms Samia Lounnas, Senior Governance Advisor; Ms Adriana Hewson, Governance Officer; Ms Saliha Ozdemir, Governance Assistant; Ms Ajwah Nazir Malak, Governance Intern.

MEETING AGENDA

1. **Welcome remarks**
2. **Terms of Reference of Working Group on UNAIDS transition and integration:** *The PCB Bureau will review and finalize the draft terms of reference of the Working Group to*

develop a plan on the further transition and integration of UNAIDS into the UN system and beyond, to be put forward for intersessional decision-making by the PCB.

3. Any other business

Summary of the Meeting

1. Welcome remarks

The PCB Bureau Chair welcomed the Members of the Bureau for 2026: Netherlands as Chair, Philippines as Vice-Chair, Kenya as Rapporteur, a representative of the Cosponsors and the representatives of the NGO Delegation and congratulated the incoming members on their election to the Bureau (see list of the 2026 Bureau members on the UNAIDS website: [PCB Bureau | UN-AIDS](#)).

The Chair emphasized that 2026 will be a particularly important and challenging year for UNAIDS, marked by the transition and integration process into the UN system and beyond. The Chair highlighted its commitment to working closely and collaboratively with all Bureau members and the Secretariat throughout the year and expressed confidence in the Bureau's collective ability to deliver on its responsibilities.

The Chair recalled that the Bureau members received the agenda for this meeting and the relevant background documents.

The Bureau reaffirmed the importance of unity and of keeping the needs of people living with and affected by HIV at the centre of their work.

2. Terms of Reference of Working Group on UNAIDS transition and integration: *The PCB Bureau will review and finalize the draft terms of reference of the Working Group to develop a plan on the further transition and integration of UNAIDS into the UN system and beyond, to be put forward for intersessional decision-making by the PCB.*

The Chair made remarks as follows:

- The Bureau's role was to review and finalize the draft Terms of Reference (TORs) of the Working Group tasked with developing a plan for the further transition and integration of UNAIDS into the UN system and beyond, for submission to the PCB for intersessional decision-making.
- The agenda and relevant background documentation had been circulated in advance and were displayed during the meeting.
- In response to a request by the Board in June 2025, the PCB Bureau had submitted a paper to the 57th PCB meeting in December 2025 providing an update on the implementation of the revised operating model of the Joint Programme. That paper, responding to the PCB's request to ensure coherence with the UN80 process as agreed during the Special Session in October 2025, outlined the key considerations and questions

to be examined by the Working Group in preparing its preliminary report and final recommendations on transition and integration.

- At the 57th PCB meeting in December 2025, the Board adopted decisions based on the Bureau's paper. In line with these decisions, the Secretariat circulated the draft TORs in the week. Given the very tight timeline for establishing the Working Group, the Chair underscored the importance of finalizing the TORs during this meeting.
- The Chair outlined the next steps following the Bureau meeting:
 - A revised version of the TORs, incorporating Bureau members' inputs, would be circulated on 23 January. Bureau members would then have until 15:00 Geneva time on 26 January to provide any final written comments.
 - Following incorporation of Bureau feedback, the TORs would be shared on 27 January with the PCB for broader consideration by 30 January. The intersessional decision-making process would then take place from 2 to 4 February. A call for nominations for the Working Group would be issued immediately thereafter with a deadline to submit nominees on 12 February COB.
 - The second Bureau meeting, scheduled for 13 February, would be dedicated to the selection of Working Group members and co-facilitators. The selection will be done based on the candidates nominated by the PCB members.

The Bureau then discussed some key elements that should be reflected in the TORs:

- Bureau members requested clearer articulation of the Chair's and Bureau's role in guiding the Working Group, particularly with respect to reporting and oversight arrangements. Suggestions included clarifying the frequency and modality of reporting to the Bureau. Members also noted the need to carefully balance the Working Group's independence with appropriate Bureau guidance, to avoid ambiguity for the wider PCB.
- Bureau members emphasized the importance of balanced representation in the Working Group, including geographic diversity, gender balance, and representation from different country contexts. Members also highlighted the value of ensuring balance among co-facilitators, including considerations of geographic representation, as well as ensuring that the composition collectively includes both technical and governance expertise alongside strong community and accountability perspectives.
- Bureau members noted the tight timeline for the establishment of the Working Group and requested clear communication on sequencing, deadlines, and next steps to ensure transparency and feasibility.
- Responding to Bureau members, the Secretariat clarified that UNAIDS practice already ensures geographic balance, including for co-facilitators. The Secretariat also confirmed that further opportunities for input would be available through Bureau discussions and subsequent PCB consideration.

Bureau members welcomed the draft TORs and commended the Chair for the quality, clarity, and focus of the document, particularly its emphasis on clear deliverables while allowing sufficient space for the Working Group to operate independently. Bureau members provided comments on the draft TORs, highlighting areas requiring further clarification, including the nomination process,

the composition of the Working Group—particularly the need to ensure Cosponsor and civil society representation—and the Working Group’s authority and independence.

The Chair thanked Bureau members for their valuable inputs and expressed appreciation for the substantive and constructive discussion. The Chair requested that the Secretariat to further refine the TORs based on the inputs received and to circulate the revised version to the Bureau for final comments.

Following the Bureau meeting, the Chair received additional written comments from Bureau members, which reiterated the key issues raised during the discussion. The Chair subsequently circulated the final TORs to PCB members for comments, with a deadline of 30 January 2026.

3. Any other business

There was no other business discussed.

The Chair thanked the Bureau members for their time and closed the meeting.

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