

Summary of the PCB Bureau meeting of 4 December 2007

Present: Prangtip Kanchanahattakij (Thailand), David Hohman (USA), Mamadou Seck (Senegal) and Gebrewold Petros (UNHCR, representing Cosponsors). Zonibel Woods (IWHC, representing PCB NGOs) joined by telephone.

UNAIDS Secretariat: Debbie Landey (Deputy Executive Director), As Sy (Director, PER), Helen Frary (PER/BUR), Eddy Beck (EMP), Shona Wynd (TOS/TSD), Nii-k Plange (AED/TOS) and Jacek Tyszko (PER/BUR).

Meeting's agenda:

1. Status of preparations for the 21st PCB meeting (Geneva, 17-18 December 2007)
 - 1.1 Second Independent Evaluation of UNAIDS
 - 1.2 GIST update related decision
 - 1.3 List of participants
2. Preparations for the 22nd PCB meeting
 - 2.1 Issues for the agenda
 - 2.2 Proposals for Vice Chair
3. 2008 General Assembly meeting on AIDS
4. Other business

1. Status of preparations for the 21st PCB

1.1 Second Independent Evaluation of UNAIDS

The Bureau reviewed comments received from the PCB constituencies to the draft paper published in mid-November. It was decided that based on the discussion the Secretariat will prepare a revised version of the paper for the PCB. This would be cleared by the Bureau by Friday, 7 December and disseminated (English version) on Monday, 10 December. The French version will follow as soon as translated.

The Bureau agreed that the agenda item would be introduced to the PCB by its Chair.

1.2 GIST update

The GIST Secretariat reported that the process of reviewing its Terms of Reference (ToRs) and mandate had been completed, as recommended by the GTT Review. The Terms of Reference, logframe and workplan will be presented to the GIST for final approval at the next GIST meeting on December 15. The outcome of that meeting will be one of two scenarios:

Scenario One: The GIST approves the ToRs, logframe and workplan and recommends that they be presented to the PCB for approval.

Scenario Two: The GIST does NOT approve the ToRs, logframe and workplan, in which case work will continue on completing the process.

The Chair of the GIST will be presenting an oral update of the review process at the 21st PCB meeting. The content of that presentation will reflect the outcome of the GIST meeting of 15 December.

- Reflecting Scenario One: In the event that the GIST approves the ToRs, logframe and workplan, the update will highlight the outcome of the review and request that the PCB approve the new ToRs, logframe and workplan, in order that the GIST is able to act upon the new mandate and workplan immediately. If not prepared to do so at the meeting, the PCB might consider an electronic approval or delegating this task to the PCB Bureau.
- Reflecting Scenario Two: In the event that the GIST does not approve the ToRs, logframe and workplan, the update will simply highlight the findings of the GIST Review.

The Bureau agreed with the presented approach. A relevant draft decision on the issue will be prepared for the PCB Chair to present to the PCB meeting.

1.3 List of Participants

The Bureau decided that the draft List of Participants should be disseminated and posted on the 21st PCB web page on Monday, 10 December. An updated version will be available for delegates at the meeting and a final list after the Board closes.

2. Preparations for the 22nd PCB meeting (23-25 April 2008)

2.1 Issues for the agenda

As the dates for the meeting were brought forward, the deadline for circulation of the draft annotated provisional agenda for the 22nd PCB meeting will be 22 February 2008 (60 days prior to the meeting). To enable the Secretariat to meet this deadline, the Bureau considered a list of suggested items. These were divided into 3 categories: those that had process or governance requirements; those where previous PCB meetings stipulated reporting to the 22nd PCB meeting; and those that required discussion because of their timeliness. They included:

- Diagnosis, treatment and prevention of tuberculosis among people living with HIV and how UNAIDS can work with TB communities (for thematic segment);
- Opening with: adoption of the agenda, election of officers, consideration of the report of the 21st PCB, report of the UNAIDS Executive Director, report of the CCO Chair, and report by the NGO representative (usually takes three-quarters of a day alone);
- Scaling up towards universal access with: update on the implementation of the 2007-2010 UNAIDS Strategic Framework and gender-sensitivity of AIDS response;
- Memorandum of Understanding with the Global Fund;
- Second Independent Evaluation of UNAIDS;
- Civil Society participation in PCB meetings;
- Cycle of the UNAIDS Unified Budget and Workplan;
- Information items with: financial report and statement by the UNAIDS staff association;
- Next PCB meetings; and

- Adoption of decisions, recommendations and conclusions.

The resulting agenda items are extremely ambitious for a two day Board session (assuming that the thematic segment will take a full day). The Bureau decided to review the draft agenda at its next meeting.

2.2 Proposals for Vice Chair

Decision 10.(o) of the PCB at its 20th meeting in June 2007, stated that: *“to synchronize with the ECOSOC process the Chair/Vice Chair will be elected for one calendar year, starting the term on 1 January of each year.”*

Based on the following assumptions:

- To implement the above PCB decision, a transitional arrangement will be used whereby the (Chair and) elected Vice Chair will exceptionally hold the position from 23 April 2008 – 31 December 2009;
- That nominated PCB members should be members of the Board for the duration of their tenure as Vice Chair and also the following period of one year as Chair; and
- That the position of Vice Chair in this instance will fall to a non-Western, European and Others Group (WEOG) country, so as to ensure balance across the officers of the Board.

The following PCB members may be considered as eligible to take the post of the PCB Vice Chair as of its 22nd meeting: Ethiopia, Guatemala, India, Iran, Mauritania and the Russian Federation. A number of other current Board members could be eligible if they were to stand for reelection to the PCB at the ECOSOC sessions in Spring 2008 and 2009.

The Bureau will continue discussions on this issue.

3. 2008 General Assembly High Level Meeting on AIDS

The Secretariat provided an update on the preparations for the meeting. Based on consultations with the GA President and Member States, the facilitators of the GA High Level Meeting (Ambassador Outlule of Botswana and Ambassador Intelmann of Estonia) finalized the text of the draft Organizational Resolution.

The proposed draft document envisages the following arrangements:

- it will be a high-level meeting to undertake a comprehensive review of the progress achieved in realising the 2001 Declaration of Commitment and the 2006 Political Declaration;
- the Meeting will be held on 10 – 11 June 2008;
- it will consist of full plenary meetings (to enable all countries to speak), five interactive thematic panel discussions and an informal civil society hearing;
- the outcome of the Meeting may be either a substantive resolution or a President's summary.

The negotiations on the draft Organisational Resolution (which will formally decide all arrangements) started on Monday, 3 December. It is expected that Member States would be able to arrive at a consensus and adopt the Organizational Resolution by mid-December, given the mostly procedural nature of the draft.

4. Other Business

The Bureau agreed to review the terms of reference of the GTT Oversight Reference Group and approve them by email.

Next meeting: 28 January 2008 at 15h00 hrs.