

Summary of the PCB Bureau meeting of 30 April 2012

Present: Anna Marzec-Bogusławska (chairing), Jolanta Chojecka, Joanna Glazewska and Piotr Grad (Poland); Lavanya Kumar (India); Colin McIff (USA); Ebony Johnson, Ed Ngosin (PCB NGOs) and Rosalia Rodriguez-Garcia (World Bank) joined by phone.

UNAIDS Secretariat: Jan Beagle, Tim Martineau, Joel Rehnstrom, Bernhard Schwartländer, Susan Timberlake, Celeste Sandoval, Jacek Tyszkowski, Samia Louannas, Joy Backory, Yuki Takemoto

Meeting agenda:

1. UN Women as UNAIDS Cosponsor
2. Update, Regular and Thematic Segments at 30th PCB meeting
3. Review of PCB NGO Participation in the Board (for 31st PCB meeting)
4. Any other business

1. UN Women as a UNAIDS Cosponsor

The Secretariat informed the Bureau of the application by UN Women to join UNAIDS as the eleventh Cosponsor:

- A formal application letter from Michelle Bachelet, Executive Director of UN Women, was received on 2 April 2012;
- The application was considered and approved by the CCO (Committee of Cosponsoring Organizations) at its meeting on 12 April;
- The proposal is for the EXD to present the issue to the Board for approval under his report, to be accompanied by a separate short document;
- Based on earlier reactions by the Board on this issue, unanimous approval of UN Women's application is expected;
- Once approved, it is hoped that UN Women will lead the item on Gender-sensitivity of AIDS responses at the 31st PCB meeting in December.

The Bureau:

- Strongly supports the application by UN Women to join as a Cosponsor and agreed to address the issue under the EXD report to the Board;
- The annotation and documentation reference shall be updated to reflect these changes, but as they are only editorial, the draft agenda will simply be updated on the website;

2. Update, Regular and Thematic Segments at 30th PCB meeting

The Chair expressed concern regarding the serious delay in the production of PCB documents. The Bureau received updates per item and provided comments:

(1) Opening and Leadership in the AIDS response

The outline of the EXD report is expected around 2 weeks before the meeting as is customary; the CCO report is expected this week; the EXD is currently exploring options for the 'AIDS Leadership' item and the Bureau will be kept informed.

(2) Follow-up to the 29th PCB thematic segment: HIV and enabling legal environments

- The Secretariat highlighted some of the key issues and challenges raised by the working group. While the document currently undergoing final clearance aims to capture what was actually said on the day, there was disagreement within the group as to the purpose of thematic segments and how their outcomes should be handled (e.g. attribution of comments, need for documentation with or without draft recommendations, etc.).

- The Bureau recognized the strong support among some Member States for concrete recommendations to emerge from thematic segments, without which participation may be limited both in volume and in terms of level of representation. The Bureau recognized the value of thematic segments in creating dialogue, even when there is disagreement, by allowing respective constituencies to express their point of view on timely and important issues towards concrete outcomes.
- The Secretariat also provided an update on preparations for the thematic segment at the 31st PCB meeting (December 2012) on 'Non-Discrimination.' Initial planning has begun and a working group will be established towards the end of May 2012. **The Secretariat will share the current draft timeline with the Bureau electronically. (DONE – 8 May)**

(3) Financial and performance report

- This item will consist of financial reporting (2 documents) and performance monitoring (2 documents and 3 conference room papers) for the biennium 2010-2011 and 2012-2015.
- As was requested by the Bureau, financial reporting will include a revised proposal for dealing with unfunded liabilities and possible approaches to address the impact of currency fluctuations.
- Under performance monitoring, the report for 2010-2011 biennium will be accompanied by a technical supplement (CRP). Country case studies will be on Eastern Europe and Tanzania.
- The Chair requested that the Secretariat try to ensure that the country case studies, while as conference room papers would normally do not require translation, be translated into French on an exceptional basis.

(4) Strategic Investment

- The Secretariat provided an update on the consultations that have been led by Ambassador Mboya of Kenya.
- At the request of the Bureau for further clarification on expected outcomes of the meeting with Heads of Missions scheduled for 9 May, the Secretariat explained that the process is not expected to render 'prescriptive' outcomes, but rather a blue print that countries will be able to implement as they see most fit. This meeting is part of a process that is expected to contribute to further analyzing key issues and constructive comments that have been received through the various consultations to date under the leadership of Ambassador Mboya. It is hoped that engagement and clarification at the highest level in Geneva will contribute to smooth roll-out at country level.

(5) Technical support

- The Secretariat reported on the large number of comments received to date, particularly noting input from NGOs in Eastern Europe, Asia and Latin America. The document is being finalized accordingly hopefully for completion this week.

(6) AIDS, security and Humanitarian response

The Secretariat highlighted the leadership taken by UNHCR and WFP in preparing the document, which is now available online in English and French.

(7) Thematic segment

- The background, which is almost final, addresses the issue of HIV hepatitis co-infection in its annex, focusing specifically on people who inject drugs.
- Following recommendations from the Bureau, options are being explored for external moderators.

(8) Staff Association statement

The Bureau asked if the structural changes at UNAIDS were linked in some way to discussions around reform at WHO. The Secretariat responded that while UNAIDS was following developments in WHO there was no linkage with the realignment of the Secretariat.

3. Review of PCB NGO Participation in the Board (for 31st PCB meeting)

- The PCB NGO representative presented the draft concept note that was prepared in collaboration with the Secretariat. The Bureau noted the following:
 - o The document could address more explicitly how the consultation will contribute to the wider civil society; the link between local, national and global HIV responses; links to the 3 zeros and the investment framework; and some kind of independent oversight mechanism for the consultative process (e.g. virtual process to keep costs down);
 - o The needs of NGOs in the document to be balanced with corresponding responsibilities;
 - o While recognizing contributions made by the Communications Facility (CF), the focus of the review should be on the PCB NGO delegation itself and its strengths;
 - o **The concept note will be updated to include a draft TOR (terms of reference) for an oversight group, a road map and financial implications if any for further discussion at the next Bureau meeting.**
- The Bureau received an updated on the recruitment process for a new host for the CF for 2012.
 - o The recruitment process for the CF is managed primarily by PCB NGOs with the Secretariat providing technical and administrative support.
 - o PCB NGOs may negotiate the terms of contract with the current CF host in order to allow the new host to be brought on board earlier. The Bureau will be kept informed of the recruitment process.
 - o The Bureau recognized the need to monitor the implementation of recommendations related to the CF, possibly for a mid-term review by the Bureau.

4. Any other business

- Bureau members were reminded of upcoming briefings:
 - o 2 May: PCB NGO teleconference on Strategic Investment with Ambassador Mboya
 - o 9 May: Meeting with Heads of Missions on Strategic Investment led by Ambassador Mboya
 - o 11 May: Pre-PCB Missions Briefing
- The Bureau was informed that on 26 April, ECOSOC elected the following States to the PCB for a 3-year term beginning on 1 January 2013 (all by acclamation):
 - o Africa – Sierra Leone (replacing Togo) and Zimbabwe (replacing Botswana);
 - o Asia-Pacific – China and Japan (both reelected);
 - o Eastern Europe – Poland (reelected);
 - o GRULAC – Guyana (replacing El Salvador);
 - o WEOG – Belgium (replacing the Netherlands), Switzerland (replacing Sweden) and UK (reelected).
- The next Bureau meeting will be held on Tuesday, 29 May (14h00-16h00 Geneva time). – **(Postponed by the Chair on 16 May until further notice.)**

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