



Summary of the PCB Bureau meeting of 27 June 2012

Present: Anna Marzec-Bogusławska (chairing), Joanna Glazewska (Poland); Lavanya Kumar (India); Ebony Johnson, Ed Ngoksin (PCB NGOs) and Rosalia Rodriguez-Garcia, Nejma Cheikh (World Bank) joined by phone.

Excused: Colin McIlff (USA)

UNAIDS Secretariat: Ussing Morten, Jacek Tyszko, Yuki Takemoto, Samia Lounnas

Meeting agenda:

- 30th PCB meeting follow up & preparation for the 31st PCB meeting
- Review of PCB NGO Participation in the Board
- Call for proposals for the Thematic Segment, 33rd PCB meeting (December 2013)
- AOB

1. 30th PCB meeting follow up & preparation for the 31st PCB meeting:

The Chair provided her views on the outcomes of the 30th PCB which she indicated were overall positive.

- Positive aspects of the 30th PCB meeting included *programmatically*: UN Women becoming 11th Cosponsor; successful resolution of the deadlock related to the Investment Framework tool; outcomes of the debates on the NGO report, financial and performance reports and the UNAIDS *technical* support; high quality discussions on combination prevention during the thematic day; *organizationally*: relatively smooth conduct of the meeting, especially if we consider last minute changes to its programme; high attendance; and last but not least professional support from the secretariat.
- Concerns included challenges in the consensus building process on decision points on enabling legal environments; concerns that UNAIDS mandate to address key populations was being challenged; attempt by one delegation to block the adoption of the report from the previous PCB meeting. Members of the Bureau agreed with the observations of the Chair.
- PCB Bureau members agreed with the overall assessment of the chair regarding the 30th PCB meeting.

The Secretariat presented the action items matrix developed based on decisions from the 30th and previous Board meetings to guide the discussion on the development of the agenda for 31st PCB meeting (11-13 December 2012).

- The Bureau discussed the proposed key agenda items for the 31st PCB Meeting and concluded as follows:

Agenda item: follow-up to the thematic segment on combination prevention:

Considering the challenges of decision-making related to the discussions at the thematic day, especially during the recent PCB on HIV and enabling legal environments, but also the previous thematic day on HIV and food security and after consultations with a number of partners, the Chair proposed that as of next PCB the main outcomes of the thematic debate would be reported through a summary report without suggesting specific decision points. This summary report should provide sufficient basis for the PCB discussion. Requests from the floor for specific action, if any, could be reflected in the report of the meeting and addressed by the Bureau when preparing agendas for the following meetings. This approach would be closer to the original objective of the thematic day which was to provide space for debate (free exchange of opinions without recording) on complex issues, but avoid highly politicized negotiations on language of related recommendations.

One member of the Bureau proposed to maintain decision points or recommendations in the follow-up report of the thematic segment. The Bureau also discussed the following issues: the possibility of having an independent writer to prepare the summary in the interest of objectivity and accuracy; the Working Group to provide feedback on the draft summary document; the continued use of civil society representatives as rapporteurs at thematic segments; and the proposal to revisit and review the 'summary report' approach in one year.

Conclusion of PCB Bureau:

- After discussion and clarifications provided by Secretariat, the Bureau agreed to have the Secretariat prepare a summary report on the combination prevention thematic segment for the Bureau's review and subsequent presentation to the 31st PCB.
- The Bureau requested that the modalities for the follow-up of thematic segments be further discussed at the next PCB Bureau meeting in September 2012.

Agenda Item: thematic segment of the 31st PCB meeting on non-discrimination

The Chair informed the Bureau that some delegations immediately after the 30th meeting approached the Chair suggesting to postpone or even drop this item and replace it with a different topic. The Chair was not in favor of this approach. HIV-related non-discrimination is at the core of UNAIDS work and the PCB has a clear role in maintaining it on its agenda.

Therefore Chair suggested maintaining the theme of the thematic day as earlier agreed and requested the Secretariat to begin the preparations with the invitation to all interested stakeholders to participate in the working group to develop content and concept of the session.

Conclusion of PCB Bureau:

- The Bureau agreed that the thematic *segment of the 31st PCB meeting will be on non-discrimination.*
- *The Bureau requested UNAIDS Secretariat to start preparations of invitations to all stakeholders willing to participate in the working group to develop content and concept of the session.*

Agenda Item: Monitoring and Evaluation Reference Group (MERG):

The Chair asked the Bureau if they see this as a separate agenda item in December or could it be considered as suggested by the secretariat in the matrix, under either EXD report or AOB agenda item.

- PCB Bureau members including USA (written remark read by the Representative of Poland) and PCB NGOs indicated that they prefer having MERG as a separate agenda item.
- The World Bank clarified the MERG scope of work saying that the Group provides recommendations and expertise not only in indicators but also on evaluation. She considered that the agenda item could be an opportunity to reflect on the MERG as a solid mechanism for the future of the AIDS Response. It was suggested that the terms of reference of the MERG could be adjusted.

Conclusion of PCB Bureau:

- The MERG to be presented as a separate agenda item and UNAIDS Secretariat to work on the background document.

Agenda item: Strategic investment:

The Chair noted with satisfaction the successful conclusion of the consultation process led by Ambassador Mboya at global level. She indicated that the outcome of the 30th PCB discussion gives UNAIDS the green light to take the framework to countries for consulting and implementing the tool with national authorities and other relevant stakeholders. In accordance with the decision from the 29th PCB, the Secretariat will present a report on the implementation of the framework at the December PCB. The Africa Group would like more information about country level consultations. It is also suggested that country case studies could be presented at the PCB in this context.

Conclusion of PCB Bureau:

- The Bureau welcomed the positive outcome on the Strategic Investment agenda item
- The Bureau requested the UNAIDS Secretariat to present a report, including country case studies, on the consultations on strategic investment and the implementation of the SIF at country level.

Agenda item: Gender-sensitivity of AIDS responses:

The Chair stated that the recent expansion of the UNAIDS family with UN Women brings an additional value to this discussion. She asked the Secretariat to report on the process of involving UN Women in the AIDS response.

Secretariat informed the Bureau that the first meeting of a working group to review the Division of Labour in the relevant thematic area is planned for 19 July in New York. The group would be chaired by Ms. Jan Beagle, UNAIDS Deputy Executive Director, Management and Governance Branch and include representatives of UN Women, UNDP, UNFPA and the Secretariat. It will also be an opportunity for the Secretariat to provide a comprehensive briefing to UN Women staff on UNAIDS work.

Conclusion of PCB Bureau:

- The Bureau requested the Secretariat to prepare the background report for this agenda item.

Agenda item: Progress on implementation of human rights-related Programme Coordinating Board decisions.

The Chair requested the Bureau to consider a further postponement of this item, taking into account that human rights will feature prominently in the thematic day. If the Bureau would agree with this postponement, the continuity of the human rights-related debate would be ensured for the next three PCBs: non-discrimination thematic segment at 31st; follow-up to the thematic on non-discrimination at 32nd; and the implementation of the human rights - related decisions at the 33rd meetings.

Conclusion of PCB Bureau:

- *Agenda item on progress on implementation of human rights-related Programme Coordinating Board decisions is postponed to the 33rd PCB meeting (December 2013).*

PCB debate on AIDS in post-MDG, post-2015 era:

The Chair referred to the PCB NGO delegation request which was also supported by a number of other PCB members to conduct a debate at a future session on AIDS in post-MDG, post-2015 era.

Conclusion of PCB Bureau:

- *Agreed to consider the proposal to put this issue on the 32nd PCB agenda in June 2013.*

Overall Conclusion for the preparation for the 31st PCB meeting

- *The Bureau requested the Secretariat to prepare the first draft of the agenda for the 31st PCB meeting for consideration at the next meeting by the Bureau based on the discussion held at this Bureau meeting.*

2. Review of PCB NGO Participation in the Board:

The draft concept note was developed by the Secretariat on the basis of inputs from all Bureau members. It is expected that that the review will be concluded in time for the December PCB meeting.

The Chair invited the Bureau to agree on the overall objectives, scope and timeline, and to mandate the Secretariat to initiate implementation.

Conclusion of PCB Bureau

- The Bureau agreed that it should act as the oversight committee for the review.
- The Bureau requested the Secretariat to begin the process of selecting a consultant to lead the review

3. Call for proposals for the Thematic Segment, 33rd PCB meeting (December 2013):

- The Bureau agreed with the proposed timeframe for the Call for Proposals and requested the Secretariat to the launch process and include the list of themes covered up to date.

4. Any other business

- The Bureau agreed that next Bureau meeting will take place on 13 September 2012.
- The Bureau requested the Secretariat to develop a standard footnote to be considered in the event that members of PCB dissociate themselves from Decision Points.