

UNAIDS PCB Bureau meeting

MEETING SUMMARY

DATE: Thursday, 3 October

PARTICIPANTS

PCB Bureau: Mr Yang Xiaochen (China: representing the Chair); Ms Julia Martin and Ms Deana Jordan Sullivan (United States of America: representing the Vice-Chair); Mr Dmitry Nikalayenia (Belarus: representing the Rapporteur); Mr Jonathan Gunthorp (representing the PCB NGO Delegation); and Ms Elizabeth Benomar and Mr David Sunderland (UNFPA: representing UNAIDS Cosponsors).

UNAIDS Secretariat: Mr Joel Rehnstrom, Director of the Evaluation Unit; Ms Samia Lounnas, Senior Governance Advisor, Governance and Multilateral Affairs; and Ms Maggie Lemons, Governance Officer, Governance and Multilateral Affairs

Excused: Ms Tracy Carson (United States of America, representing the Vice-Chair); Ms Alessandra Nilo (representing the PCB NGO Delegation); and Mr Morten Ussing, Director, Governance and Multilateral Affairs

MEETING AGENDA

1. Evaluation Expert Advisory Committee

The Bureau will discuss and approve the nominations for the Evaluation Expert Advisory Committee. The Bureau will discuss a proposal for Chairmanship of the Committee.

2. Any other business

SUMMARY

Opening remarks from the PCB Bureau Chair

Mr Yang Xiaochen, Chair of the PCB Bureau, welcomed participants to the seventh meeting of the PCB Bureau meeting to review and approve the membership of the Evaluation Expert Advisory Committee.

1. Evaluation Expert Advisory Committee

Recalling the Terms of Reference, the Chair noted that the PCB Bureau had the responsibility to ensure that the Committee has the required expertise and is geographically representative and gender balanced.

The UNAIDS Evaluation Office provided a brief summary of the process before the Bureau reviewed the candidates. Following the PCB's approval of the Evaluation Policy at the 44th meeting of the PCB in June 2019, a call for nominations to the Evaluation Advisory Committee was sent by the Bureau on 25 July 2019 with a deadline of 31 August 2019. At its meeting on 30 August 2019, the PCB Bureau extended the deadline to enable regional groups to provide a consensus nomination. Following the receipt of the final nomination, the Bureau agreed to meet to discuss and approve the candidates, and to propose a Chair for consideration by the wider PCB through the intersessional decision making process in accordance with the Terms of Reference.

The Bureau considered the candidates against the key criteria identified in the TOR:

- In-depth knowledge and understanding of evaluation and performance measurement, collection, analysis and use of quantitative and qualitative data;
- Extensive experience of evaluation of complex programmes and organizational performance to improve relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and impact;
- Good understanding of HIV, public health and/or related development and human rights issues and familiarity with the work of UNAIDS Cosponsors and/or Secretariat at country, regional or global levels;
- Good understanding of UNAIDS existing evaluation tools and mechanisms.

The PCB Bureau agreed that all nominees met the requisite criteria. The Bureau then considered the geographical representation and gender balance of the nominated candidates. The Bureau agreed that gender balance had been largely achieved as three candidates of the committee are female and four candidates are male.

While all regions are represented by a Member State nominee, the Bureau noted that the nominees from the NGO Delegation and the Cosponsor Evaluation Group are both from WEOG countries (Canada and Italy, respectively). The Bureau agreed that the nominees were qualified and represented the consensus of their respective groups. To ensure best possible geographic representation in the future, the Chair proposed that the PCB NGO Delegation and Cosponsor Evaluation Group consider nominating candidates from other regions in two years' time when the term of current members comes to an end. The Chair gave the floor to the Secretariat to provide additional clarity regarding term limits.

The Director of the Evaluation Unit, UNAIDS recalled that the term of committee members is two years, renewable once, according to the TOR. He suggested the Bureau also consider the importance of continuity in the work of the Expert Advisory Committee. Future PCB Bureaus may wish to encourage regional groups to discuss possible reappointments when nominations are called for every two years to ensure institutional memory is preserved on the committee.

The Bureau approved the list of nominees for the Evaluation Expert Advisory Committee as follows:

1. Mr Raymond Yekeye, Programmes Director, National AIDS Council of Zimbabwe (Africa)
2. Dr. Zunyou Wu, Chief Epidemiologist, Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, (Asia/Pacific)
3. Dr. Tamara Svetahor, Head of Prevention Department HIV-infection and parenteral viral hepatitis, Republic Center for Hygiene, Epidemiology and Public Health, Belarus (Eastern Europe)
4. Dr. Elizabeth Moreira dos Santos, Researcher and independent consultant, member of the Global Fund's Technical Evaluation Reference Group, Brazil (LAC)
5. Professor Till Bärnighausen, Director of the Heidelberg Institute of Global Health, Germany (WEOG)
6. Mr. Marco Segone, Director, UNFPA Evaluation Office (Cosponsor Evaluation Group)
7. Ms. San Patten, Independent research and evaluation consultant (NGO Delegation)

The Chair recalled that, per the TOR, the PCB Bureau is expected to propose a Chair of the Evaluation Expert Advisory Committee for intersessional decision making by the PCB. The Chair proposed that, as all candidates had the requisite technical expertise and experience, the Bureau focus on two criteria to delineate amongst candidates: familiarity with the work of the Joint Programme and a good understanding of UNAIDS' existing evaluation tools and mechanisms.

The Bureau noted the qualifications and experience of the candidates in relation to the criteria set out in the TOR. Bureau members agreed that it would be preferable for a candidate nominated by a Member State to assume the role of Chair. Members stressed the importance of an impartial Chair – someone who was familiar with UNAIDS, but not too closely involved with the work of the organization. The Bureau agreed that Dr. Elizabeth Moreira dos Santos met this requirement, noted the breadth of her experience relevant to the work of UNAIDS and the AIDS response, and agreed to propose Dr. Moreira dos Santos as Chair of the Committee for a two-year period.

The Bureau agreed to communicate the establishment of the Committee and the proposed Chair to the PCB, as soon as possible, for approval through the intersessional decision making process, to permit the Committee to begin its work including the preparation of the Evaluation Plan, in advance of the 45th meeting of the PCB.

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