

UNAIDS PCB Bureau meeting

MEETING SUMMARY

DATE: Friday 3 April 2020

PARTICIPANTS

PCB Bureau: Ms Julia Martin, Ms Tracy Carson, and Ms Deana Jordan Sullivan (United States of America: representing the Chair); Ambassador Penda Andreas Naanda and Ms Xungileni Martha Galukeni Chitundu (Namibia: representing the Vice-chair); Dr. Sadre Alam (India: representing the Rapporteur); Mandeep Dhaliwal (representing the CCO Chair, UNDP) and Mr Jonathan Gunthorp and Mr Andrew Spieldenner (representing the NGO Delegation)

UNAIDS Secretariat: Mr Morten Ussing, Director, Governance and Multilateral Affairs and Ms Samia Lounnas, Senior Governance Advisor, Governance and Multilateral Affairs

MEETING AGENDA

1. Scenarios for the 46th meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board
2. Any other business

SUMMARY

Opening remarks from the PCB Bureau Chair

The PCB Chair opened the meeting by noting the unprecedented health crisis due to the Covid-19 pandemic and expressing global solidarity. The Chair recognized the recent loss of Dr. Gita Ramjee, a pioneer and leader in the AIDS response.

1. Scenarios for the 46th meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board

In light of the current pandemic, the PCB Bureau Chair and the UNAIDS Executive Director discussed potential scenarios for the Programme Coordinating Board meeting to be held 23-25 June 2020 and put forward a consensus proposal for consideration by the PCB Bureau.

The Chair reviewed the two background papers the Bureau received in advance of this meeting:

1. PCB paper for decision making with the scenario for the reorganisation of UNAIDS PCB meetings in 2020 (June and December 2020)
2. Proposed revised timewise agenda of the 46th PCB meeting

The Chair stressed that both the UNAIDS Executive Director and the PCB Chair believe it to be of great importance that the PCB is engaged during this crisis and provides oversight and guidance to UNAIDS. The Chair noted that the PCB Legal Counsel had reviewed and approved the proposed scenario.

The Chair identified the following next steps. The PCB Bureau must discuss and determine a way forward. Once consensus is reached in the Bureau, a paper would be sent for decision making by the broader PCB through the intersessional process.

The details of the proposal for discussion are as follows:

- The 46th meeting of the PCB would be held virtually on 23-25 June with a simplified agenda and shortened timeframe to accommodate time differences for participants around the world (13:00-17:00 Geneva time)
- Certain agenda items, including the NGO delegation report and the follow-up to the previous thematic segment, would be deferred to December because they would benefit from in-person negotiation and interaction.
- The thematic segment originally scheduled for June, *Cervical cancer and HIV- exploring linkages and common inequalities to save women's lives*, would be moved to December 2020. The second thematic scheduled for December, *What does the regional and country-level data tell us, are we listening, and how can we better leverage that data and related technology to meet our 2020 and 2030 goals?*, would be moved to 2021.
- The December 2020 meeting would be extended to a four-day meeting.

Through the intersessional process, the Programme Coordinating Board will be invited to adopt the following decisions in accordance with the proposal:

1. Agree that the 46th meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board will be held virtually on 23-25 June 2020, the dates set forth in decision 9.3 of the 41st meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board;
2. Decide that, in light of the exceptional global health crisis due to COVID-19, the 46th meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board will consist only of a decision making segment;
3. Agree that:
 - o The thematic segment scheduled for the 46th Programme Coordinating Board meeting, *Cervical cancer and HIV- addressing linkages and common inequalities to save women's lives*, will be postponed to the 47th Programme Coordinating Board meeting in December 2020; and

- The thematic segment scheduled for the 47th Programme Coordinating Board meeting, What does the regional and country-level data tell us, are we listening, and how can we better leverage that data and related technology to meet our 2020 and 2030 goals?, will be postponed to 2021; and
4. Agree that the 47th meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board, scheduled for 15-17 December 2020, will include an additional day to accommodate postponed agenda items.

The annex of the paper includes an overview of the alternative scenarios discussed, including postponing the meeting to a later date and holding a single PCB in December. Key considerations in determining the final proposal included a pragmatic review of the current pandemic situation and the importance of engaging with the PCB prior to December, particularly given the important processes currently ongoing.

The Secretariat is exploring the methods for a virtual meeting, including translation in the six languages and ensuring that the three different constituencies will be able and supported to participate. Additional information regarding the logistical preparations for the PCB meeting will be shared shortly.

The PCB Bureau members thanked the Chair and the EXD, and agreed on a consensus basis on the proposal for the PCB meetings. The Bureau also reviewed the proposed timewise agenda and requested that an additional agenda item on COVID-19 be added to the June PCB meeting given the exceptional circumstances.

The Secretariat will revise the timewise agenda and the paper for decision making on the basis of the comments provided. Upon final approval of the PCB Bureau, the paper will be sent to the wider PCB through the intersessional decision making process.

2. AOB

PCB Working Group on the follow-up to the Joint Inspection Unit recommendations:

The Chair updated the PCB Bureau on the composition of the PCB Working Group. Two remaining constituencies are pending nominations, which are expected shortly. As soon as the group is officially constituted, a call for the first meeting, which will be virtual, will be issued. The Chair indicated the importance ensuring the working group has adequate time to complete their mandate prior to the December PCB.

UNAIDS Strategy beyond 2021:

Following the request of a PCB Bureau member, the Secretariat proposed that the PCB Bureau meet the UNAIDS technical lead on the strategy process, Tina Boonto, next week to receive an update and provide guidance on the strategy development process.

Bureau members indicated support for the meeting, noting that many constituencies are keen to provide input.

PCB Briefing on COVID-19

The UNAIDS Executive Director would like to host a briefing on COVID-19 with PCB members next week. The virtual meeting would happen via the Zoom platform with interpretation offered in both English and French.

Bureau member indicated their support for the briefing, and proposed that it be an opportunity to also provide context and respond to questions regarding the intersessional decision points.

The Chair closed the meeting, thanking participants for their support and collaboration.

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