

# REVISED MODALITIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE 2022 UNAIDS PCB MEETINGS

**DOCUMENT PREPARED BY THE PCB BUREAU**

**The Programme Coordinating Board:**

9. Taking into account that the PCB Bureau has determined that the 51st meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board will be hybrid and will therefore exceptionally include an additional day and be held on 13 – 16 December 2022 in Chiang Mai, Thailand;
10. Recalling the modalities and rules of procedure set out in the paper, *Modalities and procedures for the 2022 UNAIDS PCB meetings*, for the virtual and hybrid 2022 PCB meetings and their preparations.

**The Programme Coordinating Board is invited to:**

11. Agree on the amendment of provision 22 in the background paper *modalities and procedures for the 2022 UNAIDS PCB meetings* to increase the number of in-person participation at the 51<sup>st</sup> PCB meeting in Chiang Mai, Thailand up to 6 representatives for each PCB member.

**Cost implications for the implementation of the decisions:** none \*

## Introduction

1. In light of the ongoing global health crisis, the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) recognizes that the work of the United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS is more important than ever to support people living with and affected by HIV, to provide a model of coordination within the UN system, and to support countries responding to the COVID-19 epidemic in accordance with the lessons learned from the HIV response.
2. Furthermore, the PCB Bureau remains committed to ensuring that the PCB fulfills its roles and responsibilities towards the UNAIDS Joint Programme.
3. The PCB Bureau met on [4 February 2022](#) and [1 March 2022](#) to discuss options for the 2022 meetings of the PCB and agreed to put forward for intersessional decision-making a format with modalities and rules of procedures to ensure the smooth running of the PCB meetings in 2022. This proposal was adopted under the intersessional procedure ([UNAIDS/PCB \(50\)/22.2, §22](#)). The PCB Bureau met [on 11 October 2022](#) to agree on the hybrid format of the 51<sup>st</sup> PCB meeting in Chiang Mai, Thailand from 13-16 December 2022 and proposed an amendment to provision 22 of the modalities and procedures of PCB meetings in 2022.
4. Provision 22 of [the Modalities and procedures for UNAIDS PCB meetings in 2022](#) reads currently as follows: “For hybrid meetings, it is recommended that two participants for each of the PCB members are invited to participate in person. Online access would therefore be limited to four (4) participants per the delegation of each of the twenty-two PCB Member States, per each of the six seats of the cosponsors and the five seats for the NGO Delegation. For those PCB members who will not have an in-person contingent, an additional two (2) participants will be permitted online.”
5. The PCB Bureau agreed to put forward for the intersessional approval by the PCB an amendment to this provision to increase the number of in-person participation up to 6 representatives for each PCB member at the hybrid 51<sup>st</sup> PCB meeting.
6. If said amendment is adopted, provision 22 would read as follows: “For the 51<sup>st</sup> hybrid PCB meeting, it is recommended that six (6) participants for each of the PCB members are invited to participate in person. Online access would be limited to four (4) participants per the delegation of each of the twenty-two PCB Member States, per each of the six seats of the cosponsors and the five seats for the NGO Delegation. For those PCB members who will not have an in-person contingent, an additional two (2) participants will be permitted online.”

## Intersessional Decision-making process

7. In accordance with the intersessional decision-making process, the proposal of the PCB Bureau was submitted to the PCB members via email communication with this background paper and a description of the decisions. A virtual briefing on the proposal may be held at the request of the members.
8. If a quorum (15) is reached, in terms of the answers received to the decision point by the established deadline, the PCB Bureau will act in accordance with the majority view. If a quorum is not reached, then the PCB will have no basis on which to move forward, and the proposal will revert back to the PCB Bureau for further consideration.

### Proposed Decision

9. Taking into account that the PCB Bureau has determined that the 51st meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board will be hybrid and will therefore exceptionally include an additional day and be held on 13 – 16 December 2022 in Chiang Mai, Thailand;
10. Recalling the modalities and rules of procedure set out in the paper, *Modalities and procedures for the 2022 UNAIDS PCB meetings*, for the virtual and hybrid 2022 PCB meetings and their preparations.

### **The Programme Coordinating Board is invited to:**

11. Agree on the amendment of provision 22 in the background paper modalities and procedures for the 2022 UNAIDS PCB meetings to increase the number of in-person participation at the 51<sup>st</sup> PCB meeting in Chiang Mai, Thailand up to 6 representatives for each PCB member.

[Annexes follow]

Intersessional Decision making

UNAIDS/PCB (50)/22.2

# MODALITIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE 2022 UNAIDS PCB MEETINGS

**DOCUMENT PREPARED BY THE PCB BUREAU**

**DECISIONS APPROVED BY THE PCB  
INTERSESSIONALLY**



Geneva, Switzerland  
UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board  
Issue date: 14 March 2022

**The Programme Coordinating Board is invited to:**

See draft decision points in the paragraphs below:

## 52. The Programme Coordinating Board is invited to:

- Agree that the PCB Bureau will determine no later than 60 days ahead of the meeting if the 50th meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board will be virtual, hybrid or in-person; and that if the meeting will be held virtually or as a hybrid meeting, it will exceptionally include an additional day and be held on 21 – 24 June 2022;
- Agree that the PCB Bureau will determine no later than 60 days ahead of the meeting if the 51st meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board will be virtual, hybrid or in-person; and that if the meeting will be held virtually or as a hybrid meeting, it will exceptionally include an additional day and be held on 13 – 16 December 2022;
- Agree that, exceptionally, the thematic segment topic for the June meeting as approved in decision point 10.1 of the 49<sup>th</sup> PCB meeting will be shifted to the December meeting and the thematic segment topic previewed for the December meeting will be shifted to the June meeting. Accordingly, the topics will be:
  - a) Positive Learning: harnessing the power of education to end HIV-related stigma and discrimination and empower young people living with HIV (June 2022);
  - b) HIV and men, in all their diversity, how can we get our responses back on track? (December 2022); and
- Agree on the modalities and rules of procedure set out in the paper, *Modalities and procedures for the 2022 UNAIDS PCB meetings*, for the virtual and hybrid 2022 PCB meetings and their preparations.

**Cost implications for the implementation of the decisions:** none \*

## Introduction

1. In light of the ongoing global health crisis, the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) recognizes that the work of the United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS is more important than ever to support people living with and affected by HIV, to provide a model of coordination within the UN system, and to support countries responding to the COVID-19 epidemic in accordance with the lessons learned from the HIV response.
2. Furthermore, the PCB Bureau remains committed to ensuring that the PCB fulfills its roles and responsibilities towards the UNAIDS Joint Programme.
3. The PCB Bureau met on [4 February 2022](#) and [1 March 2022](#) to discuss options for the 2022 meetings of the PCB and agreed to put forward for intersessional decision-making a proposed format with the following modalities and rules of procedures to ensure the smooth running of the PCB meetings in 2022.
4. The PCB Bureau recognized the positive practices established for the virtual 2020 and 2021 PCB meetings as laid out in the intersessional papers: *Reorganisation of the 2020 UNAIDS PCB meeting in view of the COVID-19 Crisis* (UNAIDS/PCB (46)/20.2), *Modalities and Procedures of the 46<sup>th</sup> UNAIDS PCB virtual meeting* (UNAIDS/PCB (46)/20.3), *Modalities and Procedures of the 47<sup>th</sup> UNAIDS PCB virtual meeting* (UNAIDS/PCB (47)/20.23), and *Modalities and Procedures for virtual 2021 UNAIDS PCB meetings* (UNAIDS/PCB(EM)/3.2).
5. The modalities and rules of procedure laid out in this paper aim to provide PCB Members (twenty-two elected Member States, the Cosponsors, and the NGO Delegation) and other participants with opportunities to engage with the content of the agenda items in advance of any virtual or hybrid PCB meetings held in 2022. These measures seek to provide opportunities for PCB participants to share their perspectives and seek clarification on any issues so that they may be addressed in advance to ensure the smooth running of a virtual or hybrid PCB and to facilitate consensus building.
6. The Modus Operandi provides the following rules of procedure (annex 2) for meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board:

Rule 1: The PCB may limit the time allowed to each speaker.

Rule 2: During the discussion of any matter, a member may rise to a point of order, and the point of order shall be immediately decided by the Chairperson. A member may appeal against the ruling of the Chairperson, in which case the appeal shall immediately be put to the vote. A member rising to a point of order may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion but on the point of order only.

Rule 3: During the course of a debate the Chairperson may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the PCB, declare the list closed. The Chairperson may, however, accord the right of reply to any member if in his/her opinion a speech delivered after the list was declared closed makes it desirable.

Rule 4: During the discussion of any matter, the Chairperson, with the consent of the PCB, may adjourn the debate on the item under discussion.

Rule 5: The Chairperson may at any time, with the consent of the PCB, close the debate on the item under discussion whether or not any other member has signified the wish to speak.

7. Virtual or hybrid meetings of the Programme Coordinating Board will adhere to the rules of procedure as outlined in the Modus Operandi. In recognition of the exceptional circumstances in conducting a virtual or hybrid meeting, the following supplementary rules of procedure are proposed:

### Proposal

8. The rules of procedure laid out below will be used for virtual or hybrid PCB meetings held in 2022, including the 50<sup>th</sup> and the 51<sup>st</sup> PCB meetings.
9. In the event of a hybrid meeting, only PCB members (22 Member states, cosponsors and the NGO Delegation) will be invited to participate in person. In-person participation will be limited to two representatives per Member State, the 10 members of the NGO Delegation, and two representatives for each cosponsor. Observers and additional representatives of the PCB members will be invited to participate virtually.
10. Every effort will be made to ensure that each participant, both in-person and virtually, can participate equally and have the ability to engage in the meeting and its discussions. The following modalities and procedures are designed to ensure equality of treatment for all participants.
11. The PCB Bureau will be responsible for determining if the 50<sup>th</sup> PCB meeting will be held virtually, as a hybrid meeting with both in-person and virtual participation or as an in-person meeting on the basis of safe and equitable representation and the global health situation. This decision will be made no later than 60 days before the PCB meeting. In the event that it is possible to hold the 50<sup>th</sup> PCB meeting in-person, the PCB will revert to traditional rules of procedure per the PCB Modus Operandi. Should the 50<sup>th</sup> PCB meeting be held in-person, it will take place from 21-23 June 2022 as agreed in decision point 12.3 of the 45<sup>th</sup> PCB meeting, from 9:00-18:00. In the event that the 50<sup>th</sup> PCB meeting will be held virtually or as a hybrid meeting, it will also include an additional day and will take place from 21 – 24 June 2022. All virtual or hybrid meetings will be shortened to three and a half hours per day to accommodate time-zone differences for participants. The meetings will be held from 13:00-16:30 CET.
12. The PCB Bureau will also be responsible for determining if the 51<sup>st</sup> PCB meeting will be held virtually, as a hybrid meeting with both in-person and virtual participation or as an in-person meeting on the basis of safe and equitable representation and the global health situation. This decision will be made no later than 60 days before the PCB meeting. In the event that it is possible to hold the 51<sup>st</sup> PCB meeting in-person, the PCB will revert to traditional rules of procedure per the PCB Modus Operandi. In the event that the 51<sup>st</sup> PCB meeting will be held virtually or as a hybrid meeting, it will also include an additional day and will take place from 13-16 December 2022. All virtual or hybrid meetings will be shortened to three and a half hours per day to accommodate time-zone differences for participants. The meetings will be held from 13:00-16:30 CET. Should the 51<sup>st</sup> PCB meeting be held in-person, it will take place from 13-15 December 2022 as agreed in decision point 12.3 of the 45<sup>th</sup> PCB meeting, from 9:00-18:00.
13. All pre-meeting sessions will continue to be held virtually with no in-person participation.
14. The agendas of virtual or hybrid meetings will be simplified given the shortened time frame. Agenda items will be prioritized on the basis of the Programme Coordinating Board's decisions mandating a time-bound report. Furthermore, given the limitations of remote negotiations, items with simple decision making will also be prioritized.



15. In consideration of the timing of ongoing special initiatives and to permit adequate timing for the preparations for the topics, it is proposed to shift the 2022 thematic segment topics at agreed in decision point 10.1 at the 49<sup>th</sup> PCB meeting. The thematic segment originally previewed for June would shift to December and the topic for December would shift to June. The revised schedule would be as follows:
- a) a) Positive Learning: harnessing the power of education to end HIV-related stigma and discrimination and empower young people living with HIV (June 2022);
  - b) b) HIV and men, in all their diversity, how can we get our responses back on track? (December 2022);

## Proposed rules of procedures

### Virtual platform – for the hybrid and virtual PCB meetings and all pre-meetings

16. The hybrid and virtual meetings of the Programme Coordinating Board will be held through the Zoom Platform. The Zoom platform is now used in a variety of UN governing board meetings. This platform will also be used for any pre-meeting sessions and briefings. Zoom guarantees interpretation in six languages, provides a user-friendly platform, and includes notable security features. In addition, the Zoom platform provides significant cost savings in relation to other platforms, including Interprefy.
17. A detailed logistics note with information on the platform will be sent to participants of the meeting. Participants will have the opportunity to test out the platform prior to the meetings with the support of technicians to troubleshoot any issues.

### Registration

18. In accordance with the Modus Operandi, invitations to the 2022 PCB meetings of the Programme Coordinating Board will be sent 60 days in advance of the meeting.
19. All participants from a delegation must register in advance. Each delegation of a PCB member (22 Member states, NGO Delegation, and Cosponsors) must identify their in-person representatives, if relevant, during the registration process.
20. While acknowledging the unique opportunity for widespread participation offered by hybrid and virtual meetings, the Bureau recognizes the technological limitations and security concerns that accompany a virtual meeting.
21. As such, is recommended that access to the meeting be limited to six participants per delegation for each of the twenty-two PCB Members States, per each of the six seats for the cosponsors and the five seats for the NGO delegation<sup>1</sup>, and four participants for

---

<sup>1</sup> **Member States:** Each delegation of PCB Member States will be allocated a total of 6 participants.  
**Cosponsors:** Cosponsors have six seats. Each seat will have 6 allocated participants for a total of 36 participants.

**NGO Delegation:** As with other delegations, the NGO delegation will have an allocated 6 participants for each of their five seats for a total of 30 participants. Practically, the NGO Delegation member and alternate will fill these seats.

Member State, NGO Observers, and Intergovernmental Organizations. Exceptions will be granted on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the PCB Chair and the UNAIDS Executive Director. If you wish to make a request, please submit a Note verbale to [pcbgovernance@unaid.org](mailto:pcbgovernance@unaid.org) with a rationale for your request.

22. For hybrid meetings, it is recommended that two participants for each of the PCB members are invited to participate in person. Online access would therefore be limited to four (4) participants per the delegation of each of the twenty-two PCB Member States, per each of the six seats of the cosponsors and the five seats for the NGO Delegation. For those PCB members who will not have an in-person contingent, an additional two (2) participants will be permitted online.
23. All those participating in person will be expected to comply with health guidance and security restrictions, which may include contact tracing procedures, social distancing and masking requirements.
24. Delegations should submit a Note Verbale for Member States and a Note for other participants with their registration. The Note Verbale or note can be submitted directly through the registration form.
25. The Note Verbale or Note for PCB members (twenty-two member states, PCB NGO Delegation and cosponsors) should also indicate a participant and an alternate who will participate in the drafting groups.

### **Interpretation**

26. In accordance with the Modus Operandi provision 19, the 47<sup>th</sup> PCB meeting will be held in the official six languages of the United Nations: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish.
27. All pre-meeting sessions and other preparatory meetings will be held virtually in the two working languages of UNAIDS: English and French.

### **Documentation**

28. In accordance with the Modus Operandi provision 17, the papers for the meetings of the PCB will be posted on the website in both English and French: <https://www.unaids.org/en/howeare/pcb>. Papers will be posted on a rolling basis as soon as they are ready to provide maximum time for participants to review them.

### **Presentations on the agenda items by the Secretariat posted in advance**

29. To support participants' engagement with the agenda items and in light of the shortened meetings, the UNAIDS Secretariat will make available presentations summarizing the issues raised in the PCB papers under each agenda item to PCB Members and other registered participants prior to the meeting through a secure platform. The Report of the Executive Director will not be available until following the PCB meeting.

30. Presentations during the hybrid and virtual meetings will be a succinct summary to allow for maximum engagement of participants.

### **Pre-meeting sessions**

31. Informal sessions to address specific agenda items will be organized prior to the meetings by the PCB Chair. At these pre-meeting sessions, the Secretariat and other agenda item leads will provide detailed presentations and overviews of their papers and the proposed decisions so that PCB participants may be acquainted with the content, seek clarification on any issues, and consider the proposed decision points.
32. All pre-meetings will be held virtually through the Zoom platform.
33. Proposed amendments to the decision points are recommended to be raised during these sessions or communicated to the PCB Chair in advance of the virtual and hybrid meetings to allow for consultation and to assist in consensus-building.
34. The PCB Bureau will establish and communicate a timeline for PCB pre-meetings in advance of each hybrid and virtual PCB meeting.
35. All registered PCB participants will be invited to these pre-meeting sessions.
36. The presentations from the pre-meetings will be recorded and uploaded into the secure platform to support PCB preparations for those unable to attend the pre-meetings.

### **Statements**

37. In accordance with the Modus Operandi (annex 1), the PCB Chair facilitates and moderates the discussion at the PCB meeting “to promote effective decision making and focused and constructive debate.”
38. To ensure the smooth running of shortened hybrid and virtual meetings and to support the accuracy of interpretation, PCB members and observers are requested to submit written statements for each agenda item in advance of the meetings. Statements should be submitted to [pcbgovernance@unaids.org](mailto:pcbgovernance@unaids.org). These statements will be made available on the secure website.
39. When deemed necessary by PCB participants to supplement their written statements, PCB participants will be invited to provide brief interventions during the hybrid and virtual meetings. To adhere to the strict timing of the meetings, members and observers will be given a maximum of two minutes to make their interventions. Those speaking on behalf of a constituency will be given three minutes. To ensure maximum participation, statements will be limited to one speaker per delegation. In the event of a constituency statement, an individual member may provide an additional augmenting statement, but priority will be given to those delegations who have not yet been able to speak. For example, in hybrid meetings, PCB members with both in-person and online participation should determine one person to provide a statement.
40. In accordance with the rules of procedure outlined in the Modus Operandi, priority will be given to the PCB Members to provide their intervention (twenty-two elected Member States, Cosponsors, and the PCB NGO Delegation) followed by Observers. Any observer who is unable to provide their statement during the meeting due to time constraints may submit the statement in writing to be included in the official record of the meeting.

41. To ensure equality amongst participants, the Chair will alternate between in-person and virtual statement requests as relevant.

#### **Decision making:**

42. Hybrid and virtual meetings will prioritize simple decision making given the difficulties and inequities of online negotiations. To facilitate consensus on decision making, the pre-meeting sessions will provide an opportunity for both members and observers to raise and address concerns regarding the decision points proposed in the PCB papers.
43. In addition, given the volume and complexity of agenda items, a consultation focused on reviewing all proposed decision points may be held at the discretion of the PCB Bureau with PCB members. The Bureau would communicate the date and timing of such a session with the timeline for pre-meeting sessions.
44. Amendments to the proposed decision points are requested to be made in advance of the hybrid and virtual meeting to allow for circulation amongst and consideration by PCB members.
45. If necessary, drafting sessions may be held on the Zoom platform and, in the event of a hybrid meeting, with both online and in-person participation from PCB members. The PCB Chair will announce the date and timing of drafting sessions if required. Drafting sessions are limited to PCB members (elected twenty-two member states, cosponsors, and the NGO delegation). The timing of these drafting session will seek to provide members across multiple time zones with an equal opportunity to participate. Given the limited opportunities available for drafting sessions in a hybrid or virtual setting, any proposed amendments to the decision points for any agenda items are expected to be raised regardless of whether or not the agenda item has been introduced yet in plenary. The PCB Chair has the discretion to determine the structure and flow of the drafting group sessions.
46. PCB members should indicate, through their note verbales and their notes, a participant and an alternative for the drafting group.
47. All proceedings, during both the plenary and drafting sessions, will be broadcast through Zoom. To the extent possible, no in-person discussions will take place outside of these broadcasts to ensure that online and in-person participants have the same access to the debate.
48. In the event of failure to reach consensus during the meeting, the PCB Chair may, per the rules of procedure, with the consent of the PCB, "adjourn the debate" on the agenda item until it can be addressed at a future meeting of the PCB (Rule 4). In the event of lack of consensus, the PCB may also revert to intersessional decision-making procedure if necessary.

#### **IT support:**

49. Every effort will be made to ensure that participants have the ability to securely engage in the remote meetings and discussions. IT support for the installation and testing of the Zoom platform will be available.

## Intersessional Decision-making process

50. In accordance with the intersessional decision-making process, the proposal of the PCB Bureau was submitted to the PCB members via email communication with this background paper and a description of the decisions. A virtual briefing on the proposal may be held at the request of the members.
51. If a quorum (15) is reached, in terms of the answers received to the decision point by the established deadline, the PCB Bureau will act in accordance with the majority view. If a quorum is not reached, then the PCB will have no basis on which to move forward and the proposal will revert back to the PCB Bureau for further consideration.

## Proposed Decision

52. The Programme Coordinating Board is invited to:
- Agree that the PCB Bureau will determine no later than 60 days ahead of the meeting if the 50th meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board will be virtual, hybrid or in-person; and that if the meeting will be held virtually or as a hybrid meeting, it will exceptionally include an additional day and be held on 21 – 24 June 2022;
  - Agree that the PCB Bureau will determine no later than 60 days ahead of the meeting if the 51st meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board will be virtual, hybrid or in-person; and that if the meeting will be held virtually or as a hybrid meeting, it will exceptionally include an additional day and be held on 13 – 16 December 2022;
  - Agree that, exceptionally, the thematic segment topic for the June meeting as approved in decision point 10.1 of the 49<sup>th</sup> PCB meeting will be shifted to the December meeting and the thematic segment topic previewed for the December meeting will be shifted to the June meeting. Accordingly, the topics will be:
    - a) Positive Learning: harnessing the power of education to end HIV-related stigma and discrimination and empower young people living with HIV (June 2022);
    - b) HIV and men, in all their diversity, how can we get our responses back on track? (December 2022); and
  - Agree on the modalities and rules of procedure set out in the paper, *Modalities and procedures for the 2022 UNAIDS PCB meetings*, for the virtual and hybrid 2022 PCB meetings and their preparations.

[Annexes follow]



**MODUS OPERANDI  
OF THE PROGRAMME COORDINATING BOARD  
OF THE JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS  
(UNAIDS)**

(Revised December 2020)

### Establishment

1. The worldwide epidemic of AIDS - a syndrome caused by HIV - is one of the major tragedies of our time. HIV continues to spread, invisibly, at a rate of many thousands of new infections every day, and its impact will continue to wreak unprecedented havoc among individuals, families and all sectors of societies well into the twenty-first century. The magnitude and duration of the epidemic, and the complex challenge of leading and sustaining the response to it, call for a special global programme.
2. Resolution 1994/24 adopted by ECOSOC in July 1994 endorsed the establishment of the joint and cosponsored United Nations programme on HIV/AIDS as outlined in the annex to the resolution. That annex described the fundamental characteristics that would comprise such a programme. In Section VI of the annex on Organizational Structure, it is indicated that the Executive Director of the programme, appointed by the UN Secretary-General upon the recommendation of the Cosponsors, will report directly to the Programme Coordinating Board which will serve as the governance structure for the programme. The cosponsors have formed a Committee of Cosponsoring Organizations (CCO) and the terms of reference of the CCO and the UNAIDS Secretariat are found in Annex 1 of this document.
3. Resolution 1994/24 also indicated that the Board's detailed responsibilities and meeting schedule will be specified in a document containing its terms of reference. These details are set out below and take into consideration the subsequent discussions of ECOSOC at its organizational sessions and the resolution adopted at its 1995 substantive session (ECOSOC resolution 1995/2 refers).

### Purpose

4. The Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) acts as the governing body on all programmatic issues concerning policy, strategy, finance, monitoring and evaluation of UNAIDS.

## Functions

5. In order to carry out its functions the PCB shall be kept informed of all aspects of the development of UNAIDS and take into account, in matters of strategy and technical policy, the reports and recommendations of the CCO and the Executive Director, and appropriate reports and recommendations from UNAIDS scientific and technical advisory committees established by the Executive Director. The functions of the PCB are:
- (i) To establish broad policies and priorities for the Joint Programme, taking into account the provisions of General Assembly resolution 47/199;
  - (ii) To review and decide upon the planning and execution of the Joint Programme. For this purpose, it shall be kept informed of all aspects of the development of the Joint Programme and consider reports and recommendations submitted to it by the CCO and the Executive Director;
  - (iii) To review and approve the plan of action and budget for each financial period, prepared by the Executive Director and reviewed by the CCO;
  - (iv) To review proposals of the Executive Director and approve arrangements for the financing of the Joint Programme;
  - (v) To review longer term plans of action and their financial implications;
  - (vi) To review audited financial reports submitted by the Joint Programme;
  - (vii) To make recommendations to the Cosponsoring Organizations regarding their activities in support of the Joint Programme, including those of mainstreaming; and
  - (viii) To review periodic reports that will evaluate the progress of the Joint Programme towards the achievement of its goals.
6. Annual reports submitted to the PCB on the work of the Joint Programme, together with any comments as the PCB may wish to make, shall be made available to the governing bodies of each of the Cosponsoring Organizations and ECOSOC.

## Composition

7. The membership of the PCB comprises 22 Member States, elected from among the Member States of the Cosponsoring Organizations, with the following regional distribution:

Western European and Others Group	7 seats
Africa	5 seats
Asia and Pacific	5 seats
Latin America and the Caribbean	3 seats

## Eastern European/Commonwealth of Independent States 2 seats

8. The term of membership of these 22 members shall be three years. The initial terms of members shall vary in order to achieve a staggering of membership. After the initial elections, approximately one third of the membership shall be replaced annually.
9. Each of the Cosponsors shall have full rights of participation in the PCB but without the right to vote (see the terms of reference of the CCO in Annex 1 of this Modus Operandi).
10. Five nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), three from developing countries and two from the developed countries or countries with economies in transition, shall be invited to participate in meetings of the PCB but without the right to take part in the formal decision-making process and without the right to vote (ECOSOC resolution 1995/2 refers).
11. The selection of the five nongovernmental organizations would be determined by the NGOs themselves from among those either in consultative status with ECOSOC or in relationship with one of the cosponsoring organizations or on the roster of NGOs dealing with matters pertaining to HIV/AIDS. The PCB shall formally approve the NGOs nominated. The terms of office of the selected NGOs shall not exceed three years.

### Observers

12. Upon written application, which expresses a manifest interest, observer status for PCB meetings may be granted by the Executive Director, in consultation with the chairperson of the PCB, to any Member State of any of the Cosponsoring Organizations, and any intergovernmental or nongovernmental organization. Observers will make their own arrangements to cover expenses incurred in attending meetings of the PCB.
13. Observers may participate, when invited to do so by the chair, in the deliberations of the PCB on matters of particular concern to them. Observers may have access to PCB background documents. They may submit memoranda to the Executive Director who shall determine the nature and scope of their circulation. Observers must work through the Board members/participants to propose decision points or introduce new agenda items.

### Meetings

14. PCB meetings shall be held twice a year in principle. However, the second session in the odd years shall be held only when there is a substantive need and if sufficient resources are available. In this regard, the PCB may decide in an even year to cancel the second meeting during the following, odd, year. The sessions will be public unless the PCB decides otherwise. Each session will consist of a decision making segment and a thematic segment.



15. The Executive Director of UNAIDS serves as the Secretary of the PCB.
16. In consultation with the PCB Bureau the Executive Director shall prepare an agenda for each meeting.
17. Announcements of regular meetings, accompanied by the provisional agenda, shall be sent to members, participants and observers, at least sixty days before the first day of the meeting; background documents will be prepared in English and French and sent as soon as possible thereafter.
18. PCB decisions will include clear language on who is responsible for their implementation, and also a time frame, costing, source of funds and identified reporting mechanisms and should take into account the linkages to, and impact of, the decision for existing workplans and priorities.
19. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided for all PCB meetings in English and French. Simultaneous interpretation into other UN official languages may be provided on written request submitted by a member to the Secretary no later than six weeks prior to a full meeting of the PCB.
20. Two thirds of the voting members of the PCB, i.e., fifteen, constitute a quorum.
21. Funds will be made available to cover the costs for per diem and travel incurred in connection with the attendance at PCB meetings for one representative from each developing country, from each country with an economy in transition and for one representative from each of the five nongovernmental organizations.

## Officers

22. The PCB shall elect from among its members and States elected as members as of 1 January of the following calendar year a chair, a vice-chair and a rapporteur. For States elected as a member as of 1 January of the following calendar year a written statement of interest shall be required. The terms of office of the three elected officials will be one calendar year starting on 1 January. It is expected that the vice-chair will be elected to take the office of chair for the subsequent calendar year unless the vice-chair has indicated that he/she does not seek election as chair, or if the vice-chair was unable to complete his/her term of office. Officers will be elected taking into account a fair geographical distribution.
23. Should the chair be unable to complete its term of office, the vice-chair will take over the office of chair and the PCB shall elect a new vice-chair at its next meeting.

24. The chair or, in its absence, the vice-chair, shall preside over meetings of the PCB. The chair shall function as a neutral moderator of the Board with the following roles and responsibilities to:
- lead and facilitate Board discussions to promote effective decision making and focused and constructive debate;
  - facilitate the effective contribution and active engagement of all Board members, participants, and, where appropriate, observers i.e. by promoting the plenary as the principal forum for full but focused discussion and adoption of decisions;
  - ensure that decision-making and other procedures of the Board follow the agreed rules and principles, including the principle of decision-making by consensus;
  - form, when appropriate, a drafting group with balanced representation – that will not normally be held in parallel with plenary – and lead its work to ensure its effectiveness;
  - encourage participation by Executive Heads of Cosponsoring agencies in meetings of the Board;
  - initiate meetings with PCB NGOs and Cosponsors prior to each Board meeting;
  - work closely with the Executive Director and the Secretariat to ensure timely and effective actions related to the Board and its functions, as necessary; and
  - carry out any other duties as delegated by the Board in a particular decision point.
25. The vice-chair shall support the chair and carry out other tasks assigned by the PCB Bureau during and between Board meetings, as necessary.
26. The rapporteur shall carry out tasks assigned by the PCB Bureau during and between Board meetings and shall participate as a full member of the PCB Bureau.
27. All officers shall ensure their appropriate representation in all Board-related matters including the PCB Bureau.

## Procedures

28. The PCB may establish subcommittees and ad hoc working groups to assist it in carrying out its functions.
29. The PCB shall endeavour to adopt its decisions and recommendations by consensus. Should decisions by voting or other procedural advice be necessary, the PCB shall use the Rules of Procedures in Annex 2 of this Modus Operandi.
30. Recommendations, decisions and conclusions shall be submitted for adoption by the members prior to the close of PCB meetings and distributed to all participants preferably within one week of the close of the meeting.
31. A report of the PCB meeting shall incorporate the recommendations, decisions and conclusions referred to in paragraph 30 above and be

distributed to members and other participants within sixty days of the close of the meeting.

32. The PCB may amend or supplement its modus operandi.

**Annex 1****Terms of Reference of the  
Committee of Cosponsoring  
Organizations and the UNAIDS  
Secretariat****I. Committee of Cosponsoring Organizations****Functions**

1. A Committee of Cosponsoring Organizations (CCO) serves as the forum for the Cosponsoring Organizations to meet on a regular basis to consider matters concerning UNAIDS, provides input from the cosponsoring organizations into the policies and strategies of UNAIDS, and serves as a standing committee of the PCB. Specifically, the CCO has the following functions:
  - (i) To review work plans and the proposed programme budget for each coming financial period, prepared by the Executive Director and reviewed by such advisory committees as may be established by the Executive Director, in time for presentation each year to the PCB;
  - (ii) To review technical and financial proposals to the PCB for the financing of the Joint Programme for the coming financial period;
  - (iii) To review technical and audited financial reports submitted by the Executive Director (including reports by advisory committees established by the Executive Director), and to transmit these with comments as appropriate to the PCB;
  - (iv) To make recommendations to the PCB in particular on relevant policy issues emerging from each Cosponsors' Governing Board, and to identify key PCB decisions which should be brought to the attention of cosponsor governing bodies;
  - (v) To review the activities of each Cosponsoring Organization for appropriate support of, as well as consistency and coordination with, the activities and strategies of the Joint Programme;
  - (vi) To report to the PCB, including through the annual oral presentation by the CCO Chair or her/his high level representative on the efforts of the Cosponsoring Organizations to bring the Joint Programme's policy as well as strategic and technical guidance into the policies and strategies of their respective organizations and to reflect them in activities specific to their mandates; and

- (vii) To decide on behalf of the PCB on issues referred to it for this purpose by the PCB.

## Composition

2. The CCO is comprised of the Head of each of the Cosponsoring Organizations or their designated representatives. They are supported by their respective Global Coordinator and Focal Point.

2 bis Global Coordinators are the officials who lead each Cosponsoring Organization's primary HIV-focused team and Focal Points are the officials in each Cosponsoring Organization responsible for day to day coordination on HIV programming with officials of the UNAIDS Secretariat and other cosponsors. Global Coordinators and Focal Points provide input to the Head of their Organization on relevant strategic, policy and programme matters to be brought to the attention of UNAIDS, and ensure that the policy, strategic and technical guidance of the Joint Programme is reflected in the activities specific to their mandates and respective result frameworks.

2 ter Proposals by UN-system organizations to join the Joint Programme as Cosponsors shall be reviewed by the CCO and then submitted to the PCB for its consideration and approval.

## II. UNAIDS Secretariat

- 3. The Secretariat comprises the Executive Director and such technical and administrative staff as the Programme may require.
- 4. The Executive Director shall be appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations upon the consensus recommendation of the Cosponsoring Organizations. The Executive Director shall be subject to the authority of the PCB.
- 5. The Executive Director is, ex-officio, Secretary of the PCB, of the CCO, of all subcommittees of the PCB and of conferences organized by UNAIDS. He/she may delegate the functions.
- 6. The Executive Director may, by agreement with Member States of the Cosponsoring Organizations, have direct access to their various departments, administrations and organizations, whether governmental or nongovernmental. He/she may also establish direct relations with international organizations whether intergovernmental or nongovernmental.
- 7. The Executive Director shall, in the exercise of providing leadership and guidance to the programme:
  - (i) Prepare and submit to the PCB, after review by the CCO, the workplan and budget for each biennium;

- (ii) Mobilize and manage, in accordance with the financial regulations and rules of WHO (the agency providing administration of UNAIDS), programme financial resources on the basis of the budget approved by the PCB;
  - (iii) Select, supervise, promote and terminate all staff of the Secretariat acting within the staff regulations and rules of WHO which shall be adjusted, as necessary, to take into account the special needs of UNAIDS.
  - (iv) Establish such policy and technical advisory committees as he/she deems necessary in order to advise him/her on any aspect of UNAIDS. The Executive Director shall make available to the PCB and the CCO, as appropriate, the reports of such technical advisory committees. The members of such committees, to be selected by the Executive Director, shall serve in a personal capacity and represent a broad range of disciplines and experience;
  - (v) Delegate to the staff of the programme the authority necessary for the effective implementation of UNAIDS' activities.
8. In the performance of their duties the Executive Director and the staff shall not seek or receive instructions from any government or from any authority external to the Programme.

**Annex 2****Rules of Procedure  
of the Programme Coordinating  
Board (PCB) of UNAIDS****Conduct of Business**

Rule 1: The PCB may limit the time allowed to each speaker.

Rule 2: During the discussion of any matter, a member may rise to a point of order, and the point of order shall be immediately decided by the Chairperson. A member may appeal against the ruling of the Chairperson, in which case the appeal shall immediately be put to the vote. A member rising to a point of order may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion but on the point of order only.

Rule 3: During the course of a debate the Chairperson may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the PCB, declare the list closed. The Chairperson may, however, accord the right of reply to any member if in his/her opinion a speech delivered after the list was declared closed makes it desirable.

Rule 4: During the discussion of any matter, the Chairperson, with the consent of the PCB, may adjourn the debate on the item under discussion.

Rule 5: The Chairperson may at any time, with the consent of the PCB, close the debate on the item under discussion whether or not any other member has signified the wish to speak.

**Voting**

Notwithstanding the principle in paragraph 29 of the PCB Modus Operandi, the following rules shall apply should the PCB decide to proceed to a vote:

Rule 6: For the purpose of these rules, the phrase "members present and voting" means those members with the right to vote casting a valid affirmative or negative vote. Members abstaining from voting shall be considered as not voting.

Rule 7: The decisions of the PCB shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.

Rule 8: If the votes are equally divided the proposal shall be regarded as not adopted.

Rule 9: The PCB shall normally vote by show of hands, except that any member may request a roll-call which, if the majority so agree, shall then be

taken in the alphabetical order of the names of the members. The name of the member to vote first shall be determined by lot.

Rule 10: The vote of each member participating in any roll-call shall be inserted in the records.

Rule 11: After the Chairperson has announced the beginning of voting, no member shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order in connection with the actual conduct of voting.

Rule 12: Elections shall normally be held by secret ballot. If there is only one candidate the PCB may decide to proceed to elect the candidate without taking a ballot.

Rule 13: The PCB may vote on any matter by secret ballot if it has previously so decided by a majority of the members present and voting, provided that no secret ballot may be taken on budgetary questions.

A decision under this rule by the PCB whether or not to vote by secret ballot may only be taken by a show of hands; if the PCB has decided to vote on a particular question by secret ballot, no other mode of voting may be requested or decided upon.

Rule 14: Any of these rules may be suspended by the PCB by a two-thirds majority.

Rule 15: The PCB may amend or supplement these rules.

Rule 16: The PCB may at its discretion apply such rules of procedure of equivalent meetings of the World Health Organization, the Agency providing administrative support to UNAIDS, as it may deem appropriate to particular circumstances for which provision does not exist in these rules.



## Annex 3

### Terms of Reference of the Programme Coordinating Board Bureau

#### Functions

1. The Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) Bureau is intended to maximize the effectiveness and efficiency of the PCB. Specifically, the PCB Bureau has the responsibility for coordinating the PCB's programme of work for the year, including:

- i. Facilitating the smooth and efficient functioning of PCB sessions;
- ii. Facilitating transparent decision-making at the PCB;
- iii. Preparing the PCB agenda, and recommending the allocation of time to, and the order of, discussion items;
- iv. Providing guidance on PCB documentation, as needed;
- v. Carrying out additional functions as directed by the PCB.

#### Composition

2. The PCB Bureau is comprised of representatives of the officers of the PCB

(chairperson, vice-chairperson and rapporteur), the Chair of the Committee of Cosponsoring Organizations and the PCB NGO Delegation. They may be accompanied by advisers.

#### Inter-sessional decision making

3. When a decision is required by the PCB that cannot wait until the next scheduled PCB meeting the PCB Bureau may use the following inter-sessional process. This process is only applicable for decisions that are required by the PCB Bureau to complete functions that have been specifically mandated to it by the Board:

- i. PCB Chair will send an email communication using the list established by the Secretariat which will contain background information and a description of the decision. A notice of receipt of the email will be required and a deadline set for the receipt by the Chair of the replies to the proposed decision point.
- ii. If a quorum (15) is reached, in terms of the answers received to the decision point by the established deadline, the responsible body will act in accordance with the majority view.
- iii. If a quorum is not reached, then the responsible body has no basis on which to move forward and will revert to the PCB Bureau for decision on further action, if any.

- iv. This process will be reviewed periodically at the Programme Coordinating Board with respect to its effectiveness, particularly if any Member States expresses dissatisfaction with the process.
4. The Secretariat will carry out the following steps to ensure that the inter-sessional contact list is kept current:
  - i. The Secretariat shall update the contact list annually for all twenty two members of the Board and on an ad hoc basis when exceptional changes in the PCB membership occur.
  - ii. In January of each year the Executive Director of UNAIDS will send a letter to the Heads of the member delegations of the Board asking them to nominate a named individual plus an alternate who will both receive all communication related to the decision that needs to be made. Full contact details will be required for both named individuals.
  - iii. On receipt of all names, the Secretariat will send a test mail to all focal points and alternates.
5. Member States shall notify the Secretariat when changes to the contact list are required.

**Annex 4****The Oversight and Accountability Roles of the Programme Coordinating Board**

1. This annex supplements the modus operandi (MO) to clarify the oversight and accountability roles of the Programme Coordinating Board (PCB),<sup>2</sup> which are central to mitigating risks and strengthening the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS Joint Programme) so that it can better deliver on its critical role in the global HIV response.
2. In line with its mandate as the governing body of the UNAIDS Joint Programme, which is broadly defined in ECOSOC resolutions 1994/24 and 1995/2, the PCB has oversight and accountability responsibilities on all issues within the UNAIDS Joint Programme relating to:
  1. Strategy development and implementation;
  2. Resource allocations;
  3. Performance monitoring;
  4. Policy development and implementation;
  5. Financial management; and,
  6. Risk management.
3. To facilitate executing on its oversight and accountability responsibilities, the PCB has created an Independent External Oversight Advisory Committee (IEOAC) that will advise the PCB on the quality and level of financial reporting, governance, risk management, and internal controls within the UNAIDS Secretariat.
4. Processes and reporting to enable the PCB to fulfil its oversight and accountability roles include, but are not limited to:
  1. Reports from the UNAIDS Joint Programme
    - Biannual reports from the Executive Director to the PCB;
    - Reports of the Committee of Cosponsoring Organisations to the PCB; and,
    - Intersessional communication from the Executive Director to the PCB on time-critical emergent issues of relevance to the PCB oversight and accountability roles (e.g. the detection of an incidence of major fraud). Further action on such communications will then be considered, as necessary, by the PCB Bureau during the intersessional period consistent with the MO.
  2. Strategy Development and Implementation
    - Review and approval by the PCB of global UNAIDS strategies and their associated performance monitoring frameworks, noting that Cosponsor specific HIV strategies fall outside of the remit of PCB review and approval;
    - Reports and recommendations from the UNAIDS Joint Programme scientific and technical advisory committees;
    - Review and approval by the PCB of the UNAIDS Joint Programme operational plans and budgets for each financial period;
    - Regular financial and performance reporting to the PCB, with clear linkages between investments and outcomes and impact;

---

<sup>2</sup> Article 32 of the MO specifies that “The PCB may amend or supplement its modus operandi”.

- PCB field visits; and
  - The annual NGO Report to the PCB.
3. Financial Management
- The audited financial reports submitted annually to the PCB by the UNAIDS Joint Programme;
  - Review of direct reports submitted annually to the PCB on the UNAIDS Joint Programme from:
    - The External Auditor;
    - The Internal Auditor; and,
    - The Independent External Oversight Advisory Committee (IEOAC) – in addition to financial matters, this report will also cover other oversight areas.
4. Ethics
- The annual report of the UNAIDS Secretariat's Ethics Office
5. Evaluation
- The annual report of the UNAIDS Joint Programme Evaluation Office, as well as all reports on specific evaluations.
6. Human Resources
- The annual UNAIDS Secretariat report on strategic human resources management; and
  - The annual report of the UNAIDS Secretariat Staff Association.
7. Risk management
- Regular reporting on risks, including the evolution of risks over time, and risk mitigation strategies.
8. Oversight of the UNAIDS Executive Director
- The Secretary-General holds the oversight role of the UNAIDS Executive Director position whereas the PCB is responsible for the oversight of the UNAIDS Joint Programme. Should matters arise where the PCB finds the UNAIDS Joint Programme mandate or its implementation is placed at risk by the performance of the Executive Director, the PCB may, with consensus of the PCB, raise any issue regarding the actions or performance of the UNAIDS Executive Director with ECOSOC.
5. In the exercise of its oversight and accountability functions, the PCB may make recommendations to the Executive Director and the cosponsoring organizations. The implementation of these recommendations shall be tracked through regular progress updates by the Executive Director to the PCB, with relevant inputs from the CCO. Where relevant and appropriate the recommendations will also be brought by the executive heads of the cosponsoring organizations to the attention of their governing boards. The individual Members of the PCB may also seek to bring the recommendations to the attention of the governing bodies of the cosponsoring organizations.
6. As standard practice, all reports and recommendations from independent oversight bodies approved by the PCB will receive formal management responses detailing agreed management actions (AMAs) with specified implementation timelines, which will be

shared with the PCB. The PCB will hold the Executive Director, as appropriate, accountable for implementing all AMAs. The implementation of these AMAs will be tracked, with regular progress updates including reporting to the PCB.

*[End of document]*