



AGENDA ITEM 6

**Consultation on the follow-up to
the 2023 ECOSOC Resolution**

Background

- In 2019, the **United Nations Joint Inspection Unit (JIU)** conducted a review of the management and administration of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS).
- The JIU included a recommendation encouraging the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) to “open a dialogue with the United Nations Secretary-General on the term limit of the Executive Director and explicit performance expectations for the position to assist in providing more clarity and transparency on its expectations of the leadership of UNAIDS, and more certainty in succession planning.”
- The PCB established a working group to consider all recommendations of the JIU review addressed to the PCB.

Background cont.

The final report of the working group, presented at the 47th meeting of the PCB in 2020, concluded that some recommendations were not in the immediate remit of the PCB, but in that of ECOSOC or the Secretary-General. The PCB reported on these relevant recommendations in its report to ECOSOC in 2021.

In its [resolution E/RES/2021/26 from 2021](#), ECOSOC requested that the Secretary-General “submit a report, after consultation with the Programme Coordinating Board, on the establishment of two four-year term limits and performance expectations for the position of Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, in line with the practices of the United Nations system and as recommended by the Joint Inspection Unit.”

In its [resolution E/RES/2023/85 from 2023](#), ECOSOC reiterated its request to the Secretary-General to “submit to the Council, before its 2025 session, after consultation with the PCB at its 53rd meeting in December 2023, a report on the follow-up to the 2021 ECOSOC resolution on the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS regarding the establishment of term limits and performance expectations for the position of the Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS.”

Background cont.

- In the context of the work of the Bureau and in preparation for the ECOSOC session of 2023, the PCB Chair exchanged with the Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG).
- The response from the EOSG indicated that the SG “in line with the current established practice for senior appointments has decided not to establish term limits for the appointment of the UNAIDS Executive Director”.
- In the response, the EOSG also asked to “receive information from the PCB on the exercise of its role in overseeing the performance of the Executive Director”.

Report to the PCB – December 2023

- This report to the PCB, prepared by the PCB Bureau on the basis of the communication from the EOSG to the Chair of the PCB, responds to the request from ECOSOC for a consultation with the PCB at its 53rd meeting.
- It summarizes the role of the PCB in oversight and accountability of the Joint Programme, based on its founding ECOSOC resolutions and the recently amended PCB modus operandi.
- It clarifies, as stated in the PCB modus operandi's annex, that the Secretary-General “holds the oversight responsibility for the Executive Director position whereas the PCB is responsible for the oversight of the UNAIDS Joint Programme.” In this capacity, the Secretary-General is responsible for selecting and directly supervising the performance of the UNAIDS Executive Director.

Expectations from the PCB – December 2023

- This report to the PCB is the background for the PCB's discussion.
- For its discussion, in accordance with the mandate of the PCB, the Bureau proposes that the PCB discuss perspectives on the establishment of performance expectations of the Executive Director to be considered by the Secretary-General that would take into account the objectives of the Joint Programme as established by ECOSOC in 1995, the functions of the PCB and the Executive Director as articulated in the modus operandi, and the competencies for the role of the Executive Director as outlined in the report.
- The report summarizing the PCB's discussion will be circulated to the PCB members and participants for comments and subsequently transmitted through the PCB Bureau to the Executive Office of the Secretary-General to support the SG in responding to ECOSOC's request.