
Report of UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board to ECOSOC

PCB Special Session
25 March 2021



Background

- UNAIDS was established through ECOSOC resolution 1994/24 to undertake a joint and cosponsored UN programme on HIV.
- Executive Director of UNAIDS reports to ECOSOC every two years on progress made in implementing a coordinated response by the UN system to the HIV epidemic through a report transmitted to ECOSOC by the UN Secretary General.
- ECOSOC considers the report and adopts a Resolution.
- In 2019, in its resolution E/RES/2019/33, the ECOSOC requested the Executive Director of UNAIDS to submit a report, as usual, through the Secretary General to ECOSOC by 2021. In addition, the ECOSOC requested the PCB to report to ECOSOC by 2021.

ECOSOC Resolution E/RES/2019/33

The Economic and Social Council,

“12. Requests the Programme Coordinating Board to discuss governance issues of the Joint Programme, as well as how the Joint Programme could be sustainably core funded, in accordance with all relevant United Nations principles, with a view to evaluating such issues, in order to have an effective, efficient and accountable Joint Programme, and to report to the Economic and Social Council by 2021”

Process to develop the report by the PCB Bureau

- In August 2019, PCB Bureau agreed that the JIU report and subsequent discussions would form the basis for the ECOSOC report.
- **PCB45:** Establishment of the JIU Working Group.
- **PCB46:** Progress report of the JIU Working Group.
- **PCB47:** Final report of the JIU Working Group.
- PCB Bureau meetings in 2021 to prepare the outline on the basis of the discussions held by the PCB on governance and financing.
- PCB briefing held on 22 February 2021 to discuss the outline. Written comments from PCB members received by 24 February 2021.
- Full report discussed at the PCB pre-meeting on 11 March 2021.
- The Chair issued a revised version of report for consideration and approval by the PCB.

Outline of the report under agenda item 5

- **Introduction and background**
- **Proposed decision points Summary**



- Information to PCB members on the background and process to develop the report

- Proposed action by the PCB

ANNEX: PCB's report to ECOSOC:

- Introduction
- Process to develop the report of the PCB to ECOSOC
- Governance of the UNAIDS Joint Programme
- Evolving Governance Issues
- Ensuring sustainable core funding for the Joint Programme
- Recommendations



PCB's report to ECOSOC for PCB's approval

47th PCB Decision

The Programme Coordinating Board

“Agrees to include in the upcoming PCB report to ECOSOC a recommendation that the Council requests the Secretary-General to submit a report, after consultation with the PCB, on the establishment of two four-year term limits and performance expectations for the position of UNAIDS Executive Director in line with the practices of the UN system as recommended by the JIU”

Key messages: governance

- **UNAIDS governance structure is unique in its level of inclusiveness** with member states, UNAIDS cosponsors and civil society, including people living with and affected by HIV, as PCB members.
- The inclusive **governance structure has been recognized as a useful example** in the context of the 2030 Agenda.
- The Joint Programme **governance has evolved** with the changing HIV epidemic and the needs of the Joint Programme.
- **Accountability of Joint Programme has evolved** with clear oversight responsibilities outlined for the PCB as part of the recent PCB Working Group on the Joint Inspection Unit Management and Administration Review of UNAIDS.
- **PCB is the most important agenda setting forum for the AIDS response.**

Key messages: core funding

- A high percentage of UNAIDS Joint Programme funding is flexible core funding (varying from 76% to 98% of total between 2014 and 2019).
- High level of core funding reflects that donors are confident of the oversight and accountability that they can have with their investments in the Joint Programme through the PCB.
- The Joint Programme continues to have a crucial role in the global AIDS response. However, underfunding of UBRAF for several years since 2015 has contributed to HIV response not being on track to reach the 2030 goals.

Recommended actions for ECOSOC

The Economic and Social Council may consider the following actions:

- *Take note* of the report of the Programme Coordinating Board to ECOSOC;
- *Agree* with the PCB recommendation to request the Secretary-General to submit a report, after consultation with the PCB, on the establishment of two four-year term limits and performance expectations for the position of UNAIDS Executive Director, in line with the practices of the UN system and as recommended by the JIU;
- *Express appreciation* for the PCB's initiative to continue to update the Board's oversight role within its mandate and with the evolution of the HIV epidemic and the work of the Joint Programme, in line with the best practices of the UN system; and
- *Request* that any PCB reports to ECOSOC be examined together with the report of the Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS submitted under the same agenda item.

Proposed next steps

- **PCB Special Session:** PCB considers and is expected to approve the report and request the Chair to submit to the President of ECOSOC.
- **April 2021:** PCB Chair submits the report to the President of ECOSOC on behalf of the PCB.
- **8 June 2021:** The report published by the ECOSOC Secretariat at the same time with the EXD's report to ECOSOC.
- **5-6 July 2021 (tbc):** Negotiations on the ECOSOC Resolution on the UNAIDS Joint Programme in Geneva.
- **20-21 July 2021:** ECOSOC considers the EXD's and PCB's reports and is expected to adopt a resolution at its management segment.

Thank you