



UNAIDS PCB Bureau meeting

DATE: Friday, 09 October 2020

TIME: 15:00-17:00 (Geneva time)

VENUE: Teams meeting (Virtual)

PARTICIPANTS

PCB Bureau: Ms Julia Martin, Ms Mamadi Yilla, and Ms Deana Jordan Sullivan (United States of America: representing the Chair); Ms Xungileni Martha Galukeni Chitundu (Namibia: representing the Vice-chair); Mr Ludo Bok (representing the CCO Chair, UNDP) and Mr Jonathan Gunthorp and Mr Andrew Spieldenner (representing the NGO Delegation)

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

Excused: Dr Sadre Alam (India: representing Rapporteur)

MEETING DRAFT AGENDA

1. Preparation for the PCB Briefing: UNAIDS Strategy beyond 2021

The Bureau will receive an update from the Secretariat on the preparation for the briefing for PCB members and observers to present the outcome of the multistakeholder consultation with options for the UNAIDS Strategy beyond 2021 as outlined in decision point 5.2b from the 46th session of the Programme Coordinating Board.

2. Any other business

The chair opened the meeting by reviewing the agenda, which focused on the preparations for the upcoming PCB Briefing on the outcomes of the multistakeholder consultation and options for the next UNAIDS Strategy. The Chair recognized the heavy workload of the Bureau over the past couple of months and thanked Bureau members for their prompt action.

The Chair reminded members that the invitation to the PCB Briefing to be held on 15 October 2020 had been sent to participants along with a draft agenda. Although the Bureau was to discuss just the agenda item on the next UNAIDS Strategy at its meeting on 9 October, the Chair reminded participants that the PCB Briefing on the 15 October will have two agenda items: updates on the UNAIDS Strategy beyond 2021 and the PCB Working Group on the Joint Inspection Unit Recommendations. The meeting will begin with a presentation on the outcomes of the Evidence Review of the current UNAIDS strategy and the consultations undertaken over the past months.

The presentation and discussion are expected to take up to 2.5 hours. The PCB JIU Working Group will then present the initial steer of its recommendations for discussion with the wider PCB. The Chair will provide opening remarks and contexts followed by presentations from a few members of the Working Group on key recommendations.

Before turning to the main agenda item, the Chair noted that she had one item to add under AOB, namely to finalize the intersessional paper on modalities and procedures of the 47th PCB meeting.

1. Preparation for the PCB Briefing: UNAIDS Strategy beyond 2021

The Chair recalled the decision point 5.2 from the 46th PCB meeting on the UNAIDS Strategy beyond 2021:

Requests the Executive Director to:

- a. present the findings from the completed review of the current UNAIDS Strategy (2016-2021) and the implications for strategic priorities beyond 2021, along with the findings of the independent evaluation of the UN System Response to AIDS 2016-2019, for consideration by the multistakeholder consultation no later than September 2020;
- b. Following this consultation, present the outcome of the multistakeholder consultation with options for the UNAIDS Strategy beyond 2021 at a briefing for Programme Coordinating Board members and observers;
- c. Present, through the PCB Bureau, a paper on the outcome of the review and consultations with an option for the UNAIDS Strategy beyond 2021 for intersessional approval no later than the end of October 2020;
- d. Present to the 47th PCB meeting in December 2020 an annotated outline of the UNAIDS Strategy beyond 2021 ensuring that it remains ambitious, visionary and evidence-based;

The multistakeholder consultation was held on 16 September 2020. Further to the upcoming PCB Briefing, in accordance with the decision point, the Secretariat, through the PCB Bureau, will present an intersessional paper. The Chair noted that the purpose of this Bureau meeting was to provide guidance and direction for the Secretariat on the PCB Briefing and the subsequent intersessional paper.

Given the short timeframe for intersessional decision making and the creation of the annotated outline of the Strategy for the 47th PCB meeting, a zero draft of the intersessional paper had been shared with the Bureau members in advance of the meeting. Further to the PCB Briefing, the draft paper will be revised and re-circulated to the PCB Bureau.

The Chair welcomed Tina Boonto, Strategy Coordinator, UNAIDS, and Vinay Saldanha, Special Advisor, UNAIDS to present on the PCB Briefing preparations and on the intersessional paper. The presentation and paper will summarize the main findings of the [Evidence Review of the implementation of the 2016-2021 UNAIDS Strategy: on the Fast Track to end AIDS](#) and the key themes and priorities emerging from inclusive consultations, including the multistakeholder consultation.

The Secretariat noted that the review and consultations demonstrate that the strategic priorities of the UNAIDS Strategy 2016-2021 remain highly relevant, but the global context has changed since 2015 and there is a need to mobilize political will to re-energize the response to get back on track to end AIDS by 2030. Consultations have revealed that it is necessary to collect, disaggregate, analyse and effectively use more granular data to adapt strategies and programmes to location and population as well as to social and legal contexts. The Secretariat noted a series of issues

raised during the consultations that require additional focus, including renewing multisectorality, putting communities at the center, tackling inequalities, and evaluating emergency preparedness, including the impact of COVID-19.

Key highlights from the Evidence Review include:

- HIV resources decreased in 2019 and the funding gap has increased
- Greater national resources do not always correlated to better outcomes
- Overlapping and complex inequalities drive the HIV epidemic
- HIV prevalence has a complex relationship with household wealth, reflecting cumulative inequities over time
- Prevention activities need to be tailored to context
- Combination prevention is required and it works
- EMTCT requires more focused approaches
- Progress towards the 90-90-90 and the 73% viral suppression target by region varies – and many countries are off-track though some countries have successfully reached this target

As outlined by the Executive Director in her speech to the PCB in June 2020, the intersessional paper will lay out three options:

- **Option 1:** Maintain the focus and structure of current strategy, extending the timeline to the end of 2025;
- **Option 2:** Maintain the critical pillars that have delivered results in the current strategy, its ambition and the principles underpinning it to the end of 2025, but also enhance the current strategy to prioritise critical areas that are lagging behind and need greater attention;
- **Option 3:** Develop a comprehensive new UNAIDS Strategy from scratch.

On the basis of the evidence review and consultation, the intersessional paper will put forward option 2 for decision making by the PCB.

The PCB Bureau thanked the Secretariat for their presentation and their work. They noted that the presentation provided the overview of outcomes in a digestible format and recommended tables and graphics be incorporated into the revised intersessional paper. Bureau Members noted that PCB members expect the intersessional paper to clearly outline the outcomes of the consultation, including key issues that have been repeatedly raised, and provide a clear rationale for the recommended option to help inform the decision by the PCB. The PCB Briefing will provide an opportunity to hear from PCB members on these issues. Members also reinforced the importance of centering the next Strategy on people living with HIV and reigniting the sense of urgency of the HIV response.

The PCB Bureau agreed to provide any written reflections and guidance on the presentation and intersessional paper in advance of the PCB Briefing. Further to the Briefing, the Bureau and Secretariat will consult further to finalize the paper to put forward for intersessional decision making.

The PCB Briefing was held on Thursday, 15 October 2020. Further to this meeting, the Secretariat finalized the intersessional paper on the basis of feedback from the Briefing for electronic review by the PCB Bureau. Further to its approval, the paper was circulated to the wider PCB for intersessional decision making.

2. AOB

The Chair thanked Bureau members for their review and support of the intersessional paper on the modalities and procedures of the 47th PCB meeting. The only pending decision was on the selection of the platform to host the virtual meeting. The Chair invited the Secretariat to provide an update on their proposal.

Morten Ussing, Director, Governance and Multilateral Affairs, UNAIDS, provided the following update:

- The Secretariat had reviewed options for both Interprefy and Zoom.
- UNAIDS IT department had been in consultation with WHO, who had recently held their Executive Board meeting through the Zoom platform. The Secretariat noted that there is a fundamental difference to WHO and UNAIDS meeting due to the public nature of WHO meetings. Nonetheless, WHO had no security breaches to their meeting.
- Multiple other UN governing boards are also relying on Zoom.
- Over the past couple of months, Zoom has significantly improved their security features and expanded their ability to handle interpretation. Security controls included second factor identification, a waiting room, and default muted settings.
- Zoom also offers significant cost savings over Interprefy.

The Secretariat was therefore proposing Zoom as the platform for the 47th PCB meetings. The Secretariat would work to run tests over the next months to ensure that the PCB pre-meetings and actual meeting will be a secure and smooth experience for participants. Detailed logistics will be sent to participants following the issuance of invitations.

The PCB Bureau thanked the Secretariat for their work and noted consensus agreement on the proposed way forward. The intersessional paper with Zoom as the proposed platform would be re-circulated to the Bureau for final approval before sending for intersessional decision making.