

## **UNAIDS PROGRAMME COORDINATING BOARD WORKING GROUP THEMATIC SEGMENT FOR THE 44<sup>th</sup> PCB MEETING**

### ***Delivering on SDG3: Strengthening and integrating comprehensive HIV responses into sustainable health systems for Universal Health Coverage (UHC)***

At its 43<sup>rd</sup> meeting, the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) agreed that the theme for its 44<sup>th</sup> meeting will be “*Delivering on SDG3: Strengthening and integrating comprehensive HIV responses into sustainable health systems for Universal Health Coverage (UHC)*”. The Thematic Segment will take place on 27 June 2019.

The thematic segment provides an opportunity to:

- a. explore how UHC can benefit from the lessons learnt from the HIV response;
- b. review the importance of integrating comprehensive HIV responses into UHC;
- c. identify priority approaches and areas of action for the Joint Programme, Member States, and civil society to ensure that roll-out of UHC achieves its full potential – for the HIV response and for human health and well-being.

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## **MEETING SUMMARY: SECOND MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP**

DATE: Thursday 11 April 2019

### **PARTICIPANTS**

(See attached list)

### **MEETING AGENDA**

1. Welcome and introduction
2. Presentation of the draft Background Note for the thematic segment
3. Discussion on the draft outline of the Background Note
4. Presentation of the draft Agenda for the thematic segment
5. Discussion on the draft Agenda for the thematic segment
6. Way forward
7. Any other business

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## **SUMMARY**

### **1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

Mr Morten Ussing, Chief of Governance and Multilateral Affairs, UNAIDS Secretariat, welcomed the PCB Working Group to its second meeting for the preparation of the Thematic Segment of the 44<sup>th</sup> PCB on *Delivering on SDG3: Strengthening and integrating comprehensive HIV responses into sustainable health systems for Universal Health Coverage (UHC)*.

Mr Ussing said that the second meeting provided an opportunity for the working group members to provide comments on the first draft of the background note and the first draft of the Agenda.

## **2. PRESENTATION OF THE DRAFT BACKGROUND NOTE ON DELIVERING ON SDG3: STRENGTHENING AND INTEGRATING COMPREHENSIVE HIV RESPONSES INTO SUSTAINABLE HEALTH SYSTEMS FOR UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE (UHC)**

Mr. Sun Gang, Senior Adviser, Fast Track Implementation Department, UNAIDS Secretariat, introduced the draft Background Note. He said that the draft emphasised that the movement toward UHC is important and cannot be ignored by the actors involved in the HIV response.

Mr Sun explained that the draft background note first describes the overall SDG architecture and emphasises that we still have miles to go to end the AIDS epidemic as a public health threat. The background note then goes on to provide a description of the common understanding of the UHC as per the WHO standard definition and explains that UHC is understood as a continuous process and that not one formula works for all settings, but that the implementation of UHC must rather be tailor-made to different contexts.

Mr Sun explained that the background note goes on to discuss how UHC can benefit global health, and the HIV response in particular, and how UHC can contribute towards ending AIDS. The background note also discusses the potential risks for the HIV response which need to be taken into consideration in the move towards UHC. Some of the concerns relate to a possible overreliance on facility-based delivery of services, overlooking the importance of community-based service delivery; ensuring access to services and equitable health outcomes for key populations; and ensuring accountability in the HIV response.

Mr Sun said that the draft background note also includes a section focusing on the lessons learnt from the HIV response that should be used in the movement towards UHC, including the focus on health outcomes, not just coverage; inclusive governance; clear accountability framework; single standard indicators and reporting systems; human rights based and gender responsive approaches; removing legal and policy obstacles in access to services; commitment to leave no one behind; focus on the single global standard for care, using the latest scientific knowledge; and the focus on using an investment approach to financial decision-making.

Mr Sun also mentioned that the draft background note concludes with possible recommendations for the Joint Programme, UN member states and civil society on how to integrate comprehensive HIV response into sustainable health systems for UHC.

## **3. DISCUSSION ON THE DRAFT BACKGROUND NOTE ON DELIVERING ON SDG3: STRENGTHENING AND INTEGRATING COMPREHENSIVE HIV RESPONSES INTO SUSTAINABLE HEALTH SYSTEMS FOR UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE (UHC)**

The PCB working group welcomed the first draft of the Background Note. Specific comments included the following:

### **Member States**

- Underlined the importance of emphasising that one size does not fit all in the move towards universal access.
- Cautioned that some donor funding for HIV do not allow for funding of non-HIV specific services.
- Mentioned that it was important that gains in the HIV response must be secured in the move towards UHC.
- Suggested including a discussion also on how the HIV response should change.

- Emphasised the importance of ensuring that HIV response is not outside of the discussions on UHC but a part of it.
- Emphasised the importance of the community-centred and human rights-based approaches and suggested strengthening language on stigma and discrimination, sexual and reproductive health and key populations.
- Suggested strengthening the discussion on HIV prevention in the context of UHC as well as aspects related to education.
- Suggested highlighting the role of primary health care with civil society participation.
- Emphasised the importance of the engagement of all civil society actors, not highlighting any actors in particular in the paper.
- Suggested better grouping of the recommendations for the Joint Programme, member states and civil society.

#### **PCB NGO delegation**

- Suggested that the Background Note should mention the importance of educating communities about what UHC means and about how to engage.
- Emphasised the importance of community as partners and leaders and that the HIV response has benefited from a bottom-up approach whereas the UHC movement currently seen as more top-down. The Background Note should emphasise the centrality of community mobilization in achieving UHC.
- Mentioned that the NGO delegation would send additional written comments after consulting with a broader civil society advisory group.

#### **Cosponsors**

- Suggested that it could be mentioned that the Joint Programme, with WHO and Secretariat lead, is supporting civil society engagement in the preparations for the HLM on UHC.

## **4. PRESENTATION OF THE DRAFT AGENDA**

Mr Sun presented the draft agenda for the thematic day. He explained that it was proposed that the day would start with three key notes speeches, followed by three overarching thematic discussions with a focus on 1) integration of services; 2) civil society engagement and addressing stigma and discrimination; and 3) health financing.

## **5. DISCUSSION ON THE DRAFT AGENDA**

The meeting group members welcomed the draft agenda. Specific comments included the following:

#### **Member States**

- Welcomed the overall structure of and the issues covered in the draft agenda.
- Suggested adding a discussion about what UHC is about and key principles up-front.
- Suggested including a discussion on the accountability of stakeholders on the agenda.
- Requested additional information about how speakers are selected.

#### **PCB NGO delegation**

- Suggested adding a discussion about what UHC is up-front.
- Suggested having a discussion on financing earlier on the agenda, rather than as a last topic.

**Cosponsors**

- Emphasised that it was important to understand what UHC is before discussing other aspects.
- Suggested that it made sense to have the discussion on financing as the final topic.

**6. WAY FORWARD**

Mr. Morten Ussing mentioned that the working group participants had until Wednesday 17 April to send any written comments on the draft background note and draft agenda.

Mr. Ussing explained that the Secretariat would decide on the final list of speakers, striving for gender and regional balance as well as balance between member state and civil society speakers. He called on working group members to suggest possible speakers so that the Secretariat would have a large pool to draw on for the final selection. Mr Ussing also emphasised that although the panellists framed the discussion at the thematic segment, all PCB participants were encouraged to take part in the dialogue.

Mr. Ussing informed the working group that a call for submissions of best practice case studies would be send out to all PCB members and permanent missions on Friday 12 April 2019. He explained that the purpose of collecting case studies was to include practical examples into the background note and to inform the thematic discussions. Case studies received are compiled into a conference room paper which is published on the PCB website.

**7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

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