



UNAIDS PCB Bureau meeting

DATE: Thursday 9 July 2020

TIME: 16:00-18:00 (Geneva time)

VENUE: Conference room 1 (UNAIDS Headquarters, third floor)

Participants

PCB Bureau: Ms Julia Martin and Ms Deana Jordan Sullivan (United States of America: representing the Chair); Ambassador Penda Andreas Naanda and 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 the Rapporteur), Tracy Carson

Meeting Draft Agenda

1. **Preparation of the 47th meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board (15-18 December 2020)**
2. **Biannual update on implementation of the Evaluation Plan**
3. **Comments received on the Task Team on Community-led AIDS responses and the Working Group on the JIU Recommendations**
4. **Any other business**

Summary

The Chair welcomed participants to their first meeting following the 46th PCB meeting and thanked the Bureau for guiding the process that led to a successful meeting. The Chair noted the immense efforts that went into conceptualizing and establishing new modalities and procedures to host a virtual Board meeting.

The Chair further thanked participants for their willingness to meet quickly following the deadline for PCB participants to submit comments on agenda items 5 & 6 as their review would be

imperative to the timely establishment of the Task Team and the continued work of the PCB Working Group on the JIU recommendations addressed to the Board.

The Chair provided additional context for the agenda of this meeting: while it was too early to make a decision about the modalities of the 47th meeting (including a determination on whether the meeting would be virtual), it was important to initiate the discussion on the agenda of the December meeting. The PCB, and its Bureau, have a very full and ambitious schedule ahead for the fall, including participation in the Strategy development process through the multistakeholder consultation as well as a previewed intersessional decision and PCB briefings on the Strategy and the PCB Working Group on the JIU Recommendations. In addition, early preparation of the agenda items will ensure timely posting of papers and presentations to permit the greatest flexibility to the PCB to take a final decision on the modalities of the 47th PCB meeting.

The Chair recognized the difficult circumstances of many countries around the world and the rising infection rates of COVID-19. The Chair reiterated that a decision on the modalities of the 47th PCB meeting would need to be made no later than October to allow the invitations to be sent sixty days ahead of the meeting in accordance with the PCB's Modus Operandi. There would potentially be a variety of scenarios to consider over the course of the coming months, including holding an in-person meeting, a virtual meeting or a hybrid option. Conversations with PCB members regarding the modalities would be ongoing and, in the event of a nontraditional meeting, an intersessional decision would be sought as was done for the 46th PCB meeting.

In considering the proposed agenda items for the 47th PCB meeting, the Chair encouraged the Bureau to tentatively consider agenda items that required a traditional presentation and debate in plenary and those that might be handled with comments submitted to replace the in-person debate in the event that the PCB elects for a shortened meeting (as was done with agenda items 5 & 6 at the 46th PCB meeting). The proposed annotated agenda would be a preliminary draft, subject to change following the PCB's final decision. It is envisaged that, in the event of an in-person meeting, all confirmed agenda items could be presented traditionally. In the event of a virtual or hybrid meeting, this contingency-planning would provide members with early thinking regarding the format of the 47th PCB meeting.

The PCB Bureau members thanked the Chair for initiating this conversation and agreed on the prudence of considering draft agenda items on this basis.

1. Preparation of the 47th meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board

The Secretariat briefly introduced the table of follow-up agenda items for the 47th PCB meeting (15-18 December 2020), which captures all decision points and specific requests made by the PCB at previous meetings. This table formed the basis of the discussion of the Bureau.

To support the consideration of the agenda, a color coding system was proposed to differentiate items requiring a full plenary discussion and those that could be handled through comments as was done in the 46th meeting for agenda items 5 & 6 in the event of a virtual meeting that would necessitate a shortened timeframe. This color coding is maintained for ease of reference:

- **Green indicates that the agenda item, in the event of a virtual or hybrid meeting, is recommended to have a full presentation and discussion in plenary**
- **Yellow indicates that, in the event of a virtual or hybrid meeting, the agenda item is recommended to have submitted comments replace the debate in plenary. These items would still be included in any potential pre-meetings.**

Standing Items: The following standing items are common practice for the December meeting of the PCB. [The PCB Bureau confirmed these standing items for the agenda of the 47th PCB meeting.](#)

- **Report of the 46th PCB meeting:** The draft report of the previous meeting is currently being developed. This report will be longer than usual as it will also cover the statements that were pre-submitted in addition to those delivered in plenary, as agreed in the PCB intersessional paper on Modalities for the 46th PCB meeting. The modus operandi of the PCB requires that the report is posted shortly after the agenda is posted: “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.”
- **Report of the Executive Director:** The report of the Executive Director is a standing item at all PCBs. The Executive Director traditionally releases an outline of the report in advance of the meeting. The full report is published following her delivery of the speech at the PCB. The report includes the most important achievements in the global AIDS response since the PCB last met, as well as emphasis on remaining challenges.
- **Report by the NGO Representative:** The NGO report is written by the NGO delegation, typically following extensive consultations with civil society globally, on a topic of their choice. At the request of the NGO Delegation, the Bureau postponed this year’s report to the 47th PCB meeting. [The NGO Delegation representative indicated that the Delegation would discuss this item further and revert back to the PCB Bureau.](#)
- **Leadership in the AIDS Response:** The UNAIDS Executive Director invites a speaker to discuss a timely topic in the AIDS response. [In the event of a shortened agenda, the Executive Director may choose to postpone this agenda item in consultation with the PCB Bureau, as was done for the 46th PCB meeting.](#)
- **Follow-up to the thematic segment on *Reducing the Impact of HIV on children and youth*:** Every PCB has a thematic segment on a timely topic selected by the PCB. This thematic segment takes place on the last day of the PCB, following the decision-making segment, and involves panels of speakers. There is no decision-making on the thematic segment at that meeting to give representatives the time and space to really engage with the discussions. At the subsequent PCB, a summary report of the thematic segment’s presentations and discussions is provided for potential decision making. This follow-up report was one of the items that was postponed to the December PCB as a result of the shortened 46th PCB meeting. This report, the Follow-up to the thematic segment, will be on the topic from the 45th PCB meeting: *Reducing the impact of AIDS on children and youth*. The summary report is being finalized and will be sent to the Bureau ahead of its next meeting for discussion and clearance.

[The PCB Bureau stressed the importance of receiving this report and noted that this agenda item could be considered as an item for written comments rather than plenary debate in the event of a shortened meeting. As was done with agenda items 5 & 6 at the 46th PCB meeting, it would still be the subject of a pre-meeting.](#)

- **Thematic Segment: *Cervical Cancer and HIV – addressing linkage and common inequalities to save women’s lives*.** As you will recall, the thematic segment at the 46th PCB meeting was postponed to the 47th meeting in the intersessional paper on Modalities and

Procedures. The thematic segment is planned by a PCB Working Group. As this was originally previewed for the 46th PCB meeting, the Working Group has already kicked off and begun the development of the background note.

- **Next PCB meetings:** This item is a standing item on the December PCB agenda. It includes a short paper that will indicate the dates for the 52nd and 53rd PCB meetings as well as the thematic segment themes for 2021. The Secretariat will send an email this September for nominations of themes for 2021. As the thematic segment originally previewed for the 47th meeting, *What does the regional and country-level data tell us, are we listening, and how can we better leverage that data and related technology to meet our 2020 and 2030 goals?*, has been postponed to 2021, the Bureau will only be soliciting one theme.
- **Election of Officers:** This item is a standing item on the December PCB agenda. It includes the composition of the PCB for the next year as approved by ECOSOC and as submitted by the NGO Delegation. As indicated by its name, it also includes the election of officers in the Bureau.

Possible issues to be considered at the 47th PCB meeting

- **UNAIDS Strategy post-2021: Confirmed for the 47th PCB meeting**
 - o Recalling decision 5.2 from the 46th PCB meeting: “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.”
 - o Decision point 5.3: “Agrees that, at the 47th meeting of the PCB (December 2020), a decision will be made on the need for a special session to approve the UNAIDS Strategy informed by a decision from the President of the General Assembly on the timing of the High Level Meeting;”
 - o The review of the previous Strategy is currently ongoing and preparations for the multistakeholder consultation are underway. As indicated in the decision point, the PCB Bureau will have a considerable role in this process throughout the fall.

The PCB Bureau stressed the importance of this agenda item and of continuing to reflect on how discussions leading up to the 47th PCB meeting could be crafted to ensure maximum input.

- **Report of the Task Team on Community-led AIDS responses: Confirmed for the 47th PCB meeting**
 - o Recalling decision point 10.4, “Requests the Joint Programme to: Convene a task team with diverse donors, implementing countries, and civil society representatives, including representatives of people living with HIV, women and adolescent girls and young women, youth and key populations, to standardize the use of definitions,

- including, “community-led AIDS response” and “social enablers” and to recommend good practices and improved modalities to ensure access to funding for community-based organizations and constituency-based networks;
- At the 46th meeting, the PCB took note of the progress report and submitted their comments on this agenda item in replacement of the debate.
- Following its establishment, the Bureau will be kept informed of this process.

The PCB Bureau reiterated the need to ensure transparency and maximum discussion on this agenda item, including through possible pre-meeting discussions. Some members raised concern about the difficulty for the Task Team to complete its work by December given that it is not yet established. The Bureau noted that this agenda item could be considered as an item for written comment in the event of a shortened meeting. The inclusiveness of the pre-meeting would in this event be even more important.

- **Report of the Working Group on the Joint Inspection Unit Management and Administration Review of the United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS): Confirmed for the 47th PCB meeting**
 - Recalling decision point 9.1 from the 45th meeting of the PCB: “Decides to establish, through its Bureau, a geographically balanced, time-bound PCB working group with a non-extendable mandate to review the relevant JIU recommendations addressed to the Programme Coordinating Board, and to provide an initial report on progress to the 46th meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board and to provide its final report with implementation options for the consideration of the Programme Coordinating Board at its 47th meeting.”
 - At the 46th meeting, the PCB took note of the progress report and submitted their comments on this agenda item in replacement of the debate.
 - The Secretariat also recalled that at [its meeting on 30 August 2019](#), the Bureau had indicated that the PCB’s discussion on the JIU recommendations would be the initiation of the governance discussion requested by ECOSOC in its 2019 resolution. The PCB is expected to report back to the ECOSOC in 2021 on these discussions.

Recognizing the high profile of this agenda item, the PCB Bureau reiterated the importance of providing adequate time for these discussions in both potential pre-meetings and in the plenary session. As the Working Group has a time-bound mandate, the receipt of the final report of the Working Group and the discussion on its recommendations must take place during the 47th PCB meeting.

- **Implementation of the JIU Recommendations: Confirmed for the 47th PCB meeting**
 - Recalling decision point 9.3 from the 45th PCB meeting: “Takes note with appreciation of the Management Response and requests the Executive Director to respond, in close collaboration with the cosponsors as relevant, to the JIU recommendations directed at the Secretariat and the Joint Programme as part of a single programme of change, and provide an update on progress made in this regard to the 47th meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board in December 2020.”
 - The UNAIDS Executive Director and the Secretariat will present on the progress regarding implementation at the 47th PCB meeting. Discussions are ongoing about consolidating and optimizing the streams of transformational change already underway within the Secretariat. Linkages between transformational change and the upcoming UNAIDS Strategy are a priority focus and will continue to drive this agenda.

- **Annual Progress report on HIV Prevention 2020: Confirmed for the 47th PCB meeting**
 - Recalling decision point 5.5 from the 45th PCB meeting, “Requests the Joint Programme to support countries in developing and implementing robust prevention plans that are comprehensive, equitable and people centred and that address key persistent obstacles, including the need to overcome implementation barriers, further reduce stigma and discrimination, and strengthen community engagement in prevention service delivery, and report back to the Programme Coordinating Board in 2020 on progress made in HIV prevention, including the measurable outcomes and efficacy of the Global HIV Prevention Coalition since its inception”
 - This report will highlight key outcomes including a series of published guides on HIV prevention policy and programme implementation; briefs on the impact of COVID-19 on maintaining prevention programming during the pandemic and on considerations for mitigating the impact of COVID-19 on people living with and at-risk for HIV; as well as the latest results from the Global Prevention Coalition.
 - The annual report on that Coalition will be released this fall.
 - In addition, there has been an ongoing independent evaluation of the Global Prevention Coalition, which will be released this fall, which would help feed into the final report to the PCB.

- **Evaluation Plan: Confirmed for 47th PCB meeting**
 - In 2019, the PCB formally approved the Evaluation Policy, which established the UNAIDS Evaluation Office.
 - Recalling decision 11 from the 45th PCB, “recalls its decision at the 44th session of the UNAIDS PCB (decision 6.6) and approves the UNAIDS 2020-2021 Evaluation Plan with annual reporting on implementation by the UNAIDS Evaluation Office.”
 - The Evaluation Office Director, Joel Rehnstrom, presented on the Evaluation Plan item. He recalled that the PCB Bureau has discussed this item at its 24 January 2020 meeting and taken the decision to include it on the December agenda to allow for annual reporting on the plan and to be in alignment with previous PCB decisions.
 - This agenda item will include the independent Evaluation of the UN System Response 2016-2019 as well as the Management Response to this item.

- **HIV and Migrant and mobile populations: Tentatively postponed**
 - This item was previously the subject of the Report of the NGO Representative on people on the move.
 - Recalling decision point 4.7 from the 43rd PCB: “Requests the Joint Programme to report back on progress in the implementation of the AIDS response for migrant and mobile populations, as well as refugees and crisis affected populations, as appropriate.”
 - The UNAIDS’ partnership with IOM has been strengthened and ongoing work includes enhancing national technical capacity and data collection on HIV in migrant and mobile populations. The PCB report on People on the Move will provide an up-to-date picture of achievements, the global framework and remaining gaps.
 - While a report on this subject may be timely, the technical team has indicated that, due to COVID-19, gathering comprehensive information to maximize the reporting. Therefore, they have indicated that a full report would be best placed in 2021.

The Bureau noted that this agenda item, if confirmed, could be considered as an item for written comments in lieu of plenary debate in the event of a shortened meeting. As was done with agenda items 5 & 6 at the 46th PCB meeting, it would still be the subject of a pre-meeting.

- **Update on HIV in prisons and other closed settings: Tentatively postponed**
 - o Recalling decision point 8.3 from the 41st PCB, “Requests the Joint Programme to report on progress and concrete actions taken on this topic at a meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board in 2020.”
 - o Indication that this item could be reasonably postponed to 2021 to provide comprehensive reporting.

The PCB Bureau tentatively postponed this item but agreed to consult further with the cosponsors on the timeliness of this reporting.

- **Report on the progress on action to reduce stigma and discrimination in all its forms: Postponed**
 - o Recalling decision point 8.2 of the 45th PCB, “Requests the UNAIDS Joint Programme to: d) report back to the Programme Coordinating Board on progress made on reducing HIV-related stigma and discrimination”
 - o The most recent report on stigma and discrimination was given to the 45th PCB in December 2019.
 - o The Global Partnership on Stigma and Discrimination has been launched and sixteen countries are formally engaged in the partnership. As of July 2020, the Global Fund is now a co-convenor with the aim to identify synergies and opportunities for collaboration and financing of programmes.
 - o The Secretariat proposes postponing this agenda item until 2021 at which point the monitoring and evaluation framework for the Global Partnership will be operational and will allow for more robust reporting.

The PCB Bureau agreed to postpone this report to 2021 to provide time for more robust reporting.

- **Mental Health and HIV- Follow-up to the thematic segment of the 43rd Programme Coordinating Board meeting: Confirmed for the 47th PCB meeting**
 - o Recalling decision 9.3 of the 44th meeting, “Calls on the Joint Programme to: review and revise existing practices and guidelines to ensure the integration of mental health and substance use treatment and prevention services into the HIV service delivery platforms, and HIV services into mental health and substance use prevention and treatment programmes, and to provide respective implementation guidance; take into account the intersection between mental health and HIV, and the importance of improving psycho-social wellbeing and quality of life of people affected and living with HIV, as part of a person centred and human rights approach when developing the next UNAIDS Strategy for 2021-2030; and report back to a future Programme Coordinating Board meeting on the progress made on the integrated approach to mental health and HIV.
 - o A report back to the PCB in December would focus on the development of the UNAIDS/WHO draft implementation guide for integration of mental health and HIV programming; the inclusion of mental health categories in PEPFAR and Global Fund Programming; and would feature best-practice case studies.

The Bureau noted that this agenda item could be considered as an item for written comments in lieu of a plenary debate in the event of a shortened meeting. As was done with agenda items 5 & 6 at the 46th PCB meeting, it would still be the subject of a pre-meeting.

On the basis of this discussion, the Chair will provide a draft agenda for approval to the PCB Bureau by email. Once approved, the draft agenda will be posted on the PCB website. The draft annotated agenda may be revised by the PCB Bureau in light of the development of the COVID19 pandemic and the modalities of the 47th PCB meeting.

2. Biannual update on implementation of the Evaluation Plan

The Evaluation Office Director, Joel Rehnstrom, briefly presented the biannual update on implementation of the 2020-2021 Evaluation Plan. This update is an opportunity to brief the Bureau on the activities of the Independent Evaluation office and to ensure regular dialogue. The written update was shared with the PCB Bureau members in advance of the meeting.

The Director noted that, while some implementation challenges have arisen from COVID-19, the Evaluation Office has been able to take forth the workplan and has adapted methods to conduct evaluations remotely. There were no red flags or issues to be raised on the implementation of the Evaluation Plan.

The independent evaluation of the UN system response 2016-2019 was finalized in the beginning of June. In accordance with the UNAIDS Evaluation Policy, UNAIDS Secretariat and Cosponsors have three months to prepare a response before they are concurrently published. This evaluation will feed directly into the review of the current strategy and will be made available as a background document for the multistakeholder consultation

[The PCB Bureau members thanked the Evaluation Office Director for the update.](#)

3. Comments received on the Task Team on Community-led AIDS Responses and the PCB Working Group on the JIU Recommendations

The Chair recalled the intersessional decision making paper on modalities and procedures for the 46th meeting, which included a section on agenda items 5 & 6, respectively the Task Team on Community-led AIDS responses and the PCB Working Group on the JIU Recommendations. As part of the approach to the shortened timeframe for the meeting, participants were invited to submit comments on these items in replacement of the debate in plenary. The latest date to submit comments was Monday, 6 July. Kindly see the below annex with an overview of the comments received on both items (annex 1).

The PCB Bureau received the consolidated comments on both items as part of the background material for this meeting.

Comments received on the PCB Working Group on the JIU Recommendations

The Chair briefly reviewed the comments received on the PCB Working Group on the JIU Recommendations. A total of 8 comments were received: 7 from PCB member states and 1 from the NGO Delegation. The Chair noted that these comments would be shared in full to the Working Group members to help feed into their discussion.

Comments received on the Task Team on Community-led AIDS responses

The Chair then briefly reviewed the comments received on the establishment of the Task Team on Community-led AIDS responses. A total of 13 comments were received: 9 from PCB member

states, one from the NGO delegation, one from an observer state, and two from observer civil society organizations.

The terms of reference for the task team were developed by the Secretariat and the cosponsors. The TOR called for a geographically and gender-balanced team of 20-24 members, open to all Member States and civil society representatives, including representatives of people living with HIV, women and adolescent girls and young women, youth and key populations, and to external partners.

The TOR was shared with all Permanent Missions to the UN in Geneva with a list of recommended competencies and experience. On the final day of submission, the Secretariat received a total of 92 submissions.

The Chair recalled that, further to the meeting of the PCB Bureau on 11 June 2020, participants were invited to comment on two options to establish the Task Team given the significant interest expressed and the geographical imbalance of the nominations:

1) If the formation of the Task Team is moved forward with the expectation of achieving geographic balance, additional candidates for the Task Team will be needed from three regions: Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia Pacific, and Eastern Europe. There are sufficient candidates from the Western Europe and Others Group and Africa Region from which candidates can be selected. This will require an extended call for candidates with the anticipated outcome of an equal number of persons from each geographic region constituting the Task Team.

2) If the formation of the Task Team is moved forward with the expectation of achieving geographic representation, the existing nominations will be used by the Secretariat to constitute the Task Team with representation from both Member State and civil society participants from all regions. The Africa region would have a greater number of members given the proportion of candidates received from that region. A new decision point may be required under this option.

The Chair stressed that, while the PCB Bureau would provide guidance on the establishment of the Task Team on the basis of these comments, the membership of the Task Team is to be determined by the Secretariat on the basis of the competencies outlined in the Terms of Reference.

The Chair noted that all comments received had indicated the need for a speedy establishment of the Task Team. In addition, all comments that had indicated an option on the establishment opted for option 2 to move forward with the current composition.

The Secretariat clarified that, to facilitate the establishment of the Task Team, seven of the twelve nominees from the Africa Group had rescinded their nomination, leaving a total of five nominations, one for each of the subregions.

The PCB Bureau agreed that, on the basis of the feedback from the pre-meeting and the comments received from PCB participants, the establishment of the Task Team should move forward on the basis of the existing nominations and in accordance with option 2 outlined above. The Chair reiterated that all regions would still be represented both as member states and civil society; however, the Africa region would have a more significant number of seats.

As option 2 alters the existing PCB decision point on a geographically balanced Task Team in favor of geographical representation and to ensure full transparency, the PCB Bureau determined

to draft an intersessional decision for approval by the wider PCB to ensure a maximum of transparency and attention to implementation of PCB decision points. This intersessional decision would then allow the Executive Director to move forward with the establishment of the Task Team.

4. AOB

A Bureau member raised concerns regarding the recent WHO report on the danger of stock-outs of ARVs and requested an update from the Secretariat on work being done to address this risk. The member noted that the report had indicated that 74 countries were in danger of stock-outs and 24 countries were already experiencing disruption of services.

Bureau members echoed these concerns. The PCB Chair summarized some of the innovative initiatives ongoing to counteract these stock-outs and will follow up with the Secretariat on how to address these important concerns.

The Chair thanked members for joining the meeting and for their continued collaboration during this unprecedented time.

Annex 1

Task Team on Community-led AIDS Responses		
PCB Designation	Constituency	Option Preference
PCB Member State	Africa Group	Option 2
PCB Member State	Canada Constituency	Option 2
PCB Member State	France Constituency	Option 2
PCB Member State	Luxembourg Constituency	Option 2
PCB Member State	Russian Federation	Option 2
PCB Member State	Switzerland/Denmark Constituencies	Not explicit
PCB Member State	Thailand	Option 2
PCB Member State	UK Constituency	Not explicit
PCB Member State	US	Option 2
PCB NGO Delegation	NGO Delegation	N/A
PCB Observer Member State	Indonesia	N/A
PCB Observer NGO	Frontline AIDS	N/A
PCB Observer NGO	GNP+	N/A

PCB Working Group on the JIU Recommendations	
PCB Designation	Constituency
PCB Member State	Africa Group
PCB Member State	Canada Constituency
PCB Member State	Luxembourg Constituency
PCB Member State	Switzerland/Denmark Constituency
PCB Member State	Thailand
PCB Member State	UK Constituency
PCB Member State	US
PCB NGO Delegation	NGO Delegation

[End of Document]