



UNAIDS PCB Bureau meeting

DATE: Friday, 30 April 2021

TIME: 9:30-12:30 (Geneva time)

VENUE: Teams meeting (Virtual)

PARTICIPANTS

PCB Bureau: Ms Xungileni Chitundu (Namibia: representing the Chair); Dr Walaiporn Patcharanarumol and Mr Natee Vichitsorasatra (Thailand: representing the Vice-Chair); Ms Julia Martin (United States of America: representing the Rapporteur); Mr Alexander Pastoors and Ms Jules Kim (representing the PCB NGO Delegation); and Mr Andy Seale and Mr Hywel Jones (WHO: representing UNAIDS Cosponsors).

UNAIDS Secretariat: Mr Morten Ussing, Director Governance and Multilateral Affairs, Ms Samia Lounnas, Senior Governance Advisor, Governance and Multilateral Affairs, Mr Efraim Gomez, Chief of Staff, Mr George Farhat, Director, Planning, Finance and Accountability, Ms Marie-Odile Emond, Senior Advisor, Planning, Finance and Accountability and Ms Maggie Lemons, Governance Officer, Governance and Multilateral Affairs

MEETING DRAFT AGENDA

- 1. Establishment of the Independent External Oversight Advisory Committee: 9:30-10:30**
The Bureau will review and score submitted proposals for the recruitment firm that will conduct a global search for experts for the Independent External Oversight Advisory Committee. Submitted proposals will be sent to the Bureau members in advance. The Bureau will also receive an update from the Secretariat on the timeline for the establishment of the IEOAC.
- 2. Update on establishment of Working Group on the UBRAF: 10:30-11:00**
The Bureau will receive an update on the constitution of the Executive Director's Working Group on the development of the 2022-2026 UBRAF.
- 3. Schedule of PCB48 Meetings: 11:00-11:30**
The Bureau will discuss a schedule for PCB48 pre-meetings/consultations. A draft of the schedule for discussion will be circulated in advance of the meeting.
- 4. Update on ECOSOC: 11:30-11:45**
The Bureau will receive an update on the ECOSOC reports, including the Chair's submission of the PCB Report, and the expected timeline for negotiations for the ECOSOC resolution.

5. Discussion on the HLM: 11:45-12:30

The Bureau will receive an update on and discuss the upcoming HLM, including potential side events.

6. Any other business

1. Establishment of the Independent External Oversight Advisory Committee:

The Chair thanked the Bureau members for their continued support and engagement during a year of significant workload for the Programme Coordinating Board. The Chair recalled that the PCB had elected to establish an oversight committee further to the report of the Working Group on the JIU Report recommendations at the 47th PCB meeting. The TOR of the committee was approved at the 47th meeting. The Secretariat reviewed the process for establishing the committee as laid out in the TOR.

19. The UNAIDS Executive Director shall in consultation with the PCB Bureau:
 - a) place a call for expressions of interest from suitably qualified and experienced individuals through advertisements in reputable international magazines and/or newspapers with wide geographical circulation, and on the Internet;
 - b) inform the PCB members and observers of the search process.
 - c) engage an external consultant or a professional search firm specialized in the recruitment for senior positions, to screen all applications, interview candidates deemed suitable, and prepare a shortlist of the most suitable candidate based on the criteria for recruitment. In finalizing the shortlist due regard will be given to the diversity referred to in Paragraph 10. The consultant shall provide a report containing a brief assessment of the unsuccessful candidates; and
 - d) constitute a selection panel; decisions of the selection panel will be made by consensus; if consensus cannot be reached, the issue will be referred to the PCB Bureau.
20. The PCB Bureau shall review the final selection of candidates and, if in full agreement, refer it to the PCB for final consideration and approval. If full agreement cannot be reached by the Bureau, the issue will be referred to the PCB.”

The Secretariat noted that, further to lessons learned from the nomination process for the Executive Director, it was determined that the Search Firm would be best suited to place the call for expression of interest. Therefore, the Secretariat had launched a call for proposals for the search firm to initiate the process. Given the timeframe to establish the oversight committee, the Secretariat reached out to all firms that had a long-term agreement with UN entities to conduct such searches. A total of six firms were contacted and three submitted proposals.

Prior to the Bureau meeting, a scoring tool was circulated to the PCB Bureau to support their evaluation of the submitted proposals. Each constituency submitted an evaluation of technical aspects of the three proposals.

The PCB Bureau members reviewed and discussed their technical scoring of the proposals on the basis of five criteria: relevant experience, search strategy, screening, due diligence, and interview support. On the basis of their scoring, a stratified list of the proposals was developed. Further to their discussion on the technical merits of the proposals, the members of the Bureau agreed on a

ranking of the proposals. Subsequently the financial proposals were presented to the Bureau members for consideration. In their final consideration of the proposals, the Bureau members weighed 70% to the technical aspect and 30% to the financial aspect.

The Bureau agreed by consensus on the winning bid. The Bureau's recommendation is communicated to the Executive Director who then would finalize the recruitment of the Search Firm, based on the process conducted by the Bureau and in line with UNAIDS rules and regulations.

2. Update on establishment of Working Group on the UBRAF:

The Chair invited the UNAIDS Director of Finance, Planning and Accountability and the Senior Advisor, Planning and Monitoring, to present the update on the establishment of the Working Group on the 2022-2026 UBRAF.

The Secretariat provided a brief update on the preparation of the zero draft of the 2022-2026 UBRAF, which would be presented at the 48th PCB meeting. The draft was expected to be around 40 pages with a high-level framework laid out for the next UBRAF. Elements of the paper would include:

- Executive Summary
- Introduction
- Joint Programme's theory of change
- Results framework at the outcome level: indicative draft
- Optimizing and leveraging Joint Programme capacities: general direction
- Collaboration with other stakeholders
- Resource allocation process: principles and draft methodology
- Funding scenarios: draft and assumptions
- Accountability, monitoring and reporting system: proposed package

The Executive Director is in the process of establishing a Working Group of interested PCB members and other technical expertise to advise, guide and support the 2022-2026 UBRAF. The scope of work for the Group will include:

- Supporting the development of the UBRAF result framework, resource allocation and accountability aspects, including monitoring and evaluation, funding scenarios, and ensuring continuous and efficient integration of UN reform aspects;
- Advising on the UBRAF key components and providing guidance and feedback along the development process;
- Advising on the application and integration of the main shifts from the End Inequalities, End AIDS, Global AIDS Strategy 2021-2026, that the new UBRAF will align to, including its inequality framework;
- Providing guidance and feedback on key consideration that emerge during the UBRAF development process

A call for expression of interest with terms of reference in both English and French had been circulated on 6 April with a deadline extended to 27 April 2021. Outreach had been conducted to ensure a geographic balance. 13 expressions of interest had been received with one anticipate submission still pending. The composition of the Working Group would be announced shortly, but it was expected to include:

- Independent experts nominated by Member States and the NGO Delegation
- Representatives from the Joint Programme (Cosponsors and Secretariat)

The anticipate timeline for the work of the UBRAF Working Group was as follows:

- **Early May:** composition of the Working Group
- **Mid May:** Introduction, input and consultation on the zero draft of new UBRAF
- **June:** Contribution to preparation for the 48th PCB dialogue on UBRAF development
- **July to August:** Consultations on revision of the zero draft and development of the final new UBRAF, specifically aspects around optimization of Joint Programme capacity, transparent resource allocation methodology, accountability, monitoring and reporting systems
- **September:** Contribution to preparation for the PCB Special Session for the finalization and approval of the new UBRAF
- **August to November:** Consultations on the finalization of UBRAF indicators, in alignment with Global AIDS monitoring indicators (finalized by October 2021 and in consultation with the Monitoring Technical Advisory Group (MTAG))
- **December:** Contribution to preparation for the 49th PCB dialogue on finalization of UBRAF indicators

The Secretariat noted that the Results and Transparency portal included a dedicated page for the new UBRAF development where all publications and presentations on the new UBRAF development are posted: <https://open.unaids.org/newubraf>. The Chair noted that the Bureau would receive an update on progress from the Secretariat at the next meeting of the PCB Bureau.

The Bureau welcomed the update and appreciated the importance of ensuring geographic representation in the composition of the Working Group. Recognizing the ambitious timeframe for the adoption of the 2022-2026 UBRAF, the Bureau encouraged fast-tracking the establishment of the Working Group and looked forward to the next update on the UBRAF at their next meeting.

3. Schedule of PCB48 Meetings:

As part of the background materials that the Bureau received in advance, the Chair had circulated a draft schedule of PCB47 pre-meetings for comment. The Chair noted that the following had been considered in drafting the schedule:

- In reviewing lessons learned from the virtual PCB meetings, reducing the number of pre-meetings was requested.
- Unlike in previous meetings, all agenda items will have a devoted discussion at the PCB meeting. While pre-meetings are still an important opportunity for engagement in virtual settings, it is not the only touchpoint available for any of the agenda items.
- The High-Level meeting on AIDS will take place on 8-10 June 2021. To avoid overlap, the PCB pre-meetings would commence the week after.
- As agreed in the Modalities paper, a consultation on decision points would be held with PCB members.

Date	Subject
15 June	Pre-meeting on agenda items 6, 7, 8 & 9: Strategic Human Resources Management Issues, Statement by the USSA representative, follow-up to the thematic segment and update on implementation of the HIV response for migrant and mobile populations

17 June	PCB pre-meeting on agenda items 3 & 4: Organizational Oversight Reports and UBRAF 2016-2021 Reports
22 June	PCB pre-meeting on agenda items 1.3 and 5: zero draft of the 2022-2026 UBRAF and the report of the CCO
24 June	Consultation on decision points with PCB members

The PCB Bureau agreed to the draft schedule. The schedule would be circulated with the invitations to the 48th PCB meeting.

4. Update on ECOSOC:

The PCB Chair updated the Bureau on the preparation for the ECOSOC 2021 agenda item on the Joint Programme. The Chair recalled that, at the March Special Session, the PCB requested the Chair to submit the report of the PCB to the President of ECOSOC. This report along with a cover letter would be sent to the President shortly requesting that the paper be translated and treated as an official document for the upcoming ECOSOC agenda item on the UNAIDS Joint Programme. In the cover letter, the Chair also took the opportunity to convey to the President of ECOSOC the willingness of the Chair and Vice-Chair to follow the practice since 2015 to agree on the text of the ECOSOC resolution in Geneva. The process has been as follows:

- PCB Chair and Vice-Chair facilitate negotiations in Geneva to agree on the text of the resolution. This is to ensure that the resolution is developed by the subject matter experts of the Permanent Missions in Geneva who know the work of the Joint Programme;
- The text agreed by member states by consensus in Geneva is passed by the PCB Chair to the President of ECOSOC
- ECOSOC President introduces it as President’s text; and
- ECOSOC adopts the resolution without further negotiation in New York.

This year, the resolution will be based on the report of the Executive Director and the report of the PCB. Both reports will be published by the ECOSOC Secretariat around 9 June 2021.

The Chair noted that, in accordance with the timeline to submit the resolution to the President of ECOSOC by 12 July for circulation as a President’s text, consultations with ECOSOC Member and Observer States on the text of the resolution would take place during the week of 5 July following the 48th PCB meeting. Additional details on the negotiations would be communicated to all UN Permanent Missions in Geneva shortly.

The Bureau thanked the Chair for the update and for adhering to the request of the PCB. They looked forward to the 2021 ECOSOC segment on the Joint United Nations Programme on AIDS

5. Discussion on the HLM:

The PCB Chair invited the UNAIDS Chief of Staff and Special Advisor to present on the preparations for the High-Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS to take place from 8-10 June 2021. The Chair noted that the cofacilitators had shared the zero draft Political Declaration with all Permanent Missions in New York.

The Secretariat presented the following timeline to the High-Level meeting:

- February 23: Modalities resolution adopted
- March 24-25: Global AIDS Strategy adopted
- April 12-19: Missions Briefing
- April 23: Multistakeholder Hearing
- April 27: SG Report issued
- April 28: Zero draft Political Declaration shared
- May 4-5: Hearing
- June 8-10: 2021 High-Level Meeting

The Secretariat recalled that in November 2020, the President of the General Assembly had appointed two co-facilitators to guide the process related to the convening of the High-Level meeting on HIV and AIDS:

- H.E. Mr. Mitchell Peter Fifield, Permanent Representative of Australia and
- H.E. Mr. Nevilla Melvin Gertze, Permanent Representative of Namibia

The proposed three-day Programme for the 2021 HLM on HIV/AIDS was as follows:

- Opening
- General debate
- Five proposed themes for the Panel Discussions:
 - o End Inequalities
 - o Community Leadership
 - o Gender and human rights
 - o Resourcing the response
 - o Shaping the future of the HIV response & pandemic preparedness
- Closing
- Additional side events with partners would be organized by UNAIDS with general themes of Parliamentarians, Cities, Faith & HIV, Prevention, Paediatrics, Science, and Human Rights. Guidelines for partner-organized side events could be found on the UNAIDS HLM website: <https://www.unaids.org/en/topic/HLM2021>

The Secretariat noted that the 2021 HLM was an historic opportunity to mobilize for the end of AIDS and for Member States and stakeholders to participate at the highest-level. Key aims for the HLM included:

- 40 years since the first reported cases of AIDS, 25 years since UNAIDS commenced its work and 20 years since the first Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS
- A new Political Declaration that focuses on urgent action over the next five years to reach those left behind in the AIDS response, including children, adolescent girls and young women, and key populations.
- Overall focus on closing the divide and ending inequalities, recognizing that progress has been uneven among and within countries, and that gains remained fragile and reversible without a renewed commitment, which could be further compounded by the impact of COVID.
- Building forward from the new 2021-2026 Global AIDS Strategy as adopted by the PCB in March 2021.

The Secretariat recalled 10 key recommendations from the Secretary General's report:

1. Reduce and end acute and intersecting inequalities
2. Prioritize HIV prevention
3. Close gaps in HIV testing, treatment and viral suppression
4. Eliminate vertical HIV transmission and end paediatric AIDS
5. Put gender equality and human rights of women and girls at the forefront
6. Implement the GIPA principle and empower communities

7. Respect, protect and fulfill the human rights of people living with, at risk of and affected by HIV
8. Enhance global solidarity to close the HIV response resource gap
9. Accelerate progress towards UHC and strong PHC systems, build forward better and fairer
10. Leverage the 25 years of experience, expertise and mandate of UNAIDS

The Bureau thanked the Secretariat for the update and looked forward the High-Level meeting on HIV/AIDS. Members of the Bureau indicated their support for the PCB Chair, who was also serving as a cofacilitator for the HLM. The PCB Chair requested the Secretariat to share on behalf of the Chair the message and draft Political Declaration with all Permanent Missions in Geneva for their information and follow-up.

6. Any other business

There was no other business raised. The Chair closed the meeting.