UNAIDS

Working Group to advise on, guide and support the development of new Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework (UBRAF)

Terms of Reference

The UBRAF Working Group is established by UNAIDS Executive Director as per the Modus Operandi¹. The Working Group combines interested PCB members and other relevant technical expertise to inform key elements of the new Unified, Budget, Results and Accountability Framework (UBRAF) development process.

Its overall purpose is to advise on, guide and support the development of the UBRAF with a focused scope of work on the development of the result framework, resource allocation and accountability, including M&E, funding scenarios and UN reform.

The membership of the working group will be geographically, and gender balanced and include a maximum of 15 members, comprising of experts from member states, civil society and the Joint Programme.

Scope of Work

The Working Group is tasked to advise on, guide and support the development of the new UBRAF. Tasks will specifically include:

- Support the development of the UBRAF result framework, resource allocation and accountability aspects, including monitoring and evaluation, funding scenarios, and help ensure continuous and efficient integration of UN reform aspects.
- Advise on the UBRAF key components and provide guidance and feedback along the development process, namely on: (1) Vision and Theory of change; (2) Results framework with clear prioritization and emphasis on addressing structural drivers; (3) Optimizing and leveraging Joint Programme Capacities, (4) Resource requirements & transparent allocation process, including considerations of different funding scenarios; (5) Accountability, monitoring and reporting systems, which will define mechanisms, processes and tools for accountability including quality and timely monitoring and reporting.
- Advise 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.

¹ Modus Operandi of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, Revised December 2020, Annex 1, paragraph 7 (iv) *"Establish such policy and technical advisory committees as he/she deems necessary in order to advise him/her on any aspect of UNAIDS. The Executive Director shall make available to the PCB and the CCO, as appropriate, the reports of such technical advisory committees. The members of such committees, to be selected by the Executive Director, shall serve in a personal capacity and represent a broad range of disciplines and experience;"*

 Provide guidance and feedback on key considerations that emerge during the UBRAF development process.

It is expected that the new UBRAF will build on lessons from the past and aligns to requirements and consideration from various recommendations and evaluations. The new UBRAF will therefore be different from past versions by considering important strategic programmatic and organizational shifts, referred to in the PCB document UNAIDS/PCB (EM)/3.5.

Recommended knowledge and skills

Members of the Working Group shall have expertise in various relevant fields for the UBRAF developments, and therefore bring a mix of the following knowledge and skills:

- Good understanding of HIV, health and/or related issues and familiarity with the work of UNAIDS Cosponsors and/or the Secretariat, at country, regional and/or global levels;
- Good understanding of UN reform processes and implications, challenges and opportunities for joint UN planning, monitoring and reporting;
- In-depth knowledge in creating and/or managing result frameworks, resource allocation, funding scenarios and accountability aspects, including monitoring and evaluation;
- Experience with development of a complex strategic planning and budgeting instrument for a UN entity or other international organization and ideally with current or past experience with UBRAF/Unified Budget & Workplan;
- Experience with setting of results, monitoring and evaluating progress on reducing inequalities;
- Experience in indicator development, data collection and analysis, and/or performance assessments and reviews;
- Experience with community empowerment and/or community-led responses; and
- English language skills (noting interpretation will not be available).

Draft Timeline & Tasks

The duration for the Working Group is tentatively from April 2021 until finalization of the UBRAF, the 2022-2023 Workplan & Budget and the Indicators by 49th PCB in December 2021.

The Working Group will be tasked with providing technical input and consultations on key aspects of the new UBRAF, including review of draft and final documents. It is expected that the group will virtually engage a few hours every month for update and input with a few longer sessions to review draft documents and as part of broader consultation (likely virtual depending on the COVID-19 situation with one-week advance notice) as per the tentative timeline below.

Possible milestones may include below, however the timeline is going to be revised based on PCB guidance during the Special Session in March 2021, and progress and alignment with other global processes.

- (early) April: Finalization of ToR and Composition of Working Group.
- **Early May**: Input and consultation on zero draft of new UBRAF, specifically on the theories of change, results framework, draft methodology for resources allocation
- **June**: Contribution to 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, development of a transparent resource allocation methodology, accountability, monitoring and reporting systems.
- **September:** Contribution to 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 49th PCB dialogue on finalization of UBRAF indicators.
