



PROGRAMME COORDINATING BOARD

Fourteenth meeting

Geneva, 26-27 June 2003

DECISIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

Agenda item 1.1: Opening of the meeting and adoption of the provisional agenda

1. The PCB adopted the provisional agenda, as amended.

Agenda item 1.2: Election of Officers

2. Zambia was elected as Chair, Canada as Vice-chair and the Netherlands as Rapporteur.

Agenda item 1.3: Consideration of the reports of the twelfth and thirteenth meetings

3. The PCB adopted the report of the Twelfth meeting and the report of the Thirteenth meeting, as amended.

Agenda item 1.4: Report of the Executive Director

4. In light of the substantial needs for additional support to countries in implementing actions to meet the goals and targets of the UNGASS Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, the PCB endorses the plans of UNAIDS to expand the provision of technical support at country level, in particular in the areas of monitoring and evaluation, partnership development and resource mobilization.
5. The PCB requests UNAIDS and encourages other development partners to promote the harmonization and simplification of the rules, procedures and operations in support of country planning and implementation in a more effective manner.
6. The PCB notes the progress in the implementation of its decision of December 2002 that UNAIDS Country Coordinators be placed in a greater number of countries and recognizes their essential role to the good functioning of UN Theme Groups on HIV/AIDS and UN Country Teams.
7. The PCB notes the key role played by UNAIDS in assessing global resource needs in responding to HIV/AIDS and in tracking resource flows, and the extent to which this has contributed to resource mobilization. The PCB urges UNAIDS, and in particular the Secretariat, to expand its efforts in resource tracking, in conjunction with relevant global, regional and national partners.

8. The PCB notes with appreciation the essential support provided by UNAIDS in assisting countries to access resources from various financial channels for their national AIDS programmes, such as the World Bank's Multi-Country HIV/AIDS Programme (MAP) and the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and other multilateral and bilateral mechanisms, and urges UNAIDS to continue its work in this area.
9. The PCB notes with concern the increasing feminization of the epidemic, emphasizes the central role of women in the response to HIV/AIDS, and welcomes UNAIDS plans to mount a major effort to increase women's access to HIV prevention and care services, support girls' education, reduce violence against women and support women's legal rights and economic security (including through property and inheritance rights).
10. The PCB urges UNAIDS to take all necessary steps, in conjunction with other UN system agencies, including the World Food Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization, to coordinate UN system responses to the combined impact of HIV/AIDS and food insecurity, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, through the integration of emergency, humanitarian and development responses, joint programming opportunities, and integration of HIV/AIDS into vulnerability assessments and consolidated appeals processes.
11. The PCB urges UNAIDS to intensify ongoing work with its partners to fight stigma, discrimination and marginalization, in order to reduce their impact, and encourage governments to secure the rights of vulnerable populations and people living with, and affected by, HIV/AIDS.
12. The PCB takes note of the significant progress achieved in promoting HIV/AIDS prevention, care, treatment and support through greater leadership and political commitment, increasing financial resources, and more affordable HIV medicines and commodities. The PCB requests UNAIDS to continue its work in these areas and to intensify its support to countries in scaling up their national programmes, in particular through human resources capacity building, technical assistance, and strengthening partnerships especially with associations of people living with HIV and other members of civil society. The PCB urges Member States of the World Trade Organization to promote access to treatment in developing countries consistent with the World Trade Organization Declaration on TRIPS and Public Health (Doha Declaration).
13. The PCB notes progress in the implementation of multisectoral responses to HIV/AIDS, and urges UNAIDS to continue its work in building capacities, particularly in least developed countries, in order to respond to the epidemic across all sectors, by integrating HIV/AIDS into development instruments especially Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers and sector-wide approaches.
14. The PCB encourages linkages between the Executive Director's annual report and the UBW, and in particular requests that the Executive Director's annual report should include tangible achievements attained by UNAIDS through the implementation of the UBW and reflect the specific contributions of the Cosponsors and the Secretariat.

Agenda item 1.5: Report by the Chairperson of the Committee of Cosponsoring Organizations

15. The PCB expresses its appreciation to the CCO chair for the extensive report on the work of the Cosponsors and the high level representation, including by Executive Heads, at this PCB meeting.

16. The PCB requests the Cosponsors to report to the PCB annually on their work, focussing on country level progress and challenges in meeting their objectives.

Agenda item 1.6: Report by the NGO representative

17. The PCB welcomes the report of the NGO Representative and, in particular, requests that the UNAIDS Secretariat and Cosponsors continue prioritizing support to communities and vulnerable groups in budgeting and in programme implementation, and clearly reflect funding allocation for these groups in the UBW reporting.
18. The PCB confirms that NGO delegates are represented by organizations and not individuals; confirms that the maximum term of office for any NGO delegate is three years; and approves exceptionally a one-year extension of term for OASIS as the NGO delegate for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Agenda item 2: UNAIDS Unified Budget and Workplan 2004-2005

19. The PCB commends the Secretariat and Cosponsors for their presentation of the 2004-2005 UBW, which responds fully to the decisions of the PCB following the external evaluation of UNAIDS and is now a more user-friendly and transparent document. The PCB takes note of the use of thematic and regional consultations to sharpen the strategic focus of the 2004-2005 UBW and to promote coordinated action by UNAIDS.
20. The PCB endorses the strategies and approaches contained in the 2004-2005 UBW, in particular its strategic thrust to enable countries to scale up their national response to the epidemic;
21. The PCB approves the core budget of US\$250.5 million and the proposed distribution of those resources as follows: US\$85.7 million for Cosponsors; US\$91.2 million for the Secretariat; and US\$73.6 million for interagency activities;
22. The PCB approves the additional interagency core budget of US\$20 million, subject to availability of funding beyond the \$250.5 million core budget;
23. The PCB recognizes that the approval of this UBW implies a moral responsibility for all countries to fully fund it, in accordance with the principle of burden-sharing.
24. The PCB notes with satisfaction the increases in the Cosponsors' own resources and takes note of the supplemental budgets for HIV/AIDS contained in the UBW which is a tangible expression of their increased capacity, commitment and concrete action to fight HIV/AIDS; and encourages the Cosponsors to continue to expand their action in this area and to report to their Governing Bodies on an annual basis.
25. The PCB encourages the Cosponsors to include in the UBW report information on their country level spending for HIV/AIDS activities.
26. The PCB encourages UNAIDS to further integrate a results-based management framework into the next UBW and to explicitly link the desired results with the different comparative advantages of the Cosponsors.

27. The PCB encourages the Secretariat and Cosponsors to continue to strengthen performance monitoring of the implementation of the UBW.
28. The PCB encourages UNAIDS to review periodically the allocation of funds and the balance between the various regions and areas of work.

Agenda item 3: Financial and budgetary updates 1 January 2002 – 31 March 2003

29. The PCB takes note of the interim financial information for the 2002-2003 biennium and encouraged donor governments and other partners who have not yet done so to release their 2003 contributions towards the UBW for 2002-2003.
30. The PCB also notes with appreciation the progress achieved to date in the construction project for the new UNAIDS premises in Geneva and calls on the Secretariat to continue updating and consulting the PCB on this issue and on any other related costs.

Agenda item 4: Report from the PCB Working Group on UNAIDS Governance

31. The PCB appreciates the report of the former chair of the PCB on the discussion on governance in the Joint Boards of UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and the World Food Programme (WFP).
32. The PCB notes with appreciation the work of the co-chairs of the Working Group on Governance, the consultative process and the timely delivery of their report.

With regard to the Report of the PCB Working Group on UNAIDS Governance,

33. The PCB recommends that thematic round tables or panel discussions be organized at subsequent PCB meetings on issues of strategic importance in the response to HIV/AIDS and the role of UNAIDS;
34. The PCB requests the Secretariat, in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the PCB, to propose for decision the mandate, roles, functions, and membership of a Bureau, if it is desirable to establish, at the next PCB meeting.
35. The PCB requests the Chair of the PCB to forward PCB recommendations to the Chairs of the governing bodies of Cosponsors, in order to encourage them to discuss and act upon the relevant decisions by their respective governing bodies on an annual basis;
36. The PCB decides to consider ways to foster improved reporting from Member States and NGOs, making use of existing mechanisms, wherever possible; to reduce transaction costs; and avoid duplication as additional measures to the ongoing monitoring activities of the Programme through the Secretariat and Cosponsors. These could include inviting Member States and/or NGOs to report on their situations/actions on a regular basis according to specified criteria, and more intense in-depth report from countries on a rotational basis and occasional presentations by Theme Groups to the PCB.
37. The PCB requests regular reporting from the Secretariat on actions taken on PCB decisions, to be reflected in the annual report of the Executive Director, and that the biennial report by the Secretary-General on UNAIDS to ECOSOC is transmitted to the PCB as soon as it is in the

public domain.

38. The PCB refers to the PCB Chair to determine, at his discretion, any action for addressing the recommendations in the report which were partially agreed.

Agenda item 5: Progress reports

5.1: Memorandum of Understanding between UNAIDS and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

39. The PCB welcomes and approves with amendments the Memorandum of Understanding between UNAIDS and the Global Fund as an enabling framework within which the Secretariat and Cosponsors can further develop their collaboration with the Global Fund, in order to support programmes at country level.
40. The PCB welcomes the clear delineation of complementary roles and responsibilities between UNAIDS and the Global Fund. This includes recognition both of the Global Fund as an important new financing mechanism and of UNAIDS as a key source of strategic analysis, policy advice and technical expertise to help countries access the resources of the Global Fund. One of the central founding principles of the Global Fund is reliance on local development partners for the provision of policy and technical support to Country Coordinating Mechanisms, principal recipients and other national partners and processes. The PCB further recognizes that a strong Global Fund requires a strong UN.
41. The PCB recognizes the financial and human resources being devoted by UNAIDS in support of countries to access additional resources and implement programmes as well as in support of the Global Fund. It urges that the additional demands that this places on UNAIDS be borne in mind in decisions concerning contributions to UNAIDS. It notes that the proposed UBW for 2004-2005 includes provisions for continuing this support, which should remain a central part of UNAIDS' work during the next biennium.

5.2: UN System Strategic Plan on HIV/AIDS 2001-2005

42. The PCB takes note of the effort to update the UN System Strategic Plan 2001-2005 and encourages the UNSSP participating agencies to continue to update their plans to ensure greater relevance and response of the UN's action in support of national efforts.

Agenda item 6: Next PCB meeting

43. The PCB decides that the 15th meeting of the PCB will take place on 23-24 June 2004 in Geneva. The PCB further decides in principle that the 16th PCB meeting will be held on 14-15 December 2004, place to be confirmed; that the 17th PCB meeting will be held on 28-29 June 2005 in Geneva; that the 18th PCB meeting will be held on 27-28 June 2006 in Geneva and that the 19th PCB meeting will be held on 12-13 December 2006, place to be confirmed.

Agenda item 7: Any other business

44. The PCB notes with appreciation the report of the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General on HIV/AIDS in Asia and the Pacific.
45. The PCB urges that intensified action be undertaken in the Asia and Pacific region by UNAIDS, in light of an HIV/AIDS epidemic which, despite current low prevalence levels in many countries, is likely to grow dramatically in the absence of an expanded response.
46. The PCB supports the need to focus efforts on strengthening national capacity to coordinate and implement responses to HIV/AIDS, and for improved coordination among donors and governments, including greater harmony with the UN system. In addition, the PCB recognizes the need to strengthen the ability of UNAIDS to fulfil its role at country level.
47. The PCB urges UNAIDS and its development partners to further strengthen the links between the areas of child health, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and HIV/AIDS so as to improve the effectiveness of poverty reduction strategies.

Agenda item 8: Adoption of decisions, recommendations and conclusions

48. The PCB adopts the decisions, recommendations and conclusions of the fourteenth PCB meeting.