

Note for the Record

PMNCH Executive Committee (EC) Meeting

March 12, 2013

Present: Flavia Bustreo (co-Chair); Ruth Lawson (DFID), Rafael Cortez (World Bank), Francesco Aureli (Save The Children – India), Hamid Rushwan (FIGO), Tinu Taylor (Nigeria), Sharon D'Agostino (J&J),

PMNCH Secretariat: Carole Presern, Andres de Francisco, Abir Shady, Stephen Nurse-Findlay
Regrets: José Belizàn (IECS); Sabaratnam Arulkumaran (FIGO), Craig Friderichs (GSM), Nicole Klingen (World Bank)

Guests: Marta Seoane (WHO)

AGENDA

Chair: Flavia Bustreo

1. Review of Feb 5 EC Teleconference Minutes
2. Secretariat update on progress of 2013 report
3. Secretariat update on status of Lancet series
4. Secretariat/HCPAs update on status of Implementation of Essential Interventions projects
5. EC discussion on PMNCH post-2015 plans
6. EC discussion on Advisory Committee on Financing
7. Constituency update on engagement plans for Women Deliver Conference in Kuala Lumpur
8. Governance and funding
9. AOB:
 - 9.1 Proposed PMNCH country engagement strategies
 - 9.2 PMNCH private sector clearances

The Chair welcomed the participants and reviewed the agenda.

1. Review of Feb 5 EC Teleconference Minutes

The minutes were accepted as submitted without any changes.

2. Update on 2013 Report

Andres de Francisco gave a brief introduction on this item requested by the iERG to inform their report that will be published in September 2013. PMNCH has issued Requests for Proposals for report-related web based surveys and associated project management, identification of country case studies and thematic analysis for the 2013 report on the PMNCH website (these documents were distributed to EC participants prior to February call).

PMNCH prolonged the deadline for the RFPs submissions to allow for a larger number of bids submissions. Review of the bids took place, as well as selection of the following candidates:

- Seek Development to undertake the financial analysis aspects of the report; and
- Cambridge Economic Policy Associates (CEPA) to carry out the thematic analysis, country case studies and overall project management and coordination of the report.

The report will focus on four thematic analyses, namely adolescents, family planning, newborn health and advocacy. The first draft is anticipated early June.

An online survey is being setup for this purpose and it is also intended for future online self-reporting by committers if it proves successful in 2013.

A meeting will be held on Friday 15 March with the two selected firms to discuss the way forward and planning of the report production within this tight deadline. Based on the results of the meeting the concept note of the report will be revised and shared with EC members.

3. Discussion on draft proposal for *Lancet* Series

Andres de Francisco referred to the EC February call. He responded to points raised then for more focus and detail. The following points were highlighted:

- PMNCH is intending to have three articles submitted to the *Lancet* versus the original idea of having a series.
- The three articles will emphasize the comparative advantages for PMNCH work in those areas outlined in the articles.
- It is expected to have the following three papers completed by June 2013:
 1. The 2013 report methodologies and results;
 2. The X factor study focusing on the reasons for countries to be more effective in achieving the MDGs 4 and 5; and
 3. Successes and challenges of the RNMCH implementation in Asia-Pacific region.

Discussion followed:

- There is a concern about PMNCH publishing the 2013 report results before the iERG report comes out;
- There was another concern that PMNCH articles will tackle country cases studies, while the Countdown will be publishing similar ones.

Carole Presern responded to both concerns by indicating that by the time the article on the 2013 report will be ready for publishing the iERG report will have been published (June date is incorrect for this one). Also, such article would focus on the methodologies and analyses used in the report. Also, with regards to the Countdown country studies, PMNCH is following their timeline and no more than one country study from the Countdown may be out or in the same issue PMNCH article may be published.

4. Secretariat/HCPAs update on implementation status of the Essential Interventions

Andres de Francisco and Hamid Rashid (FIGO) gave an update on implementation of the Essential Interventions project following the multi stakeholders meeting that took place in London, 28 February – 1 March. The following points were made:

- The three leading health care professional associations, namely: FIGO, ICM and IPAs are committed to rolling out the essential interventions tools in selected countries.
- Implementation in each country will be tailored to the local settings, trends of maternal and newborn care and existing stakeholders in the selected country for implementation.
- Initially two countries will be selected, one in South-east Asia: either India or Indonesia; and one country in Africa: either Burkina Faso, Ethiopia or Uganda.
- The focus in those two countries would be implementing 17 interventions for child care and post-neonatal care in two referral facilities. It is intended to have such facilities as future centres of excellence replicable in other countries.
- Letters have been sent to the five countries to ascertain interest.
- WHO will be contacted to approach Ministers of Health to work in this project jointly with the governments.
- The next step is to revise the proposal within the coming week based on the conclusions and recommendations made at the London meeting.

Flavia Bustreo pointed out the importance of coordinating with other multilateral organizations and NGOs working on similar areas, especially quality and continuity of care. Also requested the Secretariat to share the projects proposal and framework once revised.

Hamid Rashwan and Andres de Francisco confirmed that implementation in countries will follow a multi-stakeholder approach. WHO will play a key role working with Ministers of Health. A steering committee will be established in each country taking forward such coordination as a key factor for the project's success.

5. EC discussions on Post 2015 plans

Carole Presern indicated that the Secretariat produced a one pager with the "headline messages" for the post-2015 activity that "Health is an investment and not a Cost", as well as an associated knowledge summary on the economic benefit of investing in women's and children's health.

The one pager has been revised numerous times based on the different comments received. PMNCH has been trying hard to get as many signatures as possible on this one pager. Carole also requested the EC support and suggestions on how the Secretariat may be able to get more sign offs, especially before the Indonesia event.

Consecutively, Carole pointed out that negotiations will take place soon in New York among thirty countries selected to decide on the post 2015 sustainable development goals (SDGs). An entry point for health goals to be among the SDGs may be equity and health life expectancy. Lobbying and strategic plans should be put forward to ensure that health may be among the high level goals.

The EC co-Chair emphasized that sending the one-pager around for international buy-in may have been carried out too early to get the needed response and that postponing the sign-off deadline to 20 March may help in this regard. However, 60 members have already signed on.

The one-pager is currently being revised and the Secretariat will share the final version with EC members, along with some suggested steps for a strategic plan in preparations for the New York negotiations on SDGs.

6. Discussion on Advisory Group TORs for Financing for RMNCH

The Chair gave a brief introduction to this topic. The discussion was led by Carole Presern, indicating that currently the Secretariat is still trying to get members from the different constituencies to be among this particular Advisory Group. The Secretariat intends to finalize this exercise by end of March and to have a meeting for the Advisory Group by mid-April.

7. Constituency update on engagement plans for Women Deliver Conference in Kuala Lumpur

Carole Presern gave a brief introduction to the Women Deliver agenda and a consultation which is planned along the forthcoming WHA on the global investment framework for women's and children's health. Also, it was noted that different constituencies members may support in the Women Deliver event and the visibility of PMNCH advocacy efforts during the event.

8. PMNCH Governance and Funding

Carole Presern updated the EC on the new Chair of PMNCH Board. Also, she indicated that following the EC call she will be sending out the new dates of the next Board meeting in June, while the venue will be decided by End of March.

9. AOB – 9.1 Proposed PMNCH country engagement strategies

The EC co-Chair introduced the topic and Ruth Lawson explained the importance of PMNCH engagement with partner countries. She also indicated that DFID, who is currently funding PMNCH is reviewing PMNCH workplan and achievements and it is important to ensure that PMNCH has this kind of reach out.

Ruth Lawson indicated that there are two levels of engagement for PMNCH: (1) the ministerial level, which is already taking place; and (2) the working level at the governmental operational programmes and focal points, which is the current weak engagement area for PMNCH.

It was agreed by the EC members that this topic is important and needs revisiting. It was recommended that a subgroup may have some discussions and recommendations for the EC to consider in future.

Ruth Lawson and Tinu Taylor indicated their readiness to brainstorm on this issue. The Secretariat may prepare some points on the operational level of PMNCH country engagement and coordinate a subgroup discussion on this topic.

9. AOB – 9.2 PMNCH private sector clearances

Carole Presern indicated that the current practice to clear a membership from the private sector was not an effective process. The current practice to have due diligence from different multilateral institutions for the same membership application was causing unnecessary delay.

The EC members recognized the issue and recommended that multilateral EC members to take this matter forward for discussion during the forthcoming H4+ meeting. A proposed solution may be submitted to the EC members during the next call.

Action List

No.	Action	Agenda Item	Focal Point	Deadline
1	To send EC members the revised 2013 report concept note based on the results of the Friday 15 March meeting with selected candidates.	Item 2	The Secretariat	22 March 2013
2	To send EC members the revised project proposal based on the London meeting conclusions.	Item 4	The Secretariat	15 April 2013
3	To send EC members the final Post 2015 one-pager.	Item 5	The Secretariat	18 March 2013
4	To send EC members some suggestions on a strategic plan in preparation for the NY negotiations on SDGs	Item 5	The Secretariat	22 March 2013
5	To send Board members the next Board meeting dates.	Item 6	The Secretariat	15 March 2013
6	To send a proposal on PMNCH operational country level engagement and coordinate a subgroup discussion on the topic (Ruth Lawson and Tinu Taylor)	Item 9.1	The Secretariat	22 March 2013
7	To discuss PMNCH private sector membership clearance during the next H4+ meeting and to propose a solution during the next EC call.	Item 9.2	Multilaterals	31 March 2013
8	To send "Save the Date" notification for the next EC call on Tuesday 2 April at	General	The Secretariat	18 March 2013

	15:00 Geneva.			
--	---------------	--	--	--