

Note for the Record

PMNCH Executive Committee (EC) Meeting

January 15, 2013

Present: Flavia Bustreo (co-Chair); Elizabeth Mason (WHO); José Belizán (IECS); Francesco Aureli (Save the Children), Sabaratnam Arulkumaran (FIGO)*, Susan D'Agostino (J+J), Will Niblett (DFID), Nicole Klingen and Rafael Cortez (World Bank)

PMNCH Secretariat: Carole Presern, Nebojsa Novcic, Lori McDougall, Abir Shady, Stephen Nurse-Findlay
Guests: Marta Seoane (WHO)

*Temporary EC representative from the HCPA Constituency

AGENDA

Chair: Flavia Bustreo

1. 2013 PMNCH workplan: Partner Advisory Groups
2. Discussion on the Advisory Committee for Finance
3. Discussion on Advisory Group: Women Deliver- Who is doing what?
4. AOB

Flavia Bustreo welcomed the participants and noted that the agenda was going to focus on the topic of Partner Advisory Groups.

Carole Presern introduced Abir Shady the new Governance and Project Management Officer to the EC.

1. 2013 PMNCH workplan: Partner Advisory Groups

Carole Presern provided some historical context for the development of Partner Advisory Groups based on Strategic Objective Coordinators which saw mixed results. Accordingly, the Secretariat wished to create a new system that utilized a wider forum of participants to carry the work forward.

- Specifically the new system should address questions such as “How do we reach out and engage partners in specific areas of work?” and “How do we update the Board?”
- These advisory groups would also steer the content of large RFPs in order to take projects forward based on a group of 5-8 meeting quarterly (or more often if needed) including at least 1 Board member in each group to maintain links with the Board.
- This group would play an Advisory role and is not a decision making body- That function will be reserved for the PMNCH Board and EC.

The floor was opened for further discussion and recommendations for Advisory Group members:

- It was clarified that the Advisory group member could be any appropriate member of an organisation represented on the PMNCH Board, but did not have to be the Board member or Alternate
- The Chair nominated Elizabeth Mason from WHO to be a member of the Advisory Board representing WHO given her extensive links with projects being done with the H4+ and associated work with the package of Essential Interventions.

2. Discussion on the Advisory Committee for Finance

The Chair discussed proposed financing modalities to support women's and children's health which ultimately resulted in a Board paper on this topic discussed in Abuja in October 2012 and also by the H4+.

- Carole Presern also added that there was significant activity in the last year on different financing mechanisms related to this topic including a possible financing vehicle based at the World Bank (support by the President of the WB, even as the final shape of this vehicle is still being discussed).
- It was envisioned that PMNCH could serve an advisory function to preserve the principles of harmonised financing, to be responsive to countries, to support the financing of services across the continuum of care with a focus on gap coordination and multi-stakeholder engagement.

- The question for the group was whether a Steering Committee is enough, or whether a separate Advisory Committee should be convened to weave together the financing streams associated with the Family Planning 2020 reference group; Child Survival Call to Action; the Commission for Life Saving Commodities among other global health initiatives.
 - o As a clarification, PMNCH would be invited to send a representative to the Steering Committee. The Advisory Committee would be able to provide strong input on behalf of all PMNCH Constituencies to the Steering Committee.
 - o The consensus is that a PMNCH Advisory Committee that focuses on RMNCH financing would be useful to prevent the rush of competing priorities given the 2015 deadline.
 - o The WB noted that the discussions are ongoing with IDA donors given that IDA is a non-earmarked source of funding and the issue of focusing WB financing on women and children (“a single sector”) is being debated. Nevertheless, the President of the WB is involved in the search for solutions given that the replenishment of IDA 17 will happen in December.
 - o The Chair suggested that EC members and other Board members could lobby IDA Commissioners as appropriate on this issue- This was welcomed by the WB Representative.

3. Discussion on Advisory Group: Women Deliver- Who is doing what?

Lori McDougall from the Secretariat gave an overview of the Women Deliver 2013 Conference happening in Kuala Lumpur.

- The conference will be bigger than the previous version in Washington DC and will include between 5000-6000 participants. The meeting will include plenary sessions as well as Parliamentary sessions.
- 120 parliamentarians have confirmed, and while there are fewer sessions than in 2010, PMNCH has a main opportunity in a 2h session in the Plenary Hall Chaired by Carole Presern on day 1.
- Carole Presern with chair this 2h session which will focus on the Continuum of Care and the Global Strategy. There will be representation from the key initiatives that are under the Every Woman Every Child Umbrella including Family Planning 2020 reference group; Child Survival Call to Action; the Commission for Life Saving Commodities and the Accountability Commission.
- There are also case studies of what implementing specific commitments would mean on a country level and role of partnership and commitments being planned. This could be an opportunity to bring in the investment case and the Global Newborn Action Plan which have clear links to this event.
 - o FIGO has committed to presenting a few papers at the event, and will update the EC on additional plans after their internal discussions on February 1-2
 - o DFID is focusing on securing senior involvement at the event and will seek to showcase the work being done in FP
 - o The Private Sector will be discussing plans for this event during the next planning call of the private sector constituency. Members have already proposed panels geared to ensure coordination and to amplify intended messages for the intended goals for the constituency
 - o The NGO Constituency will update the EC on plans for the event after internal discussions
 - o The ART constituency stressed that while this is an advocacy-oriented project, that the role of science must be stressed, and that the representative would be happy to make a viable contribution in this dimension
 - o The World Bank is discussing their contribution and will update the EC shortly
 - o The WHO is involved in a number of discussions on quality of care and accountability as well as several parallel sessions
- Of note, the Chair noted that there were several major challenges that came with scheduling a PMNCH Board meeting before, during or immediately after such a large event, and assured the group that the final dates for the PMNCH Board meeting will be set shortly and finalized in collaboration with the incoming Board Chair.

4. AOB

There is a consultation for partners within the EMRO region scheduled for Dubai on 29-30 January. The event will be hosted by the Royal Family and will include 16 MoH from several high priority countries in the region as well as key financing representatives from the Islamic development Bank.

- The aim of the meeting is to examine how to accelerate progress toward and beyond the MDGs.
- EC members are invited to contact WHO should there be interest in attending, as this would be a good opportunity for PMNCH partners to move forward in this important region particularly given the important work done by former Board member Zulfiqar Butta on RMNCH in the Muslim World.

Next Steps →

- The TOR's for the Partner Advisory Groups were approved with a broad supportive consensus.
 - o Several EC members (Private Sector, NGO, Multilaterals/World Bank) committed to following up with their colleagues in their constituencies and will respond to the Secretariat with Advisory Group nominees by end-January.
 - o This issue will be raised at the teleconference of the H4+ partners scheduled for the week of 21 January.
- The PMNCH Advisory Committee on Financing will be pursued, while allowing various constituencies (Private Sector and NGOs in particular) to engage in reflection with their colleagues
 - o PMNCH will seek to weave together the various TORs for similar Committees to create clear links to the other initiatives that are in train.
 - o This issue will be raised again at the February 2013 EC teleconference with an eye on making the plan operational.
- The various constituencies will provide updates on their plans for engagement during the Women Deliver conference In Kuala Lumpur at the next EC Teleconference.
- The **next call** of the EC will take place on **Tuesday 5 February at 1500PM Geneva**. The Secretariat has already sent a "Save The Date" notification.