

Note for the Record

PMNCH Executive Committee (EC) Meeting

07 October, 2013 – Telephone Call

Present: Elizabeth Mason, WHO (EM); Jennifer Goosen, Canada (JG); Francesco Aureli, (FA); José Miguel Belizán, Institute of Clinical Effectiveness and Health Policy (JB); Craig Friderichs, GSM Association (CF); Nicole Klingen/Rafael Cortez, World Bank (NK) Hamid Rushwan, FIGO (HR); and Magda Robert, Mrs Graça Machel's office (MR).

PMNCH Secretariat: Carole Presern (CP), Andres de Francisco (AF), Kadi Toure (KT), Nebojsa Novcic (NN) and Abir Shady (AS)

Apologies: Anuradha Gupta (Government of India); Flavia Bustreo (WHO)

AGENDA

Chair: Elizabeth Mason

- ITEM 1 – Review of NfR of previous meeting
- ITEM 2 – Update on financing and governance:
 - Virtual Board Retreat, 11-12 Dec. 2013
 - PMNCH 2014 Workplan
 - 2014 Partners Forum
- ITEM 3 – Update on PMNCH NGO Constituency focal points
- ITEM 4 – PMNCH External Evaluation Sub-Committee membership
- ITEM 5 – Update on the RMNCH Steering Committee Meeting, 16 September 2013
- ITEM 6 – Update on AU Action Plan
- ITEM 7 – Update on PMNCH participation in the UN General Assembly
- ITEM 8 – AOB:
 - Task force on quality of care
 - PMNCH Post-2015 Agenda Development Group
 - Constituting the adolescents working group and taking forward PMNCH adolescent health strategy development

1. Review and approval of NfR from the EC call on 2 September, 2013

Note for the record was approved.

2. Update on financing and governance

- Virtual Board Retreat, 11-12 Dec. 2013
- PMNCH 2014 Workplan
- 2014 Partners Forum

CP briefed the EC on arrangements the Secretariat is carrying out to prepare for the forthcoming Virtual Board Retreat, 11-12 December 2013, pointing out that there will be several sites where members can join the video conference. Geneva, New York/Washington, Johannesburg and Oslo

have been principally selected, maybe Doha also as some Board members will be there. EC members requested the Secretariat to check the possibility of having more sites with video conferencing facilities to enable as many members as possible to join the Retreat.

CP further explained that the Retreat is mainly intended to:

- approve PMNCH 2014 workplan;
- guide on PMNCH engagement in the post-2015 agenda; and
- to advise on preparations for the 2014 Partners Forum.

CP invited EC members to provide suggestions for the Retreat agenda. EM asked EC members to provide their inputs for the Retreat agenda within the coming two weeks.

CP presented a draft list of criteria the Secretariat prepared to enable selection and prioritisation of PMNCH projects to be included in the 2014 workplan, as well as to deal with emerging projects/initiatives during the year. NK expressed the importance to clearly state that projects to be included in PMNCH workplan, they should comply with the vision and goals of the Partnership. NK will also send further comments on the criteria through e-mail. CP indicated that a sentence on the principles and linkages to PMNCH's vision and goals may be added in the preamble of the criteria.

EC members commented that it will be useful to have a standardized set of criteria for the selection of PMNCH projects. However, it is important to have more specific criteria to facilitate prioritisation. EC members might send more comments by e-mail.

CP indicated that the Secretariat will refine the criteria and preamble, then the document will be circulated to EC members for comments.

3. Update on PMNCH NGO Constituency focal points

FA updated the EC on the process of having NGOs constituency focal points in countries. In view of the fact that the Partnership currently has 400 NGOs members in different regions, the idea is to have one focal point in Africa and another in Asia to pursue outcomes of the work of this constituency. The TORs are still being refined and the NGOs constituency will be having a teleconference within this week to finalize the document and possible RfPs.

FA will circulate the final TORs to the secretariat, and to EC members for comments as soon as the document has been finalized.

4. PMNCH External Evaluation Sub-Committee membership

NN presented the current list of membership of the External Evaluation Sub-Committee and indicated that an external consultant will be hired to support its work independently from the Secretariat. An RfP has been published for the consultant and Cambridge Economic Policy Associates (CEPA) was selected for this assignment. CEPA knows that they cannot subsequently bid to carry out the actual evaluation. The evaluation that will be done by a separate group (to be selected).

Once the Sub-Committee membership has been finalized a teleconference will be set for the first meeting of Committee, which is anticipated before end of this month. During its first meeting, the Sub-Committee will chose the Chair person, as well as will develop the TORs and RfP for the entity, which will actually carry out the external evaluation process of PMNCH.

CP drew the attention of EC members to the comment made by PMNCH Chairperson Madam Graça Machel pointing out that there is a need to increase country representation on the External Evaluation Sub-Committee.

EC members took note of the update and requested the Secretariat to report back to the EC during its call in November on progress made with regards to work of the External Evaluation Sub-Committee.

5. Update on the RMNCH Steering Committee Meeting, 16 September 2013

CP updated the EC on deliberations and outcomes of the RMNCH Steering Committee which took place on 16 September, 2013. The meeting tackled points such as stakeholders having comment approach, particularly when working at country levels. A debate was made whether financing should go to countries where there are many initiatives or countries with less focus. Such issues among others will be discussed during the forthcoming meeting of the RMNCH Harmonization Working Group – if there is one. If not, to be discussed with the EC. CP mentioned that 60% of the membership overlaps between the SC and the HWG, it is perhaps better to invest PMNCH effort in ensuring that views from all constituencies are represented better on the SC.

EC members agreed that it is important not to duplicate efforts and to ensure whether there is still a need for the RMNCH Working Group, while the RMNCH Steering Committee exists and is active.

The EC requested CP to discuss with the co-Chairs of the RMNCH Harmonization Working Group the added value of the Group and whether there is still a need for it to continue. CP will report back to the EC during its November call.

6. Update on AU Action Plan

KT presented AU report: “50 Years of health and Development in Africa; Vision for the Next 50 Years”, as well as the subsequent Plan of Action for the period 2014-2015 and process carried out by the AU to develop such documents. It was emphasized that the action plan was articulated based on recommendations developed in the different sessions attended by more than 520 participants, including ministers and UN agencies.

The AU will be meeting on 16 October to receive feedback from stakeholders on the content of the Action Plan. Also, it is foreseen to have bilateral action plans with partners to ensure that there is harmonization and avoid overlap in roles and projects pertaining to this initiative.

The EC did not have particular comments on the AU documents, and encouraged the Secretariat to continue its discussion with the AU on possible roles PMNCH can play in this process.

7. Update on PMNCH participation in the UN General Assembly

CP briefed the EC on PMNCH activities during the UN General Assembly, especially the Brunch that took place and yielded great success.

The event was well planned, attended and great advocacy, as well as engagement with stakeholders was evident.

It was noted that next year it is important to hold similar successful events, while ensuring sufficient time for participants to network and communicate.

8. AOB

- Task force on quality of care
- PMNCH Post-2015 Agenda Development Group
- Constituting the adolescents working group and taking forward PMNCH adolescent health strategy development

CP brought up the initiative WHO and PMNCH are working on, which is the Task Force on Quality of Care. EM briefed the EC on the work in progress carried out so far. Namely, the development of a set of indicators across the continuum of care. A meeting co-organized by WHO and PMNCH will take place 9-11 December 2013. The EC encouraged PMNCH to continue working with WHO on this important initiative.

CP pointed out that the Secretariat is working on finalizing the list of membership of the Post-2015 Working Group. The Secretariat will share the list of names with the EC soon. Meanwhile the latest document for consultation will be sent to the existing Working Group.

Action List

No.	Action	Agenda Item	Focal Point	Deadline
1	To check the possibility of having more five sites with video conferencing facilities for the Virtual Board Retreat, 11-12 December 2013	Item 2	The Secretariat	18 Oct. 2013
2	To provide their inputs for the Retreat agenda within the coming two weeks.	Item 2	EC Members	18 Oct. 2013
3	To refine PMNCH projects prioritization criteria and preamble, then to circulate the document to EC members for comments.	Item 2	The Secretariat	14 Oct. 2013
4	FA will circulate the final TORs with the EC members as soon as the document has been finalized.	Item 3	Francesco Aurelli	24 Oct. 2013
5	To report back to the EC during its call in November on progress made with regards work of the External Evaluation Sub-Committee.	Item 4	The Secretariat	4 Nov. 2013

6	To discuss with the co-Chairs of the RMNCH Harmonization Working Group the added value of the Group and whether there is still a need for it to continue. CP will report back to the EC during its November call.	Item 5	The Secretariat	4 Nov. 2013
7	To hold events during the UN General Assembly, while ensuring sufficient time for participants to network and communicate.	Item 7	The Secretariat	UNGA, Sept. 2014
8	To continue working with WHO on the Task force on Quality of Care	Item 8	The Secretariat	9-11 Dec. 2013 (the meeting dates)
9	To circulate the list of members of the Post-2015 Working Group to the EC	Item 8	The Secretariat	18 Oct. 2013