

April 20, 2012

11th PMNCH Board Meeting

Tuesday 25 & Wednesday 26 October 2011

Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Paris, France

Note for the Record

Chaired by Julio Frenk

Welcome remarks by PMNCH Board Chair

The Chair welcomed all the participants to the Board meeting. He thanked Mr Christian Masset (Director General for Global Partnerships at the French Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs) for opening the meeting and the French representatives on the Board, Gustavo González-Canali and Gilles Landrison, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France, for hosting the Board.

The Chair set the context and highlighted some of the major developments and achievements since the last Board meeting. This included major events around Every Woman Every Child at the UN General Assembly in September, the launch of the 2011 Report analysing commitments to the Global Strategy and progress in developing the new PMNCH private sector constituency.

New Board Members were welcomed: Benedict David (Principal Health Adviser, AusAID), Frances Day-Stirk (President of ICM, absent and represented by her alternate, Nester Moyo), Tewodros Melesse (Director-General of IPPF, absent and represented by Jennifer Woodside), Julia Bunting (DFID, also Chair of the Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition).

Observers were welcomed as well.

Keynote speech by M. Christian Masset, Directeur général, Direction générale de la mondialisation, du développement et des partenariats, Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs, France.

Mr. Masset welcomed the PMNCH Board and expressed what an honour it was to welcome PMNCH to Paris, particularly during the year France is also hosting the G8 and G20. He reaffirmed the commitment of France to MDGs 4 & 5 and highlighted France's contributions to the Muskoka initiative and other international initiatives with a focus on women's and children's health and related issues, particularly focusing on gender and equity.¹

ITEM 1. Approvals and presentations

1. Approval NfR 11th Board Meeting (Geneva, 1&2 June 2011).

Decision → NfR 10th PMNCH Board Meeting was approved

2. Director's Report - Carole Presern

Carole Presern highlighted major achievements of the Partnership during 2011 and spoke about the major opportunities shaping for the new era of PMNCH in the context of building on the existing momentum for women's and children's health and a new PMNCH Strategic Framework.

The Partnership continues to evolve towards a more partner-centric model, membership is growing and more effort is aimed at encouraging broader and more meaningful participation by partners on PMNCH's workplan.

¹ Links to all documents and presentations; http://www.who.int/pmnch/about/steering_committee/boardmeeting_20111025-26/en/index.html

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Donors were thanked for their continued support. There was a request for continued support, as far as possible to be done in a multi-year and unrestricted manner, to allow for an efficient management and handling of resources. Efforts are also underway to expand the existing donor base.

3. Report of the Executive Committee – Purnima Mane on behalf of the EC.

Brief update about the Executive Committee, work accomplished since the last Board Meeting, and upcoming changes in the composition of the Committee.

4. Discussion

There were no questions or discussion.

Report of the Director was noted

Report of the EC was noted.

ITEM 2. Where are we now?

The Hon Minister of Health of Nigeria, C.O. Onyebuchi Chukwu; Hon Minister of Health of Tanzania, Hadji Hussein Mponda; and Joint Secretary of Health of India, Anuradha Gupta spoke about country developments following the one-year anniversary of the Global Strategy, update on commitments, and country progress and continued commitment to PMNCH and its mandate. India presented the new JSSY scheme, which has been launched in the country. The fourth presentation was an update on the Commission on Information and Accountability and the independent Expert Review Group by Flavia Bustreo (WHO).

Discussion: A few points emerged from the discussion and comments:

- Progress and updates from countries were welcomed.
- Importance of health workforce and trained skilled workers were highlighted.
- Importance of developing strong strategies for PPP in countries was noted.
- Continued efforts on accountability were welcomed.
- There was a debate about whether we should focus primarily on high burden countries (in absolute numbers) or take an equity focus.

Challenges and opportunities in the RMNCH Landscape - Stock taking of latest developments, overarching directions (Discussion)

The following updates were shared with the Board:

- UNICEF: just discussed the proposal for a new Commission on commodities, co-chaired by UNICEF and UNFPA, for women's and children's health. The aim is to increase access to commodities, strengthening demand and addressing supply and bottlenecks working with the different stakeholders.
- AusAID: Australia is changing its approach to international development assistance and Partnerships, focusing on the Asia Pacific region and increasing commitment to RMNCH, with particular focus in developing the economic arguments and presenting the investment case.
- Save the Children India is working on a multi-stakeholder platform for consensus building in India.
- UNFPA: The H4+ hosted a retreat in Greentree to plan for further implementation of the UN SG Global Strategy, focusing on health workers (particularly midwives).
- Sweden: a new national policy on health and education is emerging, with a stronger focus on MDGs 4 and 5, as well as emphasis on girls' health and education.
- IPPF: New Board Member, its major role is to bring the civil society's voice to the table on sexual and reproductive health, essential to achieve better health for women. IPPF's focus for next year is on girls.

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- ICM recently published midwifery standards and details on what competencies are expected of midwives. Currently, ICM supports governments on the use of the guidelines.

ITEM 3: Where Are We Going? 2012 PMNCH Workplan & Budget

Presentation of the 2012 PMNCH Workplan and Budget by Purnima Mane (UNFPA)

Discussion (on objectives and deliverables):

- There was general agreement that the Partnership's Workplan is moving in the right direction, the extensive consultative process and opportunities to engage and consider input by all members was appreciated. Partners discussed that it would be helpful to have more details on "how" the activities would be implemented and that Strategic Objective Coordinators would play a critical role in defining these processes.
- It was noted that appointing Strategic Objective Coordinators with the right set of skills will be very important, as the SOs will also contribute to developing details on how the workplan will be operationalized.
- Partners' discussed that PMNCH provides a platform to help understand the big picture for women's and children's health and develop relevant strategies. It was requested that some space in Board meetings is left to discuss strategic issues and identify gaps. For example, what other efforts are needed to achieve progress and implement the Global Strategy and the Commission's recommendations, what are the missing pieces?
- With the emphasis of PMNCH now moving to supporting countries in implementing essential RMNCH interventions and taking forward the Global Strategy, prioritizing high burden countries (by numbers, not only percentages or rates) was requested for consideration, and a focus on morbidity in addition to mortality burden.
- The need to strengthen constituency engagement to ensure more PMNCH partners are active and contribute to the work was highlighted. There was also mention of the importance of engagement with partners at the country level, who are part of existing national structures- something which will help enhance communication.
- There is a need for active dissemination of the recommendations and indicators (coverage and outcomes) of the Commission on Information and Accountability. Countries also need to put in place systems to track these indicators.
- The efforts to add integration (with NCDs, other diseases, adolescent health, etc) and cross-cutting issues such as gender inequality in the workplan were noted and a request to enhance these aspects further was made.
- There was discussion and clarifications with regards to the complementarity of the work of the Countdown and the follow up to the Commission on Information and Accountability. The Countdown work will continue, and more work will be done in refining the indicators.
- The Commission has a separate (requested) budget of US \$88m, so far about 25% of this amount has been pledged. The reporting on the 11 indicators to the UN SG needs to be done on an annual basis and this is additional work to that already undertaken by Countdown (reporting on 41 indicators, which include the 11).

Discussion on the budget:

- It was requested that the budget for Secretariat staff be separated out from activities, and clearly indicated labeled as "Staff Costs" (it had been presented included in each strategic objective).
- The preference was to include the totality of the Countdown budget in the 2012 PMNCH workplan (facilitating the internal processes for donors who support both PMNCH and Countdown, and given that

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there are important synergies and involvement of PMNCH in Countdown work) assuming that the Countdown leadership group has no objection to that.²

- The considerable increase of the total Countdown budget for 2012 was noted; the full detail of the countdown budget is available from the Secretariat.

Decisions → The comments of the Board will be reflected in the current 2012 Workplan and budget. The staff costs will be presented separately. The Secretariat will proceed to work with the EC as suggested to select Strategic Objective Coordinators. The Countdown's leadership group will be consulted about moving the full Countdown budget to PMNCH's 2012 workplan, and this will be reflected in the workplan. The 2012 Workplan and Budget were approved, subject to the above changes.

ITEM 4: Adding New Partners, Adding More Value

Stefan Germann (World Vision International) and Naveen Rao (Merck for Mothers) presented the recent developments in engaging the private sector in work on RMNCH and evolving constituency of PMNCH private sector membership.

Discussion:

- Private sector membership was widely welcomed by the participants, and the comparative strengths this constituency brings to the table were recognized.
- The Board noted the opportunities from partnering with the private sector, given major presence and role in the health sector (e.g. health providers). The need to partner at all levels and look at opportunities for joint implementation and ways to build on innovation was highlighted.
- The Board noted the due diligence process in adding new private sector members to the membership of PMNCH (in collaboration with UN Agencies); and looks forward to receiving information as the constituency develops and starts to fully function as part of PMNCH.

The presentation was noted and there were no decisions to be taken.

ITEM 5: Consensus on Essential Packages of Interventions

Liz Mason (WHO) and Zulfiqar Bhutta (Aga Khan University) presented the results of the recent consultation and outcome document on the Essential Packages of Interventions.

Discussion:

- There was general appreciation for the finalization of the consensus on essential RMNCH interventions. It was also noted that this type of product is a major result and a good example of the Partnership's added value, an example which has inspired efforts in other initiatives (such as the Commission on Essential Commodities)

Next steps → A request was made to add a general paragraph on legal and regulatory frameworks to the introduction (to avoid singling out legality of interventions for any single intervention, and focusing on the evidence). Request to Board Members to submit comments and final input to WHO by 31 October 2011.

² Note from the Secretariat: if funds are raised outside the PMNCH workplan for Countdown, the element reflected in the PMNCH workplan will be reduced accordingly.

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The document will be finalized by 4 November 2011.

PMNCH will start an implementation plan for dissemination (including translation of the document into Spanish and French (and other languages on request).

Agreement to continue the consensus building work on delivery platforms and community interventions

ITEM 6: Presentation of the Finance Committee

Stefan Germann (World Vision International) presented on behalf of the Finance Committee.

Discussion:

- All donors who have supported PMNCH were thanked and unspecified funding was encouraged for those who are able to.
- Strategies to expand the Partnership's sources of support and to engage new donors, including the private sector are being considered.
- Donors will discuss 2012 funding at a call before the end of the year and a meeting to discuss existing and alternative sources of funding is also being considered for early 2012.
- The Board asked the Secretariat to clarify how much funding would be available at the start of 2012 based on current agreements and expected 2011 carry over, and to consider different workplan scenarios with respect to different possible funding situations.
- The Board would like to be kept informed of the process at WHO to standardize hosting arrangements for Partnerships.
- The finance committee noted the considerable volume of work that the small Secretariat has been delivering over the last year, and called on the Board to work with the Secretariat to find ways in managing both the workload and possible ways in which additional resources may be employed at times of high demand.
- The Conflict of Interest form for Board members was considered to be too long and a suggestion was made that the Chair asks participants at the start of each Board meeting if there are any real or perceived conflict of interest, and this will be included in the note for the record.
- A call was made to Board Members and alternates to volunteer (themselves or a person from their organizations) to serve on the Finance Committee, since there is one vacancy. In addition, the Chair of the Finance Committee, Vinod Paul, rotates off the Board and the Finance Committee, leaving a second vacancy.

Decisions → The 2011 Interim Finance Report was approved.

Donors will support PMNCH in expanding its funding sources, and to consider different workplan scenarios with respect to different possible funding situations.

The Secretariat will keep the Board updated with resource mobilization progress and efforts for 2012, and respond to the low, medium and high case funding scenarios for 2012.

Conflict of interest will be called at the start of every Board meeting and it will be minuted in the note for the record

ITEM 7: Governance Information and constituency reports

Constituency meetings took place on the day before the Board meeting, 24 October.

There were reports by each constituency representative:

UN agencies - (Flavia Bustreo)

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There is no rotation for this constituency, as the Board Manual specifies that WHO, UNFPA, UNICEF and the World Bank hold permanent seats.

The constituency welcomed Geeta Rao Gupta, Deputy Executive Director of UNICEF as the new representative to the Board.

Purnima Mane (UNFPA) will serve on the Board until the end of December, after which she leaves the organization. UNFPA will communicate the new representative replacing Purnima.

Academic, Research & Training (ART); Healthcare Professional Associations (HCPA) - Anthony Costello

Members of the two constituencies met jointly (only a few of them were present).

Members expressed interest in working together contributing to developing regional workshops, and to creating systematic summaries, reviews, emphasizing needed research and consensus on the quality of care indicators.

The ART constituency will discuss recruiting a new expert to replace Vinod Paul, who leaves the Board at the end of 2011, and is member of ART and co-Chair of the Board, at the beginning of 2012.

NGOs – (Rajiv Tandon)

IPPF was welcomed to the Board (replacing CARE).

The constituency is working with the Secretariat to have a focal point (based at World Vision International) that can enhance constituency communication and engagement.

The NGO Accountability Guidance Note will be discussed at the NGO's meeting on the afternoon of 26 October, after the Board meeting closes.

Country Partners - (Minister Hadji Hussein Mponda)

In addition to Nigeria, Tanzania, India, there is one vacant seat on the Board.

The three members of these constituencies agreed to "recruit" a new country by the next Board Meeting (spring 2012).

With the support of the Secretariat, this constituency will use regional opportunities to expand the membership, and will initiate regular constituency calls every three months to better engage its members.

Donors and Foundations - (Anneka Knutsson)

AusAID was welcomed to the Board (replacing USAID).

Canada will replace Sweden at the end of 2011. There are currently discussions to replace Sweden in its role of Chair of the Constituency and Executive Committee membership.

The constituency will focus on mobilising resources for 2012 in the next few months.

There was a reminder about the on-going period for nominations (with deadline of 15 November) for the election of new co-chairs.

The constituency reports were noted

Summary of Day One and Decisions

There was a brief report of the decisions taken and the reports noted.

Discussion on Budget:

- The Secretariat provided the information on funding for 2012 as requested by the Board during the finance committee discussion:
- Current firm pledges for 2012 amount to \$2.2 million (17%).

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- Assuming an equal level (to that of 2011) of funding for other donors (excluding above mentioned pledges) for 2012, a further 45% of the 2012 workplan would be funded, leaving a 38% gap.

IPU: The Chair welcomed Martin Chungong from the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) (who had participated at the parliamentary event at l'Assemblée Nationale the day before). He informed about the recent, 125th IPU assembly in Bern. PMNCH was granted observer status to participate in proceedings of the IPU. IPU and PMNCH will collaborate on a project to build capacity in a number of select parliaments to address MDGs 4 and 5 through caucuses and mechanisms such as health committees.

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DAY 2 – WEDNESDAY 26 OCTOBER (AM)

ITEM 8: Strengthening the Global Aid Architecture

Christina Schrade (SEEK Development) presented a paper analysing the current landscape of aid architecture commissioned by PMNCH, and Ann Starrs (FCI) offered comments.

Discussion:

The discussion on global aid architecture was welcomed, and it was agreed that PMNCH is the right forum and has the right composition, offering a multiconstituency platform to discuss the issues raised by the report as well as to move forward the thinking process on the possible options. A few points were noted:

A comprehensive approach is needed to frame the discussion:

- Distinction is needed between domestic financing and external aid; there is also a need to emphasize additionality towards bridging the RMNCH funding gap.
- There is a need for the overall framing of the report to promote global solidarity and collective action rather than emphasize the old donor/recipient mind-set.
- Widen the discussion to include women's empowerment, more health systems strengthening thinking, etc.
- A better analysis of existing mechanisms where RMNCH investments could build on is needed (e.g. World Bank's MDGs 4&5 trust fund?).
- The importance of mechanisms to measure current investment (particularly domestic funds) on RMNCH was emphasized. The importance of using accurate models for the analysis was also noted.
- Having noted the options presented on the paper, it was noted that options were additive not exclusive.

Next steps on the thinking, PMNCH role:

- There was agreement that the discussion around this topic could be broken into four major issues: there is *insufficient funding* for RMNCH (and tracking is difficult); *funding is fragmented and has high transaction costs* for implementers; and there is *patchy and uneven funding within the RMNCH envelope*; and there is significant diversity and the assessment of these issues is country specific.
- General agreement that more discussion about the frame for the discussion as well as the options presented is needed, with a strong focus on accountability and transparency, in the context of COIA follow up (which has resource tracking as one of its major recommendations).

Decisions → The presentation was noted.

The Board would like PMNCH to be the platform that drives and convenes the discussion, but there was agreement that taking a board position on any of the options was not the purpose of commissioning this work

The World Bank offered to host an ad-hoc strategy committee for further discussion (with potential for discussion of other strategic issues).

ITEM 9: Success Factors and Progress on MDGs 4 & 5

Daniele Caramani (Univ. of St Gallen) and Sadia Chowdhury (World Bank) presented on emerging findings from an analysis looking at why some countries are making more progress than others towards MDGs 4 & 5.

Discussion:

The presentation was welcomed as an interesting start for further analytical work. More information on methods used was requested.

The usefulness of such an analysis for advocacy (e.g. for Parliamentarians) was highlighted.

The comments received and will be taken on board for the next steps of this initiative.

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No decisions were taken

MEETING CLOSES

The next Board meeting (12th of the PMNCH Board) will take place on May 3 and 4, 2012 in New York, and it will be hosted by UNFPA, with possible support from UNICEF.

The 13th Board Meeting will be hosted by Nigeria, and will take place in Abuja on 16& 17 October 2012 (dates TBC).

Dr. Zulfiqar Bhutta closed the meeting (on behalf of the Chair) by thanking again the French organizers for their organization and hospitality, which enabled the participants to deliver one of the most successful Board meetings of the Partnership. He expressed gratitude to the Ministers who added the important country voices to the discussion. He thanked the Board members and alternates for their valuable input, as well as the staff of the Secretariat.

Full list of Documents and presentations on PMNCH's website:

http://www.who.int/pmnch/about/steering_committee/boardmeeting_20111025-26/en/index.html

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| BOARD MEMBERS PARTICIPATION | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| ORGANIZATION | REPRESENTATIVE | ALTERNATE (A) |
| Chair | Julio Frenk | |
| AusAID | Benedict David | |
| DFID | Julia Bunting | Antony Daly |
| Expert, Maternal Health | José M. Belizán | |
| Expert, Child Health | Anthony Costello | |
| Government of France | Gustavo González-Canali | Gilles Landrison |
| Government of India | Anuradha Gupta (A) | |
| Government of Nigeria | C.O. Onyebuchi Chukwu | Tinu Taylor |
| Government of Sweden/SIDA | Anneka Knutsson (A) | |
| Government of Tanzania | Hadji Hussein Mponda | Neema Rusibamayila |
| Health Alliance International | Mary Anne Mercer | |
| Intern'l Confederation of Midwives | Nester Moyo (A) | |
| Intern'l Federation of Obs/ Gyn | Hamid Rushwan | |
| International Pediatric Association | Zulfiqar Bhutta | |
| IPPF | Jennifer Woodside (A) | |
| MacArthur Foundation | Judith F. Helzner | Kate Teela |
| Save the Children, India | Rajiv Tandon | Patrick Watt |
| UNFPA | Purnima Mane | Laura Laski |
| UNICEF | Geeta Rao Gupta | |
| WHO | Flavia Bustreo | Liz Mason, Lale Say |
| World Bank | Cristián Baeza | Sameera Al Tuwaijri |
| World Vision International | Stefan Germann | |

Others:

Observers

Francesco Aureli, Save the Children

Martin Chungong, IPU

Mike Gannt, Intel

Naveen Rao, Lead- Signature Initiative, Merck & Co. Inc.

Renata Pistone, CIDA, Canada

Sharon D'Agostino (J&J)

Susan Myers, UN Foundation

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Presenters

Ann Starrs, Family Care international

Christina Schrade, SEEK Development

Daniele Caramani, University of St Gallen

Sadia Chowdhury, consultant, World Bank.

Consultants & Support

Barbara Bulc, Adviser on Private Sector

Nebojsa Novcic, CEPA

Stanislava Nikolova (HSPH)

PMNCH Secretariat

Andrés de Francisco

Carole Presern

Marta Seoane

Lori McDougall

Shyama Kuruvilla

Tammy Farrell