

10 February 2021

Executive Memo

Overview, objectives and questions for reflection PMNCH Executive Committee Meeting, 24 February 2021

This Executive Memo provides an overview of the issues to be discussed at PMNCH's Executive Committee Meeting, 24 February 2021, and provides guidance on any decisions to be made.

The Executive Committee meeting will be focused on the following issues:

- **Draft PMNCH Results Framework:** Discussion of how to monitor overall progress towards PMNCH 2021-2025 Strategy implementation, including the PMNCH COVID-19 Call to Action. This is also an opportunity for constituencies to propose their respective intermediate outcome indicators to be integrated into the Results Framework.
- **Governance reform:** Update on the overall status and way forward regarding governance reform process and agreement on constituency representation to the PMNCH Executive Committee.
- **Board meeting agenda:** Review of objectives and agenda items for the May 2021 PMNCH Board meeting.
- **Call to Action commitment mobilization and the "Lives in the Balance 3" meeting:** Agreement on approach and objectives for the next Lives in the Balance e-summit, proposed for 17-18 May 2021, including commitments to be mobilized in the next round by all partners.

This Executive Memo is issued in conjunction with the draft EC Agenda to assist EC participants by: (i) describing and contextualizing the issue to be discussed; and (ii) highlighting opportunities for decision points.

1. Agenda Item 1

Approval of draft Agenda

EC members are requested to review and approve the attached Agenda for the meeting.

Approval of EC Note for the Record from meeting on 24 November 2020

EC members are asked to review and approve the Note for the Record (NfR) from the most recent EC meeting on 24 November 2020. The decisions from that meeting, chaired by Darren Welch of the Government of the UK, were shared the next day on 25 November 2020. The full NfR was shared on 21 December 2020. No requests for updates or changes have been received since then from EC members.

All actions recorded in the NfR have been delivered, as set out in the monitoring of actions document. In addition, we are sharing with the EC the NfR from the Board meeting that took place on 14-15 December 2020.

Document(s) for the meeting

- EC-02-2021; 01a, EC Agenda, Feb 21
- EC-02-2021; 01b, EC Executive Memo, Feb 21
- EC-02-2021; 01c, Draft EC NFR, Nov 20
- EC-02-2021; 01d, Monitoring of actions, Nov 20
- EC-02-2021; 01e, Draft Board NFR, Dec 20

Decision(s)

For approval:

- Feb 21 Draft EC Agenda
- EC NfR from 24 Nov 2020, noting actions undertaken as planned in the Monitoring of Actions document

2. Agenda Item 2: Results Framework and resource mobilization

Drawing on the [PMNCH 2021-2025 Strategy](#), PMNCH is focused on being an advocacy platform that mobilizes, aligns and amplifies the voices of its partners to influence the development of better policies, greater funding flows, and better services for women, children and adolescents. It operates on the premise that more is achieved when partners work together rather than alone, enabling this through facilitation and coordination of work, using latest digital technologies. The strength of PMNCH's advocacy approach is built on synthesizing knowledge, engaging partners, and campaigning and outreach.

A draft PMNCH Results Framework, built from the 2021-2025 Strategy, is presented to the Executive Committee in this Agenda item. It provides the basis for measuring progress against the main PMNCH deliverables during the coming five years. It does so across the three operational outcomes already noted, i.e. 'Knowledge Synthesis', 'Partner Engagement', and 'Campaigns and Outreach', with a view that the content will be updated iteratively as the strategy implementation gets under way.

Consultations with constituencies and working groups have started and will continue as the current PMNCH governance reform process is rolled out, enabling committees, working groups, and the Board to add to these discussions on an ongoing basis. This will enable further fine-tuning of the Results Framework and provide a space for each constituency, and in fact each PMNCH partner, to identify how they see themselves contributing to its delivery through the prism of the 'Dual Value Proposition' approach – i.e. "What is the value to PMNCH of each constituency being engaged?", and "What is the value to each constituency of being engaged within PMNCH?" The Results Framework will also be a reporting tool to PMNCH stakeholders, including its donors. The EC is asked to approve the Results Framework, recognizing

its iterative nature.

In addition, the EC will be presented with a short overview of ongoing resource mobilization activities and proposed approaches for constituency engagement on resource mobilization. The EC is asked to consider this information and approve the overall proposed approach.

Document(s)

- EC-02-2021; 02a, Draft PMNCH Results Framework
- EC-02-2021; 02b, Resource mobilization activities and opportunities for constituency engagement

Decision(s)

For inputs and approval:

- Rolling PMNCH Results Framework/Workplan for 2021 to 2025
- Engagement with constituencies on resource mobilization activities

3. Agenda Item 3 – Governance reform

The findings of [PMNCH's independent External Evaluation \(January 2020\)](#) recommended a process of governance reform to increase the efficiency and efficacy of our systems. In addition, the Evaluation recommended that the governance and Secretariat structures should be fully aligned with the priorities emerging from the [PMNCH 2021-2025 Strategy](#). Consequently, PMNCH's Governance & Nominations Committee (GNC), having undertaken a robust, consultative process of research and analysis, presented its proposal to the PMNCH Board at its meeting on 14 and 15 December 2020 in a paper entitled "[Harnessing the Power of Partnership in a Digital Era – Reimagining governance, partner engagement, and operations to deliver on the 2021 to 2025 Strategy](#)".

The Board approved the overall proposal (Item 5, in "EC-03-2021; 01e, Draft Board NFR, Dec 2020"), and requested from the GNC, with Secretariat support, to develop and provide a detailed reform implementation plan to be communicated to all constituency chairs and working group chairs. The GNC provided a paper on the "Proposed Governance Reform Transition Process" to the Executive Committee for consideration on 19 January 2021, which was subsequently approved on 31 January 2021. The proposed process was structured in three phases:

- **Phase 1 goal:** Constituency leadership and Executive Committee composition, to be achieved by 28 February 2021.
- **Phase 2 goal:** Standing Committees and Working Group leadership and membership, to be achieved by 15 April 2021.
- **Phase 3 goal:** PMNCH Board membership, to be achieved by Board meeting in May 2021.

In addition, the revision of the Board / Governance Manual is expected by the end of June 2021.

The call for nominations for Phase 1 was sent out to the constituencies in the week commencing 01 February 2021. Nominations are expected to be received before this Executive Committee meeting, and so the details of the nominations will be shared in advance and presented at the meeting seeking Executive Committee's reflections and approval.

Document(s)

- EC-02-2021; 03a, Implementing governance reform
- EC-02-2021; Nominations for constituency leadership, including EC representatives (presentation made available closer to the meeting and presented on the day)

Decision(s)

For information and guidance:

- Overall status and way forward regarding governance reform process.

For approval:

- Nominations for constituency leadership, including EC representatives.

4. Agenda Item 4: May 2021 Board agenda

PMNCH is currently planning its next Board meeting, to provisionally take place on Wednesday 19 May and Thursday 20 May 2021, in three-hour virtual sessions on each of the two days. At this stage, the EC is asked to consider objectives and agenda items for our next Board meeting.

These items are:

- Status update on the COVID-19 situation in the context of women's, children's and adolescents' health, including how countries have responded to the pandemic. Continued focus on financing for equity, picking up from our December 2020 Board discussion;
- Related to the above, an update from countries who made commitments in response to the PMNCH Call to Action (presented in December 2020), including what is needed from PMNCH constituencies/partners for effective implementation of these pledges;
- Identifying ways in which PMNCH can increase COVID-19 Call to Action commitments, and the individual role of each PMNCH constituency in this joint endeavor.
- Building our common knowledge base regarding financing for equity, especially in the COVID-19

pandemic, as a tool for effective advocacy.

In preparing for the for the Board meeting, we continue to listen and learn from Board members attending the meetings. We now have a regular after Board meeting survey that is completed by those attending, and have compiled two

Document(s)

- EC-02-2021; 04, Draft May 2021 Board Meeting objectives and agenda, and logistics
- EC-02-2021; Background document - Evaluations of Board meetings 2020

Decision(s)

For inputs and approval:

- Draft objectives and agenda for May 2021 Board meeting

5. Lives in the Balance 3 and commitment mobilization

COVID-19 has, and continues to be, a driver of inequity, deepening the rift between the rich and the poor and placing women, children, young people, the disabled, migrants and minorities at higher risk of social and economic fallout. COVID-19 however also presents an opportunity to reset political agendas and to position women's, children's and adolescents' health as a driver of recovery and resilience.

The Lives in the Balance e-summits, launched by PMNCH and the CORE Group in 2020, have served as innovative and inclusive platforms for partner-led dialogue and action on COVID-19. Looking ahead, continued commitment mobilization is required to keep momentum high for the Call to Action and the 24-month campaign.

The next Lives in the Balance e-Summit is proposed to be held in May 2021, prior to the World Health Assembly and linked to the PMNCH Board. Commitment mobilization will be guided by the PMNCH Board and EC, and undertaken through coordinated efforts among all constituency groups, with the technical advice of the PMNCH Advocacy Working Group and Strategy Committee.

Document(s)

- EC-02-2021; 05, Lives in the Balance 3 and commitment mobilization

Decision(s)

For information and guidance:

Secretariat Hosted by the World Health Organization and Board Chaired by The Rt Hon. Helen Clark, former Prime Minister, New Zealand

- May 2021 e-summit and commitment mobilization concept note

6. Any other business

Issues to be discussed include:

- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Board Leadership procurement reviews.
- Update on PMNCH digital progress, including timeline for web and branding launch.
- Dates for next EC meeting.