



Executive Memo

Overview, objectives, and questions for reflection

PMNCH Board Meeting, 21 and 22 June 2023

Taj Mahal Hotel, New Delhi, India

This Executive Memo provides an overview of the issues to be discussed at PMNCH's Board Meeting, to be held in person on 21 and 22 June 2023 in New Delhi, India. It also provides guidance on any decisions that need to be made.

This Board meeting will focus on four strategic opportunities for country-led action, supported by PMNCH constituencies:

- engaging with the **G20 and G7** platforms to strengthen leadership and policy action for women, children and adolescents;
- **financing and policy opportunities to address the impact of climate change** on women's, children's and adolescents' health and well-being;
- leveraging the **Global Forum for Adolescents** on 11-12 October 2023 to increase commitment to adolescent well-being, and to raise visibility for the needs and priorities of young people themselves through the [1.8 Campaign](#);
- strengthening **partner alignment at country level** to drive implementation of commitments, including through high-level leadership and bottom-up community action.

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

Board papers can be downloaded [here](#).





21 June 2023: 31st PMNCH Board Meeting

Item 1: Opening remarks, adoption of the Agenda and Declaration of Conflict of Interest.

ITEM 1 – Opening remarks of the 31st PMNCH Board Meeting

The 31st PMNCH Board Meeting will be opened by Rt. Hon. Helen Clark, PMNCH Board Chair, and Board Vice-Chair Rajesh Bhushan, Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, who will welcome the participants. A pre-recorded video message by WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus will be shared.

Following this, a keynote speech by Hon. Smriti Irani, Minister of Women and Child Development, Government of India, will be delivered.

ITEM 2 – Conflict of interest review, agenda adoption, Note for the Record from December 2022 Board meeting

Members are requested to review and approve the draft Agenda for the meeting, which was shared in advance, and to approve the Note for the Record from the previous meeting.

A Conflict of Interest form will be shared with the Board members in advance of the meeting, allowing those with any perceived conflicts to flag any concerns about their participation in any of the Board sessions.

Board members will have an additional opportunity to declare any possible conflicts of interest at this point in the meeting.

Decision(s)

- Approve the 21 and 22 June 2023 Board Agenda
- Approve the Note for the Record from the most recent PMNCH Board Meeting, held on 6-7 December 2022

Document(s) for the meeting

- PMNCH-B31-2023; 1a, Agenda, 21 and 22 June 2023
- PMNCH-B31-2023; 1b, Executive Memo, 21 and 22 June 2023
- PMNCH-B31-2023; 1c, Note for the Record, 6 and 7 December 2022

ITEM 3A - The G20 and Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health: *One Earth, One Family, One Future*

Context and Objectives

The 18th G20 Heads of State and Government Summit will take place on 9-10 September 2023 in New



Delhi, India. To inform G20 member-states about current needs and opportunities for health and well-being of women, children and adolescents (WCA), PMNCH was invited by [ThinkTwenty \(T20\)](#)¹ to develop a policy brief on the current status, trends, needs, and priorities to improve the health of women, children and adolescents in G20 countries. This brief is intended to inform G20 governments on priorities and needs for improved policy and financing measures. This brief was developed together with WHO, and forms the background paper to this PMNCH Board item.

Session flow

This session will start by Rt Hon Helen Clark providing an introduction, summarizing the key issues pertaining to this agenda item. She will then invite Anshu Banerjee (WHO, UN Agencies Constituency) to provide a brief overview on the G20 Policy Brief. Following this, Deputy Minister of Health, Republic of South Africa, Dr Dhlomo (Republic of South Africa, Partner Governments Constituency) and María Antonieta Alcalde (IPAS Latin America and the Caribbean, Non-Governmental Organizations Constituency) will provide key reflections in response to the presentation. An open dialogue moderated by Rt Hon. Helen Clark will subsequently take place. This agenda item will end with reflections and closing remarks by Shombi Sharp, UN Resident Coordinator for India, and Amitabh Kant, G20 Sherpa, Government of India.

Decision(s)

To agree on how PMNCH can best engage with the G20 in ensuring appropriate recognition and support for the urgent needs of women, children and adolescents during the 2023 Summit, as well as strengthening the position of these issues ahead of the 2024 G20 summit in Brazil.

Document(s)

- PMNCH-B31-2023; 03a: Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health and Well-Being: A Critical Agenda for the G20

ITEM 3B – The G7 and Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health

Context and Objectives

PMNCH has a highly successful history of engaging with G7 member-states to advocate for increased financing and policy measures for WCA health and wellbeing.

In 2010, PMNCH lobbied successfully with partners for the achievement of maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH) financing commitments at the G7 Muskoka Summit in Canada supported the implementation of the UN Secretary-General's *Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health*, and the advancement of the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

¹ *The T20 is an official group of the G20, which serves as an 'idea bank' by bringing together think tanks and high-level experts across the world to discuss policy issues relevant to the G20, over and above the issues being discussed in the formal tracks of the G20 process. As part of this process, the T20 will offer policy recommendations to the G20 leaders ahead of the Leaders' Summit in September 2023 to help the G20 deliver concrete policy measures.*



Now, in the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) era, PMNCH and partners have encouraged growing attention by the G7 to gender equity and increased attention to SRHR in the context of UHC. There has been a growing recognition of these issues during the 2021 UK-hosted summit in Carbis Bay, the 2022 German summit at Elmau Schloss, and most recently, the Japan-hosted G7 Summit in Hiroshima. The leaders' statement from the May 2023 G7 Summit included dedicated language on this, as follows:

"We recommit to working alongside global partners to assist countries to achieve UHC by supporting primary health care (PHC) and developing and restoring essential health services [...]. We also commit to further promoting comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) for all individuals, including maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health, especially in vulnerable circumstances."

Going forward, PMNCH will seek to build on this legacy in a multi-year G7 engagement plan. Guided by this Board discussion, PMNCH will seek to enhance G7 leadership and ministerial dialogue among health and foreign ministers in 2024 and 2025 under the respective incoming Italian and Canadian G7 presidencies.

Session flow

The session will open with Chris Carter (PMNCH Board Vice-Chair; UK, Donors and Foundations Constituency) giving a 'first-hand' account of UK member-state perspective on what the 2023 Japan G7 has delivered for health and gender, and opportunities for further progress to be made in the years to come, with the support of all PMNCH stakeholders.

Ann Starrs (PMNCH Co-Chair of SAC; BMGF) will present outcomes from the Hiroshima Summit, as well as a draft advocacy roadmap for 2024 and 2025, including possible events, products, champions and media opportunities where PMNCH can play an influencing role.

The ensuing dialogue will be moderated by Rt Hon Helen Clark (PMNCH Board Chair), who will guide discussion on PMNCH's next steps in engaging with the G7 processes, linking broadly to the preceding discussion on the G20 and the role of global platforms in financing and policy improvements.

Decision(s)

Building on recent G7 leadership commitments, agree on how:

- PMNCH can develop a multi-year influencing G7 agenda to maximize impact on SRHR, as well as MNCH and adolescent well-being;
- G7 support for SRHR in UHC during the 2023 G7 Summit can be leveraged for the UN High Level Meeting on UHC in September 2023 in New York

Document(s)

- PMNCH-B31-2023; 03b.i: Why sexual and reproductive health and rights are essential for universal health coverage
- PMNCH-B31-2023; 03b.ii: Consensus Statement, SRHR in UHC Delivering on the Vision of the G7
- PMNCH-B31-2023; 3b.iii: G7 Japan 2023 Foreign Ministers' Communiqué



Board photo

ITEM 4 – Addressing the impact of climate change on WCAH: Emerging opportunities, including climate financing, for PMNCH action

Context and objectives

This session aims to understand the most recent evidence on the impact of climate change on WCA health and well-being, and how PMNCH's membership can best advocate for solutions to improve climate adaptation and resilience of vulnerable populations, including through increased and targeted financial investments. This session builds from the PMNCH Board discussion in December 2022 on climate financing opportunities for health.

Session flow

Flavia Bustreo (Fondation Botnar, Donors and Foundations Constituency), will provide introductory remarks, to be followed by two scene-setting presentations: Zulfiqar Bhutta (Aga Khan University and Sick Kids Hospital, Toronto) will provide a brief overview of evidence of the impact of climate change on WCAH, and priorities for action; Mark Hanson (Chair, PMNCH Knowledge & Evidence Working Group) will present current gaps and opportunities in financing for improved outcomes for WCAH, based on a paper by Jo Borghi of the London School for Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. An open dialogue moderated by Flavia Bustreo and David Imbago (International Youth Health Organization, Adolescents and Youth Constituency) will follow these presentations. Panelists will include German Velasquez (Green Climate Fund) and Agnes Soucat (Agence Française de Développement, Donors and Foundations Constituency). This session will end with closing remarks by Juan Pablo Uribe (World Bank, Global Financing Mechanisms Constituency).

Decisions(s)

- To agree on key actions that PMNCH can take to promote effective multi-stakeholder advocacy and collaboration, including across sectors.

Document(s)

- PMNCH-B31-2023; 04a: Addressing the impacts of climate change on women's, children's and adolescents' health (WCAH) and well-being through key policy solutions
- PMNCH-B31-2023; 04b: Financing intersectoral action for women's, children's and adolescents' health (WCAH) and well-being, with a focus on climate change



22 June 2023: 31st PMNCH Board Meeting

ITEM 5: Advancing Adolescent Health and Well-Being through the Global Forum for Adolescents and 1.8b Campaign

Context and objectives

This session will focus on PMNCH's leading deliverable in 2023: the Global Forum for Adolescents, planned for 11-12 October 2023.

The Forum, as a key milestone within the multi-year [1.8 Billion Young People global campaign](#), seeks to increase visibility and commitment to Adolescent Well-Being by engaging young people, partners, experts, leaders and champions in a joint effort toward the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This session will outline progress to date in the development of the programme, youth engagement, campaign development and commitment mobilization.

Session flow

The Rt Hon Helen Clark will invite Aditi Sivakumar (Board Vice Chair <30, Adolescents and Youth Constituency) to provide a brief presentation on progress. This will be followed by oral interventions from each PMNCH constituency representative on actions being taken to advance the goals of the 1.8 campaign and the Global Forum. Open discussion will follow, providing guidance and direction for cross-constituency action to accelerate planning and impact of these activities.

Decisions(s)

- The Board will identify priorities for collective advocacy and joint action by PMNCH members to accelerate progress and strengthen accountability for adolescent well-being focused commitments and build momentum for the Global Forum for Adolescents under the 1.8 Billion Young People multi-pronged global campaign.

Document(s)

- PMNCH-B31-2023; 05a: Update: Global Forum for Adolescents (GFA) Core Programme, National events and What Young People Want Digital Tool

ITEM 6 – Delivering on country commitments for women's, children's and adolescents' health and well-being

Context and objectives

Following the Board's approval of a revised approach to advocacy and accountability for country commitments to WCAH (December 2022), this session will update Board members on the current implementation of this strategy through the development of partner-led Country Advocacy and Accountability Plans ("CAAPs") in 10 countries in 2023, and related commitment mobilization efforts for adolescent well-being in 15 countries. These efforts are supported by the development of



knowledge tools and partner engagement platforms, including a new digital compendium of WCAH commitments in countries, a new PMNCH Accountability Portal and PMNCH Digital Advocacy Hubs, complementing existing multi-stakeholder platform dialogue in countries.

PMNCH Board members will guide these efforts by identifying opportunities for leveraging national and regional platforms for action, building on the target-setting and/or commitment-making efforts of key global partnerships, including FP2030, Generation Equality, ENAP-EPMM, and the Global Financing Facility (GFF).

Session flow

The session will begin with an overview presentation by Joy Phumaphi (PMNCH Chair of PECC, African Leaders Malaria Alliance), recapping current status and objectives. This will be followed by remarks from Olive Shisana (Special Advisor on Social Policy to the President of South Africa), Julitta Onabanjo (UNFPA, UN Agencies Constituency), and Per Falk (Ferring Pharmaceuticals, Private Sector Constituency). This will then be followed by a discussion moderated by Githinji Githahi (PMNCH Co-Chair of SAC, AMREF Health Africa).

Decision(s)

- To agree on opportunities for joint action by PMNCH partners for improved WCA health and well-being outcomes in 10 prioritized low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) in 2023 and beyond.

Document(s)

- PMNCH-B31-2023; 06: Delivering on country commitments for women's, children's and adolescents' health and well-being

Item 7: Board decisions, vote of thanks, closing remarks

In closing the Board meeting, Rt. Hon Helen Clark, Board Chair, will summarize and share some reflections and 'take aways' from the Board Meeting.

Full Decisions and Note for the Record will be shared after the Board meeting for detailed review and comments.