



Women's,
Children's and
Adolescents'
Health

20 Avenue Appia
1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland
E: pmnch@who.int
www.pmnch.org

32nd Board Meeting

Virtual Meeting

Monday, 27 November 2023, 12:00 – 15:00 CET

Tuesday, 28 November 2023, 12:00 – 15:00 CET

NOTE FOR THE RECORD OF DECISIONS

OBJECTIVES

The 32nd PMNCH Board meeting focused on the following strategic opportunities for supporting country-led action towards improving women's, children's and adolescents' (WCA) health and well-being:

- Enhancing the impact of **economic and investment evidence** for effective advocacy in 2024-25 – *for Board information and discussion*;
- Identifying key opportunities emerging from the **Global Forum for Adolescents and the 1.8 campaign** to challenge and inspire stakeholders to respond to the "What Young People Want" findings – *for Board decision*;
- Strengthening PMNCH support to **regional political platforms** to take forward WCAH policies and plans – *for Board information and discussion*; and
- **Looking ahead to 2024-25** by reflecting on progress made in 2022-23 and considering strategic opportunities for the next two years – *for Board decision*.

PARTICIPANTS

Please see list of participants in Annex 1. Participants have reviewed the list for accuracy, including omissions to be corrected. It is assumed that this list is accurate, unless informed otherwise.

DOCUMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

All Board documents and presentations can be found [here](#).

LIVESTREAMING AND RECORDING OF THE MEETING

The Board meeting was livestreamed and available for public viewing. In addition, the Board meeting was recorded. The recording of the meeting is available [here](#).

A photo of the Board was taken and is available [here](#).



Women's,
Children's and
Adolescents'
Health

20 Avenue Appia
1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland
E: pmnch@who.int
www.pmnch.org

Summary of decisions

ITEM 1 – Opening remarks of the 32nd PMNCH Board Meeting, including conflict of interest review, agenda adoption and Note for the Record from June 2023 Board meeting

The 32nd PMNCH Board Meeting was opened by the Rt. Hon. Helen Clark, PMNCH Board Chair, who welcomed the participants.

HE Mansukh Laxmanbhai Mandaviya, Minister of Health and Family Welfare and PMNCH Board Vice Chair, Government of India, also welcomed those attending the meeting.

Please refer to the recording of the Board meeting [here](#) to view the opening remarks and discussions.

The Board adopted the proposed 32nd PMNCH Board meeting agenda, noted no conflicts of interest were declared by any of those participating in the virtual meeting, and approved the Note for the Record of the previous Board meeting.

Relevant decisions emerging from the discussions are noted in the table below.

ITEM 1 – Opening remarks of the 32 nd PMNCH Board Meeting, including conflict of interest review, agenda adoption and Note for the Record from June 2023 Board meeting		Responsibility
1.1	Adopted the proposed 32 nd PMNCH Board meeting agenda.	n/a
1.2	Noted no conflicts of interest.	n/a
1.3	Agreed that the Note for the Record from the most recent 31 st PMNCH Board Meeting, held on 21-22 June 2023 in New Delhi, is an accurate reflection of those proceedings.	n/a

ITEM 2 – Evidence for action: Pathways to better health in 2050

The objective of this first strategic dialogue item was to discuss emerging economic and financing evidence on the benefits of investing in women's, children's and adolescents' health and well-being, and how this information can guide evidence-informed policymaking, as well as how PMNCH will use this in our advocacy efforts in 2024-2025.

The session was based on the premise that investing in the health and well-being of women, children and adolescents (WCA) is crucial to developing human capital and sustaining economic and social progress, especially in this challenging era of conflict, climate change, increasing cost of living, and the legacy of COVID-19. This session provided an update on the 'grand convergence scenario' led by the Lancet Commission on Investing in Health 3 (2024), and the feasibility of achieving "50 by 50," i.e., a 50% reduction by 2050 of premature deaths – including convergence conditions (maternal, child and infectious diseases) and non-communicable diseases – in each country compared with 2010 death rates. The presented evidence also focuses on investment benefits, as well as the estimated costs of inaction, put forward in a newly developed Adolescent Well-Being Investment Case – a background document to this Agenda item.

Dialogue focused on how insights provided by this new data can shape policy debate and decisions, especially in relation to specific political advocacy opportunities in 2024 and 2025, with a view to



Women's,
Children's and
Adolescents'
Health

20 Avenue Appia
1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland
E: pmnch@who.int
www.pmnch.org

accelerating progress for WCA health and well-being in the final period toward the 2030 SDGs. Considering the stagnation and reversal in progress on WCAH trends, Board members expressed reservations on the 2050 milestone, and noted the urgency to accelerate action at the 2030 horizon.

The session was opened with a dialogue between PMNCH Board Chair Helen Clark and Lawrence Summers, President Emeritus, Harvard University and Chair, Lancet Commission on Investing in Health 3. The discussion focused on the benefits of investing in the health of women, children and adolescents to support sustainable social and economic development; the urgent need for funding and reform of the global financial architecture; and the growing importance of domestic resources and improved efficiencies to promote health equality. This was followed by an introduction to the discussion by Flavia Bustreo (Vice-Chair of Fondation Botnar, D&F constituency) and the following two presentations:

- *“Commission for Investing in Health (CIH3): benefits of investing in women, children and adolescents”*, presented by Gavin Yamey, Associate Director for Policy, Duke Global Health Institute Duke University; Member of Lancet Commission on Investing in Health 3 and Co-Chair of PMNCH Economics and Financing Workstream, and
- *“Overview of Adolescent Well-Being Investment Case”*, presented by Donald Bundy, Professor of Epidemiology and Development, Director of the Research Consortium for School Health & Nutrition, London School for Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM).

After the presentations, a number of Board members provided their commentary on the theme of *“How can investment evidence be leveraged during political advocacy opportunities in 2024?”*. These included references to the following:

- Jan 2024: World Economic Forum meeting, Davos: Shyam Bishen, Head of Health, WEF (PS).
- Feb to April 2024: Commission on Status of Women, Commission on Population and Development and ICPD@30: Willibald Zeck, Chief, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), UNFPA (UNA).
- May 2024: World Health Assembly: Bruce Aylward, Assistant Director-General, WHO (UNA)
- May to June 2024: G7 Italy: Chris Carter, Head, Human Development, FCDO (D&F)

Relevant decisions emerging from the discussions are noted in the table below.

ITEM 2 – Evidence for action: Pathways to better health in 2050		Responsibility
2.1	Support synthesis, translation, and uptake of evidence on WCAH investments to inform multi-stakeholder dialogues, and leverage key political advocacy opportunities, including with respect to the World Economic Forum in 2024, global and regional meetings associated with the Commission on Population and Development (ICPD@2030), World Health Assembly 2024, UNGA (Accountability Breakfast), G7 Italy and G20 Brazil.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAC, Knowledge & Accountability WG, All Constituencies
2.2	Leverage the economic benefits evidence emerging from CIH3 and the adolescent well-being investment case to support advocacy and financial accountability for packages of essential WCAH interventions at country level, especially as part of the Collaborative Advocacy Action Plans (CAAPs).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PECC, SAC, CAAPs, Knowledge & Accountability WG, All Constituencies



Women's,
Children's and
Adolescents'
Health

20 Avenue Appia
1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland
E: pmnch@who.int
www.pmnch.org

ITEM 2 – Evidence for action: Pathways to better health in 2050		Responsibility
2.3	Coordinate and capacitate constituencies and partners in the use of evidence-based advocacy messaging, including with respect to WCAH domestic funding, increasing revenues, facilitating debt relief, and reforming financial systems to promote efficiency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PECC, SAC, CAAPs, Knowledge & Accountability WG, ART, DF, GFM, PG, PS
2.4	Advance intersectoral financing, including with respect to climate change, nutrition, humanitarian contexts, right to health, and emerging challenges around innovation (IT, AI) and equity (e.g., disability).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge & Accountability WG, ART, DF, GFM, PG, PS

ITEM 3 – Keeping the pressure up: Increasing commitment for adolescent well-being

The objective of this strategic dialogue was to reflect on the achievements and lessons emerging from the Global Forum for Adolescents (11-12 October 2023) and agree on campaign priorities for the coming two years. This included considerations of how best to target the UN Summit of the Future (September 2024) as an important global agenda-setting moment.

This session focused on one of PMNCH’s most significant deliverables in 2023: the Global Forum for Adolescents, which took place on 11-12 October 2023. The Forum, was a key milestone in the multi-year [1.8 Billion Young People global campaign](#), which seeks to increase visibility and commitment to Adolescent Well-Being by engaging young people, partners, experts, leaders and champions in a joint effort towards achieving the 2030 SDGs.

The session therefore, in the first instance, reflected on the outcomes of the Forum and the accompanying "What Young People Want" findings, emerging from 1.5 million responses. PMNCH AWB advocacy going forward will be shaped in relation to the seven asks of the [Agenda for Action for Adolescents \(who.int\)](#) – a rallying call launched at the culmination of the Forum. It then provided an opportunity for Board members to build on the achievements and lessons learned in discussing the main PMNCH priorities for 2024 and 2025.

Discussions were informed by the following two presentations:

- “Report on the Global Forum for Adolescents”, Aditi Sivakumar, Board Vice Chair under 30 (My Empowerment Platform/AY), and Naledi Katsande (Youth for Health Promotion/ AY)
- “Action Plan for Adolescent Well-Being 2024-2025”, David Imbago (International Youth Health Organization/AY) and Naveen Thacker (International Paediatric Association/HCPA)

After the presentations, a number of Board members provided their reflections, including:

- AWB Commitment Mobilization and implementation: catalytic role of UN Agencies (Anurita Bains, UNICEF/UNA)
- Reflections from Private Sector constituency on opportunities for greater engagement and mobilizing AWB commitments Charlotte Ersbøll (Ferring/PS)

The [proposed Action Plan for Adolescent Well-being in 2024-25](#) was approved and relevant decisions emerging from the discussions on the Action Plan are noted in the table below.



Women's,
Children's and
Adolescents'
Health

20 Avenue Appia
1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland
E: pmnch@who.int
www.pmnch.org

ITEM 3 – Keeping the pressure up: Increasing commitment for adolescent well-being		Responsibility
3.1	Action Plan for Adolescent Well-being in 2024-25 is approved.	All partners
3.2	Need for continued momentum on AWB, building on the immense success of the Global Forum for Adolescents, including planning for clear action points at country, regional and national levels, and periodic reporting on progress.	• SAC, PECC
3.3	Appreciation for AWB-related work led by PMNCH constituencies, including: (i) UNA commitment to continue to emphasize the multi-sectoral needs of adolescents, support the advocacy for increased investments and measurement of AWB; (ii) Private Sector commitment to developing a Business Leadership Guide, based on the seven asks of the Agenda for Action for Adolescents, including mental well-being.	• N/A
3.4	ICPD@30 as an essential advocacy moment in 2024 for AWB and SRHR.	• UNA, SAC
3.5	AWB planning must be balanced with the need to support the other two PMNCH thematic areas (MNCH and SRHR).	• N/A
3.6	PMNCH to provide learnings and recommendations over the format of the GFA virtual event, if/when it could be used in future contexts and continue to embed learning into 2024 activities.	• EC, SAC

ITEM 4 – Reflections and key take aways from Day One		Responsibility
n/a	n/a	n/a

ITEM 5 – Strengthening support to regional political platforms to drive policy action

The objective of this session was to discuss and agree opportunities and priorities for strengthening PMNCH's support to regional political platforms, development and economic communities, and to regional parliaments to strengthen and advance their WCA health and well-being policies and goals, aligning and leveraging other global platforms, as well as country efforts in this process.

The context for this work is that in December 2022, the PMNCH Board agreed on an [updated approach](#) to advocacy and accountability, supporting national governments in making and implementing commitments related to WCAH. This session therefore updated the Board members on progress and opened the discussion on how best to engage at a regional level to propel national results.

While the discussion started at the Board, it is planned to continue over several upcoming Board meetings, with a rotating regional focus. Discussions at this Board meeting focused on PMNCH engagement with African regional platforms, policy instruments, leadership, and partner collaboration mechanisms, and how PMNCH can best engage with other key global health initiatives in this effort, including FP2030, Generation Equality, ENAP-EPMM, and the Global Financing Facility (GFF).



Women's,
Children's and
Adolescents'
Health

20 Avenue Appia
1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland
E: pmnch@who.int
www.pmnch.org

The Board discussions were preceded by invited remarks on Africa regional opportunities and priorities that could be considered by PMNCH, from the following stakeholders:

- Boemo Mmandu Sekgoma, Secretary General, Southern African Development Community Parliamentary Forum
- Georges Ki-Zerbo, Director of WHO Office to the African Union
- Aminu Garba, CEO, Africa Health Budget Network, NGO Board Member
- Rahel Belete, Ethiopia Country Director of the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI)

Relevant decisions emerging from the discussions are noted in the table below.

ITEM 5 – Strengthening support to regional political platforms to drive policy action		Responsibility
5.1	Developing a clear plan for strengthening PMNCH engagement with regional political platforms through a multisectoral approach, including regional parliaments and mindful of emerging structures and flagship initiatives, to drive WCAH action.	• PECC
5.2	Starting with the Africa region, and then moving to other geographies (e.g., LAC) next year, develop regional advocacy strategies to highlight priorities for PMNCH support.	• PECC, Constituencies
5.3	Support regional strategies with regionally-tailored knowledge products, with strong linkages to climate, nutrition and developed with regional expertise.	• PECC, EAWG
5.4	Leverage lessons learned and progress made in implementing Collaborative Advocacy Action Plans (CAAPs) to date, harmonized with AWB commitment mobilization, through aligning with national health ministries and other initiatives (e.g, those supported by UN agencies and other constituencies).	• PECC
5.5	Support the growing momentum of the Global Leaders' Network (GLN), led by South African President Ramaphosa, including support for GLN members Senegal, Bangladesh and Denmark, and welcoming positive efforts to secure support for the initiative.	• SAC

ITEM 6 – Strategic Priorities for 2024-25

The objective of this session was to reflect on successes and lessons learned during the implementation of PMNCH's 2022-23 workplan, and to provide direction to the EC on PMNCH political advocacy priorities and priority-based deliverables for 2024-25, as the final two years of PMNCH's 2021-25 Strategy. The aim is to enable the Executive Committee and other standing committees and working groups to take forward their planning and implementation efforts.

To enable the Board to engage in this discussion, two presentations were given:



Women's,
Children's and
Adolescents'
Health

20 Avenue Appia
1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland
E: pmnch@who.int
www.pmnch.org

- *“Overview of 2022-23 Progress Report and lessons learned”*: Sudhansh Pant, Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India (EC Chair/PG constituency);
- *“Proposal for Strategic Priorities 2024 – 2025”*: Joy Phumaphi, Executive Secretary, Africa Malaria Leaders Alliance (PECC Co-Chair, IGO).

Decisions from these discussions are set out below.

ITEM 6 – Strategic Priorities for 2024-25		Responsibility
6.1	The Board approves the EC’s PMNCH 2022-23 Workplan Progress Report, congratulating the entire partnership for delivering significant and important work during these two years.	• EC
6.2	Notes with gratitude the excellent leadership of the EC in overseeing this work, led by the Government of India as EC Chair.	
6.3	Supportive of the presented focus areas for 2024-25, with further need for prioritization under EC oversight. Noted the need to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • empower constituencies to improve their reach to national and regional members, increase participation in individual projects, and create opportunities for efficient and clear collaboration; • prioritize and specify how PMNCH’s work will lead to change through defined and specific goals especially regarding SRHR and MNCH. This includes considering a disability lens throughout; • mainstream the issues at global and regional platforms, such as AU, G20, G7, and others; and • ensure PMNCH synergizes its advocacy work with existing networks to increase impact, e.g., ENAP-EPMM. 	• EC
6.4	Mindful of limited resources (i.e., currently 50% of planned budget secured for 2024-25), need for further efforts to prioritize our deliverables and harmonize our initiatives, working through thematic workstreams, working groups and committees.	• EC

ITEM 7 - Vote of thanks and farewell to the Executive Director and closing remarks

The last agenda item provided a high-level wrap-up the key themes that emerged during the meeting, noting that the full Note for the Record was to be shared following the Board meeting.

The Board Chair provided closing comments, thanking all departing Board Members and the Executive Director. Helga Fogstad, PMNCH’s outgoing Executive Director provided farewell remarks.

Lastly, the Board Chair shared a status update on the Executive Director recruitment process, noting that submissions for applications closed on the 21 November 2023. Following this, a shortlisting



Women's,
Children's and
Adolescents'
Health

20 Avenue Appia
1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland
E: pmnch@who.int
www.pmnch.org

process will take place, allowing for interviews to take place early 2024. The interview panel will include representatives from WHO and the PMNCH Board. In terms of the interim arrangements, the Board Chair noted that Dr Tedros, WHO DG has agreed that “Lori McDougall, PMNCH Coordinator will carry out leadership of the programmatic work of PMNCH during the transition under the direction of the Executive Committee and the Board, and will be supported by Anshu Banerjee who will serve as the Ad Interim Executive Director”

ANNEX 1
PMNCH 32ND BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, 27 NOVEMBER 2023, 12:00 – 15:00 CET
TUESDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2023, 12:00 – 15:00 CET
DRAFT LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

- Academic, Research and Training Institutes (**ART**)
- Adolescents and Youth (**AY**)
- Donors and Foundations (**DF**)
- Global Financing Mechanisms (**GFM**)
- Health Care Professional Associations (**HCPA**)
- Inter-Governmental Organizations (**IGO**)
- Non-Governmental Organizations (**NGO**)
- Partner Governments (**PG**)
- Private Sector (**PS**)
- United Nations Agencies (**UNA**)

- EC** - Executive Committee
- GEC** - Governance & Ethics Committee
- PECC** - Partner Engagement in Countries Committee
- SAC** - Strategic Advocacy Committee

LIST OF PMNCH BOARD MEMBERS

Board Leadership	Board Chair	Rt Hon Helen Clark
	Board Vice Chair <30 My Empowerment Platform	Aditi Sivakumar Founder My Empowerment Platform
	Board Vice Chair Government of India	Minister Mansukh Laxmanbhai Mandaviya Minister of Health Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Government of India
	Board Vice Chair	Chris Carter Deputy Director – Head of Human Development Department



Women's,
Children's and
Adolescents'
Health

20 Avenue Appia
1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland
E: pmnch@who.int
www.pmnch.org

	<i>Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, UK Government</i>	Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
Academic, Research and Training Institutes (ART)	Aga Khan University (AKU)	Marleen Temmerman Director of the Centre of Excellence in Women, Children and Adolescents Health Aga Khan University
	Population Council Zambia	Mike Mbizvo Country Director Population Council Zambia
	International Islamic Center for Population Studies and Research, Al Azhar University	Gamal Serour (apologies) Director International Islamic Center for Population Studies and Research, Al Azhar University
Adolescents and Youth	International Youth Health Organization	David Imbago Jácome Member International Youth Health Organization
	Youth for Health Promotion Zimbabwe	Naledi Katsande Programs Lead Youth for Health Promotion Zimbabwe
Donors and Foundations (DF)	Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), Government of the UK	Chris Carter Deputy Director – Head of Human Development Department Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
	Agence Française de Développement, Government of France	Agnes Soucat (apologies) Director of Health and Social Protection Agence Française de Développement
Global Financing	World Bank	Juan Pablo Uribe (apologies) Global Director for Health Nutrition and Population World Bank
Health Care Professional	International Confederation of Midwives	Sandra Oyarzo Torres International Confederation of Midwives (ICM)
	International Pediatric Association	Naveen Thacker President International Pediatric Association (IPA)
	International Federation of	Anne Kihara President



Women's,
Children's and
Adolescents'
Health

20 Avenue Appia
1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland
E: pmnch@who.int
www.pmnch.org

	Gynecology and Obstetrics	International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO)
Inter-government	Inter-Parliamentary Union	Martin Chungong Secretary General Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)
Non-governmental Organizations (NGO)	IPAS Central America and Mexico	Maria Antonieta Alcalde Castro Director IPAS Central America and Mexico
	Plan International	Chris Armstrong Director of Health Plan International (delegated by Stephen Omollo, CEO)
	Africa Health Budget Network	Aminu Magashi Garba Coordinator Africa Health Budget Network (AHBN)
Partner Governments	Government of India	Sudhansh Pant Secretary Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Government of India
	Government of South Africa	Joe Phaahla (apologies) Minister of Health Government of South Africa
Private Sector (PS)	Ferring Pharmaceuticals	Charlotte Ersbøll Senior Advisor, Safe Birth Advocacy & Partnerships Ferring Pharmaceuticals (Delegated by Per Falk, President)
	World Economic Forum	Shyam Bishen Head of the Centre for Health and Healthcare World Economic Forum
United Nations Agencies (UNA)	World Health Organization	Bruce Aylward Assistant Director General Universal Health Coverage, Life Course Division WHO
	UNFPA	Willibald Zeck Chief, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights UNFPA (Delegated by Natalia Kanem, Executive Director)
	UNICEF	Anurita Bains Associate Director, HIV/AIDS UNICEF



Women's,
Children's and
Adolescents'
Health

20 Avenue Appia
1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland
E: pmnch@who.int
www.pmnch.org

	(Delegated by Catherine Russell, Executive Director)
Standing Committee and Working Group Chairs	Strategic Advocacy Committee Vice Chair Githinji Gitahi (apologies) CEO AMREF Health Africa
	Strategic Advocacy Committee Vice Chair <30 Aditi Sivakumar Founder My Empowerment Platform
	Partner Engagement in Countries Committee Chair Joy Phumaphi Executive Secretary African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA)
	Governance and Ethics Committee Chair Flavia Bustreo Vice President Fondation Botnar
	Knowledge and Evidence Working Group Chair Mark Hanson Professor Emeritus University of Southampton
Invited Guests	Boemo Mmandu Segkoma Secretary General, Southern African Development Community Parliamentary Forum
	Donald Bundy Professor, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
	Gavin Yamey Duke University, Member of Lancet Commission on Investing in Health 3 Co-Chair, PMNCH Economics and Financing Workstream
	Georges Ki-Zerbo Director of WHO Office to the African Union
	Lawrence Summers President Emeritus, Harvard University, Chair, Lancet Commission on Investing in Health 3
	Rahel Belete Ethiopia Country Director, Clinton Health Access Initiative