



Women's,
Children's and
Adolescents'
Health

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PMNCH Executive Committee

15 March 2024

14:00 – 15:30 – Virtual Meeting

Attendance	
EC Members	
EC Chair and PG	Apurva Chandra
Board Vice-Chair, EC Vice Chair and DF	Chris Carter
Board Vice Chair under 30	Aditi Sivakumar
ART	Marleen Temmerman
AY	David Imbago
GFM	Sameera Al Tuwaijri
HCPA	Sandra Oyarzo Torres / Naveen Thacker
IGO	Martin Chungong
Non-Governmental Organizations	Maria Antonieta Alcalde
Private Sector	Charlotte Ersboell
Partner Governments	Meera Srivastava
UN Agencies / WHO (host)	Bruce Aylward (apologies)
Chairs of Standing Committees and Working Groups	
Governance and Ethics Committee (GEC)	Flavia Bustreo
Partner Engagement in Countries Committee (PECC)	Joy Phumaphi (apologies)
Strategic Advocacy Committee (SAC)	Githinji Gitahi (apologies)
Accountability Working Group	Jennifer Requejo (apologies)
Knowledge and Evidence	Mark Hanson
Observers:	
Secretariat: Anshu Banerjee, Lori McDougall; Anshu Mohan; Nebojsa Novcic; Dina El Hussein; Etienne Langlois.	

Meeting documents can be found on [PMNCH's website](https://www.pmnch.org).

Item 1: Introduction and welcome

The Executive Committee warmly welcomed Mr Apurva Chandra, Secretary of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, as the new Chair of the committee. Mr Chandra provided an overview of the meeting and introduced the meeting's objectives.

Members of the Executive Committee were asked to approve the: (i) EC Agenda for the meeting; and (ii) note for the Record from the 21 November 2023 EC meeting.

ITEM 1	Decision / Action	Responsibility
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1.1	Acknowledged that the meeting quorum was achieved.	n/a
1.2	Approved EC Agenda.	n/a
1.3	Approved Note for the Record of the 21 November 2023 meeting of the Executive Committee without changes.	n/a

ITEM 2: Update on PMNCH ED Recruitment

Flavia Bustreo, Governance and Ethics Committee Chair, outlined the recruitment process that has taken place to identify the new PMNCH Executive Director. This process was led by WHO as PMNCH's host, with strong and constructive engagement from key members of PMNCH's governance structures.

The recruitment panel unanimously agreed to propose Rajat Khosla as the next PMNCH Executive Director. This proposal was approved by the Director General of WHO. It is expected that Rajat Khosla will take up his appointment on 15 May 2024.

The Executive Committee thanked both Anshu Banerjee (as acting ED) and Lori McDougall (as Team Coordinator) for overseeing and managing the work of PMNCH so effectively during this transition period.

ITEM 2	Decision / Action	Responsibility
2.1	N/A	

ITEM 3: Approval of 2024 PMNCH Workplan and Budget

Mark Hanson, Co-Chair of the PMNCH Evidence and Accountability Working Group, [presented](#) an overview of the [2024 PMNCH Workplan and Budget](#).

The Executive Committee very much appreciated the extensive consultations that underpinned the final workplan and noted the digital advocacy hubs as an effective mechanism for consultation. It congratulated and thanked all partners for their constructive engagement in this process, as well as the Secretariat for the facilitation of this process. Details of the reflections shared by individual constituencies are provided in Annex 1.

ITEM 3	Decision / Action	Responsibility
3.1	Approved the 2024 PMNCH Workplan and Budget, and proposed that it be shared in final form with PMNCH operating structures for implementation.	EC
3.2	Agreed that the workplan should be developed into a two-year (2024-2025) workplan and budget during the course of this year.	Secretariat
3.3	Recommended that partners reflect on the constructive feedback provided by each of the constituencies during the meeting (Annex 1), and advised the Secretariat to update the workplan in line with the suggestions provided as appropriate.	EC Secretariat



3.4	Welcomed the UK Government's newly initiated SRHR-focused campaign, which should be given full support by PMNCH as per available resources.	APEC & EAWG Secretariat
3.5	Develop a separate document on how the PMNCH workplan will support and engage the Global Leaders Network.	APEC Secretariat
3.6	Noted the urgent need for partners to work together with the EC and Secretariat to secure additional resources towards the full PMNCH US\$ 10 million budget in 2024, and equivalent in 2025.	EC Secretariat

ITEM 4: Board agenda review

Anshu Banerjee, PMNCH ED a.i., shared a [presentation](#) of the draft PMNCH July Board Agenda. The document was approved with no modifications.

ITEM 4	Decision / Action	Responsibility
4.1	The PMNCH July 2024 Board Agenda outline and the proposal to hold this meeting in-person in Geneva on 3 and 4 July 2024 were approved.	Secretariat GEC

ITEM 5: Governance Updates

A governance [presentation](#) summarizing key updates was shared with the Executive Committee in advance of the meeting. The presentation was for information only and did not require the EC's approval. After the EC meeting, in order to provide further details on the update on the mergers provided in the PowerPoint on slide 1, the GEC Chair will be sharing the TORs for the [APEC](#) and [KEWG](#) for the EC members information.

ITEM 5	Decision / Action	Responsibility
5.1	N/A	N/A

Item 6: AOB

There were no issues outlined under AOB. Mr Chandra thanked members of the EC and highlighted that the dates for the upcoming meetings have been confirmed and that the Secretariat will send out invitations.

ITEM 6	Decision / Action	Responsibility
6.1	Dates for 2024 Executive Committee meetings have been confirmed. Invitations for all 2024 EC meetings to be sent out	Secretariat



Annex 1: Reflections from individual constituency representatives

Academic, Research and Training Institutes (ART)

- ART constituency is very supportive of the workplan as presented, recognizing the excellent collaborative effort across all partners that has led to its development.
- The constituency is looking forward to continuing its efforts to expand its membership, further strengthening its ability to take an active part in delivering this workplan.
- It welcomed the notably strengthened efforts to collaborate effectively across all three PMNCH thematic areas.

Adolescents and Youth (AY)

- AY constituency is supportive of the workplan and noted that the matrix format made it easy to see what is proposed under each theme.
- Welcomed PMNCH's efforts to present more materials in French and Spanish, thus bringing in larger audiences and reaching more people around the world.
- As part of the implementation planning process:
 - Welcomed the inclusion of Colombia in the case studies for the Adolescent Well-Being Investment Case and recommended that a francophone country should also be considered for inclusion.
 - Consider: (i) exploring ways in which Global Leaders Network (GLN) can be leveraged to increase momentum and advocate for Meaningful Adolescent and Youth Engagement (MAYE), as well as creating a separate document on how the GLN project will intersect with the PMNCH workplan; (ii) add more specificity around adolescent and youth-focused events in the campaigns function and make explicit mention whenever possible of the Agenda for Action for Adolescents; (iii) consider adding AIDS2024 to the advocacy roadmap in due course and if resources would allow, noting that PMNCH Board Chair Helen is one of the speakers.
 - In terms of *MNCH thematic area* of work, consider: (i) ensuring stronger linkages with AWB, e.g., adolescent pregnancy; (ii) exploring more opportunities on capacity building, particularly for AY members in this area; (iii) seeking more clarity on how the 1.8bn campaign is to be integrated into the workplan as a whole; (iv) including whenever possible youth friendly messages in the media in the context of MNCH thematic area.
 - In terms of the *SRHR thematic area* of work, consider: (i) addressing the anti-rights movement within the overall context of countering the pushback to SRHR; (ii) exploring one comprehensive roadmap for the GLN, which will include strong references to SRHR; (iii) advocating on rights as well as SRHR service provision; (iv) continuing to stress the importance of ensuring access for SRHR services within conflict settings.
- Adolescent Well-being should be the term used for this thematic area (rather than Adolescent Health and Well-being), because health is one of the five domains in the Adolescents Well-being Framework.



Donors and Foundations (DF)

The constituency supported the proposed workplan, and commended:

- The visible thematic focus in the workplan, allowing more granularity on what each workstream will achieve in 2024.
- The introductory thematic narratives, which highlight strategic goals and gap areas.
- The focus on intersectionality, equity, and leaving no one behind (e.g., LGBT+, people living with disabilities).

The constituency made the following recommendations:

- PMNCH to work with the UK on its SRHR campaign this year, led by the Foreign Secretary. This could be through different events, such as ICPD, UNGA, as well as a potential event at Buckingham Palace.
- Ensure clear metrics of success for the workplan, with a supporting narrative on how PMNCH plans to measure, evaluate and learn from activities undertaken. What “success means” should be defined for each thematic area.
- Identify where constituencies could be brought together to support this workplan, e.g., through events, summits, replenishments, etc. This was done well for the Global Forum for Adolescents.

Global Financing Mechanisms (GFM)

- The constituency welcomed the workplan document, noting that it speaks clearly to the core mandate of PMNCH, as well as rising trends.
- It would be helpful to reflect on the lessons learned and any challenges of the previous PMNCH workplans.
- The gap between the available financing and the required financing is well noted. What are we doing, in practical terms to bridge such a gap? Do we have a pipeline conversation with new donors? New commitments from old donors?
- The language may need to be unpacked in some of the proposed actions, for example: “Increase meaningful participation and visibility”. What do we mean by “meaningful”? The same can be said about “Enhance partner capacity to counter SRHR misinformation” – what do we mean by “enhanced capacity” and how could it be measured?
- Finally, within SRHR, the document omits post abortion care. While there might be many reasons behind such a choice, we should be prepared to answer to some of our constituencies about this issue.
- Consider issues of aging and post-menopausal woman’s health, as may be appropriate in the context of continuum of care.

Health-Care Professional Associations (HCPA)

- HCPA constituency is supportive of the draft workplan, which builds clearly on the progress achieved last year.



- The constituency stated its preference to see the word “health” retained in the PMNCH workplan with respect to “adolescent health and well-being”, rather than “adolescent well-being”.
- The constituency appreciates the inclusion of activities related to advocating for WCAH in humanitarian crisis and fragile states.
- There is a critical need to advocate for adequate, trained and supported health workforce, in particular nurses and midwives, and across the disciplines. It is a pre-requisite to be able to deliver quality, timely and respectful care.
- PMNCH should ensure complementarity with other global campaigns and initiatives, such as Gavi’s work on “zero dose” children, as well as continuing to leverage investments in PMNCH’s own 1.8 billion campaign and Global Forum for Adolescents. Can something similar to the 1.8 billion campaign and the GFA be replicated for MNCH issues?
- The constituency has already started to work on a planning document to capture how each member, and the constituency together, can contribute to the implementation of the workplan.

Inter-Governmental Organizations (IGO)

- The IGO constituency expressed broad support for the workplan and budget.
- Recommends that PMNCH continues to engage with parliaments in terms of advocacy at country level, noting that these important institutions can make binding commitments to advance WCAH goals.
- Important to strengthen Secretariat staff capacity to facilitate workplan delivery effectively.
- Regarding SRHR, ensure there is a lens on rights *and* justice.
- The IPU will ensure there is space for a PMNCH event during the October 2024 Assembly.
- The current PMNCH funding gap in 2024 (and going into 2025) should be a priority for all partners to address, including advocating to parliaments in donor countries to make these resources available.

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO)

The constituency expressed congratulations on the draft workplan, and proposed four areas for further development:

- **Ensure a strong focus on the Summit of the Future**, and its links with the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and ICDP@30 in the lead up. This should include advocacy for greater focus on adolescents and youth in the development of the post-2030 agenda.
- **Proactive Role in Advancing Rights and Countering Opposition:** PMNCH and its partners should actively engage in neutralizing opposition to SRHR. It would be good to see targeted deliverables in the workplan on this agenda.
- **Strengthened Emphasis on Participation and Equity:** There should be increased emphasis on participation in decision-making mechanisms and strengthened focus on equity and inclusion, particularly targeting hard-to-reach and marginalized constituencies, ensuring intersectionality and prioritizing the furthest behind first.



- **Role of Constituencies to deliver the Workplan:** It is vital that PMNCH constituencies lead on implementation of the workplan. The NGO constituency is keen to have a constituency-level workplan aligned with the overall PMNCH workplan, and urges other constituencies to do the same.
- In addition, as communicated with the adolescents and youth constituency, it is important to emphasize that adolescent well-being is holistic and health is a part of the 'well-being'.

Partner Governments (PG)

- Congratulate all partners on a well-structured and clear workplan, reflecting the truly partner-centric approach of PMNCH.
- The workplan as currently structured allows partners to envisage work and operate across all of the organizational priorities, and in particular the three thematic areas.
- Moving forward, it would be particularly helpful to learn more about CAAP process and implementation planning. This would include the articulation of expected tangible outcomes, role of partners and secretariat, details of budget and specifically and plans for the CAAP budget in 2025.
- It would be helpful to understand the percentage split between staff and activities for 2025.

Private Sector (PS)

The Private Sector constituency emphasized the importance of identifying a more meaningful role for itself in PMNCH, i.e., beyond a donor/funding source. The private sector is a key partner in implementation, innovation and scalability, with extensive capacity for advocacy, including:

- Putting pressure on policymakers to increase access to interventions;
- Increasing visibility of leadership roles for women and young people in the private sector, reflecting a broader trend toward equity and diversity.
- Increasing collaboration between businesses and health initiatives to create a healthy, safe workplace, particularly for women, which in turn benefits societal change.
- The inclusion of men in WCAH health practices has proven to reduce maternal and child mortality rates significantly and should be encouraged.
- There is a significant opportunity for alignment between sectors, particularly in using knowledge materials, evidence, social media, and advocacy briefs to enhance impact.

United Nations Agencies (UNA)

- The constituency expressed appreciation for numerous aspects of the workplan, including countering SRHR misinformation, and collaboration on upcoming events such as ICPD@30 and the Summit of the Future.
- In regard to thematic areas, the following points were noted:
 - MNCH: The CAAPs should be supportive of, and fully aligned with, the ENAP-EPMM Acceleration plans.
 - AHWB: The UNA constituency will support the development of the AWB Investment Case, including through collaboration on country case studies.



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- SRHR: (i) The UNA will contribute to the development of key messages on SRHR and Adolescent SRH in alignment with existing messages and products being developed by WHO/SRH and UNFPA, for example, in conjunction with ICPD@30.