



Women's,
Children's and
Adolescents'
Health

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

Hosted by the World Health Organization

34th Board Meeting

World Health Organization, Geneva

Wednesday 4 December 2024 11:00 – 14:00 CET

Thursday 5 December 2024, 11:00 – 13:00 CET

DRAFT

NOTE FOR THE RECORD OF DECISIONS

OBJECTIVES

The 34th PMNCH Board meeting provided an opportunity for the Board members to acknowledge WORK AND reports received from external expert consultants and discuss the following:

1. lessons learned from the 2021 – 2025 Strategic period and how these can be applied towards developing the new PMNCH 2026 – 2030 Strategy;
2. emerging themes that could constitute PMNCH's Strategic Priorities to 2030 and thus underpin the 2026 – 2030 Strategy; and
3. PMNCH Governance Review proposals setting out options to streamline and simplify PMNCH's governance structures and processes.

PARTICIPANTS

Please see list of participants in Annex 1. Participants are invited to review the list for accuracy, including omissions to be corrected. If no corrections are received, it will be assumed that this list is accurate.

DOCUMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

All Board documents and presentations can be found on [PMNCH website](http://www.pmnch.org)

LIVESTREAMING AND RECORDING OF THE MEETING

Day one of the Board meeting was livestreamed and available for public viewing throughout the meeting. In addition, Day one of the Board meeting was recorded. The recording of the meeting is available on [PMNCH's website](http://www.pmnch.org). Day two was a closed session for Board members only and was therefore not recorded.



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Summary of decisions

ITEM 1 – Opening remarks of the 34th PMNCH Board Meeting, including conflict of interest review and adoption of meeting agenda and Note for the Record from the 33rd PMNCH Board meeting (July 2024)

The 34th PMNCH Board Meeting was opened by the Rt. Hon. Helen Clark, PMNCH Board Chair, who welcomed all participants.

The Chair specifically welcomed Honourable Minister of Health & Family Welfare and Chemicals & Fertilizers, JP Nadda, from the Government of India, and PMNCH Board Vice Chair, who was represented at the Board meeting by colleagues from the Government of India. The Board heard a recorded message from Minister Nadda, which was played at the meeting.

PMNCH's new Executive Director, Rajat Khosla, provided his introductory remarks to the Board.

The Board adopted the proposed 34th PMNCH Board meeting agenda, noted that no conflicts of interest were declared by any of those participating, 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 33 rd PMNCH Board Meeting, including conflict of interest review and adoption of meeting agenda and Note for the Record from the 32 nd PMNCH Board meeting (Nov 2023)	
1.1	Adopted the proposed 34 th PMNCH Board meeting agenda.
1.2	Noted no declared conflicts of interest.
1.3	Adopted the Note for the Record from the 33 rd PMNCH Board Meeting, held on 4 and 5 July 2024, as an accurate reflection of those proceedings.

ITEM 2 – External Evaluation of PMNCH's 2021-25 Strategy

Priya Nanda and Jessie Clyde, from Global Heath Visions shared a [presentation](#) outlining key findings and recommendations of the PMNCH External Evaluation. The report and the presentation were acknowledged and welcomed by the Board as important inputs into the development of the new PMNCH 2026 to 2030 Strategy, and subsequent workplans.

The Board reflected on the issues raised by the consultants, the ensuing discussion focused on the following themes:

- **Leveraging PMNCH's membership.** There was an emerging consensus for an urgent need to undertake a detailed analysis of PMNCH's members, including updating the database, establishing the focal points, and understanding their willingness to engage, thus moving towards a more streamlined, engaged, and committed membership. It is also important to find ways of ensuring that smaller organizations are not excluded from contributing to PMNCH's work due to efficiency and capacity constraints.

- **Focusing on accountability.** PMNCH needs to clarify and strengthen its role in the space of accountability, building on existing commitments and following them through in select countries as well as globally.
- **Developing a new, robust Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Framework.** The Board suggested that it will be very important for the new 2026 to 2030 Strategy to be underpinned by a robust MEL framework, which will monitor value and relevance of work undertaken, identifying lessons for course correction as may be needed. Such a framework needs to define what success looks like and how it is measured, specifying relevant advocacy and accountability related indicators. Having a clear description of PMNCH's collectively agreed ambition for impact and how to get there will be essential in guiding its work.
- **Defining PMNCH's Unique Selling Point (USP).** The Board recognized that the global health landscape is very fragmented, with multiple actors competing for ever more limited resources, with often overlapping mandates. It will therefore be imperative for PMNCH – as part of its strategy development process – to clarify as much as possible '*what it is and what it does; and what it is not and what it does not do*'. This will also help clarify its role within the broader landscape, working closely with existing initiatives.

Relevant decisions from the discussions at the Board are noted in the table below.

ITEM 2 – External Evaluation of PMNCH's 2021-25 Strategy	
2.1	The Board thanked the independent consultants for the external evaluation work, the Board acknowledges and welcomes the report, noting that it will inform the development of the new PMNCH 2026 to 2030 Strategy, and subsequent workplans.

ITEM 3 - Framework of PMNCH's Strategic Priorities to 2030

Ann Starrs, from Global Health Visions, shared a [presentation](#) outlining the recommendations for the 2026 – 2030 Strategic Framework, which was acknowledged and well received by the members of the Board. The subsequent discussion centred around the following key themes.

- **Post-2030 Agenda.** There is an opportunity for PMNCH to play a leadership role in setting the post-2030 agenda process, and considerations should be given to this in the development of the new Strategy.
- **Importance of sharpening PMNCH's focus and relevance.** Board members agreed that it will be important to choose one or two major themes or topics, within the context of three priority areas of MNCH, AWB, and SRHR, for PMNCH to set the agenda and define PMNCH's unique selling point going forward, underpinning this work with specific and tangible outputs and objectives, and building the workplans around this.
- **Adopt a comprehensive approach to addressing WCAH issues.** The strategy should consider addressing issues of WCA comprehensively, through a social determinants and wellbeing framework, and avoid to the extent possible creating silos. In doing so, rely on the logical flow of '*evidence to policy, policy to action, action to accountability*', and, in doing so, explore a variety of new tactics to delivery on these objectives (e.g., leveraging digital tools as much as possible, etc.).

- **Thematic and outcome areas proposed are not mutually exclusive.** Thematic and outcome areas noted in the report do not need to be viewed as mutually exclusive, but an invitation to consider what integration-led efforts and approaches can be deployed within the strategy for members of PMNCH to deliver more together than they could individually.
- **Balance between being demand-led or setting the agenda.** PMNCH should consider how to strike the right balance between taking on a leadership role and setting the agenda itself, and being driven by and responsive to grass-roots member demands.

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

ITEM 3 - Framework of PMNCH's Strategic Priorities to 2030	
3.1	The Board acknowledged and welcomed the report on consultation with constituencies on future priorities, noting that it will be an important feedback towards the development of the new PMNCH 2026 to 2030 Strategy, and subsequent workplans.

ITEM 4 – PMNCH Governance Review – Closed Session for Board members, PMNCH ED and Governance Team

ITEM 4 – PMNCH Governance Review	
4.1	Thanking the independent consultant for the Governance Review that was undertaken, the Board acknowledges and welcomes the report, noting that it will provide an important blueprint and guidance for fundamentally reforming PMNCH's governance and its structures.
4.2	The Board adopted the proposed Option 1 as a way forward, and requested the PMNCH Executive Director to work with the Governance Reference Group to propose an implementation plan for this reform process.

Closing

Rt Hon Helen Clark, Board Chair offered her closing remarks, thanking the Board for their commitment to PMNCH and engagement with the discussions. She also thanked the Secretariat for their support and facilitation of the Board meeting, and the external consultants for their inputs into the Board's deliberations.



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List of Participants *PMNCH 34th Board Meeting* *Virtual*

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BOARD LEADERSHIP	
Board Chair	Rt Hon Helen Clark Former Prime Minister of New Zealand
Board Vice Chair <i>Government of India</i>	Hon Minister J.P Nadda Minister of Health Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Government of India
Board Vice Chair <i>Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, UK Government</i>	Chris Carter Deputy Director – Head of Human Development Department Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
Board Vice Chair <30 <i>My Empowerment Platform</i>	Aditi Sivakumar Founder My Empowerment Platform
ACADEMIC RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTES	
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 (apologies) 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	
Youth Advocacy Network Sri Lanka	Hafsah Muheed Core Team Member Youth Advocacy Network Sri Lanka
Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights	Gareth Jones Member Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights
DONORS AND FOUNDATIONS	
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), Government of the UK	Chris Carter Deputy Director – Head of Human Development Department Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office



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Agence Française de Développement, Government of France	Agnes Soucat Director of Health and Social Protection Agence Française de Développement
GLOBAL FINANCING MECHANISMS	
World Bank	Charlotte Pram Nielsen Senior Health Specialist, Global Financing Facility for Women, Children, and Adolescents (GFF) (Delegated by Luc Laviolette, Head of Secretariat, Global Financing Facility for Women, Children, and Adolescents)
HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATIONS	
International Confederation of Midwives	Sandra Oyarzo Torres President International Confederation of Midwives (ICM)
International Pediatric Association	Naveen Thacker President International Pediatric Association (IPA)
International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics	Anne Kihara (apologies) President International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO)
INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS	
Inter-Parliamentary Union	Alexandra Blagojevic Program Officer International Development Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) (Delegated by Martin Chungong, Secretary General, Inter- Parliamentary Union)
NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS	
IPAS Central America and Mexico	Maria Antonieta Alcalde Castro Director IPAS Central America and Mexico
Plan International	Kathleen Sherwin Chief Strategy and Engagement Officer Plan International
Africa Health Budget Network	Aminu Magashi Garba (apologies) Coordinator Africa Health Budget Network (AHBN)
PARTNER GOVERNMENTS	
Government of India	Zoya Rizvi Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Government of India
Government of South Africa	Lebogang Lebese Health Attaché South African Permanent Mission to the United Nations and Other Organizations. Delegated by Pakishe Aaron Motsoaledi, Minister of Health Government of South Africa
PRIVATE SECTOR	
Ferring Pharmaceuticals	Charlotte Ersbøll Senior Advisor



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	Safe Birth Advocacy & Partnerships Ferring Pharmaceuticals (Delegated by Pierre Yves Berclaz, Chief Medical Officer, Ferring Pharmaceuticals)
World Economic Forum	Amira Ghouaibi Head of Global Alliance for Women's Health World Economic Forum (Delegated by Shyam Bishen, Head, Centre for Health and Healthcare, World Economic Forum)
UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES	
World Health Organization	Bruce Aylward Assistant Director General Universal Health Coverage, Life Course Division WHO
	Anshu Banerjee Director, Department of Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health and Ageing WHO
UNFPA	Julia Bunting Director, Programme Division UNFPA (Delegated by Natalia Kanem, Executive Director, UNFPA)
UNICEF	Anurita Bains Associate Director, HIV/AIDS and Acting Director, Health UNICEF (Delegated by Catherine Russell, Executive Director, UNICEF) Benjamin Schreiber Associate Director, Health UNICEF (Delegated by Catherine Russell, Executive Director, UNICEF)
STANDING COMMITTEES	
Advocacy and Partner Engagement Committee Co-Chair	Githinji Gitahi (Apologies) CEO AMREF Health Africa
Advocacy and Partner Engagement Committee Co-Chair	Joy Phumaphi (Apologies) Executive Secretary African Leaders Malaria Alliance
Governance and Ethics Committee Chair	Flavia Bustreo Board Vice Chair Fondation Botnar
INVITED SPEAKERS	
Agenda Item 2: External Evaluation of PMNCH's 2021-2025 Strategy – Presenter	Priya Nanda (Day 1 only) Consultant Global Health Visions
Agenda Item 2: External Evaluation of PMNCH's 2021-2025 Strategy – Presenter	Jessie Clyde (Day 1 only) Consultant Global Health Visions
Agenda Item 3: Framework of PMNCH's Strategic Priorities to 2030 – Presenter	Ann Starrs (Day 1 only) Consultant Global Health Visions



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<i>Agenda Item 4: Framework of PMNCH's Strategic Priorities to 2030 – Presenter</i>	Kate Gilmore (Day 2) Independent Consultant
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