PMNCH for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health

20 Avenue Appia
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The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health

Executive Committee

Executive Committee meeting: Teleconference
Tuesday 22 February 2022, 15:00 to 16:30 CET (90 min)

NOTE FOR THE RECORD

Attendance	
Board Vice-Chair and EC Chair	Darren Welch
ART	Michael Mbizvo (for Marleen Temmerman)
AYC	David Imbago
D&F	Susan Clapham
GFM	Thiago Luchjesi (for Anuradha Gupta)
HCPA	Franka Cadee
IGO	Joy Phumaphi (for Martin Chungong)
NGO	Maria Antonieta Alcalde
Partner Government	Vikas Sheel
Private Sector	Caroline Quijada
UN Agencies / WHO (host)	Zsuzsanna Jakab
Chairs of Standing Committees	
Governance and Ethics Committee (GEC)	Dorothy Shaw (for Flavia Bustreo)
Partner Engagement in Countries Committee (PECC)	Joy Phumaphi
Strategic Advocacy Committee (SAC)	Ann Starrs and Githinji Gitahi
Observers: Anshu Banerjee, Meena Ghandi, Sena Ar-Rikaby, Peter Colenso, Vania Kibui, Zoya Rizvi, Caitlyn Michell, Miriam Sangiorgio	
Secretariat: Helga Fogstad; Lori McDougall; Nebojsa Novcic; Anshu Mohan; Mijail Santos; Dina El Husseiny; Giulia Gasparri; Susanna Volk; Etienne Langlois, Mohit Pramanik, Merlin Ince.	

Documents and presentation(s) relevant for the Executive Committee meeting can be found on PMNCH's website at the following link:

https://pmnch.who.int/news-and-events/events/item/2022/02/22/partner-events/22-february-2022-executive-committee-meeting

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ITEM 1 – Adoption of the Agenda and Note for the Record from previous meeting

Introduction from the Chair

On behalf of the Executive Committee (EC), the Chair thanked all those involved in preparing the focused agenda for this meeting, and all the supporting papers that were shared well in advance of the meeting. The EC noted that quorum was achieved.

	Decision / Action	Responsibility
1.1	Quorum was achieved.	n/a
1.2	EC Agenda approved. EC Note for the Record approved without changes, as related to the EC meeting on 22 January 2022 • *EC-02-2022; 01a, Agenda, February 22* • *EC-02-2022; 01b, EC NFR, January 22*	n/a

ITEM 2 – PMNCH 2022-23 Workplan and Budget

Presentation / Speakers

- Helga Fogstad, PMNCH Secretariat Executive Director, updated the EC members on the context within which the PMNCH 2022-23 Workplan and Budget was developed, and the workplan development process to date, in her presentation PMNCH 2022-23 Workplan and Budget.
- The EC thanked all the partners engaged in the deeply consultative process, and the Secretariat for its facilitation. The EC also noted and appreciated the collective effort by all to bring the workplan to the EC before the end of February 2022, as was requested by the EC at its meeting in January 2022.

Overall reflections on PMNCH 2022-23 Workplan and Budget

- All constituencies expressed support and approved the presented workplan and budget, and its two-year timespan. Constituencies also recognized how the workplan fits within the overall Results Framework, i.e., noting that the workplan articulates the "Outputs" section of the Results Framework
- Reflecting on the PMNCH's Theory of Change, those present noted how the workplan's deliverables and Outputs translated into national as well as global / regional commitments, which are aimed at improving policies, increasing financing flows, and expanding / improving service delivery for WCA.
- It was noted that as part of its workplan implementation efforts, PMNCH will horizon-scan for most relevant engagement opportunities with specific countries, gauging country leadership's interest and situational opportunities that would lead towards the achievement of its targets for securing national commitments to WCA. This process, as led by PECC and supported by the

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Secretariat, will identify and sequence countries that PMNCH will focus on through a rolling, priority-setting exercise.

- The workplan's partner-centric development process as well as its relative brevity and streamlined approach were also very welcomed, together with the clarity of focus on the Board identified advocacy priorities as well as workplan's strong focus on equity.
- Constituencies noted that the workplan provided a good description of PMNCH's value-add in the global health institutional space, reflecting strategic advocacy with interconnected engagement cutting across the 15 deliverables in knowledge synthesis, partner engagement and campaign and outreach. The value of working in a synergistic manner across all three functional areas was therefore well received.
- In addition, Constituencies welcomed the way in which each functional area was articulated in the Workplan:
    - Knowledge Synthesis – Synthesizing data, trends, evidence for PMNCH members to use in influencing and advocating greater commitments for WCAH among decision makers.
    - Partner Engagement – Increasing advocacy capacity and strengthening coalitions among PMNCH partners at country, regional and global levels, for a more effective voice and greater commitments for WCAH.
    - Campaigns and Outreach – Increasing advocacy campaigns, events and media to influence greater commitments for WCAH.
- Constituencies welcomed the forthcoming work by the Coordinating Structures (i.e., PMNCH committees and working given the responsibility to coordinate each of the deliverables in the workplan) in further elaborating on each of the deliverables in their respective implementation planning (as described below under decision 2.3). Coordinating Structures are going to produce short concept notes for each of the 15 deliverables.
- There was recognition for the work currently underway towards continuing to enhance PMNCH-managed digital connectivity as a mechanism for strengthening partner engagement. This included the design and ongoing development of interactive digital platforms that unite and support PMNCH partners in their common advocacy efforts. These digital hubs will enable PMNCH partners to work together more effectively across Knowledge Synthesis, Partner Engagement and Campaigns and Outreach, across country, regional and global levels.
- It was noted that further resource mobilization was needed for PMNCH to achieve its proposed US$ 10 million (for 2022) and US$ 15 million (for 2023) budgets. The proposed deliverable Concept Notes will be helpful in stimulate conversations with donors for additional funding.

More detailed reflections from each of the constituencies is summarised in '*Annex 1: Reflections from Individual Constituencies'* of this Note for the Record.

	Decision / Action	**Responsibility**
2.1	PMNCH 2022–23 Workplan and Budget is approved and recommended for implementation • *EC-02-2022; 02, Draft PMNCH 2022-23 Workplan and Budget*	Coordinating Structures

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	Decision / Action	Responsibility
2.2	EC takes note of the helpful reflections provided by individual constituency representatives as well as those from the committees. It asks the Coordinating Structures, supported by the Secretariat, to take these into account as the implementation of the workplan is rolled out.	Coordinating Structures
2.3	Next steps in implementing the PMNCH 2022-23 include: • Each committee / WG holding a "Coordinator" role will develop short concept notes for each of the deliverables they are coordinating. These will be based on a common template, and are likely to include information on sub-deliverables, thematic focus of work, partners who will lead the work, budget per sub-deliverables, timelines, indicators, etc., as well as links to further information, if necessary. Secretariat will be available to support this process. • The final version of PMNCH's 2022-23 Workplan and Budget and its Concept Notes will be made available on PMNCH's website by the end-March. Their publication will enable members of different constituencies to pursue their stated interests on engaging in individual deliverables. • Focus of the next round of constituency meetings (pre-June EC) will be on confirming and documenting expressed contributions from each constituency as related to specific workplan deliverables, including a review of indicators, targets and baseline in the overall PMNCH Results Framework.	Coordinating Structures
2.4	Concept Notes to explain the role of Partners and that of the Secretariat in the implementation process.	Coordinating Structures
2.5	Resource mobilization efforts will need to continue so as to move PMNCH closer to achieving the US$ 10m budget for 2022, and US$ 15m for 2023.	EC Secretariat

ITEM 3 – 2022 PMNCH Governance Calendar

Helga Fogstad, PMNCH ED, presented the 2022 PMNCH Governance Calendar, highlighting the EC and Board dates. She noted that the meeting dates had adequate intervals to allow for key decisions to be filtered through the PMNCH structures as needed.

	Decision / Action	Responsibility
3.1	2022 PMNCH Governance Calendar was approved with no modifications, with a suggestion to keep the dates under review and update them in case of any unexpected changes	n/a

ITEM 4 – Any other business

There were no items discussed under 'AOB'.

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ANNEX 1: REFLECTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL CONSTITUENCIES

- **Academic, Research and Training Institutes (ART) constituency (Mike Mbizvo).** The constituency has no objections to the workplan and is keen to contribute, and especially to the following deliverables:
  - Synthesize and collate examples of community and family voices (Deliverable 1.4)
  - Ensure engagement of ART members with special expertise and engagement with specific priority areas to provide technical input to the expert workstreams within the KE-WG and the products developed e.g., Born Too Soon Report (Deliverable 1.5)
  - Develop webinars and workshops to capacity strengthen local organizations, and provide small grants to capacitate local and smaller research organizations (Deliverable 2.3)
  - Encourage regional and national societies participation within the Digital Advocacy Hubs and provide resources to be shared (Deliverable 2.4)

- **Adolescents and Youth (AY) constituency (David Imbago).** Endorse the workplan. The AYC see the workplan as an opportunity to better collaborate within the constituency and further strengthen meaningful engagement and representation of adolescents and youth. The constituency is keen on leading, co-owning and co-producing the Global Forum for Adolescents, including its conceptualization, coordination and implementation. It strongly supported digital capacity building of adolescents and youth across different regions, especially in preparation for the Global Forum for Adolescents, and to address online abuse of women and young girls. It was recommended that the AYC play a key role in spearheading meaningful engagement of a diverse group of adolescents and youth (including but not limited to those across different regions, those with disabilities or living with HIV). It was also recommended that specific capacity building activities such as 'Advocating for Change for Adolescents' is explicitly mentioned in the workplan. Overall, the AYC constituency concurs with all the deliverables of the workplan, is committed to involve more adolescents and youth, and ensure they have the tools and resources they require for their well-being.

- **Donors & Foundations (D&F) constituency (Susan Clapham).** The workplan is endorsed by the D&F Constituency as a prioritized and well developed means of directing PMNCH's work over the next two years. To support the implementation of the workplan, it will be important to develop relevant accountability mechanisms to ensure good monitoring on progress. In addition, there is a need to understand what political opportunities exist in countries and globally over this period of time, such that PMNCH can work within these opportunities and amplify relevant issues, with the intention of matching policy advancements with political opportunities. Finally, it would be helpful to also scan the 'country-horizon' to determine possible opportunities for seeking new commitments in those countries whose leadership is most closely aligned to our common advocacy priorities such that PMNCH may prioritize where to invest its energy and support. Members were keen to contribute to a variety of deliverables, right across the workplan.

- **Global Financing Mechanisms (GFM) constituency (Thiago Luchesi).** Workplan is clear, reflective of PMNCH's value add and is indicative of interlinkages between the three functional areas. It reflects the equity principles and leaving no-one behind very strongly. GFM constituency is supportive of workplan's stated objectives that PMNCH will leverage existing partner products and not duplicate efforts. The constituency recommended for there to be more clear

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differentiation between PMNCH Secretariat's and partners' roles (e.g., inserting two additional columns in the workplan, or similar), as something that will clarify partners' understanding of their attribution vs contribution to workplan deliverables. Strongly supported increasing digital communication for efficiency as well as diversity of engagement (cross constituency as well as across governance structures), and respecting partners' time constraints. Keen to engage in: Knowledge synthesis (1.1-1.5, especially 1.1 and 1.2), Capacity building (Deliverables 2.1/2.2) and campaigns (Deliverable 3.4) as GFM's primary contribution areas given their organizational mandates.

- **Health-care Professional Associations (HCPA) constituency (Franka Cadee).** Supports the approval of the workplan. Keen for the following to be made more explicit in the Workplan and / or deliverable concept notes: (i) strengthening health workforce and specifically midwives and (neonatal) nurses; (ii) meaningful youth engagement including youth health workers; (iii) Respectful & Quality Care; (iv) Integrated maternal and newborn care; and (v) Newborns and stillbirths. They are keen to contribute especially to the following deliverables:
    - HCPA joint statements on key thematic areas and expert knowledge of HCPA feeding into KE WG (Deliverable 1.5);
    - HCPA leaders to be members of multi-stakeholder platforms to promote commitments and the follow up on them (Deliverable 2.2);
    - Develop capacity building webinars and provide small grants to national professional societies (Deliverable 2.3);
    - Engage actively in PMNCH events and digital media products (Deliverables 3.1, 3.2, 3.5)

- **Inter-governmental Organisations (IGO) constituency (Joy Phumaphi, IGO Vice Chair, shared the intervention on behalf of Martin Chungong)**. Collective constituency support of the workplan. Very pleased to see that parliamentary engagement is streamlined across the Workplan and is well reflected in the deliverables across all the three pillars. Particular interest among IGO constituency members to collaborate for comparative research of SRHR national policies, and improve information sharing about evidence-based policies and guidance for adolescents and young people on SRHR, including making the resources accessible in a youth-friendly digital channel. Central African countries, Eastern and Southern African countries would like to do an assessment of the health situation in their individual countries including the disease burden, level of pandemic preparedness, strength of the PHC to help inform the resources and investments that is supporting this sector. This will require the critical contributions of several PMNCH partners to ensure we are building on the existing efforts of one another and not reinventing the wheel.

- **Non-governmental Organisations (NGO) constituency (Maria Antonieta Alcalde).** No objections on the Workplan. NGO constituency see the Workplan as an opportunity to better collaborate with one another and that we collectively contribute as a community. So, the PMNCH workplan must reflect the work of partners and PMNCH as a collective should aim to support the work that partners do at the national level and maximize the impact of the results by amplifying our joint efforts. The constituency finds their contributions well-fitting by: (i) supporting advocacy and accountability for national commitments for WCAH though partnership and awareness creation; (ii) strengthening engagement with key actors at the country-level including parliamentarians and media to support citizens' hearing and facilitate the collation of community testimonials; (iii) tailoring knowledge resources to address context-specific needs and support dissemination of tools for advocacy and policy influence; (iv) supporting high-level political advocacy and

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engagement at the national level; and (v) support digital advocacy efforts including content generation aligned with the thematic areas for capacity building. The NGO constituency is committed to reach out to other PMNCH partners at the country-level and establish a conversation and start discussing opportunities for national collaboration under the PMNCH 2022-2023 Workplan, and urges other constituencies to do the same.

- **Partner Governments (PG) constituency (Vikas Sheel).** Fully endorse the workplan which drives forward the strategic priorities approved by the Board, demonstrates well the interlinkages between the three functional areas and is reflective of the rich discussions at the work planning retreat. India as a Partner Government is supportive of the deliverable 2.1 (development and launch of the GLN), 2.2 (strengthening partner coalitions at the country level), 2.3 (capacitating partners) and 3.1 (organization of the Global Forum on Adolescents). We are considering the Call to Action for commitments (3.4). The knowledge, accountability and advocacy products being developed/synthesized should be in service of in-country partner efforts i.e., contextualized and user friendly. Lastly, since the Calls to Action are universal in nature, PMNCH should be ambitious in the pursuit of commitments (leveraging global and regional platforms) over the 5-year strategy period.

- **Private Sector (PS) constituency (Caroline Quijada).** No objections on the Workplan. The Private Sector constituency had an action plan for 2021, which is now being mapped against the Workplan to identify synergies. Sees a need for the Private Sector to be positioned as a stakeholder in WCAH advocacy efforts, through knowledge and activities at the country level. The constituency is particularly eager to support advocacy through use of technology. It also called for support to its work and in particular in the areas of: (i) linking to other constituencies; (ii) engaging with Standing Committees/Working Groups and ensuring reporting; and (iii) ensuring the private sector is represented in PMNCH activities and events, and the PMNCH narrative.

- **United Nations Agencies (UNA) constituency (Zsuzsanna Jakab).** Workplan is clear, reflective of PMNCH's value add. It is important to examine how to create alignment/identify contribution of the indicators in PMNCH's RF to the 13th WHO's GPW RF. UNA members are lead partners in many of the deliverables (especially, 1.1-1.5). Examples of contributions include:
    - WHO and World Bank joining the PMNCH expert workstream steering group to inform both strategically and technically the production of the deliverable(s) (Deliverable 1.1).
    - WHO continuing to co-coordinate the implementation guide of essential SRMNCAH interventions to advance UHC (Deliverable 1.2).
    - Contributing technically to the products and processes and building on the evidence that currently exists. Examples include UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA contributing to the accountability progress report, e.g., Global Strategy for WCAH 2016-2030 Progress Report - a flagship deliverable for 2022. (Deliverable 1.3).
    - Elevating people's voices and lived experience related to WCA health and well-being, by providing technical support to the collation and synthesis of lived experiences related to WCA health and wellbeing (Deliverable 1.4).
    - Adding to the body of knowledge for MNCH, SRHR and AWB by providing strategic and technical support on i) Born Too Soon: Decade Edition Report (in close collaboration with UNICEF) ii) Advocacy for integrated maternal and newborn care e.g. Kangaroo Mother Care and Postnatal Care guidelines (Deliverable 1.5).

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It is important to build on existing platforms in countries when strengthening coalition building for greater advocacy and accountability; UHC/PHC, GFF, EWEC/SDG GAP. UNAs underscored the importance of PMNCH partners, especially at the country level, advocating collectively for embedding SRMNCAH issues in cooperation frameworks and including civil society in the process. With regards to the COVID recovery plans and UHC/PHC plans, it is critical to emphasize the importance of community engagement and empowerment. PMNCH's Digital Advocacy Hubs could be a game changer for PMNCH's partner engagement at the country level.