

Note for the Record

PMNCH Executive Committee (EC) Conference Call

February 14, 2012

Present: Flavia Bustreo (co-Chair), Cristián Baeza, Will Niblett, Rajiv Tandon, José Belizán, Nester Moyo (ICM, for Zulfiqar Bhutta), Liz Mason
Absent: Julio Frenk (Chair), Anuradha Gupta (for co-Chair)
Secretariat: Carole Presern, Andrés de Francisco, Henrik Axelson
Observer: Stanislava Nikolova (PMNCH Board Chair's Office, HSPH)

AGENDA

Chair: Flavia Bustreo

1. Approval of the January Note for the Record
2. Resource Mobilization
 - a. PMNCH Donors and Foundations Meeting – 3 February (London)
 - b. RMNCH Taskforce Deliberations and Outcomes Consultations
 - c. Other Updates from London ('Gold Moment' – Links to the PMNCH Workplan)
3. Governance
 - a. Selection of the New ART Representative
 - b. Feedback from the First Country Constituency Call
 - c. Private Sector Members – Applications and Due Diligence
4. Working with the Private Sector
 - a. Private Sector Engagement Guide

A warm welcome to the EC was extended to Cristián Baeza, from the World Bank, representing the Multilaterals/ UN Agencies constituency, replacing UNFPA.

1. Approval of the January Note for the Record

Decision → The Note for the Record from the EC call on 17 January 2012 was approved.

2. Resource Mobilization

Short summary about the three-part meeting on 3 February in London.

a. PMNCH Donors and Foundations Meeting –The morning meeting was the Donors and Foundations Meeting, with the goal of engaging donors in the work of PMNCH and looking for both opportunities for collaboration as well as funding. Carole Presern thanked the hosts of the meeting – Sida, DFID and CIDA. Michael Anderson, Director General for Policy and Global Issues at DFID, and Anuradha Gupta, PMNCH Board co-Chair, opened the meeting. Participation was wide, including current donors as well as potential donors. To note, Gustavo González-Canali from France joined on the phone, other potential donors (Japan, Germany) joined the meeting. The Secretariat is following up individually with each of them as a potential donor, and will report on progress at the next EC call.

In summary, there is a reasonably good outlook for a fully funded 2012 Partnership's workplan, with a good portion of unrestricted funding. Canada announced CAN\$3 million over 3 years, and DFID GBP 6 million over 4 years. Both will provide funding in an unrestricted way, and this could inspire other donors who are currently earmarked to follow suit.

The EC was requested to work closely with the Director of PMNCH to identify opportunities and open some new doors. The importance of exploring new emerging donors, e.g. India, Russia, was emphasized. Rajiv Tandon offered to brief the Children's Investment Fund Foundation on PMNCH and make the connections with the secretariat. Carole mentioned she had also visited CIFF in January.

b. PMNCH Task Team on RMNCH Financing: Deliberations and Outcomes Consultations -- The Task Team, created following a decision by the Board is time-bound (until the end of February or beginning of March). Its purpose is to provide strategic advice to the PMNCH Board on options for RMNCH financing. The Task Team co-Chairs are Ann Starrs and Cristián Baeza. The other members are Anthony Costello, James Droop, Anuradha Gupta, Anders Nordström, and Neema Rusibamayila. The Task Team had a teleconference on 23 January, a meeting in London on 2 February, and participated in a consultation hosted by Sida and PMNCH in London on 3 February. Meeting notes from the Task Team meeting on 2 February are being finalized and will be shared with the EC.

Discussions in London were lively and there is agreement on the urgent need for a global financing arrangement/mechanism that can channel increased commitments to address the financing gap for MDGs 4 and 5. Specific options from the PMNCH-commissioned report on the global aid/financing architecture were discussed. There was consensus that Option 1 (strengthened coordination and accountability of multiple funding channels), Option 2a (financing RMNCH components of integrated national health strategies in selected countries), and Option 2b (financing scaling up of high-impact interventions that are not particularly well covered, e.g. skilled birth attendance, family planning, health systems, in high-burden countries). There was also consensus in the London meetings that any new mechanism - or adapted existing mechanism - should be aligned with national priorities and strategies, consistent with internationally agreed principles on development assistance effectiveness, nimble, flexible, and easy to access. The Task Team is implementing a “mini-mapping” exercise to seek additional inputs from key stakeholders.

The EC agreed that all collectively have to rise to the challenge, as now is the time to act on this issue.

Decision → The EC would like the report from the Task Team to reflect input from a range of constituencies and individuals and set out a set of principles and aims, as well as recommending specific actions. The EC also recommends that the Board should be encouraged to reach consensus on a position.

The Task Team will submit its draft report to the EC by the end of March.

c. Other Updates from London ('Gold Moment' – Links to the PMNCH Workplan) – One of DFID's strategic priorities is to meet the unmet need for family planning by 2020. The 'Gold Moment' term refers to a high-level event in London on July 11 organized in collaboration by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, seeking to galvanize the commitments and resources to address the unmet need for FP. The synergies with the PMNCH Workplan and opportunity to move the RMNCH agenda forward, with a focus also on FP commodities and guidelines were mentioned; also the importance of the conversations around RMNCH financing. The need to have representation from different constituencies on the steering group was highlighted.

Action → This item will be included again on the agenda for the next EC call. The EC will ask Julia Bunting for more information on the outcomes of the meeting and next steps.

3. Governance

a. Selection of the New ART Representative – A call for nominations (to replace Vinod Paul) went out with a deadline of 17 February, but responses have not been received. José Belizán commented that the constituency is looking to select a representative with expertise in maternal, neonatal and child health, in addition to global health.

Decision → The EC agreed to extend the deadline for nominations for two additional weeks.

b. Feedback from the First Country Constituency Call -- the first call of the country constituency was very productive, and intentions were expressed to re-energize this constituency. An update on this conversation will be included in the next EC call when Tinu Taylor or Anuradha Gupta can participate.

c. *Private Sector Members –Applications and Due Diligence* – Recent good meetings in Davos led to additional applications from the private sector for membership in PMNCH.

The members of the private sector constituency will have their next call on March 5. Still pending is the selection of their Board representatives, after they agree on the guidelines, currently being discussed. Both Merck and Johnson & Johnson have expressed an interest. The result of their discussions will be shared with the EC and Board for agreement.

The due diligence process currently takes some time. When an application for membership is submitted, it goes to the EC and to each of the UN agencies (who share it with their own legal offices). The question was raised about whether the due diligence process can be made faster.

Next steps → Cristián Baeza commented that the EC will have to approve the private sector representative on the Board, and this can be a complicated process, at least from the World Bank's side. He requested to be informed when the process is about to start.

4. Working with the Private Sector

Background: The Private Sector Engagement Guide was conceived in 2011 as a tool/guide to inform on how companies can engage in work on RMNCH. Last October, TORs were put out and consultancy was selected. Some good feedback was received on the guide at Davos. From the donors' side, Norway is very interested in this product, and some other donors are as well. Feedback was requested from the EC. Comments were invited from the EC on the actual process and what kind of product the members envision at the end.

Feedback:

- Significant concern was expressed as it could be perceived that PMNCH, through the guide, is promoting some companies, especially the ones on its Board.
- Too much emphasis is placed on the possibilities for business growth and development of companies.
- PMNCH may appear (through the complimentary and supportive tone of the guide), supporting the activities described. There should be more generic statements about what the interventions' impact is on health and poverty.
- Suggestion that the guide emphasizes more what the collective approach can do to improve women's and children's health; (as opposed to just show that it is just good for business). The statement that "companies can help save the lives of 16 million women and children by 2015" should be the entry point at the beginning of the document. The wording can emphasize women's and children's health more, not business as much.

Next Steps → Comments will be taken into account for the next iteration of the guide.

The EC was asked to help share it with constituencies and revert with broader feedback.

The discussions on the Innovation Working Group and on the 'gold moment' were postponed until the next EC call. Julia Bunting will be informed and asked to participate.