

Draft decisions and guidance

PMNCH Board meeting

Board Chair, Rt Hon Helen Clark

8 July 2021, 12:00-13:45 CET



Board meeting objectives

PMNCH sought to obtain guidance from Board members on:

1. Strategic shifts/priorities (within the scope of the PMNCH 2021-2025 Strategy and Results Framework) in PMNCH advocacy to strengthen impact
2. How each Board champion can undertake this advocacy in an effective and highly visible manner
3. How PMNCH can mobilize additional multi-stakeholder champions and networks in support of WCAH



Strategic shifts in PMNCH advocacy

1. *Strategic shifts/priorities (within the scope of the PMNCH 2021-2025 Strategy and Results Framework) in PMNCH advocacy to strengthen impact*
 - **Increase focus on vulnerable populations:** bring equity front and centre to all advocacy efforts (e.g., 10% of children still do not receive a single vaccine shot – i.e., “zero dose” markers of communities who are shut out from SRMNCAH services, facing multiple deprivations).
 - **Vaccine equity:** Vaccine inequity has a major indirect impact on women and children. Through our Call to Action, PMNCH must continue to advocate for vaccines to be deployed equitably, to avoid displacement, and in a way that strengthens health systems and leaves a legacy.
 - **“Pushing back the pushback” (Call for Action 2):** Important window now for action to protect SRHR and gender equality given multiple threats arising under COVID-19. Move from “inequity” to “inequality”.
 - **Invest in Health Workers (Call to Action Ask 4):** Build back better by strengthening focus on investing in frontline health workers – need 18 million more health workers, including nurses, midwives and community health workers, to fill existing service gap and build community trust to strengthen primary health and advance UHC, and to address migrants displaced persons – as well as addressing disrespect and power dynamics (e.g., gender pay gap, increased bias and intimidation during COVID)
 - **Invest in Adolescents (Call to Action on Adolescents):** Provide platforms for the engagement and alignment of constituencies and partners to lead the way toward 2023 UN Resolution and Global Adolescent Summit
 - Harness the power of **digital technology** for more effective and efficient advocacy and partnership results, especially at country and regional levels

The guidance noted above will be taken into consideration by the PMNCH Standing Committees and any revisions, as necessary, will be made in the 2021 Workplan



Board champions undertaking advocacy

2. *How each Board champion can undertake this advocacy in an effective and highly visible manner*

- H.E. Mia Amor Mottley, **Prime Minister, Barbados**, and H.E. Kersti Kaljulaid, **President of the Republic of Estonia** and UN Global Advocate for EWEC, committed to work with PMNCH as Champions to protect and promote WCA health and wellbeing, including amplifying one or more Asks from the PMNCH's Call to Action on COVID-19, including reducing inequities in maternal mortality, improving nutrition for WCA, and improving data for social protection (e.g., mobile birth registrations)
- **UK Government's** G7 Presidency has had a sharp focus on health, and the UK thus profiled the health commitments made by the G7 and noted the opportunities that these raise for our common PMNCH agenda, including on vaccine equity, SRHR, comprehensive sexual education, among others, and calls on PMNCH to get behind the commitments and hold the G7 accountable.
- **Government of India** has committed to taking their recent Call to Action commitments to the highest political level and reiterated the need to focus on children and adolescent who have been further marginalized due to C-19
- **Government of Liberia** also re-committed to their recent Call to Action commitments, e.g., GBV national task force under President of Liberia with ringfenced domestic resources
- **Government of France** reiterated 100 million Euro additional funding (Generation Equality), supporting gender equality and upholding SRHR, including family planning, renewal of Muskoka commitment
- **Government of Belgium** committed to deepening and strengthening multi-stakeholder partnerships to protect rising threats to SRHR during COVID-19 – no “lockdown to human rights”
- **Government of Nigeria** committed to strengthening the national multi-stakeholder platform to support the more general work towards implementing the recent commitments to the Call to Action
- **Inter-Parliamentary Union** committed to reaching out to speakers of parliament to support the PMNCH Call to Action (e.g., successful example in Panama)
- **The World Economic Forum** commits to strengthening advocacy for the health and well-being of women, children and adolescent through private sector's unique position in countries and globally, acknowledging the importance of their role in multi-stakeholder efforts.

The relevant PMNCH Standing Committees, supported by the Secretariat, will work on facilitating and supporting the advocacy activities agreed upon by each of the above Champions and will also reach out to additional Champions (internal and / or external to PMNCH) agreeing on collaboration and clear action points



Mobilizing additional champions and networks

3. *How PMNCH can mobilize additional multi-stakeholder champions and networks in support of WCAH*

- **Focus on country level partnerships** (including media, parliamentarians and between line ministries) to strengthen coordination at national level for commitment mobilization and implementation of Call to Action commitments (e.g., Nigeria), and to bring country level concerns to global level. Need a bold detailed roadmap for investment and civil society engagement for action at the country-level;
- **Work with regional mechanisms** to sharpen advocacy for greater impact.
- **Deepen relationship with parliamentarians**, including at the highest level (Speakers), to mobilize commitment and accountability
- **Deepen partnership with the private sector** to deliver more effectively and efficiently on Call to Action commitments, as seen by the role that the private sector has had in the development and delivery of COVID-19 vaccines
- Ensure voices of **young people** are heard and shape the work of PMNCH, as they are already and as part of the strong integration into PMNCH governance

The guidance noted above will be taken into consideration by the PMNCH Standing Committees and any revisions, as necessary, will be made in the 2021 Workplan

