24th PMNCH Board Meeting
9-11 November 2019
Nairobi, Kenya

Board Decisions

Helen Clark

PMNCH Board Chair

The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health

ITEM 1 – Opening remarks of the 24th PMNCH Board Meeting

No decisions required

ITEM 2 – Conflict of interest review, agenda adoption, NfR from previous Board

	Decision / Action	Responsibility
2.1	No conflict of interest registered	n/a
2.2	Board Agenda adopted as presented	n/a
2.3	Executive Memo noted and appreciated	n/a
2.4	Note for the Record, 23rd Board meeting, The Hague, July 2019 was approved	n/a

ITEM 3 – Challenges / Opportunities in WCAH

To identify priorities for joint action by PMNCH members in 2019 and 2020, and provide guidance for the forthcoming PMNCH 2021 to 2025 Strategy:

	Decision / Action	Responsibility
3.1	Key points arising from discussion, and referral to strategy committee: • Emphasis on unfinished business on amenable mortality among the most marginalized & insecure populations – with big focus on inequities • Double-down on SRHR and gender equality, and broader focus on women's health beyond reproduction • Complete the continuum – address gaps (e.g. "missing middle"), and better integration • Ring fence accountability for WCAH in context of UHC • Intensify advocacy for domestic financing • Strengthen collaboration across existing alliances, e.g. with UHC2030, NCD, SUN, etc. • Ensuring that UHC and PHC are people-centred • Important to also include the broader evidence, including qualitative, quantitative, and midwifery evidence	Strategy Committee

ITEM 4 – PMNCH Independent External Evaluation

	Decision / Action	Responsibility
4.1	Points noted on process of evaluation and its role. First draft of evaluation expected on 13 Dec 2019, findings to feed into thought paper for strategy retreat (Feb 2020), final evaluation report due 31 January 2020.	External evaluators
	Key points arising from discussion: • Questions for evaluation: added value of PMNCH, most valued functions, measuring impact, country vs. global, breadth of issues • Constituency evaluations to feed into broader PMNCH evaluation • Important that strategy development does not get ahead of evaluation results • Ensure that evaluation builds upon lessons of past evaluations • Differentiation of roles between Secretariat and Partners	

ITEM 5 – Strengthening partner alignment at country level

To confirm the proposed approach for PMNCH's engagement in the strengthening of country national multi-stakeholder platforms:

	Decision / Action	Responsibility
5.1	Board agreed to strengthening national multi-stakeholder engagement, through H6 and partners	Board; H6; Secretariat
	Key points arising from discussion: • MSP must be government-led and inclusive e.g. including constituencies not around the table • PMNCH has critical role in capacitating constituency engagement in these processes (e.g. grants to AYC, parliamentarians, CSOs, etc.) so that platforms are inclusive • Avoid duplication by building on existing platforms, aligned to national planning cycles • Ensure sustainability of MSPs through strong linkages to domestic finance and align with Global Action Plan, but clear about WCAH priorities (e.g. adolescents, ECD) • Transparency required in selection of focus countries, together with a monitoring framework to report back to PMNCH Board • Strategy Committee to consider connecting the dots between PMNCH country investments (MSPs and constituency small grants), as part of the Strategy process • Circulate the latest concept note on MSPs • Share more information on PMNCH's website and ensure greater transparency on the small grants programme (amounts, recepients, workplans, etc.)	

ITEM 6 – Report from the PMNCH Executive Director

Board to provide guidance

	Decision / Action	Responsibility
6.1	ED report to be first item on future Board agendas, to focus discussion by calling attention to key achievements, ambitions and concerns (e.g. 3 key achievements and challenges)	Secretariat
	Key points arising from discussion: • Board expressed concern at unsustainable volume of work undertaken by Secretariat (e.g. 100+ events / meetings, 54 donor reports, etc.) given limited resources and called upon Board members to play leadership and facilitation roles (e.g. facilitate committee work, event management, secondments) • Committees should produce background and options papers for Board meetings, with clear decision points; enabling Secretariat to spend more time facilitating partner engagement within and across committees and constituencies • Stronger coalitions at country and global level, facilitated in part by digital engagement of PMNCH members, will enhance PMNCH's orchestration role • Need to map and mobilize constituencies around 2020 flagship events • Importance of PMNCH's digitalization to improve processes, responsiveness and effectiveness, including membership management. • Value of strengthening advocacy work with parliamentarians and enhancing parliamentarians' commitments towards WCAH	Board Secretariat Committees Partners

ITEM 7 – Accelerating advocacy for WCAH

Agreement on a campaign approach; objectives, scope, partners, and priorities.

	Decision / Action	Responsibility
7.1	Board fully endorsed proposed concept of umbrella advocacy campaign, and agreed for working group to develop a more detailed and concrete proposal to be shared with the Board ahead of the February retreat	Advocacy WG
	Key points arising from discussion: • Importance of a new narrative for a new era • Need to start by mapping partner campaigns to identify where PMNCH can add value • Campaign cannot be all things to everyone – importance of laser focus on certain issues (e.g. unfinished business, gaps, and inequities) and giving voice to voiceless • Importance of targeted messages for different audiences at global and country level, with focus on the 'non-converted', and with emphasis on solutions • Importance of sharpening financing 'asks' in context of UHC and PHC, and of strategizing on how to better engage with Ministers of Finance and Planning • Strong engagement of all constituencies in process, including central role for young people and CSOs in development and delivery of campaign • Digital approaches to campaign assets and delivery channels identified as success factor	

ITEM 8 – Reflecting on a decade of accountability for WCAH

Agreement on key priorities for improvements in accountability efforts and mechanisms, including through national multi-stakeholder platforms and processes, as well as global institutions and structures, including PMNCH and IAP

	Decision / Action	Responsibility
8.1	PMNCH Accountability working group to be populated as soon as possible, to guide on PMNCH accountability portfolio priorities	Board
8.2	The recommendations of the Working Group should be brought to the Board in advance of the next Board meeting so that decisions can then be taken.	Secretariat with Accountability Working Group
8.3	As part of 8.1 and 8.2, the Working Group should provide recommendations to the Executive Committee on the management, including financial, of PMNCHs hosting relationship to the IAP and on their respective accountability roles.	Secretariat with Accountability Working Group
8.4	Acknowledging that it is the EOSG that establishes the mandate of the IAP, PMNCH should reach out to the EWEC Secretariat for an update on the IAPs role and function.	Board

ITEM 9 – PMNCH Strategy 2021-2025

Approval of the plan for the development of the PMNCH Strategy 2021-2025

	Decision / Action	Responsibility
9.1	Agree to a timeline as presented, finalized in November 2020 at PMNCH's Board meeting	Strategy Committee
	Key points arising from discussion: • Consultations to be broader than just the Board, engaging as many partners as possible • Evaluation findings need to be shared as soon as possible once completed, to enable consultations to build on these recommendations • Important to have the vision agreed quickly, so that the work flows logically from the vision • Constituencies to suggest best ways of engaging with their members and across constituencies	Strategy Committee Constituencies

ITEM 10 – Governance issues

Approval of the updated Terms of Reference for the Strategy Committee

	Decision / Action	Responsibility
10.1	Updated ToRs for the Strategy Committee adopted	GNC
10.2	By the end of 2019, dates for the 2020 virtual and in-person Board meeting to be confirmed, EC and Advocacy WG to provide feedback on optimum dates for complementary with advocacy activities	GNC
	Key points arising from discussion: • Board manual will be updated for greater clarity and accuracy • Acknowledge Mexico's offer to hold the next PMNCH Board meeting in the country in 2020	

ITEM 11 – AOB

	Decision / Action	Responsibility
AoB 1	Thank those who will be rotating off the Board before our next meeting: (i) Preeti Sudan, Government of India; (ii) Betsy McCallon, White Ribbon Alliance; (iii) Núria Casamitjana, IS Global	
AoB 2	Child Health Initiative announced a multi-year grant to PMNCH, through the FIA Foundation, earmarked for adolescents work	
AoB	Presence of Githinji Gitali, Global CEO Amref Africa and UHC 2030 vice-chair was acknowledged.	