

Summary of the PCB Bureau meeting of 18 March 2009

Present: Allehone Mulugeta Abebe (Ethiopia), Monique Middelhoff (Netherlands), Sulmi Barrios (Guatemala), Teguest Guerma and Fatiha Terki (WHO, representing Cosponsors), Robert Carr (Representing PCB NGOs) joined by phone.

UNAIDS Secretariat: Helen Frary (BUR), Barbara de Zalduondo (PPD), Yuki Takemoto (BUR)

Meeting's agenda:

1. Draft annotated agenda for the 24th PCB meeting
2. Follow-up to PCB thematic segments
3. Proposed themes for the 26th and 27th PCB meetings
4. Update on preparations for the Thematic Segment for the 24th PCB meeting
5. Any other business

1. Draft annotated agenda for the 24th PCB meeting

The Bureau agreed the draft annotated agenda with one slight revision in the annotation for Item 4 (Cooperation with the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria) to explicitly mention the need for the Board to make decisions on the options that will be presented under this item.

Before reaching this conclusion, the Bureau considered all of the comments that had been received regarding the list of agenda items agreed at its meeting on 13 February.

- Report of the GTT Oversight Reference Group

It was agreed that the Secretariat will explore and present to the Bureau an alternative mechanism that will allow Board members to receive and engage in a full discussion of the content of the report.

- Item 1.4 Report of the Executive Director

Concerns were raised about the need for the Board to receive the Executive Director's (oral) statement in writing. It was noted that the oral report will be supplemented by the Annual Report, as is the practice in many other UN organizations, which would reflect on the previous year's activities and performance. The Executive Director's oral report will be informed by the consultations that will continue up to the PCB meeting and that these will include communication from the Executive Director to all stakeholders before the June PCB meeting to explain his vision for the future of UNAIDS.

- Thematic segment "People on the move – forced displacement and migrant populations"

A question was raised about the title and the Secretariat pointed out that it was consistent with the wording in the decision by the Board at its 22nd meeting.

2. Follow-up to PCB thematic segments

The Bureau reviewed a draft decision point on the follow-up to the PCB Thematic Segment and agreed to the following revised text:

Agenda Item 1.3: Outcome(s) of the thematic segment

The Programme Coordinating Board: takes note of the outcomes of the thematic segment on “People on the move – forced displacement and migrant populations” as contained in the rapporteurs’ reports to the Board plenary and requests UNAIDS to include such outcomes in its future work and to report on progress to a future PCB meeting in line with its general reporting on activities.

Bureau members were reminded that this was a draft decision point that the Board could delete or amend, particularly if there were substantive decision points and/or recommendations from the thematic segment. This draft decision point will be included in the paper on draft decisions, recommendations and conclusions that will be shared with the Bureau and circulated to the Board prior to the PCB meeting in June.

3. Proposed themes for the 26th and 27th PCB meetings

The Bureau considered the six additional themes that have been submitted along with those that had been proposed for the 23rd and 24th PCB meetings. The Bureau gave due consideration to a number of factors including: the level and diversity of support; urgency of the issue; whether the issue was being considered elsewhere; inclusion of the theme as a sub-issue under a broader or related theme; and, how suitable the theme was to be addressed by the Board.

The Bureau agreed to recommend to the Board the following themes for the 26th and 27th PCB meetings respectively.

(1) 26th PCB meeting (June 2010)

In choosing the following theme, the Bureau cited changes in the global political architecture and emerging entry points to address integrating health services, and requested that issues related to gender and youth (education) also be considered under this theme.

Linking sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services with HIV/AIDS interventions in practice (Proposed by the Netherlands, supported by PCB NGOs, Senegal, Belgium, and Luxembourg)

(2) 27th PCB meeting (December 2010)

The Bureau pointed out the triple crises - food, fuel and financial - that make the following theme particularly relevant and requested issues related to stigma, discrimination and legislation to be addressed under this theme as well.

Food and nutrition security and HIV: how to ensure food and nutrition security are integral parts of HIV programming (Proposed by PCB NGOs, supported by the Netherlands)

4. Update on preparations for the thematic segment, 24th PCB meeting

The Secretariat provided an update on preparations for the thematic segment “People on the move – forced displacement and migrant populations.” Bureau members pointed out the frustration felt by some constituencies due to what was perceived as a lack of transparency and delay in the process. The Secretariat reiterated its commitment to improve communication about the preparations that will now include an update at every PCB Bureau meeting leading up to the PCB meeting in June.

(1) Process

A core working group, consisting of representatives from member states, civil society, Cosponsors and other international organizations was formed in December 2008 and it will hold its second teleconference the week of 23 March. In addition, separate working groups have been formed for the four breakout sessions (below) that are each preparing a brief concept note that will be shared more widely after the core working group teleconference. The concept note will be circulated by the end of March to member States, PCB NGOs and Cosponsors for comment. A consultant has also been commissioned to draft a framing paper for the segment that will be distributed to participants ahead of the PCB meeting.

(2) Outline

Introduction and opening plenary session

(Coffee break – Market place)

Morning breakout sessions

1. Universal Access, mobility and humanitarian situations
2. Universal Access, mobility and labour

(Lunch – Market place)

Afternoon breakout sessions

3. Universal Access and travel restrictions¹
4. Universal Access, economic drivers and pull factors for mobility

(Coffee break – Market place)

Concluding plenary session

There will be a market place outside of the meeting rooms where best practice cases related to HIV and mobility will be shared with participants.

5. Any other business

- Technical Consultations on Gender

As was agreed at the last meeting, UNDP and UNAIDS will co-host two consultations – one in New York (20 May 2009) and another in Geneva (29 May 2009). A message will be sent out soon to stakeholders with additional information.

- PCB Bureau Workplan 2009

It was agreed that an updated draft will be circulated for input to be received by 20 March 2009. The final version will be posted on PCB Bureau page of the UNAIDS website.

- The next Bureau meeting will take place on 15 April, 2009 (10:00am-12:00) at UNAIDS Geneva.

¹ At the initial core working group meeting in December 2008, it was proposed that panel 3 focus on 'sex work, mobility and HIV.' However, it was subsequently felt that this important issue should be addressed in all of the breakout sessions. The Secretariat is currently planning an alternative process that would allow for more in-depth discussions towards concrete actions on this issue. Meanwhile, HIV-related travel restrictions continue to be of great interest to the PCB, which decided at its 23rd meeting that there should be a progress report at a future PCB. Therefore the Secretariat proposed, with wide support, that panel 3 refocus on HIV-related travel restrictions and that issues of HIV, mobility and sex work be taken up in other breakout sessions. At its meeting on 25 March 2009, the core working group agreed to move forward on this basis.