

Summary of the PCB Bureau meeting of 26 February 2008

Present: Prangtip Kanchanahattakij (Thailand), David Hohman (USA), Paul Spiegel (UNHCR, representing Cosponsors), Zonnibel Woods (IWHC, representing PCB NGOs) joined by telephone.

UNAIDS Secretariat: As Sy (Director, PEX), Paul De Lay (Director, EMP), Helen Frary (Chief, BUR), Eddy Beck (EMP) and Jacek Tyszko (PEX/BUR).

Absent: Mamadou Seck (Senegal)

Meeting's agenda:

1. Second Independent Evaluation of UNAIDS
2. PCB papers on: PCB Standing Subcommittee; and next PCB meetings

1. Second Independent Evaluation of UNAIDS

The PCB Bureau met to discuss steps following the comments received from Japan concerning the procedure for the Oversight Committee of the Second Independent Evaluation of UNAIDS. The Bureau Chair informed the meeting about a discussion on the issue with a representative from the Japanese Mission in Geneva. The position of Japan contained three elements:

- Japan did not insist on stopping the evaluation process;
- Japan did not approve the process because it is inappropriate in their view and thus, maintained their reservations concerning the approval of the Committee's composition;
- Japan requested that the position of Japan be recorded in the official minutes of the PCB Bureau meeting.

Japan provided its rationale that, in their view, the PCB Bureau had overruled the PCB decision which intentionally includes Cosponsors in the Oversight Committee.

The Bureau noted the first positive element of the Japanese position and discussed whether, in light of the second element, the evaluation process (first meeting of the Oversight Committee scheduled for 4-5 March) could continue or should be put on hold till the 22nd PCB meeting. It was agreed that the process should move forward and that the Board in April would be requested to reconsider the relevant decisions of the 21st PCB and reconfirm the Oversight Committee membership. It was also agreed that the Bureau would continue to seek responses from PCB members to the options proposed in its email of 8 February.

A formal response to Japan would be sent by the PCB Bureau Chair.

The Bureau received information on the preparations for the first meeting of the Oversight Committee (Zurich, 4-5 March 2008). The programme of the meeting and the Bureau engagement were discussed.

2. PCB papers on: PCB Standing Subcommittee and next PCB meetings

The Bureau reviewed both draft papers and provided its additional comments. When finalized, they will be posted on the 22nd PCB meeting page of the UNAIDS web site and disseminated to the Board constituencies with other background documents for the meeting.

3. Other Business

The Bureau agreed that its next meetings would be called, when necessary.