

Terms of Reference

Informal Multistakeholder Task Team to provide recommendations to the Bureau on UNAIDS funding situation (immediate and sustainable)

Background

1. In her report to the 50th Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) meeting in June 2022, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) Executive Director stressed to the Board that, while the PCB had approved the new Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework (UBRAF) in 2021 with the threshold of US\$ 210 million per year, current projections estimate that, due to declining contributions, currency fluctuations and some announced and anticipated Official Development Assistance (ODA) reallocations, a figure of US \$157 million for 2022 is likely. She highlighted that there was already a decrease from the last biennium after a period of flat lined budgets and a consistent drive towards efficiency and cost-containment.
2. The Executive Director stressed that the situation was not sustainable, and the lack of predictable and sustainable funding for the UBRF is putting the achievements in past decades at risk.
3. For 2022, UNAIDS is facing a gap of US\$ 50 million from the PCB approved higher threshold for the UBRF of US\$ 210 million, and some US\$ 30 million in relation to UNAIDS investment and expenditure in 2021. While this represents a very small fraction of the US\$ 21 billion that is available annually for the HIV response in low- and middle-income countries, for the Joint Programme and its countries and partners, this gap is extremely significant and threatens the core work of the Joint Programme. Countries and civil society organizations underscored the pivotal role of UNAIDS in bringing together their governments with the Global Fund, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), civil society partners and communities to ensure that their responses are well coordinated, effective, address the epidemic where it has most impact and is evidence based.
4. At this same Board meeting, the UNAIDS Executive Director expressed her gratitude to donors who are working together towards a collective effort in closing this funding gap, including the firm pledges maintaining the level of their 2021 core contributions in local currency from Denmark, Luxembourg, and Norway for a total of US\$ 17.1 million, which brings contributions so far received towards the core budget to US\$ 60.2 million. The United States Government also continued its leadership and generous support for the Joint Programme with an expected increase of US\$5 million for a total of US\$50 million. She underscored that the current economic crisis and UNAIDS' latest resource outlook are deeply concerning. She added that new cuts and the unpredictability that come with them will hamper the Joint Programme's ability to deliver on the goals of the Global AIDS Strategy 2021–2026. The funding deficit will also negatively impact national responses (already off track) and jeopardize attainment of key milestones and goals.

5. At the 50th PCB meeting, the External Auditor, and Independent External Oversight Advisory Committee (IEOAC) also alerted the PCB to the tenuous funding situation and the criticality of sustainable financing for the UNAIDS Joint Programme to continue to operate.
6. At the 50th session of the Programme Coordinating Board¹, the Board took note of the alarming funding situation for the Joint Programme and reiterated the full trust and commitments to UNAIDS work. In view of the pressing funding situation, the PCB requested the PCB Bureau to urgently convene an informal inclusive multistakeholder task team consisting of PCB members, observers, cosponsors, the PCB NGO Delegation and other stakeholders on options for resolving the immediate funding crisis for the 2022-2023 biennium and report back to the PCB electronically by 30 July 2022 on outcomes and recommendations of these discussions. Furthermore, the PCB called on the Bureau to utilize the informal multistakeholder task team to, in advance of the UNAIDS Structured dialogue at the end of October 2022, develop recommendations on voluntarily based sustainable funding of the UBRAF, to be presented and discussed at the December 2022 PCB meeting.

Composition of the task team

7. Drawing on previous experiences of the Secretariat on establishing working groups and in accordance with decision 6.7 of the 50th meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board, the membership of the task team shall be geographically, and gender balanced and include no more than 15 members. It shall be open to all PCB members, observers, cosponsors, PCB NGO Delegation, and other stakeholders.

Process for the Establishment of the task team

8. The PCB Bureau, supported by the UNAIDS Secretariat, will facilitate the establishment of the informal multistakeholder task team through the development of Terms of Reference (TOR) and an open call for nominations from the different constituencies and external partners with fundraising expertise and experience. Members of the informal multistakeholder task team are recommended to have the following competencies and experience:
 - Good understanding of HIV, health and/or related development issues and familiarity with the work of the UNAIDS Secretariat and Cosponsors, at country, regional and/or global levels;
 - Excellent knowledge and understanding and/or experience of international and/or national funding architecture for HIV/health responses;
 - Expertise and experience in resource mobilization;
 - Understanding of the GIPA (Greater Involvement of People Living with HIV/AIDS) principle and its application in national HIV responses;
 - Working knowledge of English and/or French (the two official working languages of UNAIDS – interpretation will be provided if required).
9. The PCB Bureau will select the final composition of the Task Team and communicate this list to PCB stakeholders.

¹ https://www.unaids.org/en/resources/documents/2022/PCB50_Decisions

10. The task team shall elect Co-Chairs from within its membership and define the modalities of work.
11. The Task team should be composed of no more than 15 members with variable experience to be efficient in delivering urgent recommendations to the PCB Bureau. The task team is expected to complete their work by the end of 2022.

SCOPE OF WORK

- Discuss on options and actions for resolving the immediate funding crisis for the 2022-2023 and provide recommendations to the PCB Bureau on these discussions. These recommendations will subsequently be communicated to the PCB electronically by the PCB Bureau.
- Develop recommendations, ahead of the Structured Funding Dialogue, on voluntarily based sustainable funding of the UBRAF to be presented and discussed at the December 2022 PCB.

ROLE OF THE INFORMAL MULTISTAKEHOLDER TASK TEAM

Proposed modalities of work of the task team

- Possibility of four hybrid meetings to be held in Geneva, Switzerland (meetings may be held virtually if external circumstances require). In view of the short timeframe, participants present in Geneva will be invited to participate in-person. Those outside of Geneva will be invited to participate virtually.
- Communication via e-mail, video conference, calls
- Meetings of the PCB Bureau

Deliverables

- Report on options for resolving the immediate UNAIDS funding crisis for the 2022-2023 biennium submitted electronically to the PCB by 30 July 2022
- Develop recommendations on voluntarily based sustainable funding of the UBRAF and submit these to the PCB at the December 2022 PCB meeting

I. Proposed timeline

Timeline	Actions
28 June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCB Bureau meeting to review and finalize the terms of reference for the Task Team
30 June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call for expression of interests circulated to PCB stakeholders
7 July 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expressions of interest submitted to the PCB Bureau for consideration and establishment
8 July 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCB Bureau meeting to finalize establishment of task team (TBC)
15 July 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First meeting of the task team to develop recommendations on

	options for resolving the immediate funding crisis
21 July 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second meeting of the Task Team to develop recommendations on options for resolving the immediate funding crisis
22 July 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task Team Co-Chairs submit the recommendations of the Task Team to the PCB Bureau
25 July 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCB Bureau meeting to finalize the recommendations to the wider PCB
30 July 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final report submitted to the wider PCB electronically by the PCB Bureau
September 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third meeting of the task team ahead of the Structured Funding Dialogue
October 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fourth meeting of the task team with electronic submission of recommendations to the PCB Bureau ahead of the Structured Funding Dialogue
End of October 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structured Funding Dialogue
November 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of the task team's final report to the December PCB meeting
November 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCB Bureau meeting on the upcoming report of the task team to the PCB (TBC)

II. Estimated Budget

Items	Estimated cost (US\$)
4 hybrid meetings (in-person option for Geneva participants and virtual for those outside of Geneva)	Covered by core Secretariat staff
Independent Report Writer (10 days)	\$6,500
Any other costs as required	TBC
Total	\$6,500