

# 5<sup>th</sup> IHP+ Steering Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 18 November 2015  
Room M405, Building M, WHO Headquarters, Geneva

## Note for the Record

### Introduction

The IHP+ Steering Committee met for the fifth time on 18 November 2015 (in Geneva) to discuss progress and future work.

The agenda and list of Steering Committee members are in Annexes 1 and 2. Documents and presentations are on the IHP+ website, with links provided embedded in the NfR text. This Note for the Record captures decisions and main issues raised in the discussions.

### Summary of decisions, recommendations and agreed actions

- a. **In view of the SDGs and other international developments the possible role of IHP+ to improve coordination around Health Systems Strengthening and UHC will be explored, and if warranted an outline of the principles for a changed mandate to be submitted to the IHP+ Signatories for approval/no-objection.**
- b. **IHP+ Strategic Direction and Work Programme (2016-17) to be revised according to the discussion and submitted to the Steering Committee members for approval/no-objection.**
- c. **IHP+ Steering Committee membership to continue, with the adoption of Japan as a member (once agreed officially by Japan), and other interested Signatories as observers.**

### Discussions & decisions

#### Session 1: Introduction, confirmation of co-chairs, objectives of the day

Co-chairs Amir Hagos, FMOH Ethiopia, and Veronique Lorenzo, European Commission.

The objectives of the fifth IHP+ Steering Committee meeting were to:

- Review and finalize the new strategy approach for IHP+ post-2015
- Review and agree on IHP+ Work Programme 2016-17
- Agree on composition of IHP+ Steering Committee for 2016.

#### Session 2: IHP+ progress

Finn Schleimann, IHP+ Core Team, presented a brief overview of IHP+ progress. Substantial activity continued throughout the past period, despite a difficult staffing situation for the Core Team. Regarding the latter, ongoing recruitment in WHO should ensure a near to full staffing by mid 2016.

Renaud Seligmann, Practice Manager World Bank, [presented an overview](#) of the Financial Management Technical Working Group's work.

### **Session 3: Presentation from Germany on Health Systems Strengthening and Japan on Universal Health Coverage and discussion on IHP+'s role**

[Presentation from Germany](#), Heiko Warnken, Head of Division BMZ: "Healthy Systems – Healthy Lives: A Global Initiative to strengthen Health Systems".

[Presentation from Japan](#), Keizo Takewaka, Deputy Director-General Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on Universal Health Coverage and discussion on IHP+'s role. The link between health systems strengthening (HSS) and achieving both Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and health security was emphasized, as was Japan's commitment to work with all partners to achieve this, including in the G7 context.

[Presentation from WHO, Marie-Paule Kieny](#), Assistant Director General: "Health system strengthening for Universal Health Coverage and health systems resilience". The presentation included a proposal for IHP+ to play a key role in the area of coordinating partners.

*Discussion:* The discussion centered around different players and partnerships' roles in taking forward HSS, UHC and Health Security. In countries receiving outside assistance, adhering to the IHP+ principles would be key to move forward on HSS and towards UHC and health security, and many participants saw IHP+ as a potential platform that could take on the task of improving coordination in this area. Also the importance of accountability was highlighted, as well as most of IHP+ tools and approaches, such as the JANS and FM alignment.

*Decision/recommendations:* The Core Team to develop a proposal for expanding the IHP+ mandate to also cover coordination aspects of support for HSS, UHC and health security; the proposal would outline the principles, not the details of future arrangements. It would be submitted to the IHP+ Signatories for approval/no-objection by the two agencies leading IHP+, WHO and the World Bank. If accepted, the details of what this would imply in terms of changes to the Global Compact and IHP+ governance would have to be tabled for discussion and decision by the Steering Committee. In addition the IHP+ Strategy and Work Programme would have to be modified.

### **Session 4: IHP+ Strategy 2016-17**

The proposed IHP+ Strategic Directions 2016-17 was elaborated by the IHP+ Intensified Action Working Group (IAWG), chaired by the European Commission, and with members from most of the agencies and countries sitting on the IHP+ Steering Committee. Subsequent comments from Steering Committee members were incorporated in the draft presented.

*Discussion:* In general the draft Strategy was found very appropriate. Several countries suggested that the issue of countries transitioning from Low-income to Middle-Income Country status should receive more prominence. Also raised, was the need for a clearer articulation of how to deal with the private sector and which private sector stakeholders to include and why. Other issues raised were: to include triangulation in the methodology for assessing agency behavior; and consider India as an emerging economy for IHP+ to engage with in addition to the three countries suggested.

*Decision/recommendations:* The Core Team would revise the Strategy based on the above, and circulate to the SC for approval/no-objection.

#### **Session 5: IHP+ Work Programme 2016-17**

The Work Programme was created by the Core Team based on the draft Strategy. The Core Team emphasized that the implementation of the Work Programme is not only the responsibility of the Core Team but of all signatories; and that more funding was needed to finance the whole of the second year.

*Discussion:* A number of issues were raised that should be reflected in the final version of the Work Programme: first of all, the issue of updating the mandate of IHP+, as discussed under the Session 4, should be reflected; the fact that IHP+ still is not known well enough, should imply that agencies make their staff more aware of IHP+; more detailed information on the IHP+ budget; a clearer prioritisation on what will be done the first year; focus in 2016 on modifying the IHP+ approach in fragile states; and develop a communications strategy, with the assistance of a communications company, to ensure better dissemination of IHP+ material and a better understanding of IHP+ among more stakeholders.

*Decision/recommendations:* The Core Team would revise the Work Programme based on the comments made, and circulate to the Steering Committee for approval/no-objection.

#### **Session 6: Membership of IHP+ Steering Committee**

The discussion took its point of departure in the [note](#) prepared by the Core Team.

*Discussion:* Given the ongoing considerations of a new role for IHP+, which may very well include a revision of the IHP+ governance structure, and also calls for continuity in the Steering Committee during a possible transition period, it was decided to continue the present Steering Committee with minimal changes. Given Japan's role in promoting coordination around UHC, Japan was asked whether they would accept becoming a member of the Steering Committee. Also, in order not to exclude new members wishing to join and also provide a better foundation for continuity, when the membership is eventually revised, it was decided to accept signatories that wish to participate as observers.

*Decision/recommendations:* Maintain the present members, including the Co-chairs. Adopt Japan as a member, if they officially accept. Accept Signatories that want to become an observer.

Back-to-back with the Steering Committee meeting Germany and WHO hosted the **1<sup>st</sup> Technical Consultation on the Roadmap: Health Systems – Health Lives**".

This was followed by a reception co-hosted by Germany and IHP+.

## Annex 1

### **5th IHP+ Steering Committee Meeting** Wednesday, 18 November 2015 Room M405, Building M, WHO Headquarters, Geneva

#### **Final Agenda**

#### **Objectives**

- To review and finalize the new strategy approach for IHP+ post-2015
- To review and agree on IHP+ Work Programme 2016-17
- To agree on composition of IHP+ Steering Committee for 2016

**08:30 - 08:45 Session 1: Introduction, confirmation of co-chairs, objectives of the day**  
Co-chairs: Veronique Lorenzo, European Commission and Amir Hagos, FMOH Ethiopia

**08:45 – 09:30 Session 2: IHP+ progress**, including overview of FMTWG work

**09:30 – 10:15 Session 3:** Presentation from Germany on **HSS** and Japan on **UHC** and discussion on IHP+'s role

*10:15 – 10:45 COFFEE/TEA BREAK*

**10:45 – 12:15 Session 4: IHP+ Strategy 2016-17**

*12:15 – 13:15 LUNCH (provided)*

**13:15 – 14:45 Session 5: IHP+ Work programme 2016-17**

**14:45 – 15:30 Session 6: Membership of IHP+ Steering Committee**

*15:30 – 16:00 COFFEE/TEA BREAK*

**16:00 – 16:15 Summary of decisions, follow up, upcoming events and close**

**16:30 – 18:00 1st Technical Consultation on the Roadmap: “Healthy Systems – Healthy Lives”** (*Salle B, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, WHO main building*)

*18:00 – 19:30 RECEPTION (WHO Main Restaurant)*

## Annex 2

### 5th IHP+ Steering Committee Meeting Wednesday, 18 November 2015 Room M405, Building M, WHO Headquarters, Geneva

#### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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