Executive Team Meeting  
25 March 2010

Note for the Record

Participants:
Civil Society – North, South  European Commission  Global Fund  Kenya
Nepal  Netherlands  UNFPA  United Kingdom
WHO  World Bank

ACTIONS:
1. Mutual accountability: there will be a technical side event on Mutual Accountability, for IHP+ partners at the World Health Assembly: May 18, 17:30, Palais des Nations. Details to follow.
2. Joint assessment of national strategies
   - A JANS Scoping Missions is scheduled for April 19 to Vietnam.
   - The final report from the JANS scoping mission to Ethiopia will be circulated by the Core Team.
   - The Core Team will circulate the JANS matrix twice monthly to the Executive Team, and share proposed dates for any JANS as soon as they become known. Executive Team members are then responsible for communicating proposed dates with their constituencies. Partners wishing to participate in JANS Missions should contact the Core Team directly.
   - A note on ‘lessons learned’ from Nepal will be ready by the next Executive Team meeting.
3. Membership of the Executive Team will be posted on the IHP+ website.

AGENDA:
1. Mutual Accountability Working Group
   The Core Team gave an update on the IHP+ Mutual Accountability Working Group. The objective of the Working Group is to review proposals from IHP+ Results on methods and process for the second independent monitoring of progress against Global Compact commitments, and make recommendations for this round to the Executive Team. Tim Martineau (UNAIDS) will chair the small, time-limited group, which includes experts with knowledge of relevant national and international monitoring instruments from Ethiopia, GAVI, Germany, the Global Fund, Mali, Netherlands, United Kingdom, UNICEF, the World Bank and from IHP+ Results. IHP+ Results is linking up with OECD/DAC TT HATS to ensure that there is no duplication of effort. The Core Team provides the secretariat. The first product will be a short set of standard indicators/questions, to be shared with the Executive Team in April.

   A technical meeting for IHP+ signatories entitled “Enhancing Mutual Accountability for Results” will take place during the World Health Assembly on Tuesday, May 18, 17:30 hours, in the Palais des Nations. There will be a discussion on mutual accountability in health from different perspectives - IHP+ countries; development agencies and from the IHP+Results Consortium. An agenda is being developed by the Core Team.

2. Joint Assessment of National Strategies
   - The Core Team provided an update, noting the recent scoping mission to Uganda, the upcoming scoping mission to Vietnam (April 19), and the development of the roadmap for JANS in Ethiopia. It was clarified that while the Core Team leads scoping missions, it does not participate in actual country joint assessments of their national strategy.
   - The scoping mission to Uganda included discussions around the possibility and timing of JANS, as well as consideration of how to review the existing instruments of the SWAp and the MoU in order to link these documents to the new health sector strategy. An ‘IHP+ Taskforce’ has been developed in Uganda made up of all major stakeholders to consider these issues. It is expected that a mature version of the draft health sector strategy will be ready by early May.
   - There is some interest by the Tajikistan Government to organize a JANS sometime in mid-2010.
A consultant, Veronica Walford, has been contracted to document lessons learned from joint assessments, that can be shared with other countries. A first note should soon be ready on Nepal.

The EC raised some concerns of member states, notably: a) the perception that there is a lack of concrete outcomes of the JANS process at this juncture; b) some donors wish to participate in JANS scoping missions; c) further clarity is needed on the relationship between the JANS process and the Health Systems Funding Platform. The EC also noted that JANS is of the highest priority for its member states.

Civil Society reaffirmed the need to improve communication on the linkages between JANS and the Platform, and further requested that increased and deliberate efforts be made to organize specific meetings with, as well as include, Civil Society in all discussions as soon as possible, so as to allow for meaningful contribution at the country level from the start of the process – this is especially critical when processes are moving quickly. In the case of the recent Uganda mission, having one or two Civil Society members participate does not fulfil what Civil Society considers meaningful involvement. Currently, outreach and communication with country level colleagues remains a challenge due to the fast pace of the JANS. There needs to be a better balance between the speed and depth of discussions.

Response:

- The Core Team noted that the original goal is to have 4-6 JANS take place before July 2010. Currently, with one JANS completed (Nepal) and concrete plans for other countries before the summer, IHP+ is on track to meet this target.
- Participation of donors in JANS Scoping Missions is welcomed by the Core Team. The need to keep Scoping Missions manageable in size was also emphasized. Countries have explicitly requested the presence of GAVI and the Global Fund on a number of Scoping Missions, given their lack of representation at country level – this should not be perceived as preferential treatment of either organization.
- The Core Team committed to better communication of developments: by clarifying the JANS/HS Platform matrix, and to circulate it twice monthly to all members of the Executive Team. It will also circulate proposed dates for JANS Missions and Scoping Missions as soon as they become known. Executive Team members are responsible for communicating proposed dates with their constituencies.
- The Core Team can share the summary of Civil Society engagement in the four Scoping Missions to date.
- It is key that IHP+ partners share information within their own organizations and all levels. This will strengthen participation in Scoping Missions and other country level activities.

3. Health Systems Funding Platform

Nicole Klingens (Core Team) provided an update on the work of the Platform. The workplan has been circulated and outlines the main objectives of the platform. [http://go.worldbank.org/0IVEXL4N30](http://go.worldbank.org/0IVEXL4N30)

Southern Civil Society noted that the communication on harmonization of processes and cycles of decision making required further clarifications, and that messaging around the various ‘options’ and ‘tracks’ could also be clarified. Northern Civil Society also urged for further clarification on the Platform. It would be useful if GAVI and GF committee documents reflected similar levels of detail. More information was requested regarding the level of input from country-level partners, and regarding the progress of the World Bank on Platform processes.

The Global Fund noted that the Platform takes into account both existing and new funding for health, and stated that both GAVI and the Global Fund would consider 3 areas of work pertaining to the GAVI PPC and Global Fund PSC during Board discussions on March 29 and April 20, respectively.

1) Clear requirements to move quickly on Track 1 -- to harmonize on existing grants;
2) Developing Track 2, option 1 - joint GAVI/GF proposals for HSS and joint review process -- as quickly as possible; and
3) Implementing Track 2, option 2 (based on JANS) by piloting it in 4-5 countries.

The World Bank reaffirmed its full commitment to the work of the Platform and underlined the importance of the sustained engagement of all partners in the process of developing the Platform.
The need for clear and updated joint communication on the Platform was recognized.

The EC welcomed GFATM-GAVI harmonization efforts but questioned what is the difference between the HSS option 2 track 2 (alignment) and IHP+ JANS. It expressed a desire to see JANS and compacts (preferably in this order) in the pipeline in an inclusive way (beyond welcoming HSS harmonization plans GFATM-GAVI, we’re yet to see the added value on alignment) and explore jointly opportunities to support the developmental aspect and commit to its fiduciary aspect (rely and decide on joint assessments).

4. Civil Society

Southern Civil Society provided an update on CS engagement in the IHP+ process. Southern representatives to the CS Consultative Group have been identified based on participation in IHP+, Taskforce, and Platform consultation. A revised budget for Southern CS work has been submitted to the Core Team for consideration, reflecting a 15% budget reduction.

Southern CS has identified a communications hub, and CHESTRAD will support 30% of the time of a communications focal point for three months. This is not a support function for the Southern CS Reps, and not a fund holding function. Funds to support the actions of the Southern CS reps may be channeled through this hub or other means as can be negotiated. It was requested that partners share dates of IHP+/HHA joint missions to other African countries as early as possible, to enable the meaningful participation of Civil Society.

Northern Civil Society noted that five northern members of the CS Consultative Group had been selected during the summer of 2009 and have since held regular teleconference meetings, allowing northern CS to provide inputs before all major meetings, including Executive Team and SuRG meetings. Sue Perez will be stepping down as the northern CS representative to the Executive Team beginning in July 2010, at which time Elaine Ireland (currently alternate) will become primary representative and Ms. Perez will remain a part of the CS Consultative Group. Northern CS is preparing an open call for nominations for a new alternate representative, which will be sent out in April, selection in May and transition of the new northern CS alternate in June.

The World Bank will host a Civil Society roundtable in Brussels, April 8.

GAVI will host a CS meeting 29-30 March, aiming to develop a stronger GAVI CS board constituency.