IHP+ Reference Group Meeting

24 September 2015

Final Note for the record

Participants: Civil Society North, Canada, Germany, Japan, Sweden, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, World Bank

Apologies: EC, GAVI, Global Fund, Sudan, USAID; No response: DFID, Ethiopia, Sierra Leone, UNAIDS

Next Reference Group meeting: Thursday **12 November 2015**, 8:30 Washington time/14:30 Geneva time/21:30 Tokyo time

Action points:

- Agenda for the Steering Committee to focus mainly on the future strategic directions of IHP+, including its positioning in the new architecture of global health initiatives.
- Reference Group meetings will continue as planned, but will aim to move beyond information sharing towards more strategic discussions.
- WB to share the Financial Management Working group proposal for a study on inefficiencies of lack of coordination at country level (done)
- Core Team to share the final paper on the IHP+ grants review.
- UNICEF to share the operational framework for EWEC presented at UNGA.

Key issues discussed

1. **Agenda for the Steering Committee, 19 November 2015**
   - General agreement that the main agenda item will be on the Strategic Directions for IHP+ in2016-2017, based on the draft paper prepared by the Core Team with inputs from the IAWG, and circulated to SC members for comments.
   - In addition, some of the new global initiatives propose IHP+ to play a coordinating role; this will have to be addressed by SC, in light of the current proposed strategic directions, and the capacities of the Core Team (financing and staffing). Initiatives include: Germany Healthy Systems Healthy Lives initiative, launched jointly by Germany, Norway & Ghana in collaboration with others on 26 September on the margins of UNGA; Japan, GFATM, WHO & others UHC initiative. Both expected to be important inputs to the G7 discussions on health; Gates, WHO and WB initiative on PHC Performance initiative; Measurement and Accountability for Health (MA4H) and the associated Collaborative; and the Global Financing Facility for RMNCAH.
2. **Information points**
   - Core Team commissioned a review of IHP Country grants – draft report available. Lessons learned from IHP grants might be useful for GFF.
   - Core Team in the process of commissioning the fifth monitoring round, based on the approach paper circulated earlier on.
3. **Usefulness of Reference Group meetings**
   - These meetings are currently perceived as mostly an information platform. There was a perceived need from some members to make the meetings more proactive and more strategic in scope, given the emergence of new initiatives described above. This may require a better preparation of reference group meetings, including inviting staff from relevant institutions, and active involvement of reference group members in preparation. For example, it would be important to have World Bank staff who are working on the Global Financing Facility available to address specific issues in the context of the GFF and the IHP+.

Whether to continue with regular meetings or more ad hoc was also discussed, but most felt that not having regular meetings may in practice reduce the number of meetings too much.

4. **AOB**
   - **Round table on events**:
     - Uganda JANS – conducted in end of August (GF and WB part of the mission)
     - FM WG will meet on 18 November in Geneva
     - UNICEF will launch operational framework on EWEC at the Inter-ministerial Partners in Population and Development meeting in Dhaka, Bangladesh on 21 November.