

**Scaling-up Reference Group Meeting**  
**International Health Partnership and Related Initiatives (the 'IHP+')**  
**Videoconference Note for the Record, April 8, 2008, 10:00-11:30 EST**

Participants included representatives of:

GAVI	WHO
Global Fund	World Bank (Chair)
UNICEF	
UNFPA	

Apologies: UNAIDS, GAVI, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Julian Schweitzer (World Bank) opened the discussion stressing the importance for the SuRG to act as a coherent team with consistent participation of SuRG members when making important IHP+ decisions, such as on the 'Compact', validation process, World Health Assembly Event, Third High Level Forum in Accra, etc. The discussion then proceeded along the lines of the agenda.

### **1. CSO Consultations (IHP+ Core Team)**

**The IHP+ Core Team** summarized the outcomes of the March 31 Videoconference with CSOs on CSO engagement in the IHP+ process, the CSO concept note, a possible CSO event in May around the World Health Assembly, and CSO engagement going forward.

CSOs made the following requests at the March 31 Videoconference:

- **At the country-level:** CSOs asked for IHP+ country level consultations with Southern CSOs in order to better engage Southern CSOs at the country-level.
- **At the global level:** CSOs requested representation in the SuRG, IHP+ Working Groups, and the IHP+ Development Partners Videoconference. Note that they already participate in the latter.
- CSOs asked for funding for IHP+ related activities (i.e. for IHP+ related travel, videoconference participation, etc).

### **Discussion**

The SuRG agreed that it is important for the IHP+ to engage with both global and local CSOs. However, CSOs need to recognize that the IHP+ has limited management capacity.

The SuRG agreed that there should be one southern CSO representative on the SuRG and one CSO representative in each of the IHP+ working groups. However, it is important to clarify

to all CSOs that engagement in the IHP+ is at the country level where CSOs have the greatest comparative advantage. The IHP+ must also be careful to ensure that CSOs are recognized first and foremost by the IHP+ partner countries themselves; CSO engagement should not be seen as being pushed by the global level.

The SuRG also agreed that Southern CSO participation is crucial and that funding would be provided for Southern CSOs to participate in IHP+ related activities to ensure that there is an active country voice. Funding for the Southern CSOs will be spread across the SuRG's agencies. The SuRG agreed that engagement by northern CSOs should be self-funded.

### **Next Steps/Decisions**

- 1) The IHP+ Core Team to share minutes of CSO videoconference with SuRG.**
- 2) ONE SOUTHERN CSO representative to join SuRG. Process for engagement to be initiated by Core Team.**
- 3) ONE CSO representative to join each of the IHP+ Working Groups.**
- 4) Southern CSO participation will be funded across agencies. Northern CSOs will be self-funded.**

### **2. Management Structure Draft Note (IHP+ Core Team)**

The IHP+ Core Team shared the draft summary note on the IHP+ Management Structure that has been prepared to circulate to external stakeholders and opened discussion for feedback and comments.

### **Discussion**

The IHP+ Core Team noted that the IHP+ Management Structure Draft Note will be adjusted to take account of CSO representation.

Initial SuRG feedback on the management paper included the:

- Need for more more emphasis on the importance of work ongoing at the country level.
- Need to focus more on results rather than process.

It was noted that the external IHP+ review being undertaken will include a section on the IHP+ management structure. As the external review will be independent, the final report will not be approved by the SuRG, however there will be opportunity for the SuRG to provide feedback on early drafts of the report.

### **Next Steps/Decisions**

- 1) Comments on the IHP+ Management Structure Draft Note to be sent to the IHP+ Core Team by cob Tuesday, April 15, 2008 EST.**
- 2) IHP+ Core Team to revise the IHP+ Management Structure Draft Note to take account of comments.**

### **3. Development of 'Compact' guidance note (IHP+ Core Team)**

A zero draft of the 'Compact' guidance note was sent to all Lusaka participants, development partners, CSOs and the SuRG for comments and discussion on April 7, 2008. The deadline for all comments is April 25, 2008.

Country 'Compacts' are a crucial component of the IHP+; it is important for all country teams to provide feedback and be engaged in this process. It is also important that all members of the SuRG agree on the elements of a 'Compact'.

#### **Discussion**

The SuRG agreed that it is important to agree on the 'Compact' across agencies and recommended that a special videoconference on the 'Compact' guidance note be scheduled in order to have time for discussion, ensure a common understanding of the elements of a 'Compact', and to be able to decide on a proposed way forward. It was agreed that comments from SuRG members on the draft 'Compact' guidance note should be sent to the IHP+ Core Team no later than cob Tuesday, April 22, 2008 EST.

#### **Next Steps/Decisions**

- 1) Comments on the draft 'Compact' Guidance Note to be sent to the IHP+ Core Team by cob Tuesday, April 22, 2008 EST.**
- 2) The IHP+ Core Team to schedule a special SuRG videoconference to discuss 'Compact' guidance note (now scheduled for 5 May)**

### **4. Information points: WHA 2008 event, RBF Task Force Meeting (IHP+ Core Team)**

**WHA 2008 event:** A lunchtime technical briefing is planned during the World Health Assembly on Thursday, May 22, 2008. WHO's Director-General will open the session, and there will be presentations on global and country progress followed by a panel discussion. The event will provide opportunities to widen donor/partner and country engagement in IHP+. A ceremony is planned earlier in the week for new members to sign the Global Compact. An upcoming meeting is scheduled on April 10, 2008 to further finalize the format of the event and to confirm the DG's (WHO) participation.

**Discussion:** The SuRG agreed that IHP+ should be more closely linked to other initiatives (i.e. Canada, Norway, etc). The SuRG also agreed that the presentation will incorporate inputs from across the agencies, particularly in the areas of maternal and infant mortality and follow up from Lusaka; responding to how far the IHP+ process has taken forward the Lusaka recommendations at the country level and where the IHP+ wants to be in the next six months. As the WHA is an open meeting, all SuRG members are strongly recommended to attend. Space should not be a problem. The IHP+ CSO event is planned for another day, outside of the WHA.

#### **Next Steps**

- 1) Peter Salama (UNICEF) to raise the possibility of Canada/UNICEF being on the panel for the WHA event.**

**2) Core team to set up a inter-agency group to work on the WHA presentation.**

**RBF Task Force meeting:** The Bank and the Center for Global Development co-chaired the first RBF Task Force meeting, which was well attended. A report of the meeting will be released in the next two weeks. The objective of the meeting was for all Task Force members to meet, discuss interests, views, and the value added of having a RBF Task Force. The next RBF Task Force meeting is planned for September.

**Discussion:** The SuRG noted that they would like a presentation on RBF for the next SuRG meeting.

**Next Steps**

**1) IHP+ Core Team to share report of RBF Task Force Meeting with the SuRG.**

**2) A presentation on RBF will be made during the Next SuRG meeting (May 5, 2008).**

**IHP+ website:** this will be launched on April 11, 2008. The site will be circulated to all SuRG members and comments to be sent to Darren Douglas no later than cob Wednesday, April 9, 2008 EST.

The videoconference ended with different agencies noting key high-level events they are attending and the possibilities of trying to bring up the IHP+ in upcoming discussions with Donors.

**Next Meeting is scheduled for Monday 5 May 2008, 16.00-17.30 hrs Geneva time**