

Board Meeting Summary

Date and time: Tuesday 17th March. 1 pm – 3 pm GMT

Location: Zoom conference call

Board member attendees: Ellen Agler
Kieran Daly
Silvia Gold
Mona Hamammi (Chair)
Carl Manlan
Francisca Mutapi
Peter Stevenson (Vice-Chair)
Rieko Suzuki Kiaoka

Observers: Caroline Harper (Sightsavers), Mwele Malecela (WHO)

Secretariat: Thoko Elphick-Pooley, Andy Wright, Hugh Mehta

Apologies: Maimouna Diop Ly, Ilona Kickbusch, Wang Yu

For further information contact info@unitingtocombatntds.org

1. Welcome and introduction

- Mona Hammami welcomed the Board to the meeting
- Mona provided an overview of the agenda

2. Review of actions from previous meeting

- Mona provided an update on action items from the meeting on 18th February
- The Secretariat has finalised the partnership Terms of Reference and posted them on Uniting's [website](#). Other completed actions were discussed later in the meeting.
- Ongoing actions from the meeting on 18th February remain on the actions table below.

3. Uniting strategy development

- At the Board meeting on 18th February, Andy Wright had provided an update on the development of the new strategy, which included a summary of input from different people and groups across the Partner Network. There were areas of general consensus and some areas where there were differing views.
- The board requested a further meeting where collectively, they could discuss and align on the overall scope of the partnership before this is shared for further consultation with the Partner Network
- In preparation for the meeting, Andy shared a summary document that proposed what would be in and out of scope for Uniting.
- The purpose of this Board meeting was to gain consensus over what would be included in the draft

strategy, with a focus on three questions that had been shared in the agenda.

- What is the unique contribution of Uniting to Combat NTDs in supporting the implementation of the new roadmap on NTDs?
- What is the unique contribution of Uniting to Combat NTDs in the areas of communications and visibility, advocacy and resource mobilisation, collective action, and what should be in and out of scope?
- What other strategic considerations need to be made to inform the strategy?

Summary and next steps

- Following the discussion it was summarised that:
 - The London declaration represents the past and the partnership is starting a new chapter in 2020
 - There was consensus that the Board will support the Kigali summit and declaration as a platform to raise awareness commitments for all 20 diseases in the new WHO roadmap
 - The partnership should prioritise diseases that are likely to have clear resource commitments, against specific and measurable outcomes.
- It was agreed that the Secretariat should start work with the Consultative Forum to develop criteria for disease prioritisation for the Board to consider.

Actions:

- The Secretariat to work with Consultative Forum develop prioritisation criteria for the strategy, for review by the Board at its meeting in May.

4. Process to populate remaining consultative forum seats

- At the last Board meeting the Secretariat was tasked with populating the remaining seats on the Consultative Forum and bringing a recommendation back to the Board. In looking at the process to do this, the Secretariat reviewed the partnership Terms of Reference (TOR), which includes an additional provision for the Vice-Chair to establish a Consultative Forum Selection Committee.
- After discussion, the Board felt that some level of screening/verification of recommendations and rankings from the Secretariat would be helpful. In this case it was agreed that a sub-committee which includes the Board Chair and Vice-Chair should review recommendations for the open Consultative Forum seats, before they are put to the Board for approval.

Action:

- The Chair and Vice-Chair to review recommendations from the Secretariat for the open Consultative Forum seats before the Board meeting on 14th May (the Secretariat will publicise and manage an open process to identify individuals to fill the seats).