



Notes from GFAN Call November 22nd 2017

Agenda topics: Debrief from Global Fund BM#38; Situation in Venezuela; TB HLM Moscow

Global Fund Debrief:

Brief overview of the process to replace Mark Dybul as ED and the selection of Peter Sands, who is expected to formally take up his position in March 2018. This was the 2nd set of searches and was again managed by Russell Reynolds with the Executive Director Nominations Committee (Joanne Carter was the civil society representative on that committee). Board delegations had formal and informal opportunities to engage with the short-listed candidates and while, overall, the process functioned as it should a few improvements were discussed such as the need to return to civil society only calls with the ED candidates as have been run by GFAN in the past.

Peter Sands was appointed Executive Director by the Board. More on this is available in the GFAN Board Meeting report. (Katy from ICSS/GFAN)

Resource Mobilization:

A decision-point was put forward by the 2 civil society and Communities delegations to ensure that Resource Mobilization – and properly funding and prioritizing resource mobilization internally at the Secretariat – was top of mind for the new ED. The DP which requests that the ED return to the Board with a fully costed plan to ensure resource mobilization is properly supported and funded. (Katy from ICSS/GFAN)

Eligibility

There is currently an ongoing review of the eligibility policy through the Strategy Committee, Rico Gustav (BM Communities) and Jorge Saavedra (ABM Developing Country NGOs) are both on the committee and have been working closely with Mike Podmore (BM Developed Country NGOs). So far the review has been discussed at 2 SC meetings and this Board Meeting and decisions on any review points are expected at the May 2018 Board Meeting.

A number of key donors are opposed to opening up the policy at all, but civil society and communities presented a joint paper which notes that the Global Fund is often leaving before the diseases are actually under control and gains are often lost. The paper makes a number of recommendations but at the BM the 3 delegations pushed in particular the idea of amending or expanding the NGO rule (which currently only applies to 1 country) so that funds for civil society are targeted at two categories: firstly, recently transitioned countries who haven't benefitted from the STC policy and face resurgence, closure of services and/or lack of government capacity or willingness to

fund the services. Secondly, currently ineligible UMICs with moderate HIV disease burden and if threshold changes are made in TB and malaria as is being discussed, those as well. (Mike Podmore, BM Developed Country NGO Delegation)

Human Rights Protocol

As put forward by the Developing Country NGO delegation and supported by the other two delegations, there were a series of interventions to suggest the need for a Human Rights Protocol at the Secretariat. Such a protocol could provide guidance to the Global Fund in terms of how it can, and should, intervene and under what circumstances. The recent examples of the incarceration of lawyers who were recipients of GF funding and the on-going crisis in Venezuela were shared as two different examples of when such a framework or protocol would be useful. (Alan Maleche, BM Developing Country NGO Delegation)

Innovative Financing

There was a lot of discussion about Innovative Financing at this last BM, including a paper on buy-downs which was given a lot of focus. The civil society and communities delegations made numerous representations that loan buy downs and blended financing shouldn't be the only options being considered. In transitioning countries in particular, there is a need to focus on Key Populations and so innovative and/or blended financing should also be focused on what can bring resources to bear for these populations. The delegations also requested that blended financing options should not be undertaken without Board discussion and approval as is the case with two "pilots" of loan buy downs to ensure that KP needs are addressed. (Maurine Murenga - ABM Communities Delegation)

Discussion on various questions took place many focusing on what might be assumed to be the new Executive Directors position on these ideas and which delegations were resistant to opening up eligibility discussions. GFAN/ICSS already has a request in to set up a call with Peter Sands once he begins and will make that happen as soon as is possible.

Other items

Venezuela

Javier Belloq provided an update on the continued, worsening situation in Venezuela. Presentations that were shared at the Global Fund Board can be found here:

- [PAHO/UNICEF/UNAIDS](#)
- [ICASO](#)
- [GFATM LAC Delegation](#)

Updates were also provided on the WHO Ministerial Meeting on TB and several notices about upcoming ICASA activities.