

Secretary General's Ebola Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF)
#2nd Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes

November 13th, 2014, 07:45am-12:30pm EST

Participants:

Dr. David Nabarro, UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Ebola (Chair)
H.E. Mr. Mamadi Touré, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Guinea to the UN
H.E. Ms. Marjon V. Kamara, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Liberia to the UN
H.E. Mr. Vandi Chidi Minah, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Sierra Leone to the UN
Mr. George Turkington, Direct of Ebola Crisis Unit, UK
Ms. Jo Scott-Nicholls, Team Leader, Ebola Crisis Unit, UK
Ms. Annlouise Olofsson, Sida, Sweden
Ms. Bintou Keita, Chief of Staff, UNMEER (observer)
Mr. Peter Jan Graaff, Ebola Crisis Manager for Liberia (resource person)
Mr. Amadu Kamara - Ebola Crisis Manager for Sierra Leone (resource person)
Dr Alex Gasasira, WHO Liberia
Mr. Anthony Evans – ICAO
Mr. Juergen Nagler – UNDP Accra (was represented by another colleague from Accra)
Mr. Yannick Glemarec, MPTF Office Executive Coordinator, Administrative Agent (ex-officio)
Ms. Olga Aleshina, Ebola MPTF Secretariat, Special Envoy's Office (ex-officio)

Introduction

- ✓ The Chair welcomed the participants. He outlined the objectives of the meeting to review the proposals received from the UN Agencies. Introductory remarks were requested by the Chair.
- ✓ **UK** – Mr. George Turkington welcomed the proposals received and flagged some comments in reference to the WFP proposal.
- ✓ **Sweden** – Ms. Annlouise Olofsson welcomed the proposals received.
- ✓ Greetings received from the Permanent Representatives of **Guinea**, H.E. Mr. Touré, the Permanent Representative of **Liberia**, H.E. Ms. Kamara, and the Permanent Representative of **Sierra Leone**, H.E. Mr. Minah, as well as from Ms. Bintou Keita **UNMEER**, **ECMs** from Liberia and Sierra Leone, **WHO** Monrovia, **UNDP** Accra and **ICAO** Montreal.

Overview of the Process

- The Chair provided an overview of the latest situation with the Secretary General's Ebola Trust Fund (MPTF) and welcomed feedback on how to move forward. He requested participants to share their opinions and remarks on the proposals received, apologizing that the documentation was circulated with such a short time for consideration. The Chair thanked UNMEER for their review of proposals considering the substantial workload on the ground.
- **Comments and remarks**

- ✓ The Permanent Representatives of **Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone** thanked and welcomed the proposals received.
 - ✓ The **UK** offered their considerations of the proposals, highlighting the importance of filling immediate critical gaps. On the WFP proposal “Common Services for the health response to the EVD outbreak in West Africa”, the UK requested more clarity on funding of the parallel proposal for food provision and NFI to quarantined households. They requested further discussions on the plan to keep open the option for two new ETUs in Sierra Leone. The UK also suggested we should have deadlines on the key deliverables in the proposal.
 - ✓ **Sweden** welcomed the proposals and asked for clarification on how the proposals have been received, reviewed and prioritized. Looking at the received proposals Sweden’s representative inquired if there will be more “Ensure essential services” type of projects now or if the main focus continues to be “Stop and Treat”.
 - ✓ **MPTF Office:** the Executive Coordinator shared an overview of the funding situation (pledges, commitments, and deposits) and allocations. A total of \$121 mln was received in pledges. US \$26.5 million had been transferred to WFP for their approved logistics Special Operation as of November 13th.
- The Chair invited the **UNMEER** Chief of Staff to share the results of prioritization of the received proposals. She explained the choice of the “High”, “Medium,” and “Low” priority rankings, based on quick impact in the affected countries. She added that the entire set of proposals had high impact but the priority was given to the first two Strategic Objectives of the UN Ebola Response: Stop the Outbreak and Treat the Infected. The criteria that were used in the review included:
 - ✓ Relevance of the proposal in reference to the Strategic Objectives;
 - ✓ The degree of synchronization of the proposal objectives with the overall efforts of the UN Mission;
 - ✓ Alignment with the Governments’ priorities;
 - ✓ Value for Money and deliverables timeframes.
- **Members of Advisory Committee**
 - ✓ **Chair** – Acknowledgement of the hard work invested by UNMEER, recognizing the difficulty to assign priority ranking given the importance of all projects in meeting the immediate needs of the affected countries.
 - ✓ **PR of Liberia** – Appreciative remarks about the comments provided by UNMEER. Recommended to look at the early recovery and immediate needs, importance of coordination of the activities was stressed.
 - ✓ **PR of Guinea** – Acknowledgment of the work presented and request for Proposal #3 (UNICEF/UNDP) on Social Mobilization as high priority given the criticality of the community engagement.
 - ✓ **PR of Sierra Leone** – Acknowledgement of the importance of social mobilization programmes. Request to include full contact details of proposal submitters on the proposal in order for stakeholders to be able to contact the project coordinators.
 - ✓ **UK** – Positive remarks were offered on the submitted proposals. Further discussion on priorities was required. Requested a clarification of how the UN Payment proposals (# 6, 7, 8 and 9) are coordinated with WB. On the WFP proposal, the UK requested further clarification on the line item for the 2 new ETUs and their costs.
 - ✓ **Sweden** – Overall agreed with UNMEER prioritization. However, clarification required, on why upgrading the priority of the ICAO proposal compared to rejecting/lowering other

- proposal rankings in the context of available funding. Sweden also inquired whether the proposals submitted in this round, in case not funded, would be eligible to be resubmitted in the future allocation rounds.
- ✓ The final recommendation focused on **moving rapidly** and **deepening the analysis** of the proposals and putting them in the frame of an overall needs analysis (why these project proposals and not others is not clear enough), encouraging an earlier submission.

Final recommendations and adjournment

A final decision was not made on the submitted proposals, which needed a deeper review and a consolidated response to the feedback provided by the members of the Advisory Committee.

The overall reaction to the new submitted proposal was positive and well received because it was felt it demonstrated the direction to move towards.

Although final decisions were not made at the meeting, the following recommendations were offered:

- ✓ **#6 – # 9** - UN Payments for Ebola Workers (Ghana, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia) – HIGH priority. But needs to show close coordination and complementarity to the WB mechanism
- ✓ **#11** – Ebola Response Quick Impact Project - HIGH priority
No objection. Quick impact is an important factor. The proposal needs to display a transparent system of how the funding will be allocated to activities.
- ✓ **#10** – Accelerating Progress Towards Interruption of Ebola Virus Transmission in Liberia
HIGH priority
Positive feedback. Request more work on the proposal, clear indications of the deliverable and success indicators.
- ✓ **#05** – Support to prevent spread of Ebola in Detention Centers in Sierra Leone – HIGH priority
Positive feedback. Comment from the Chair about the geographical coverage of Sierra Leone only. Need more proposals on the Rule of Law from the other two affected countries.
- ✓ **#03** – Stop Ebola Through social mobilization and community engagement in Guinea – MEDIUM priority.
Positive feedback. PR of Guinea strongly recommended to move the proposal into HIGH priority category, emphasizing the importance of engaging the communities in the Ebola response.
- ✓ **#02** – Aviation Ebola Action Plan – MEDIUM priority
The Chair emphasized the important impact of this proposal - reduction of isolation of the affected areas. The Chair commended high quality work of ICAO in assisting many airports with pandemic preparedness in the framework of the Avian and Human Influenza. The Advisory Committee requested further information.
- ✓ **#04** - Supporting the well-being and protection of Ebola affected children in Liberia.
MEDIUM priority. The PR of Liberia while fully acknowledging the Medium priority placed by UNMEER requested keeping this proposal on the table for a future allocation round.

No fund allocation decisions were taken by the Special Envoy at the meeting. The next step is to work on resubmitting and re-analyzing the proposals. The members were invited to submit additional comments on the proposals in writing.

It was agreed to have the next Advisory Committee meeting within 2 weeks. The Advisory Committee members requested the documentation related to the meeting, especially project proposals, to be shared at least two days ahead of the Advisory Committee meetings.