

**Secretary General's Ebola Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF)
#4th Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes (DRAFT)**

December 17th, 2014, 09:00am EST - 02:00pm Accra

List of invited Participants:

Chair: Dr. David Nabarro, UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Ebola (Chair)

Members:

H.E. Mr. Mamadi Touré, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Guinea to the UN (absent, on mission)

H.E. Ms. Marjon V. Kamara, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Liberia to the UN (absent, on mission in Liberia)

H.E. Mr. Amadu Koroma, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Sierra Leone (represented the Permanent Representative at the meeting)

Mr. George Turkington, Direct of Ebola Crisis Unit, UK

Ms. Jo Scott-Nicholls, UK

Ms. Katarina Kotoglou, Sweden (absent)

Observers:

Ms. Bintou Keita, Chief of Staff, UNMEER (observer)

Resource Persons:

Mr. Peter Jan Graaff - Ebola Crisis Manager for Liberia

Mr. Amadu Kamara - Ebola Crisis Manager for Sierra Leone

Mr. Anshu Banerjee, UNMEER Accra

Ms. Barbara Bentein, UNICEF

Mr. John Gordon, Office of the Special Envoy

Ms. Camille Petit, Office of the Special Envoy

Ex-Officio Members:

Mr. Yannick Glemarec, MPTF Office Executive Coordinator, Administrative Agent (ex-officio)

Ms. Olga Aleshina, Ebola MPTF Secretariat Head, Special Envoy's Office (ex-officio)

Introduction

The Chair welcomed and presented the Agenda to the participants. He opened the session by congratulating the members of the Ebola MPTF for the management of the Fund.

He highlighted the Trust Fund milestones of the last three months of 2014 (since Fund's establishment in September 2014):

- Objective to finance urgent unfunded priorities based on the five strategic objectives STEPP (Stop-Treat—Ensure-Preserve-Prevent) and Critical Actions
- Broad basis of donors; current pledges at \$141 mln
- Proposals received and funded based on the three allocation rounds: Special Logistics Operation, Community Mobilization and Multi-faceted Preparedness and Strengthening Epidemiological Surveillance

Emphasis has been placed on the gradual evolution of the Ebola response strategy, which Trust Fund followed. The Fund has been able to find tailored solutions to meet specific needs – shift to strengthening the district level actions, particularly in remote areas. The Chair reported that some areas in the three affected countries have registered successful results to contain the outbreak, whereas in other areas, the localized outbreaks continue to rapidly develop. There is urgency to have capacity at the district level to tailor the responses to specific situations at each of the 60 localities as well as to ensure a strategic approach to control the borders (Mali and 1 potential case not confirmed in Guinea Bissau).

The objective for 2015 is to mobilize additional resources to continue to fund strategic responses, to build on various information to develop gap analysis map, identify critical needs, and deploy M&E capacity to monitor the approved projects.

Presentation of the Funding Framework

The Executive Coordinator of MPTF Office provided the overview of the funding situation (commitments, deposits, transfers and balance).

A total of US\$141 mln was received in pledges, with US\$ 122 mln out of this amount in legal commitments (consisting of 31 Member States, one business and individuals).

Sixty percent of the commitments are un-earmarked and 40 percent earmarked. US \$57 mln had been already transferred to seven Recipient UN Organizations (ICAO, UNDP, UNICEF, UNMEER, UNOPS, WFP, and WHO), while US\$ 38 mln are available for programming.

Comments and Remarks

The Chair invited the Participants to provide their general comments.

- ✓ **DPR of Sierra Leone** expressed gratitude for what has been achieved in three months since the establishment of the Fund as well as the rapidity of fund disbursement. Moreover, he acknowledged the solidarity of the Member States and the private sector in supporting the Trust Fund. He acknowledged the positive feedback of the “tailor-made” strategy to the Response, stressing the importance of building local capacity and working with people on the ground.
The chair praised the leadership of the President of Sierra Leone, whereby a significant progress has been achieved in Sierra Leone. Although there are still hotspots in the west and north areas of Sierra Leone, the number of cases is coming down significantly.
- ✓ **UK DFID representative** has congratulated the Special Envoy for the excellent management of the fund and rapid disbursement. The new tailoring approach strategy for hot-spots has been welcomed with particular attention to the new unfunded gaps and the new proposals that will be submitted to fill them. UK Representative requested as we go forward to further shape the strategy of needs that the Ebola MPTF intends to fill.
- ✓ **UNMEER** Chief of Staff acknowledged the quick and efficient fund management. The Chief of Staff also acknowledged that the latest submitted proposals demonstrate more tailored response on the ground in sync with the national authorities’ strategies and working closely with NGOs at local the level.
- ✓ **Ebola Crisis Manager for Liberia** commented on the QIP proposal, new received proposals as well as the process of proposal justification, which is done through the ECMs.

- ✓ **UNICEF** representative did not have comments at this stage

The Chair thanked the participants for their remarks and provided additional details after the inputs received:

- In the coming Advisory Committee meetings it will be more data to discuss the Ebola MPTF funding strategy after the visit to the three affected countries and consultation with the Ebola Crisis Managers;
- Current discussion with UN Foundation about Private Sector engagement;
- More involvement of the NGOs in the MPTF, as NGOs continue to be important players in the field.
- Need for further elaboration of the system of the Emergency Facility of the Trust Fund to be used for small (under \$500,000) projects, when immediate funding is required. The Chair will inform the Advisory Committee about the small grant project, seek views, and approve such projects within 24 hrs.

Report on proposed approvals and longer term pipeline

The summary of the submitted proposals and proposed approvals is provided below:

- **#15 – Cash payment policies for Ebola Workers & payments for Ebola survivors** – Waiting for review, as in the previous meeting, the Advisory Committee acknowledged that this project might contain an overlap with Payment for Ebola Workers proposal.
- **#10 – Accelerating Progress towards interruption of Ebola Virus transmission in Liberia** – The revised proposal was supported.
- **#16 - Strengthen District level case finding, case management, reporting, logistics management and community mobilization and engagement.** The proposal is fully supported and it is reaching the Finalization Phase (social mobilization and logistics components need to be checked, while the epidemiological surveillance and IPC components were fully approved).
- **#22 – Ebola Charters** – The proposal seeks exceptional retrospective funding for the cargo flights. Special Envoy will review all additional information and make a final decision.
- **#23 - CCCs: Care for persons with Ebola and infection control** – Full support given to this proposal.
- **#24 – Secretariat Support: Planning and M&E Officers** –support received.
- **#25 - Stop Ebola Transmission in Monrovia and Paynesville** – small grant proposal (\$283,000) presented by Special Envoy on behalf of ECM-Liberia and proposed for approval. No objection received.
- **#26 Ebola Response through Small Grants in Liberia** - Questions were asked about the complementarity between this proposal and QIP. No final decision was made
- **#27 - Multi-faceted preparedness Cote d'Ivoire** – Under consideration, but no final decision made. Since the fund has fully been programmed, this proposal is currently in the pipeline.

Members of the Advisory Committee provided final remarks on the proposals

- ✓ **DPR of Sierra Leone** – Acknowledged with appreciation the consideration of Proposal #15 and stressed on the importance of **#13 Support to response and resilience** and **#14 Livelihood Recovery and Resilience, which were not approved in the previous rounds.** The DPR stressed that the economies are heavily affected especially the

- agricultural sector, and requested to give consideration to these proposals in the future rounds.
- ✓ **UK** asked questions about two components of **#16 - Strengthen District level case finding, case management, reporting, logistics management and community mobilization and engagement (MCA 9 and 11)**. UK endorsed Proposal **#24 – Secretariat Support: Planning and M&E Officers**, requesting that high quality people will be engaged for this programme

The Chair of the AC invited the members to make final remarks and offered the necessary bilateral follow-up.