

Secretary General's Ebola Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF)
#7^h Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes (DRAFT)

July 8th, 2015, 09:00am EST - 02:00pm Accra Time

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

Members:

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

Ms. Marjon V. Kamara, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Liberia to the UN

Mr. Amadu Koroma, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Sierra Leone to the UN

Mr. Sheku Mesali, Counsellor Permanent Mission of the Republic of Sierra Leone to the UN

Ms. Gail Farngalo, Ebola Focal Point, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Liberia to the UN

Ms. Laura Kelly, Ebola Crisis Unit (UK)

Ms. Sophia Wengelin, SIDA

Ms. Lotta Segerström, Mission of Sweden to the UN

Ms. Nadine Skale, Mission of Germany to the UN

Resource Persons:

UNMEER:

Mr. Peter Graff, SRSG a.i. UNMEER (*observer*)

Ms. Bintou Keita, Ebola Crisis Manager for Sierra Leone (*resource person*)

Mr. Abdou Dieng, Ebola Crisis Manager for Guinea (*resource person*)

Ms. Soraya Adouane, Chief of Staff a.i. for Guinea

Mr. Mohamed Kakay, Associate Coordination Officer UNMEER Sierra Leone

Mr. Stephane Renaldin, UNMEER, Guinea

UN Agencies:

Guinea: Mr. Eloi Kouadio, UNDP Guinea, Country Director
Mr. Marc Wajnszok, Senior Programme Coordinator, Ebola Response and Recovery

Liberia: Mr. Remi Sogunro, UNFPA Representative a.i. Liberia
Mr. Cleophas Torori, UNDP Liberia, Country Director a.i.
Mr. Stanley Kamara, Economic Specialist/National Economist, UNDP

Sierra Leone: Mr. Anders Nordström, Head of WHO Sierra Leone
Ms. Carine Yengayenge, DRR /Operations, UNDP
Mr. Lionel Laurens, Advisor, UNDP

HQ:

Ms. Jillann Farmer, Director, Medical Service Division, UN
Ms. Barbara Bentein, Principal Advisor, Head of Ebola Cell, UNICEF
Mr. Abdullah Alkulaib, UNDP New York

Office of the Special Envoy on Ebola

Mr. Mathew Willis, Programme Officer

Ex-Officio Members:

Ms. Olga Aleshina – Senior Portfolio Manager, Representing the Executive Coordinator of the MPTF Office

Introduction

The Chair welcomed the participants to the 7th Advisory Committee Meeting and invited Ambassadors and donor representatives to make opening remarks. He debriefed the members about global meetings happening on the Ebola Outbreak and Response.

UN Special Envoy on Ebola's situation in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone

Chair provided an updated information on work happening on the ground and on challenging issues communities were facing. The hidden chains of transmission were occurring.

The Chair remarked that the Trust Fund facilitated the rapid response to the outbreak and was preparing for recovery. The July Conference on Ebola aims at securing continued international support for the people of the affected countries, looking for a long-term commitment and statements of financial pledges. The Trust Fund has opened the recovery window in January 2015 to fund recovery-related projects.

The Chair announced the launch of the second Interim Ebola Response MPTF report and thanked the Ebola MPTF Secretariat for the preparation of this comprehensive report.

Funding Framework and Achievement of the Trust Fund

The current overview of the funding situation (pledges, commitments, and deposits) and allocations was presented. A total of US\$140.6 mln was deposited as of 08 July 2015. The unprecedented number of contributors includes over 40 Member States, as well as business and individuals.

In terms of transfers \$135.6 million had been transferred to the 9 UN Recipient Organizations, \$1 million was transferred for funding Trust Fund M&E capacity. The current balance on the MPTF account was \$2.99 million.

Out of this amount \$600,000 was earmarked by Israel for maintenance of Israel Clinics in the three affected countries. Another \$344,000 out of current balance came as a refund from UNMEER Liberia for QIPs projects that were discussed later during the meeting for the new leadership of the QIP projects after UNMEER's phasing out. The total programmable amount was \$2,050,000. This amount did not include \$1 million expected from the Russian Federation and \$1.5 million contribution from Turkey. Taking this into account, the total available amount for programming was \$4.5 million.

Some additional clarifications were provided on Ambassador's Kamara question on funding the MRU and IFRC implemented projects and Ambassador's Koroma comment on additional fundraising for the Ebola MPTF for the response and recovery windows. The Chair emphasized that more resources were required.

Reprogramming of UNMEER projects #11 Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) and #17 Rapid Response Stabilization Teams (RRSTs)

#11 Quick Impact Projects transfer of implementation to UNDP.

QIPs projects implemented by UNMEER were extremely successful. The Chair referred to an inspiring video prepared by UNMEER related to the activities implemented in Sierra Leone that was shared with the participants as an evidence of QIP's success.

Since UNMEER is phasing out and given the extreme interest and importance of QIPs for the NGOs and CBOs, it was proposed to transfer the responsibility for the implementation of three QIPs to the UNDP country offices with funds refunded from UNMEER to become available to QIPs for continuation of implementing quick, flexible and effective actions on the Ebola Response with a direct impact on the communities.

With regards to project #17 "Rapid Response Stabilization Team (RRST) in Sierra Leone it was suggested to transfer implementation of UNMEER's portion of the project to the project "Strengthening EVD surveillance, community engagement and response for getting to and sustaining 0 Ebola cases in Sierra Leone" to be implemented by WHO.

Ms. Bintou Keita, Ebola Crisis Manager for Sierra Leone, and Mr. Anders Nordström, Head of WHO Sierra Leone, provided additional information on the new arrangement for project #17 in terms of the WHO participation, strong connection with the national authorities and need for this project on the ground.

The Chair invited the Committee Members' comments on the transition of the above mentioned projects and asked to endorse the decision of transfer #11 QIP Projects to UNDP Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone and transfer the implementation of UNMEER's portion of project #17 RRST to WHO project "Strengthening EVD surveillance, community engagement and response for getting to and sustaining 0 Ebola cases in Sierra Leone".

FINAL DECISION – SUPPORT.

The Chair informed three UN Agencies in Liberia (UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA) that the original request to refund the unspent money of project #10 "Interruption of Transmission" was postponed. He stressed that the surveillance activities should continue due to a resurgence of Ebola in Liberia. The Chair requested the UN Agencies to resubmit the reprogramming proposal.

Review Proposals

- **#40 – Maintaining essential service capability for UN Medical Clinics in Guinea and Sierra Leone**

Ms. Jillian Farmer, Director of UN Medical Service Division, discussed the submitted project. The proposal focuses on UN Clinics in Guinea and Sierra Leone to ensure consistent and reliable Non-Ebola medical care to United Nations personnel, their recognized dependents, international humanitarian personnel, UN contractors and any other persons designated by the UN and cover personnel, equipment, material and supplies.

- The overall request for this proposal is: \$ 1,219,800
- Favorable proposal to support #40 at: \$ 1,219,800
- **FINAL DECISION – SUPPORT.**

- **#33 – Restoring Mid-wifery services – UNFPA Liberia**

The proposal was reviewed during the meeting on 09 April 2015 and was rated favorably but not categorized as current priority to “Getting to Zero”. The project was brought up to the attention of the Advisory Committee at this meeting in order to confirm members’ support to allocate 1 million USD from the Trust Fund’s recovery window. Ms. Barbara Bentein, Principal Advisor, Head of Ebola Cell, UNICEF provided additional insights on maternity services in the Ebola-affected countries. Members of the Advisory Committee expressed their full support to the proposal and decision to allocate funds from the from the Trust Fund’s recovery window.

- Strengthening the non-Ebola Health Care focusing on mid-wifery restoration services.
- The overall request for this proposal is: \$ 7,033,736
- Favorable proposal to support #33 at: \$ 1,000,000
- **FINAL DECISION – SUPPORT - \$ 1,000,000 contribution expected from the Russian Federation, UNFPA was asked to prioritize the immediate priorities within the proposal when funds arrive.**

AOB

The Special Envoy provided an update on the arrangement of the post-UNMEER leadership and coordination of the response. While the details remained to be further discussed, there was an agreement in principle that the leadership be maintained after 1 August 2015 to ensure transition of operations, coordination of the activities, and to sustain the results achieved in getting to zero. It was proposed that WHO oversees the leadership and coordination of the response. The Chair informed the Advisory Committee members that keeping on the ground the established system of coordination was discussed in several meetings among key partners of the Response. The Chair alerted the members about a possibility of this proposal to be submitted to the Advisory Committee as a last resort option. The fundraising support for this proposal is sought either via the MPTF or bilaterally.

Ms. Barbara Bentein, Principal Advisor, Head of Ebola Cell, UNICEF and Mr. Peter Graff, SRSG a.i. UNMEER, expressed support to continue with the established coordination mechanism on the ground in order to ensure coherence and to sustain the results achieved in getting Ebola to zero.

Conclusions

The Chair concluded the 7th Advisory Committee meeting thanking the Members for their participation. He proposed to hold another Advisory Committee Meeting shortly.