



**Civil Society
Alliance**

SUN CSA STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: 3 April 2015

Time: 9:00 am – 12:00 noon

Venue: Save the Children, Salomon Building, First floor

1. Status:

In attendance: Joy; Diane; Dr. Khin Thida Htut; Andrea; Sansan; Thein Zaw Oo; Dr. Thet Aung; Dr. Ohnmar Khaine.

Apologies: Celine; Cho (alternative Dr. Khin Thidar Htut attended)

Absent: Irene

2. Discussions/Proceedings:

- Review and confirm agenda: The agenda was adopted.
- Program Updates:

World Vision: Started new MNCH program in five townships in Tanintharyi region. Baseline survey was conducted using mobile phones. This will be a good opportunity for SUN CSA to link up with local Civil Society and initiate SUN activities.

Hellen Keller Institute (HKI): Together with the LEARN team, successfully conducted a design workshop on Food security and nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive interventions. Also in process is the drafting of the Facilitator Guide for Nutrition sensitive program development. The expected output is for participants to be trained as facilitators.

PACT: Nutrition workshop was conducted in 9 townships under the MNCH Shae Thot program. Sprinkles was distributed in two townships in the Shan region. (Pyin Oo Lwin and Madaya townships)

SCI: Andrea shared information regarding issues that were raised with NNC by the IBFAN training team.

1. NNC and FDA will jointly be delegated the responsibilities of monitoring, (NNC - health care facilities, information and education, FDA - labelling and promotion of the public).
2. A multisectoral Technical Working Group with similar ranking as FDBA would be appointed as platform of communication between NNC and FDA. TWG will handle difficult issues pertaining to the interpretation of OMFFIYC and the way overtures and challenges by industry should be handled.
3. The idea was advanced that monitoring can be made more effective if the community and civil society are encouraged to provide information. Both NNC and FDA said they will receive and act on monitoring results from the community. (I don't suppose they can say otherwise). Be that as it may, we think MNTC members can be encouraged carry out monitoring activities as a form of civic engagement. For monitoring to be sustainable, local NGOs through the CSA must be encouraged to lead the activity. INGOs can provide resources and help in capacity building.
4. Initially, monitoring can be concentrated at the central level –focus on a few chances of promotion and enforcement can target a few companies which are serial violators to make an example (e.g. issue warnings and possibly prosecutions through selected State, Regional, Township Food and Drug Supervisory Committee). This will send a message to companies that it is mandatory, for the protection of infant and young child health, for them to respect the law when they do business in the country.
5. Staff from FDA and selected State Regional Township – Food and Drug Supervisory Committee who have not undergone monitoring training must be provided with the necessary skills and IBFAN-ICDC will offer continued support.
6. Clarification from Union Attorney General's Office revealed that under prevailing system to “take action on violations” in Article 15 of Chapter 6 of the Myanmar law would require the Food and Drug Supervisory Committee at the relevant level to seek assistance from the police. UAGO has no powers to file charges in court. This may not be a practical route when it comes to marketing-related violations and should be used only as a last resort. Shaming through monitoring and central controls from NNC and FDA may be more effective and quick.

Sansan briefed on the Self-Assessment workshop for the SUN networks in NayPyiTaw. Also reported the restructuring in the Ministry of Health whereby the Department of Health and the Department of Health Planning was abolished organized into the Department of Medical Care (DMC) and Department of Health Planning (DHP).

Plan: Reported the successful submission of a proposal for MNCH integrated with a nutrition component. Has also received continued funding for GBV-CP and Nutrition integrated project in Kachin and Nutrition and WASH integrated project in Rakhine.

General: Given the recent developments on the Ministry of Agriculture front, a new Food Security High Level committee has been proposed and approved at the highest level. The

President has also agreed to chair this committee. There will also be a Working Group chaired by the Vice President. The formation of these committees is expected to bring key stakeholders such as Health and Agriculture to work closely together on Food security and nutrition ultimately to achieve the Zero Hunger goals...

Developing the 2015 Work Plan/Operational Plan and the Post 2015 Strategy from 2015 till 2020?

Plan Development: (Workplan/Operational Plan for 2015 and Strategic vision development for 2015 to 2020)

It was agreed that there will be a need to develop the Operational/Work Plan for 2015 and the Post 2015 Strategic Plan for 2015 to 2020.

The first step is to develop the work plan or Operational Plan for 2015. What the focus should be and where we wish to be in the next 5 years is expected to emerge from the process. The selection of the process will be important and needs to be carefully thought-out and developed to ensure good participation of key players.

The 2015 Work plan/Operational Plan will be the foundation of the next step for developing the 2015 – 2020 Strategic Vision.

Fund raising for SUN CSA for the post 2015 period:

1. Set up a pool funding mechanism whereby the Steering Committee members should allocate part of their budget for about US \$ 5000 per annum.
2. Develop joint proposals for joint activities and mobilize funds from in-country donors or private sectors such as Unilever and mobile companies.
3. Secure funds through submitting a proposal including a local partner to SCI's MYAPS (Multi Year Assistant Programs.)
4. Seek out funding from Global SUN CSN and MPTF for funding possibilities.

ACTION POINTS:

1. For developing the Work plan/Operational Plan, select a date to review log frame, budget and work plan led by an external facilitator. (Check Jennie's availability). Sansan to send out the documents to all. Tentative date – 30 April from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. Andrea will discuss with Health for Sansan's time.
2. Budget US \$ 5000 with contributions from Steering Committee member organizations' budgets indicating SUN CSA related activities.

The meeting came to a close at 12:00 noon following agreement on:

1. The above action points;
2. 30 April 2015 as the date for the next meeting to review the available documents.

