

**Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Advisory Committee  
of the UN Haiti Cholera Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund  
5:30 – 6:45 pm, 20 April 2017 (EST), New York**

**Chairpersons:** Dr. David Nabarro, Special Adviser to the SG, and Ms. Michelle Gyles-McDonnough, Director Sustainable Development Unit, Executive Office of the Secretary-General

**Members:**

***Donors:***

Mission of **France**: Ms. Fabienne Bartoli, Counsellor for Social Affairs

Mission of the **Republic of Korea**: Mr. Doyeon Won, Counsellor

Mission of the **UK**: Ms. Caroline Vent, Humanitarian Affairs

Mission of **Chile**: Mr. Fernando Cabezas Reveco, 2nd Secretary

***UN agencies, New York:***

**UNDP**: Ms. Jessica Faieta, Assistant Administrator/Director of Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean

**UNICEF**: Mr. Hamish Young, Chief, Humanitarian Action and Transitions Section, Programme Division

**OCHA**: Ms. Catherine Howard, OCHA

***UN agencies, Haiti:***

DSRSG/RC/HC for Haiti: Mr. El-Mostafa Benlamlih

PAHO, Haiti: Dr. Pape Faye

UNICEF, Haiti: Mr. Marc Vincent, Representative

UNDP, Haiti: Ms. Yvonne Helle, Country Director

OCHA, Haiti: Mr. Enzo di Taranto, Head of Office

**Observer:**

**Mission of Haiti**: Mr. Jean Baptiste Reynold Leroy, Minister Counsellor, Deputy Permanent Representative

**Ex-Officio Members:**

Ms. Jennifer Topping, Executive Coordinator, MPTF Office

Ms. Linda Taylor, Executive Director of the UN Office of Administration of Justice

Ms. Olga Aleshina, Head of the Haiti Cholera MPTF Secretariat, MPTF Office

Ms. Cristina Bertarelli, Programme Analyst of the Cholera MPTF Secretariat

Ms. Marlen Schuepbach, Executive Office of the Secretary-General

Mr. Jean Philippe Bernardini, Executive Office of the Secretary-General

**Opening of the 1st Advisory Committee Meeting on Haiti Cholera MPTF**

Dr. David Nabarro opened the 1<sup>st</sup> Advisory Committee Meeting of the Haiti Cholera MPTF by welcoming the participants. He introduced the Alternate Chair, Ms. Michelle Gyles-McDonnough, proposing that this meeting will be chaired by her.

The Chair welcomed the Representatives of the Missions, the Participating Organizations and all the participants. She outlined the two tracks of the strategic objectives of the new UN System approach to Cholera in Haiti, presented by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly. She presented the meeting agenda and asked for comments. The participants expressed support for the fight against cholera in Haiti and agreed to proceed.

### **Update on the current situation in Haiti**

The Chair provided an update on the epidemiological situation since the cholera outbreak started in 2010 showing high incidence of cases in the beginning, a marked decrease of cases in 2012-2014, and a slight re-increase in 2015-2016 post Hurricane Matthew. She presented the latest figures for the first quarter of 2017, highlighting that the cholera activity level has been lower than in 2015 and 2016, and similar to the levels seen in 2014. She stressed that the efforts must be reinforced not to lose the progress achieved in previous years.

### **The Fund's TOR**

The Chair introduced the Fund's Terms of Reference (TOR) that had been prepared based on the experience of other effective UN Trust Funds. She outlined the composition of the Advisory Committee, consisting of three donors, a representative of Haiti as observer, DSRSG/RC/HC and Participating UN Organizations (PAHO, UNICEF, UNDP, and OCHA). The Chair proposed to invite Chile as full member of the Committee, bringing the number of donor representatives to four. With no objections received from the Advisory Committee members, Chile was formally welcomed to the Advisory Committee of the Cholera Response MPTF.

The Chair opened the discussion on the frequency of project reporting. Based on previous examples, a quarterly frequency was originally proposed. After a series of exchanges on the need for frequent updates, on one hand, and the intense workload of Agencies in preparing various reports on the other, the Advisory Committee agreed to adopt a quarterly reporting with a light monthly reporting in the early phase of the Fund, and look into integrating with other regular reporting of the agencies to lighten the reporting burden.

### **Presentation of the 1<sup>st</sup> Funding Framework and financial status of the Trust Fund**

The MPTF Office Executive Coordinator, in her capacity as the Administrative Agent of the Fund, presented the Funding Framework, which describes the resource availability. She highlighted that the Trust Fund has received a total of US\$ 2.6 million in contributions from the Republic of Korea, France, United Kingdom, Chile, India, Liechtenstein, Sri Lanka, and individual and philanthropic sources through the UN Foundation. The Fund's Administrative Agent informed the Advisory Committee that US\$ 2.6 million was available for programming.

### **Review of received Proposals and Trust Fund allocation decision**

The Chair proposed to discuss the three proposals submitted by PAHO, UNICEF and UNDP, and make fund allocation decisions from a set of the following options: (i) Approve for funding; (ii) Approve with conditions, (iii) Defer; (iv) Return with comments for further consideration; and (v) Reject.

## Proposals for Consideration

**Project #1: PAHO/WHO - TRACK 1A - “Haiti Cholera Medical Response”;** Requested amount: US\$ 1,500,000.

This project aims to reduce the overall institutional mortality rate due to cholera. It will focus on (1) ensuring quality medical case management to adequately treat suspected cholera cases and (2) supporting the epidemiological system to better respond rapidly to cholera alerts and notifications.

**Discussion and Decision:** *Clarifications were received on synergy and collaboration with ongoing projects, as well as on the adequate balance between resource allocation for monitoring health care and support for implementing activities.*

The project was fully supported and **approved for funding.**

**Project #3: UNICEF - TRACK 1A - “Preventing and cutting cholera transmission on the four persistent departments”;** Requested amount: US\$ 500,000.

The main objective of this project is to support cholera control and contribute to stop the transmission of cholera in Haiti through (1) reinforced departmental coordination, (2) improved rapid response, (3) Better control of water system chlorination in the West Department, and (4) Increased communication to the public. The action focuses in the 4 persistent departments (Nord, Centre, Artibonite, Ouest). The proposal is fully aligned with the government medium-term cholera elimination plan.

**Discussion and Decision:** The project was fully supported and **approved for funding.**

**Project #2: UNDP - TRACK 2 - “Community assistance to Mirebalais: new UN approach to Cholera in Haiti”;** Requested amount: US\$ 500,000.

This project represents a concrete and tangible expression of the UN’s regret for the suffering that the Haitian people have endured as a result of cholera. It proposes the implementation of a symbolic project in Mirebalais, the commune where cholera started in Haiti. The initiative includes three main components: 1) mapping of implementing actors active in cholera priority communes; 2) consultation in Mirebalais with affected communities, including local representatives, formal and informal leaders as well as families affected by cholera and other vulnerable groups; 3) implementation of community projects in Mirebalais identified during the consultations and according to the selection criteria defined by the team.

**Discussion and Decision:** *Clarifications were received on timeframe, structure and scope of the consultation process. Support was given to the proposal, highlighting that the consultation work will help us understand appropriate options for engaging in Track 2. This project was welcomed as the first Track 2 project.*

The project was fully supported and **approved for funding.**

## Any Other Business

The Chair concluded the meeting by thanking the agencies for all the work on the ground, and hoping for an increased resource flow into the Trust Fund.

The Chair adjourned the meeting.