

**5<sup>th</sup> Communicable Diseases Executive Working Group**

**(CD ExWG) Meeting Minutes**

**Virtual Meeting, 21<sup>st</sup> May 2020**

**1. Opening**

Dr. Thar Tun Kyaw, the Chair of CD ExWG, the Director General, Office of the Union Minister, Ministry of Health and Sports delivered the opening remarks. A total of 9 out of 15 (60%) of the Communicable Disease Executive Working Group (CD ExWG) members attended the video conference and, hence, the quorum was reached. Director of NAP, Programme Manager (NTP), Principal Recipients (PRs), PWC, and PCE also joined the meeting as observers.

Dr. Stephan Paul Jost, WHO Representative declared COI with regards to Global Fund grant. The agenda items were presented and endorsed by the Chair.

**2. Identification of SRs for 2021-2023 Grant Implementation**

Dr. Thandar Lwin, DyDG, Diseases Control, Department of Public Health, MoHS presented about “SR Reselection Process” based on the e-mail communications from Global Fund with Regional Steering Committee (RSC). Despite the decision was made by CD ExWG on 08<sup>th</sup> of May, it was informed that Union Minister, MoHS has approved to proceed the application of C19RM and the reselection of SRs for next grant of Global Fund in compliance with the guidance. With the guidance of the Chair, it was consulted with respective programme directors and there was no objection. The explanation about the suggested approaches, processes with specific timelines and list of existing SRs were provided for the endorsement of CD ExWG.

In the suggested approach, it was stated to include the following facts in Call for Proposals (CfPs):

- Valid MoU with MoHS
- Geographical areas
- Proposed intervention must be in line with NSP (2021-2025)
- Contribution to NSP targets
- Budget request
- Outline of plan for integration and further collaboration with other SRs (including in the same geographical areas) implementing

The SR Funding Request Committees were formed with National Programme Directors/ Managers, experts from UN, PRs, and selected members of CD ExWG without COI.

It was informed that the proper documentation will be required to inform back to Global Fund country team and Regional Steering Committee (for Malaria programme) on what we have done relating to the reselection of SRs.

Then, it was hopeful that the sanction over MHAA would be lifted as its capability and strong performance are recognizable specifically in Rakhine State. Thus, the suggestion on how to get along, in order to continue with MHAA was requested. It was also informed that the proposed timelines were worked out to help PRs for grant making in a timely manner and it is supposed to start in June.

For further information please refer to the presentation here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IO-oizRTz0Z7n80NzpHNMCvSlbA7vbJl/view?usp=sharing>

### Discussion

- Dr Stephan Paul Jost from WHO supported the proposed approach, process, timelines, and list of Funding Request Review Committees. He also agreed on the value of MHAA particularly in Rakhine State. He expressed hope that UNOPS could help MHAA so that MHAA could continue in an accountable way as an SR.
- Dr. Thar Tun Kyaw expressed his thanks to the comments and suggestion given.
- Dr. Myo Set Aung from PR-Save the Children raised the question on whether there is possibility to recruit new SRs/partners because there are many gaps in the grounds especially in community led approach and harm reduction, and the targets were increased by GF on the other hand.
- Dr. Thar Tun Kyaw responded with the suggestion of creating SSRs for those kinds of activities to cover the gaps.
- Dr. Thandar Lwin added that it would be difficult to recruit new SRs since the new grant is less than the current one. It was thus suggested to adjust the current activities if they need to start the new intervention.
- Dr Stephan Paul Jost from WHO emphasized the importance of taking active Covid19 mitigation into consideration in all the proposals.
- Dr. Thar Tun Kyaw responded that it will be discussed among National Programme Directors and SRs within the budget ceiling.
- Mr. Oussama Tawil from UNAIDS reflected on the process and working with the existing SRs. It is sensible to proceed in the suggested approach proposed here, but also to give importance to specific aspects in the review of the call for proposals: integration aspects; attention paid to geographical coverage as already mentioned; and considering the involvement of EHOs, community-based organizations and networks as part of generally

strengthening community system as already presented by Dr. Thandar Lwin. In the example of harm reduction for HIV, it was also stressed that there is need to achieve greater results and impact, despite existing good programme performance. Hence, considering changes in the way of working and implementation is required as reflected in the NSP for HIV 2021-25.

- Dr. Thar Tun Kyaw noted the suggestions made by Oussama Tawil.
- Dr. Faisal from PR-UNOPS has requested and informed the followings:
  - The achievement of current grant should be included in SRs Call for Proposal
  - From the list of SRs, the status of MAM was corrected because it has not only Regional Component of RAI 2E but also country grant
- With regards to the sanction matter of MHAA, Dr. Attila from UNOPS informed that this was the decision of UNOPS Head Quarter (HQ) that cannot be influenced by any outside party. However, showing the evidence of MHAA improved capacity and system, it would be hopeful that the UNOPS relevant HQ Committee may consider shortening the sanctioning period. UNOPS will update the status back to CD ExWG by September or October 2020.
- Mr. Ichikawa from JICA suggested his nomination as member of HIV and TB Funding Request Review Committees, and this was confirmed by the Chair.
- Dr. Myo Set Aung from PR-Save The Children asked on whether there is possibility of expansion in disease coverage by SRs as an integration manner.
- Dr. Thandar Lwin responded stating donors' concern on the effective programme management. The level of integration should be from community level such as referring patients to respective diagnosis centers. Expansion in disease coverage cannot be considered without the knowledge of proven capacity.
- Dr. Faisal from PR-UNOPS supported and informed that the same referral activities are to be done for Malaria Programme as it is already part of its grant.
- It was then asked the nomination of USAID seat for SR Funding Request Review Committee (HIV). Dr. Htun Nyunt Oo proposed Dr. Kiira Gustafson and it was accepted.

#### **Decision Points**

- The proposed approach for SR reselection was endorsed.
- Everyone was agreed on the process and timelines as hence follows:
  - To inform extended TSGs on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2020
  - To invite ONLY existing SRs giving 10 days to submit to National Programmes and copy to TSG, CD ExWG Secretariats on 04<sup>th</sup> June 2020
  - SR Funding Request Review Committees to review all submissions between 05<sup>th</sup> to 08<sup>th</sup> June 2020

- To inform TSGs and PRs to start the grant making with all SRs on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2020
- Relating to continuation of MHAA for next grant, it was agreed to include and consider for now while UNOPS is going to convince on lifting of sanction by/before end of the year 2020 although it cannot be guaranteed. UNOPS to update the status to CD ExWG by September or October 2020.
- The member list of Funding Request Review Committees - HIV, TB and Malaria were fully nominated and agreed by the participants as in following tables:

#### HIV SR Funding Request Review Committee

	Name	Organization	Constituency
1	Dr. Htun Nyunt Oo	DoPH	Gov/MoHS
2	Dr. Nanda Myo Aung Won	DoMS	Gov/MoHS
3	Dr. Fabio Caldas De Masquita	WHO	UN
4	Mr. Oussama Tawil	UNAIDS	UN
5	Mr. Kensaku Ichikawa	JICA	Bilateral
6	Dr. Kiira Gustafson	USAID	Bilateral
7	Dr. Eisa Hamid	UNOPS	PR – UNOPS
8	Dr. Khin Swe Swe	Save the Children	PR – Save The Children

#### TB SR Funding Request Review Committee

	Name	Organization	Constituency
1	Dr. Si Thu Aung	DoPH	Gov/MoHS
2	Dr. Cho Cho San	DoPH	Gov/MoHS
3	Dr. Ikushi Onozaki	WHO	UN
4	Dr. Win Maung	Myanmar Anti-TB Association	NNGO/CSO
5	Mr. Kensaku Ichikawa	JICA	Bilateral
6	Dr. Mya Thet Su Maw	DFID	Bilateral
7	Dr. May Thinzar Kyi	UNOPS	PR – UNOPS
8	Dr. Aung Pyae Phyo Oo	Save the Children	PR – Save the Children

#### Malaria SR Funding Request Review Committee

	Name	Organization	Constituency
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1	Dr. Aung Thi	DoPH	Gov/MoHS
2	Dr. Kyawt Mon Win	DoPH	Gov/MoHS
3	Dr. Badri Thapa	WHO	UN
4	Dr. Saw Lwin	Freelance Malaria Expert	Freelance Malaria Expert
5	Dr. Nakamura	JICA	Bilateral
6	Dr. Nu Nu Khin	USAID	Bilateral
7	Dr. Faisal Mansoor	UNOPS	PR – UNOPS
8	Dr. Min Min Thein	Save the Children	PR – Save the Children

**3. AoB – C19RM application review and endorsement next week**

- Dr. Thandar Lwin briefly updated and shared the status on the development of proposal for C19RM which is due to submit on 31<sup>st</sup> of May to Global Fund by CD ExWG. The writing group was formed with the support of WHO, PRs and TSG members from respective programmes. Dr. Badri Thapa was assigned as pen holder. CEU and NHL were coordinated with them. On 20<sup>th</sup> of May, EHOs consultation was organized and the inputs on IPCs (Infection Prevention Controls) were collected and training support was asked to mention in the proposal. The final draft of the proposal will be ready by 26<sup>th</sup> of May and CD ExWG will need to meet on 27<sup>th</sup> to review and endorse the proposal for final submission. The secretariat will then have the proposal signed by the members of CD ExWG.
- As a point for consideration and clarification, Dr. Attila from UNOPS-PR informed that any incentive like hazard allowance for frontline workers will not be eligible to include in the proposal of C19RM.
- Dr. Thar Tun Kyaw has concluded the meeting and expressed his thanks to all the participants for the fruitful discussion and contributions on moving forward the processes in timely manner for next Global Fund grant (2021-2023).

**The meeting has successfully ended at 11:30 AM.**

**Annex: 1**

**Communicable Disease Executive Working Group (CD ExWG) Meeting Agenda**

**21<sup>st</sup> May 2020**

**10:00-11:30 AM via Skype for Business**

Please join Skype at least 10 mins before the meeting.

<b>Time</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
10:00-10:10	Welcome by the Chair	Dr Thar Tun Kyaw (Director General, Office of the Union Minister, MoHS)
10:10-11:00	Identification of SRs for 2021-2023 Grant Implementation  (Presentation - 20 mins and Discussion - 30 mins)	Dr Thandar Lwin (DyDG, Disease Control, DoPH, MoHS)
11:00-11:20	AoB C19RM Application Review and Endorsement Next Week	Dr Thandar Lwin (DyDG, Disease Control, DoPH, MoHS)
11:20-11:30	Closing by the Chair	Dr Thar Tun Kyaw (Director General, Office of the Union Minister, MoHS)

## Annex: 2

Participant List of 5th CD ExWG Virtual Meeting (21 May 2020)				
Sr.	Name	Role	Title	Organization
1	Dr. Thar Tun Kyaw	Chair	Director General, Office of the Union Minister	MoHS
2	Dr. Thandar Lwin	Secretary	Deputy Director General (Disease Control), DOPH	MoHS
3	Dr. Stephan Paul Jost	Member	Country Representative	WHO
4	Dr. Oussama Tawil	Member	Country Director	UNAIDS
5	Mr. Kensaku Ichikawa	Member	Representative	JICA
6	Dr. Mya Thet Su Maw	Member	Health Adviser	DFID/UK
7	Daw Htwe Htwe Myint	Member	Chairperson	Myanmar Positive Women Network (MPWN)
8	Daw Khin Myo Su	Member	EC Board Member	Myanmar Federation of Persons with Disabilities (MFPD)
9	Prof. Dr. San San Myint Aung	Member	President	Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (MMCWA)
Others				
10	Dr. Nwe Nwe Aye	Observer	PCE	PCE
11	Jan de Jong	Observer	LFA Team Leader	PWC
12	Ye Mon Myint	Observer	PWC	PWC
13	Dr. Htun Nyunt Oo	Observer	NAP	MoHS
14	Dr. Cho Cho San	Observer	NTP	MoHS
15	Dr. Attila	Observer	PR	PR - UNOPS
16	Dr. FaisalM	Observer	PR	PR - UNOPS
17	David Z Logan	Observer	PR	PR - UNOPS
18	May Thinzar Kyi	Observer	PR	PR - UNOPS
19	Tara Chetty	Observer	PR	PR - SCI
20	Akkarin Borihankijpiboon	Observer	PR	PR - SCI
21	Kathryn Rosecrans	Observer	PR	PR - SCI
22	Myo Set Aung	Observer	PR	PR - SCI
23	Ole Hansan	Observer		WHO
24	Kay Zar Yu	Secretariat	Communications Officer	UNAIDS
25	Walar	Secretariat	Liaison Officer	UNAIDS
26	Yin Yin Mon	Invitee	NPO (Malaria)	WHO
27	Yu Yu Win	Invitee	CD-Assistant	UNAIDS

