Subcommittee of the Programme Coordinating Board on the 2012-2015 Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework

3rd meeting
Geneva, Switzerland
19 April 2011

REPORT OF THE MEETING
I. OPENING OF THE MEETING AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1. The meeting was opened by the Chair of the subcommittee Madame Mariame Sy and the agenda was adopted as presented. The Chair welcomed all subcommittee members, noting that the representatives from Japan and Ghana were absent.

II. OUTCOME OF THE MULTI-STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

2. The UNAIDS Secretariat presented an overview of the outcomes of the multi-stakeholder consultation on the 2012-2015 Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework (UBRAF) held on 18 April 2011. The Chair noted that it had been a good consultation and that there was agreement that the development of the UBRAF was progressing well.

3. The following overall conclusions were noted:
   1- The core budget to remain at the same level as in 2010-2011
   2- The added value of UNAIDS to emerge more clearly in results framework and budget
   3- Role of civil society to be better reflected, including resourcing of civil society and a process for developing common standards for working with civil society
   4- Accountability of Cosponsors to be explained more clearly, in particular in relation to non core resources
   5- Role of the Secretariat to be articulated more clearly
   6- Resource allocation to be refined, explained further and presented in additional ways
   7- Results matrix and budget matrix to be integrated
   8- Indicators to be further refined, and baselines and targets to be added where these do not exist
   9- Detailed workplans for the Cosponsors and Secretariat and global, regional and country level to be developed following the PCB in June
   10- Other comments made at the consultation to be taken into account in the further development and finalization of the UBRAF

Two specific comments were requested to be incorporated into the final stakeholder report.

4. In discussing general issues arising from the multi-stakeholder consultation the subcommittee emphasised the need to make sure that there is consistency in the terminology used in the UBRAF document and definitions that appear elsewhere in UNAIDS documentation. It was decided that the Secretariat would review the UBRAF document, see where different terminology is used, and work with the Cosponsors to make sure that the terminology is appropriate and uses definitions that are consistent with previously agreed text. The Secretariat would share with the subcommittee a set of definitions for use in the UBRAF.

5. There were a number of comments concerning indicators. All efforts will be made to have robust indicators in the UBRAF. In order to identify better indicators for civil society, it was suggested that a review of GFATM indicators for community system strengthening would be appropriate.

6. The budget was discussed and it was suggested that there be a better explanation of the Secretariat budget, in particular in relation to the Cosponsor allocation. It was reemphasized that although the core UBRAF is under US$ 500 million, it is very closely linked to the much larger amount of non-core funds, leveraged by the Cosponsors with UBRAF funding. There was a request that there be regular reporting on non-core funds leveraged by the Cosponsors in order to ensure that these funds are used appropriately to operationalize the UNAIDS Strategy.
7. The Secretariat explained how improvements in the reporting on the UBW and that in the June 2011 PCB case studies will be used to illustrate joint programming and impact at the country level. The first reporting on the UBRAF will be in June 2013, which will leave time to identify the best way to report on non-core funds.

8. There were also a number of requests for the core UBRAF budget to be broken down by regions and by goals in order to obtain a clearer picture of where money was being allocated. The Secretariat confirmed that this would be presented in the final UBRAF document. Additionally, an explanation in the budget section of the UBRAF on the different overhead costs of Cosponsors was requested.

9. As in the multi-stakeholder meeting, stronger language around partnerships was discussed. It was clarified that partnerships was reflected in the functions of the Secretariat in the Division of Labour and it was confirmed that the notion of partnerships would be better incorporated into the UBRAF, but that no new language in the strategic functions would be introduced.

III. WRITTEN FEEDBACK ON THE 2012-2015 UBRAF

10. The Secretariat provided an update on written comments received on the draft 2012-2015 UBRAF. In March after the first draft of the UBRAF was posted on UNAIDS website, a total of 31 comments were received, 15 from the Joint Programme and 16 from external partners. On the draft that was posted on April 12, a total of 11 comments were received, seven from the Joint Programme and four from external partners. The Secretariat will reflect all comments to the extent possible in the final UBRAF document. A log of all comments and responses is being kept in order to explain why certain comments were incorporated and not others.

11. A number of member states have sent extensive comments on the second draft, and these were circulated to the sub-committee members. The Netherlands confirmed that it will send written comments during the course of the week.

12. Following a discussion concerning the relationship between the UNAIDS Human Resources Strategy and the UBRAF, the Secretariat noted that there was an expectation that the agenda for the 29th PCB meeting, to be held in December 2011, would include an item on follow up to the Second Independent Evaluation, and that the Secretariat would report on the implementation of the Strategy under this item.

13. Lastly it was suggested that a good mechanism be identified to continue to involve stakeholders in the implementation of the UBRAF, while being mindful of the avoiding high transaction costs.

IV. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE

14. The Chair asked the subcommittee members for specific recommendations to be included in the report of the subcommittee to the PCB. The following recommendations were agreed to by the subcommittee.

The Subcommittee of UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board on the formulation of the 2012-2015 Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework:

(i) recommends that the 2012-2015 Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework (UBRAF) be approved by the Board at its 28th meeting;

(ii) strongly urges that the UNAIDS 2012-2015 Results and Accountability Framework should be used by all constituencies to meet their reporting needs;
(iii) requests the UNAIDS Secretariat to report back to the 29th PCB on steps taken to start implementation of the 2012-2015 UBRAF, as part of an update on the implementation of recommendations of the Second Independent Evaluation;

(iv) notes the value of the multi-stakeholder consultations and engagement of partners as well as the subcommittee itself in the development of the 2012-2015 UBRAF;

V. PROCESS FOR PREPARING THE REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE TO THE PCB

15. The Chair asked the subcommittee members to agree on the format, content and scope of the report of the subcommittee to the June 2011 PCB. The subcommittee report to the PCB will include the following elements and draw on the reports from the three meetings:

I. Introduction
   • Re-establishment of the subcommittee
   • Meetings of the subcommittee (December 2010, March 2011, April 2011)
   • Challenges

II. Key issues raised by the subcommittee

III. Recommendations of the subcommittee (as agreed above)

16. The timeline for finalisation of the UBRAF was presented and agreed to by the subcommittee members. This timeline includes the finalisation of PCB subcommittee report to the PCB.

   25 April  Deadline for final comments on the UBRAF from the PCB subcommittee
   26 April  Draft final UBRAF to be shared with Cosponsors for endorsement
   2-6 May   Finalization of 2012-2015 UBRAF followed by editing and translation
   15 May    Finalization of the PCB subcommittee report to the PCB
   30 May    Pre-PCB stakeholder briefings
   21 June   28th PCB meeting starts

17. In its final form, the UBRAF is expected to consist of two documents:

   I. Overview of 2012-2015 Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework
      • Background, vision, mission and strategy
      • Business plan – goals, objectives and focus
      • Results and accountability framework
      • Budget and resource allocation
      • Overview of work in regions

   II. Detailed Information (drawn from current appendices)
      • Results & accountability matrix: gaps, needs, outcomes, indicators, targets, baselines
      • Budget & resource allocation matrix: outputs, deliverables and budget breakdown

VI. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The Chair closed the meeting by requesting members of the subcommittee to provide UNAIDS Secretariat with any additional comments they or members of their respective constituencies may have on the 2012-2015 UBRAF by April 25, 2011 to enable the document to be finalized and translated in time for the meeting of the UNAIDS PCB in June 2011. The Chair thanked the subcommittee members for their positive inputs, and concluded that the subcommittee had played useful governance role in developing the 2012-2015 UBRAF.

[End of report]