MINUTES OF THE SARN STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD BY TELECONFERENCE ON 12TH APRIL, 2011 FROM 11:00 HOURS

SARN Secretariat
Gaborone, Botswana
1.0 PRESENT:

1. Dr. Raj Maharaj  
2. Dr. Boniface Maket (Chairperson)  
3. Mr. Simon Kunene  
4. Dr. Charles Paluku  
5. Mr. Farai Chieza  
6. Dr. Nilton Saraiva  
7. Dr. Jean Claude Kazadi  
8. Dr. James Banda  
9. Dr. Kaka Mudambo  
10. Mr. Daniso Mbewe  

2.0 APOLOGIES:

1. Dr. Petrina Uusiku  
2. Dr. Soce Fall  
3. Dr. Susan Mutambu  
4. Ms. Martha Mpisaunga  

3.0 AGENDA ITEMS

1. Update by SARN  
2. Preparation of the upcoming RBM Board meeting  
3. Dates and Venue of the Annual Consultative Meeting  
4. Election of Steering Committee members to replace Angola and DRC  
5. SARN Hosting Challenges  
6. Additional requests for MPRs by the countries  
7. A.O.B

The Committee nominated Dr. Boniface Maket to chair the meeting in the absence of both Co-chairs.

4.0 UPDATE BY SARN

The SARN Focal Point, Dr. Kaka Mudambo briefed the meeting progress in implementation of SARN activities since November 2010 as follows:

4.1 Most of the activities for the year 2011 had been carried out as planned including country support missions to Botswana, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe except for the Program Managers, Steering Committee and TZMI meetings which were canceled twice (February and April 2011) by the SHD&SP Director. These activities were approved by the RBM board and SADC Secretariat.
**Action Point:** The meeting asked Dr. Kazadi to consult with the Director of SHD&SP so that he would get information as to what happened for the meetings to be canceled and Dr. Kazadi would report back during the week beginning on Monday, 18th April, 2011. After this appropriate action such as writing to the SADC ES and copied to: Minister Kamwi, RBM Board Chairperson, RBM Board Member, RBM Executive Director and Mr. Sinaga, the Director, SHD&SP would be undertaken.

4.2 The SARN Secretariat processed money for program reviews for Madagascar, Zimbabwe and Zanzibar and a request from Swaziland would be submitted soon.

4.3 The meeting wanted to know whether the managers meeting which was canceled would take place.

**Action Point:** The meeting resolved that Mr. Simon Kunene in conjunction with Dr. Kazadi would consult with other managers on the way forward regarding the canceled meeting and Dr. Kazadi would give feedback during the week beginning Monday, 18th April 2011.

4.4 The SARN Focal Point reported that there was money for technical assistance and that other countries (Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe) had submitted requests for the technical assistance.

**Action Point:** SARN Secretariat was asked to forward all requests to the Steering Committee members on Tuesday, 12th April, 2011 who would review the requests and decision would be given during the week beginning Monday, 18th April, 2011.

**5.0 PREPARATION OF UPCOMING RBM BOARD MEETING**

5.1 Preparations were underway for the RBM Boarding meeting which would be held 11-13th May 2011 in Geneva, Switzerland and would be attended by SARN Focal Point and one co-chair. The meeting would be sponsored by the RBM Secretariat. SARN Secretariat sent a letter to the South African Health Ministers to book for an appointment to provide a pre-board meeting brief. The team would brief the minister on the hosting problems affecting SARN.

5.2 In preparation for the RBM board meeting, managers were required to send reports on implementation of roadmaps and progress to-date to SARN Secretariat. SARN Secretariat would send follow up emails to the managers on submission of progress reports.
6.0 ELECTION OF STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO REPLACE ANGOLA AND DRC

6.1 SARN Focal pointed informed the meeting that DRC and Tanzania were in CARN and EARN respectively and therefore would no longer be members of the Steering Committee but would continue attending SADC Managers meetings.

6.2 He further informed the meeting that elections were required to replace Angola and DRC on the Steering Committee and that countries which were not currently represented in the Steering Committee were Botswana, Madagascar (suspended by SADC) Malawi and Mozambique.

6.3 Dr. Banda informed the meeting that Madagascar was not suspended from SARN because SARN was using different procedures to those used by SADC as such Madagascar was eligible to sit on the SARN Steering Committee.

6.4 The SARN Focal Point said that the managers could use electronic means of voting for the elections and Mr. Simon Kunene would coordinate the election process.

7.0 SARN HOSTING CHALLENGES

7.1 It was resolved that there was need to find ways of co-existing together and would go by what was discussed earlier on.

7.2 The meeting was informed that mission and quarterly reports were submitted to the SHD and SP director.

8.0 ADDITIONAL REQUESTS FOR MPRs BY THE COUNTRIES

8.1 The SARN Focal Point reported there was an additional request by Zimbabwe for US$20,000.00 to finalize their MPR over and above US$45,000.00 which was already provided.

Decision: The meeting approved that additional US$20,000.00 would be given to Zimbabwe and would submit justification to the steering committee for the request.

It was also resolved that no country should come up with request for additional support because during the planning phase, each country was asked whether it would require additional support but no country came forward with a request for additional support at that time.

8.2 Swaziland informed the meeting that their MPR would be carried out from June to September 2011 and that the SARN Secretariat would receive a request by Friday, 22nd April, 2011 for the MPR.
9.0 A.O.B.

9.1 It was agreed that the TZMI meeting would be organized with the support of MACEPA and that the meeting would take place from 30th May to 1st June 2011.

9.2 SARN Focal Point reported that the TKMI launch would take place on 25th April 2011 in Odnjiva, Angola. Two Ministers of Health from Angola and Namibia would officiate the launch of the event.

9.3 The meeting wanted to know when country missions for the remaining countries would be undertaken.

9.4 The SARN Focal Point informed the meeting that the next countries that would be visited were Madagascar, Mozambique and Zanzibar during the second quarter of 2011 and consultations were underway with these countries as to when the missions would take place. Once dates have been agreed upon, the steering committee members would be informed. Country missions for the remaining NMCPs (Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland) would be undertaken after August 2011.

9.5 It was stressed that preparations for the country missions should be done well in advance at least three weeks before the dates of the mission.

9.6 It was agreed that the presentation to the RBM Boarding would be circulated to the steering committee members.

10.0 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

10.1 The next teleconference meeting would take place on Tuesday, 10th May 2011.

11.0 CLOSING REMARKS

11.1 The chairperson thanked all members present for their active participation and then the meeting was adjourned.