



**12th ROLL BACK MALARIA PARTNERSHIP  
BOARD MEETING**

*Hosted by the African Union – Geneva*

10-11 May 2007

**Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Purpose:** The focus of the 12<sup>th</sup> Roll Back Malaria (RBM) Partnership Board Meeting was to review joint priorities and strategic direction being taken to provide harmonized implementation support to countries in scaling up malaria control to meet 2007 operational targets. The meeting also elected a new Chair and Vice Chair and provided guidance on indicators regarding the regular RBM Partnership performance assessment.

**Voting Members Present:**

*Malaria Endemic Countries:* Cambodia, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Niger, Nigeria. *OECD Donor Countries:* Italy, The Netherlands, United States of America. *Multilateral Development Partners:* UNDP, UNICEF, WHO, the World Bank. *NGO:* Zambia Malaria Foundation, Johns Hopkins University Center for Communication Programs. *Private Sector:* GSK, ExxonMobil. *Foundations:* Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; *Research & Academia:* MMV

**Voting Members Absent:** India, Venezuela

**Non-Voting Ex Officio Members Present:** Executive Director of the Global Fund; Executive Director of the RBM Partnership

**Participant List:** Attached

**Call to Order, Day One**

Vice Chair Starace welcomed Board members and delegates and requested the Board's understanding of Chair Lambo's absence owing to the exigencies of post presidential election service in Nigeria. He requested the Board's support for the Vice Chair to act as Chair for the meeting. After thanking The African Union for hosting the meeting, he introduced Ambassador Masri, Permanent Observer of the Africa Union in Geneva.

Ambassador Masri greeted the Board and participants in the name of the African Union and its President, the Honourable Alpha Oumar Konaré. She emphasized the historic and continuing importance that African Heads of State place on making progress and achieving results on malaria control. In April 2007 at the AU Conference of Ministers of Health, the AU launched the Africa Malaria Elimination Campaign as well as a commitment to strengthen health systems for equity and development. None of these programmes are possible without partner support. Ambassador Masri acknowledged the important work of the RBM Partnership to date and

stressed that leadership and partnership are the keys to success and that malaria is a battle that we can win and that we will win it together.

### **Meeting Objectives**

Prior to reviewing the objectives for the meeting, the Chair of the Executive Committee, Kevin Starace, spoke to strengthened nature of the RBM Partnership and the central and critical leadership role of Professor Lambo over the course of his tenure as Chair in managing the Change Process of the RBM Partnership. The Partnership is grateful for the strides made under Lambo's stewardship.

The Chair outlined the following objectives for the 12<sup>th</sup> Board meeting:

- 1) Provide guidance for the important work being undertaken by the ACT Subsidy Taskforce
- 2) Review RBM working groups' workplans, budgets, relevance and alignment
- 3) Respond to the work being undertaken by the Harmonization Working Group and review joint priorities and strategic direction being taken to support countries in scaling up for impact in line with 2007 operational targets.
- 4) Decide on governance issues, including election of Chair and Vice Chair

### **Announcement of changes in Board membership**

The Chair welcomed new Board members and asked for each member to present himself or herself and the constituency they represent.

### **Consent Calendar**

- Agenda for 12<sup>th</sup> RBM Board meeting adopted without objection
- Minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> RBM Board meeting adopted without objection

Prior to turning to the Executive Director's report, the Chair thanked the Executive Director for her excellent leadership and the Secretariat for their dedication and hard work over the past six months.

### **Executive Director's Report to the Board**

#### *Presentation Summary*

The Executive Director's mid-year report described the current malaria landscape and overall progress in malaria control since the November Board in 2006 as well as challenges facing the Partnership.

- First Board since the finalization of the change process. Roles and responsibilities of partners and mechanisms clarified.
- RBM profile has been raised and improved. Many new organizations have joined the fight against malaria and are interested in being active in the RBM Partnership. Established partners have demonstrated strong commitment to results through partnership.
- Highest levels of leadership throughout the world are engaged. All sectors are involved.
- Several examples exist today of successful scaling up to achieve demonstrable results. Increased procurement, coverage and impact.
- New malaria prevention and treatment tools, new donors, new reports and better data becoming available.
- Secretariat Developments
  - Secretariat has made operational most partnership mechanisms adopted by the 11<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.
  - Budget is based on a prioritized workplan approved by the January 2007 by EC.
  - Some Secretariat staffing delays. Positions are currently posted and partners are encouraged to publicize these job announcements so that the best applicant pool is obtained. Secondments of staff to the Secretariat are also welcome.
- Need partner engagement on fast-tracking PSM and the best use of RBM Goodwill Ambassadors.

- Governance and Secretariat hosting are on track.
- Need to translate political will into action within endemic countries. Ministers of Health are pushing this issue in their countries. Particular attention needs to be paid to reducing taxes and tariffs on ITNs.
- Mutual accountability: consensus tracking tools developed by MERG must be deployed.
- Moving commodities faster is being prioritized and addressed at multiple levels.
- Challenges: mobilize new resources and secure existing available funds; improve performance at country level / effective use of funds; strengthen monitoring and evaluation; ensure accountability of partners and Secretariat.

#### *Discussion Summary*

- Need to collectively ensure that commitments made by countries are adhered to; particularly the removal of taxes and tariffs on all malaria commodities and increasing health spending to 15% of national budgets.
- Need to ensure "additionality" of new funding globally.
- For greater accountability more evidence based progress reports are required to show tangible results at country level and measure performance of countries and partners.
- Recommendation for a clearer separation between Secretariat progress and Partnership progress in the ED's report to guide the Board on what needs to be done and to identify gaps.

### **Partners Update**

#### *Presentation Summary*

In order to inform partners on programmatic progress and in view of harmonization, major donors present at the Board meeting (UNITAID, The Global Fund, the World Bank Booster Programme, the President's Malaria Initiative and MACEPA) each gave an update.

#### *Discussion Summary*

- Clarification that continuation of Booster programme is dependent on IDA replenishment process.
- Procurement capacity needs to be strengthened.
- The mismatch of World Bank and UN systems has resulted in procurement delays. Resolution of this problem should be a priority.
- Malaria and The Global Fund: malaria advocates encouraged to work with NGO constituency to lobby for the RBM EXD to hold GF Board membership; more members are being added to TRP and partners with malaria control implementation experience are encouraged to apply for membership; possibility for a formalized malaria GIST is being explored.
- Recipient countries would like more information on World Bank funding for malaria control and intended use. World Bank responded that the Malaria Scorecard (currently in beta testing) is being developed to help address this need.
- Documentation on the process followed for achievement of the 3 ones countrywide (Zambia) would be of tremendous value to partners. Appeal to MACEPA to share this information with partners on an ongoing basis.
- Need to be mindful of health sector harmonization in line with Paris Declaration.
- Harmonization of partner/donor efforts and alignment behind national strategies remains a challenge.
- Public private partnerships at country level are very important for impact to occur.

### **Governance**

#### *Presentation Summary*

The Chair of the Executive Committee (EC) presented recommendations stemming from EC:

- EC mechanism should continue
- EC be allocated one full-time secretarial staff support
- EC should not be enlarged

- One in-person EC meeting per quarter
  - Secretariat to have fast, flexible financing facility available to support small projects
  - Secretariat requires a full-time chief financial officer (perhaps skill set could be incorporated into chief operating officer post)
  - Expansion and evolution of Harmonization Working Group may require additional Secretariat support
  - Consider basing some Secretariat staff in Washington, DC
  - Establish a Board Subcommittee on Performance to handle four tiers of performance
    - Secretariat (indicators have been approved by EC)
    - Hosting (to be refined in late May as indicated in the Memorandum of Understanding with host agency)
    - RBM Mechanisms (Working groups, SRNs, Taskforces)
    - Macro Indicators - Abuja Goals, Dakar Milestones, Scorecard, 2007 Partnership performance targets
  - Need process / official mechanism for collaboration across Working Groups
  - Alternate election cycles for Chair and Vice Chair
  - Strong call to firmly engage the R&D community in for new WG or other RBM body on future technology and research

He also gave an overview of governance developments since 11<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting

- EC formed, individual membership confirmed and mechanism to communicate with the Board established
- New Board members elected under processes adopted in November
- Consultation with WHO-GMP to clarify roles and responsibilities of RBM WGs vis-à-vis WHO technical expert groups and WHO TRAC.
- Approval of additional Board seat for Northern NGOs
  - Matt Lynch, JHUCCP, was invited to join Board as interim representative for Northern NGOs (interim member, pending completion of election process)
- Secretariat staffing delayed - currently still operating at close to November 2006 staff levels
  - Positions are now open and Board is encouraged to circulate these announcements and also consider secondments

The EC Chair asked the Board and the future EC to give its attention to:

- Commodity tracking and the work of the PSM working group
- Mapping for accountability purposes. How can mapping enhance understanding of what is happening at country level and improve partner performance
- Malaria Scorecard. Defining if and how Partnership endorses adoption and use of this tool
- Follow-up on the 2006 Dakar Appeal
- EC to ensure that improved performance at country level remains the express focus of the Partnership
- Continue to close financial gaps at country level
- New donors
- Recommendation to focus on MAWG and advocacy at 13th Board meeting (and preparations leading up to it)
  - RBM brand and brand management
  - Engaging RBM Goodwill Ambassadors
  - Is consensus messaging the best strategy?
  - Response mechanism for information sharing
  - Should MAWG be the mechanism for collaboration across WGs
  - Does MAWG need a technical advisory committee?
- EC to ensure performance tiers 2 & 4 (Host & Macro indicators) are developed and integrated into the work of the partnership

- Accountability - deploy tools that measure partner performance
- Review RBM Board election processes
- EC to review HWG workplan expansion - 1 July 2007
- Review working groups who have not submitted detailed workplans and budgets

#### *Discussion Summary*

- Thank you to Kevin Starace for his leadership and dedication to moving the EC agenda forward
- Strong support for continuation of the Executive Committee
- Senior level financial officer role is essential

### **Governance, continued**

#### *Presentation Summary*

The Executive Director reported on constituency consultations and Board transitions.

- Malaria endemic country constituency. Consultations facilitate communication and ensure that Board member will clearly represent their subregion.
  - Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS). The constituency nominated Cameroon for a 2nd term and Angola as alternate.
  - Intergovernmental Agency for Development (IGAD). Ethiopia was elected as RBM board representative and Uganda designated alternate.
  - Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). For English speaking countries, Nigeria was re-elected RBM Board member and Liberia alternate. For French speaking countries, Mali was elected RBM Board member and Niger alternate.
  - Regular meeting of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), March 2007. Lesotho was elected for a two year term.
  - RBM Secretariat to support RBM Board members from India, Cambodia and Venezuela to organize constituency consultations by engaging subregional economic bodies
- OECD donor constituency.
  - Board seats allocated in function of the financial contribution donors are giving to the malaria fight: United States, Netherlands and France as Board members.
  - Italy is currently discussing handover with France.
- Research and Academia constituency. Election process near completion. MMV is interim member.
- NGO constituency. Elections are ongoing for two NGO seats (one seat for Northern NGOs and seat one for Southern NGOs)

The Chair then went through election procedures for the future Chair and Vice Chair as set forth in the Bylaws

#### *Discussion Summary*

- EC may need to look at finding resources to support endemic country representation, perhaps through partners
- Commend work done by Secretariat on constituency consultations for African subregional groups
- UNICEF will cede its EC seat to the World Bank
- Discussion on the seniority level required for the COO position within Secretariat

#### *Decisions Reached*

- *Approved* the establishment of Board Subcommittee on Performance
- *Approved* the motion to alternate Chair and Vice Chair election cycles
- *Approved* the one-time motion to have Vice Chair cycle run for one year as of this election, i.e. May 2007 to May 2008
- *Approved the creation of a new Board seat for Northern NGOs*

## Harmonization Working Group (HWG)

### *Presentation Summary*

HWG Co-Chairs, Protik Basu (World Bank) and Melanie Renshaw (UNICEF), presented a summary of work to date and definition of needs for moving the Partnership's focus from change management to country implementation support. The presentation included evidence on the value of harmonized approaches for rapid scaling up to achieve impact. Priority areas for the HWG were described: gap analysis and implementation support, matching resources to identified gaps and information dissemination and tool development. Work to date has largely focused on support process to 19 countries to prepare proposals in response to the Global Fund's 7th Call for Proposals, with a stated target of more than 50% approval rate. Partner engagement and collaboration on this process has been exceptional as has been the work of the Secretariat to support the group. Guidance on the role of the private sector and working outside Africa was sought. In conclusion, the HWG asked for Board endorsement in order to move forward with submission of comprehensive budget and workplan by 1 July 2007.

### *Discussion Summary*

- Broad support expressed to continue with this process and develop detailed workplan
- HWG demonstrates concrete and effective contributions of partnership to countries
- Need to be mindful to utilize and not duplicate tools and mechanisms developed by the Global Fund
- Asia and Latin America should also benefit from this type of support
- Reminder that Board cannot approve unfunded mandates.
- HWG budget: partners should address necessary investment or budget reprioritization in their own programmes. Potential implication for partner budgets could be presented adjacent to HWG budget.
- Need to engage SRNs fully in the process and increase their capacity. Clarification of SRN role in this work was requested.
- Private sector involvement is essential
- In addition to gap analysis, expand to look at lessons learned from successful interventions
- Conflict of interest may arise from name change as 'team' implies individual membership. Need to weigh out the formalization of private sector involvement
- Need linkages with WGs on procurement, resources and ACT subsidy
- Compliments to the Co-Chairs and work of entire WG

### *Decisions Reached*

- *Endorsed* the Terms of Reference and areas of focus for 2007-2008:
  - Gap Analysis and Implementation Support
  - Matching Resources to Identified Gaps
  - Information Development and Tool Development
- *Endorsed* the need for incremental financial and staff support to:
  - HWG Partners (particularly to implement the Implementation Support Mechanism);
  - The RBM Secretariat (for coordination and facilitation)
- *Endorsed* expansion to other regions outside Africa
- *Approved* name-change from Harmonization Working Group to “Malaria Implementation Support Team”

## ACT Subsidy Taskforce

### *Presentation Summary*

Dr Mwakyusa, Minister of Health of Tanzania and Taskforce Co-Chair, updated the Board on work undertaken by the Taskforce on moving forward the global ACTs subsidy. The World Bank reiterated the vital importance of the subsidy and appealed to the Board to fully take account of the promise of the subsidy to be a phenomenal contribution to the health of the poor. On behalf of the Taskforce, Ian Boulton then provided a detailed update on work to date, an

explanation of what the subsidy will not do and a summary of six agreed-upon design principles. He then presented outstanding design components to be finalized, additional research required and next steps.

#### *Discussion Summary*

- The taskforce was asked to address the following issues and include them in a more detailed operational plan:
  - elaboration of product eligibility criteria and prequalification process
  - quality assurance
  - supply and demand alignment with due attention to potential market distortions
  - costing breakdowns (for products, for necessary support structures)
  - defining the basic structures required to support subsidy
  - the switch cost if moving from co-blistered to only co-formulated drugs
  - elaboration of financing possibilities, who and how.
  - Hosting: potential candidates, accountability mechanism, management arrangement, ensuring a lean structure and fit for purpose secretariat
  - Communication plan: how and when are decisions and plans conveyed. Balancing active advocacy role with the realities of the analysis - information needs to be well managed.
- Accurate forecasting of demand is critical for the subsidy to function, need to link with PSM
- Attention should be paid to complementarity with the Global Fund and UNITAID
- Distributors in endemic countries should be included in this taskforce
- Ownership of the process by countries is important
- Strong endorsement of the concept of the subsidy
- Encouragement for the Taskforce to go forward and compliments on work achieved to date

#### *Decisions Reached*

- *Endorsed* the subsidy objectives and design principles
- *Expressed* continued support for the introduction of a global subsidy for ACTs according to those principles and objectives
- *Approved* the continuation of the RBM Global ACT Subsidy Taskforce:
  - As the only RBM mechanism to forge consensus on;
  - To guide the finalization of a detailed technical proposal including governance and hosting arrangements, funding requirements, formal linkage with and costing of supporting activities, and any other outstanding operational issues;
  - To submit for approval a detailed technical plan for the launch of the subsidy to the November 2007 RBM Board.

#### **Call to Order, Day Two**

The Chair opened the meeting, gave an update on the Board Chair and Vice Chair nomination process and moved to the revised agenda.

#### **Monitoring & Evaluation Reference Group (MERG)**

##### *Presentation Summary*

MERG Chair, Bernard Nahlen, presented the work of MERG including key elements of the terms of reference, membership composition, key products to date and 2007 workplan products. Six taskforces are included in the MERG: mortality, morbidity, anaemia, survey and indicator guidance, capacity building and economics. Scaling up for Impact (SUFI) and Global Fund performance-based funding model impose new demands for urgent improvement in country malaria M&E systems. RBM MERG provides an effective mechanism to build consensus and provide tools to address core M&E technical issues. Further significant investment would be required if workplan were to take on expanded role in support of capacity strengthening in M&E for National Malaria Control Programmes.

### *Discussion Summary*

- Linking investment with impact is critical as is communicating demonstrated impact to the wider world. The demand for this information is very high and the need for it is urgent.
- Partnership scorecard and dashboard are needed to: bolster sound on-the-ground programme management, provide a tool for programme planning and to form a solid basis for communication and advocacy strategies.
- Countries waste time and resources when partners use different systems for monitoring - appeal for harmonized approach and investment in capacity building at country level.
- Encourage more work on economic indicators and impact.
- ACT Subsidy Taskforce and MERG need to be linked: need to gather more information on antimalarial markets. Taskforce and MERG to discuss.
- Highlighted the importance of MERG's work to set up a common data warehouse.
- Interface with Harmonization WG and Subregional Networks is important. However, MERG must retain independence.
- Call to action to major donors (as the most incentivized) to see how they want to go forward to harness MERG.
- Attribution of mortality to a specific disease and attribution of deaths averted to a certain intervention require caution. Need to continue to evaluate and improve methodologies.
- Due attention should be paid to morbidity data, especially for vivax malaria.
- Countries need to take the lead on M&E and systematically dedicate funds and personnel to it. Countries' national disease strategy should include costed M&E plan. Donor funds are available for this purpose.

The Chair summarized the discussion and suggested next steps

- A joint meeting should be held around 1 July with leadership from the HWG and MERG. SRNs and/or WHO SRNs and MAWG also need to be involved, but not as primary drivers. Request that this group report back to the Subcommittee on Performance on an integrated RBM implementation support workplan that includes the following:
  - Role of secretariat in implementation efforts
  - Short-term milestones and timeline to form the basis for a success metrics for the timeframe between 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Board meetings.
  - Take into consideration sustainability and health system ramifications
  - Outcome based budget for proposed expansion plans as well as a system for integration with other working groups.
- Unresolved: notion of the scorecard, gap analysis of data availability on per country basis
- Primary purposes for July meeting
  - Achieve consensus on roadmap to finalize the indicator package
  - Country implementation mechanics and planning
  - Data collection, warehousing and reporting structure. Role of Secretariat here.
  - Investment strategy to ensure that this work gets done

### *Decisions Reached*

- *Endorsed* Terms of Reference
- *Endorsed* areas of focus for 2007
- *Approved* the initial work plan
- *Endorsed* MERG collaboration with HWG / MIST
  - MERG to identify 10 to 15 countries in Africa where it will work with MIST to have costed M&E workplans developed. These plans will be incorporated into MIST workplan scheduled for 1 July submission

## **Malaria Advocacy Working Group (MAWG)**

### *Presentation Summary*

MAWG Co-Chair, Nicole Bates, gave an update on the evolution of the Malaria Advocacy Working Group including membership composition (110 individual members representing 60 organizations and 30 countries), key priorities and outcomes and an overview of the 2007 workplan. She presented achievements in global advocacy over the past year such as significantly strengthened advocacy networks, engagement of Ambassadors, better mechanisms for information sharing and closer collaboration with other RBM Partnership bodies.

### *Discussion Summary*

- Support for increased participation of endemic country. Executive Committee will review.
- The workplan should include direct advocacy for continued R&D funding.
- Advocacy strategy at EU level should be fleshed out more.
- More and better quality evidence-based messaging is needed.
- Agreement that World Malaria Day is worthy of support. However, given lingering questions, agreement not to push the malaria resolution at the 60<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly.
- Collaboration with other working groups is vital (MERG, HWG, ACT)
- Endorsement of RBM Executive Director becoming an ex officio member of the Global Fund board
- Discussion on criteria for engaging additional RBM Goodwill Ambassadors
- Recognition of Co-Chairs' efforts

### *Decisions Reached*

- *Approved* the MAWG workplan
- *Tasked* the MAWG to provide a plan and budget for RBM brand strengthening at 13th Board
- *Endorsed* the provision of an additional US\$60,000 to sponsor the participation of endemic country representatives to MAWG meetings
- *Tasked* the Executive Committee to initiate Board actions to secure a Ex Officio seat for the Executive Director of the RBM Partnership on the Global Fund Board – Recommended collaborating with Stop TB Partnership

## **Procurement and supply chain management (PSM) working group**

### *Presentation Summary*

UNICEF presented the work of the PSM WG since the 11<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. The group defined its Terms of Reference, which were subsequently endorsed by the EC. These include five areas of work: PSM technical assistance to countries, forecasting and quantification of commodities, quality assurance/ quality control issues, dissemination of tools, best practices, information, and advocacy for resource mobilization for in-country PSM operations. The focus will now turn towards mapping current PSM activities of partners and gaps, proposed activities for WG and Secretariat, PSM workplan and budget and a TA roster for in-country support to identify / resolve PSM bottlenecks.

### *Discussion Summary*

- Broad agreement that procurement and supply chain management is critical to SUFI success. PSM WG needs to be fast-tracked.
- WG members need to prioritize activities and provide a timeline and budget for their work in short order.
- Need clarity on role of Secretariat. What is the status and quality of M2S2 database?
- Need clear indication of host for demand forecasting. How best to facilitate building trust and confidence is lingering issue.

- Manufacturers bear all the cost of poor demand forecasting. Reshifting risk-sharing should be looked at to improve the incentive structure.
- Procurement is often a major challenge for countries. Local capacity needs strengthening, including local manufacturing. Countries also need quick, reliable information on manufacturers, product quality, etc to ensure solid tendering process.

### ***Decisions Reached***

- *Tasked* the PSM WG to urgently submit a prioritized workplan to the Executive Committee
- *Approved* the broad ongoing Partner consultation process aiming at:
  - mapping PSM activities of the Partners
  - defining the activities for the WG
  - defining the activities for the RBM Secretariat
  - populating a TA roster indicating available expertise for support to countries in identifying and resolving PSM bottlenecks
- *Approved* the holding of a second PSM WG meeting, including due representation from endemic countries, by mid June for finalizing:
  - PSM roles and responsibilities of the Partners, the WG and the Secretariat, for each of the focal areas expressed in the TORs
  - the 2007 workplan and budget
  - election of co-chairs

for submission to the Executive Committee.

### **Board Elections**

As described in the RBM Board By-Laws, a closed call for nomination was made. The chair disclosed nomination results. Chair and vice chair positions each received one nominee only.

### ***Election Results***

- Ethiopia elected Chairperson for term of two years
- UNICEF elected as Vice Chair for a term of one year

### **WHO Global Malaria Programme - Technical Expert Groups (TEG)**

#### ***Presentation Summary***

WHO provided a broad overview of the work and priorities of its technical expert groups on malaria vector control, case management and preventive treatment, and economics, finance and impact. Principles of coordination with RBM Partnership working groups include joint chairpersons, cross-cutting membership, transparent presentation and review of work plans and ToRs, forum for discussion of ongoing and planned research efforts and joint consensus statements.

### **Working group for scalable malaria vector control (WIN)**

#### ***Presentation Summary***

WIN Co-Chair, Don de Savigny, presented the history of the working group which has moved from its early work to solve technical problems to currently working on understanding and addressing system problems at country level to reach scale in vector control. The WG is hosted by WHO and is working very closely with WHO-GMP TEG on malaria vector control. The workplan and budget are being developed alongside ongoing TEG developments so that ToRs and workplans will be compatible. Many WIN members included in TEG, but some are excluded by nature of TEG. As long as we are failing on coverage, likely that RBM WIN continuation remains valid.

#### ***Discussion Summary***

- WIN provides important forum for wide multi-sectoral collaboration. GMP TEG cannot provide this same type of forum as membership excludes private sector. Both are needed.

- WIN's guidance on how to scale up use is important
- Standardized costing framework is needed, e.g. cost per LLIN

### **Resources Working Group**

#### *Presentation Summary*

The World Bank presented the composition and status of work for the Resources WG. The group is small and focused on a few key products such as malaria sub-accounts and the global ACT subsidy design.

#### *Discussion Summary*

- The focus and prioritization demonstrated by the group is a model for other WGs

#### *Decisions Reached*

- *Approved*
  - name change to "Resources Working Group"
  - updated TORs, including expanded membership
- *Endorsed*
  - current leadership
  - 2007 WG workplan and budget

### **Malaria in Pregnancy (MIP) working group**

#### *Presentation Summary*

Chair, Juliana Yartey, presented an overview of the evolution of the WG and current status of work. One critical challenge the group is working on is the need for much stronger linkages between reproductive health and malaria programmes at country level.

#### *Discussion Summary*

- There are mixed signals regarding use of IPT. These need to be clarified.

### **Communications Working Group (CWG)**

#### *Presentation Summary*

Pru Smith of the Secretariat presented the history of the CWG and current status. The group produced a strategic framework for country level communication. Recently, the group has been dormant. However, improved take up and use of malaria commodities remains essential and some members are especially interested in exploring the Community Competence tool that was successfully piloted in 11 countries.

#### *Discussion Summary*

- CWG should pull together a proposal with clear ToRs especially vis-à-vis synergies with other WGs
- There is a gap identified at this Board – more work needs to be done on effective use and sustained demand
- Discussion with HWG and MAWG is required to determine a proposal either for SRNs to take this up or country actors to address this.

#### *General Discussion Summary on WG presentations*

- It is important that WGs bring higher level issues to the Board - that they do not ask the Board to micromanage them.
- Secretariat function is needed to rationalize and coordinate WGs and ensure that information coming to Board is at a macro level.
- WGs need to submit their budgets in a timely manner - do not get funded otherwise. Good financial discipline needed.
- WGs should all look at an exit strategy

## **Forum VI**

The Executive Director asked for the Board's endorsement to hold Forum VI in late 2008

### *Discussion Summary*

- A benefit analysis, rationale and costing projection for Forum VI is required
- Impact evaluation of Forum V could help Board make this decision

### *Decisions Reached*

- The Executive Committee will discuss Forum VI

## **Governance handover**

Ethiopia and UNICEF took up their respective positions as Chair and Vice Chair of the RBM Partnership Board

## **Adjournment**

Expressing the need to build on the successes of the last two years and to maintain the momentum of partnership and harmonization, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

## **RBM Partnership Next Steps**

1. See attached "Decision Points and Next Steps"
2. The 13<sup>th</sup> RBM Board Meeting will take place 28-29 November 2007 in Addis Ababa. Hosted by the Government of Ethiopia.

## **Attachments:**

- Participant List
- Decision Points and Next Steps from the 12th RBM Board meeting