

SUMMARY OF RBM PARTNERSHIP BOARD DECISIONS, MARCH 2003

Agenda item 1: RBM Partnership Board Chair and Vice chair

- ◆ The Board elected the Chair (Ghana) for 1-year tenure.
- ◆ The Board elected Joint Vice chairs (Holland and Private Sector) for a 1-year tenure.
- ◆ The Board mandates the EXS RBM to develop further Board Operating Procedures with regard to election, representation.

The RBM Partnership Secretariat proposes that an ad hoc Board subcommittee on Governance be mandated to work with the secretariat on this matter.

Teleconference Board chair and Vice chairs to identify means of communication and required support for their operation

Agenda item 2: Constituencies

- ◆ The Board recommended that there be 5 Board members from Africa, including the Horn of Africa.
- ◆ The Board tabled for the next Board meeting a review of the need to have PAHO/EURO represented.
- ◆ The Board did not take a decision on the NGO Board member proposal for 2nd Board seat.

Agenda item 3: Action items October 2003

1) The Board adopted the sub-committee report on sub-regional / regional secretariat.

- ◆ The Board requests the subcommittee report to be amended by deleting the RBM Partnership Secretariat support function to the IMCI/RBM Task Force (table on Secretariat functions at regional level).
- ◆ The Board mandates the EXS RBM to implement recommendations.
- ◆ The Board requested the EXS RBM to provide regular updates on implementation through teleconference.

2) The Board adopted the sub-committee report on country level RBM support.

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Agenda item 4: TOR of Working Group

- ◆ The Board mandates the EXS RBM to make operational Working Groups, taking into account cautions raised by Board.
- ◆ The Board requests the EXS RBM to develop criteria for the purpose of evaluating WG effectiveness and report to the next Board meeting.
- ◆ The Board empowered the proposed Working Groups and delegated the managing to the Secretariat.

Agenda item 5: RBM Partnership Operating Framework

- ◆ The Board adopted the framework document for implementation (as a living document).
- ◆ The Board recommended that the Framework reflect better the RBM Partnership's responsibility to document experiences on implementation practices from all regions.
- ◆ The Board recommended that EXS RBM facilitate the sharing of country experience between regions.
- ◆ The Board mandates the EXS RBM to address remaining pending issues indicated the Operating Framework document.

Agenda item 6: RBM Partnership Workplans

(1) Proposed RBM Partners' Joint Workplan in support of African countries for 2003:

- ◆ The Board acknowledged the Joint RBM Partners' Workplan in support of African countries, including objectives and outputs.
- ◆ The Board requested the amendment of the first Partnership Objective to read "To promote (instead of improve) coherence & co-ordination of technical & programmatic support to endemic countries".

- ◆ The EXS RBM will circulate an Aide Mémoire, relating to the partners' support activities planned for 2003, to all parties present at the Harare planning meeting (3-5 March 2003).

(2) Future RBM Partners' Joint Workplans in support of African countries (beyond 2003):

- ◆ The Board recommended that for the planning process beyond 2003, a country led, bottom-up approach be utilised in order to identify needs of country RBM partnerships.
- ◆ The Board recommended that the existing Strategic RBM Plans be used as a guiding principle for the planning of support to country partnerships.
- ◆ The Board recommended that the EXS RBM facilitate the partnership building at sub-regional and country level.
- ◆ The Board requested the EXS RBM to revise the partnership objectives for future Partnership Workplans, beyond 2003, in linking RBM partners' support activities to
 - RBM focus countries;
 - GFATM recipient countries and;
 - Other countries.

(3) RBM Partnership Planning Framework

The Board endorsed the framework for RBM Partners.

The Board requested that M&E be a separate objective of future Partnership Workplans.

The Board requested the EXS RBM report to the next Board meeting on progress towards Abuja targets.

Agenda item 7: RBM Partnership Secretariat workplan, budget and staff

The Board approved the Workplan and budget

Agenda item 8: Global Partners' Forum

The Board approved a Global Partners' Forum to be held in 2004 in Africa. The Board has mandated the existing subcommittee to finalise the theme and identify a venue. The sub-committee is requested to report back to the Board at the next teleconference.

Agenda item 9: Partnership Performance Audit

The Board recognizes that quantification of “value added” needs to be answered.

The Board requests EXS SEC to provide data on costs of options.

The Board requests the EXS RBM to have the Working Group on M&E and the meet the Performance Assessment System Consultants and WHO/MSU to identify points of convergence and overlap to identify. Include GFATM as declared relevance and interest.

Agenda item 10: Focussing efforts (“Blockbuster countries”)

EXS RBM mandated to develop support strategies for three distinct categories of countries:

Blockbuster or focus country partnership – 14 countries

Other GFATM (or other additional resource) recipient countries

Countries in complex emergency situation – Angola, DRC, Rwanda, Burundi, Sierra Leone, Liberia

Other countries

Next Board Venue

Board recommended that meeting be scheduled around the September RBM/IMCI task force meeting. The WHO Board member proposed to host the meeting.