



Stop TB Partnership

SUMMARY SHEET

AGENDA NR. 1.12 - 6.0	STOP TB PARTNERSHIP THE CORE PART 1 HOSTING ARRANGEMENTS		
IS THIS SESSION FOR:	INFORMATION <input type="checkbox"/>	DISCUSSION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DECISION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BACKGROUND (INCLUDING PROBLEM STATEMENT):			
<p>In May 2010, the 63rd World Health Assembly endorsed the Policy on WHO Engagement with Global Health Partnerships and Hosting Arrangements (Doc. 1.12-6.1 Resolution WHA63.10), which laid out the criteria to guide WHO's engagement in different types of health partnerships, while also providing parameters to be applied in cases where WHO agrees to host a formal partnership.</p>			
<p>In keeping with the above, WHO has developed a draft standardized generic terms for hosting a partnership secretariat (Doc. 1.12-6.2 Draft Hosting Terms), which was shared with Partnership Secretariats for comment on 2 September 2011. The draft terms seek to clarify mutual roles, responsibilities and expectations for both the partnership secretariats and WHO. Comments by the Stop TB Partnership and many of the partnerships secretariat heads on the draft hosting terms have been provided to WHO (Docs. 1.12-6.3 & 6.4. Response to the draft hosting terms from the TBP Executive Secretary and Memo to WHO from 6 heads of partnerships). WHO Office of the Legal Consul has informed the Secretariat that based on feedback received from Partnership Secretariats, a revised terms has been prepared, which may need to reflect further changes based on discussions at the WHO Executive Board which meets from 16-23 January 2012. Another draft version of the hosting terms is expected in February and the Office of the Legal Consul has indicated that WHO would then consider any further inputs from the various partnerships.</p>			
<p>The 20th Coordinating Board in Washington DC established a sub-committee on Governance, Performance and Finance to work with WHO to clarify the hosting arrangements (Decision Point 1.11-7.0). This was needed as the Stop TB Partnership was the only major partnership hosting by WHO without an MOU. The sub-committee has thus far met five times via teleconference and has discussed the draft terms and the approach to engage with WHO on this important matter. At its first meeting, the Sub-Committee also requested the Secretariat to begin to explore alternative hosting arrangements, including costs, to inform their deliberations.</p>			
SUMMARY/OUTLINE OF THE SESSION:			
<p>The draft hosting terms as provided by WHO in early September mark an important step towards clarifying the roles and responsibilities of both the partnership secretariat and its host, WHO. It was felt that generic terms can be agreed, but, as these will apply to all partnership secretariats, they will by necessity be limited and high-level in what they cover. A more specific annex to the hosting terms applicable to the operations of individual partnership secretariats will need to be prepared to supplement the generic hosting terms document.</p>			
<p>Based on analysis of the draft terms, a number of important issues have been noted that require further debate and discussion by the Board and further clarification from WHO. Many of these have already been communicated to WHO and are summarized below. It will be important for the Board to determine those items of critical importance in future negotiations with WHO, and those items that it feels are less essential.</p>			



Stop TB Partnership

A. The Partnership Secretariat and Staff

- The extent to which the Secretariat can be given flexibility in the hiring and retention of staff is vital to ensure its smooth functioning, including flexibility in reviewing external candidates, applying WHO rules of diversity, and other issues.
- With respect to the Partnership head, further discussion is required relating to reporting lines as well as Board involvement in the performance evaluation, recruitment and selection process of the Executive Secretary.

B. Financial Matters

- A number of issues related to financial aspects of the draft terms have been noted, in particular the application of the 13% standard PSC charge across all partnerships. This would be a substantial increase for the Partnership, which currently enjoys a 3% charge on commodities and a 7% charge on all other costs; this move may reduce its attractiveness to donors. The reduced PSC rates were negotiated as the Partnership executes all of its administration itself and is minimally dependent on WHO.
- The Stop TB Partnership Secretariat is the only formal partnership placed within the WHO Programme Budget (PB); its placement inside the PB carries with it a number of significant implications, including lack of clarity in the application of the definition of a formal partnership; high transaction costs as resources need to move between the GDF portion of the Partnership (placed outside of the PB) and the Secretariat portion that underpins Partnership operations being placed within it; time consuming reconciliation processes with WHO Central Accounts for financial management reports.
- Clarity on the crediting of interest earned on balances in the TBP Trust Fund for the benefit of the Partnership.
- The partnership liability account suggested, to be managed by WHO and to which each Partnership would be expected to contribute to the event that a Partnership is unable to reimburse WHO the costs of any damages, losses, and expenses incurred by WHO on behalf of that Partnership, does not appear implementable with any funds the Partnership receives, all of which are governed by donor agreements.

C. Branding, Website, Logo, Communications and Publications

- The Partnership would like to explore with WHO the possibility of using its own logo on publications and would like further discussions around clearance procedures for all materials. In its current form, the draft terms appear to require clearance for all publications; there is concern from the Partnership that implementing this arrangement will greatly impede communications work from all partnerships, while also creating unmanageable work loads for WHO Communications.

D. Comparative Costing

The Secretariat has received from a number of institutions costs related to hosting of the Partnership's secretariat. Further work is required to ensure their comparability. No actual offers to host the Partnership Secretariat have been received.

MAJOR DISCUSSION POINTS OR DECISION POINTS REQUESTED:

DECISION POINTS ARE UNDER DEVELOPMENT BY THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON GOVERNANCE, PERFORMANCE AND FINANCE



Stop TB Partnership

Is this a Special Project? (<i>i.e. Should be undertaken for strategic reasons and is currently partially or completely unfunded?</i>)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If so, what funding is already available?	
What is the funding gap?	
Are there HR implications? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> . If so, what?	
NEXT STEPS	
ACTION REQUIRED: Further negotiations with WHO on clarifying the hosting terms	
RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/OFFICER: Lucica Ditiu, Executive Secretary	
TIMEFRAME: Next 6 months	