

MeTA Management Board (MMB) Meeting 5



15 December 2008

Attended by: Sophia Tickell – Chair IAG; Geraldine Murphy – DFID; Saul Walker – DFID; Andreas Seiter – World Bank; Gilles Forte – World Health Organization; Adam Smith – DFID; and members of the MeTA Secretariat - Brian Elliot, Elodie Brandamir, Wilbert Bannenberg, Andrew Chetley, Marieke Devillé.

Summary

1. Pilot project extension

- A proposal for an 18 month extension was rejected by DFID Senior Management, however DFID are considering a six month extension (*DFID asap*).
- The secretariat will revisit the logframe with the World Bank and WHO and make sure that country logframes are linked to that of the secretariat (*Secretariat, WB and WHO - beginning Feb*).

2. Economic downturn and implications for MeTA

- The economic downturn will affect MeTA and needs to be taken into account for planning. The secretariat and DFID have started discussion because drop in GBP affects countries' budget and consultants' fee rates and per diem. DFID to inform MS about economic downturn consequences and DFID's corporate policy (*DFID - early Jan*).
- Send out a proactive message to all involved in MeTA (*DFID, Secretariat - beginning Feb*)

3. Country update (including Civil Society component)

- Trends across countries and pilot were summarised and the overall lesson is that when countries start discussing transparency they often find gaps within their pharmaceutical systems that go beyond the focus of MeTA. While MeTA cannot fund efforts to fill all these gaps, it is helpful that the multi-stakeholder process has stimulated the debate and defined the need for national pharmaceutical policies.
- Procedure agreed for quick decisions on country and civil society workplans: circulated electronically and MMB members to comment within 7 days.
- Finalise global and country logframes and define individual country indicators (*Secretariat end Jan*)
- Update country guidelines on private sector, MeTA toolbox and make less intimidating (*Secretariat – asap*)

4. Communication

- The MeTA communication outreach plan was discussed. All members to send written comments (*asap*)
- Agreed to discuss making MMB minutes and agenda publicly available on website at next MMB (*MMB6*)

5. Baseline research

- Baseline concept and ToR explained. TOR approved.
- Secretariat to hold discussion about market data with IMS. (*World Bank and Secretariat*)

6. Jan-March 2009 Programme and Budget Planning

- Work plan was approved by MMB.
- DFID will review the budget with a longer timeframe and comment (*DFID Jan*)
- Add to work plan a line on coordination between partners (*Secretariat next MMB*)
- International conference to be discussed at next MMB (*next MMB*)

7. International Advisory Group (IAG)

- Discussion on the evaluation report from the first IAG meeting,
- Secretariat response to recommendations from the meeting, and on plans for the next meeting.
- Identified need for further consultation around member availability for possible meeting dates in either March or April (*Secretariat asap*)
- Discuss with MMB the specific input required from MMB during next IAG meeting (*Secretariat Jan*)
- Papers for IAG approved by chair and MMB before being sent. (*Secretariat before MMB6*)
- Develop questions for next MMB for the IAG (*Secretariat before MMB6*)

Next MMB Meeting: February 2009 (exact date to be confirmed)