



Global Strategy
IMPROVING AG-STATISTICS



Third Meeting of the Global Executive Board (GEB)

Summary Record



DATE, TIME, VENUE

DATE: 2 December 2012

TIME: 15:00-17:00 Hrs. (Rome Time)

VENUE: The meeting was carried out face to face and through telephone.

LEAD PARTICIPANTS

AfDB: Oliver J.M.Chinganya (Mr.)
 BMGF: Chris Gingerich (Mr.)
 DFID: Frances Harper (Ms.)
 Ethiopia: Samia Zekaria (Ms.) - Chair
 FAO: Pietro Gennari (Mr.)
 Philippines: Romeo Recide (Mr.)
 UNESCAP: Haishan Fu (Ms.)
 Fund Administrator

AGENDA

1. **AGENDA ITEM 1 – for approval:** Manual of procedures for disbursement of funds to Participating Partners (PPs) and reporting templates;
2. **AGENDA ITEM 2 – for approval:** Principles for apportioning expected and available funds among years;
3. **AGENDA ITEM 3 – for information only:** Preliminary presentation of priorities for 2013 workplans at global and regional levels.

OUTCOMES

1. **AGENDA ITEM 1 – for approval:** Manual of procedures for disbursement of funds to Participating Partners (PPs) and reporting templates.

Introduction: The main text of the manual of procedures was already endorsed during the second meeting of the GEB held on the 19 July 2012. The session was focused on revising the reporting templates.

Discussion:

- AfDB requested that on page 5, point 3 of the Manual, it is needed to explicitly mention that Africa has already had an action plan.
- BMGF raised a question whether the financial reporting could be improved in order to provide a better understanding on how funds are being disbursed at national level. It was suggested to include a breakdown of a) funds which remain in countries and funds which go outside countries and b) geographical breakdown of funds/location of funds especially for training and technical assistance.
 The Fund Administrator agreed with the first suggestion. However, it was indicated that reporting on the location of the activities will require further discussion as it needs to be agreed first with the Participating Partners.
- UNECA is awaiting comments from its financial department on the Annex 7 – CERTIFIED FINANCIAL REPORT TEMPLATE (to be received by 14th December 2012).
- Asia - clarification was given that the approval of the regional workplan by the RSC is a prerequisite before its submission to the GEB.
- DFID highlighted again that all the reporting templates should take the Global Logical Framework as the basis.

- AfDB mentioned that there may be need to consider increasing the staff level as the reporting requirements may be too heavy for the current regional office. It was decided that the implementation should be carried out by current staff, with staffing levels to be reviewed in light of this experience.
- BMGF encouraged transparency of the reporting to the public. It was suggested that the Global Office make proposals to the GEB for which reports to make available to a) PPs and Resource Partners and b) to the general public

DECISION 1:

1.1 The main text of the Manual of procedures was endorsed subject to minor adjustment suggested by AfDB on page 5, point 3 (first point of discussion).

1.2 The workplan template was endorsed.

1.3 An amended version of the reporting templates to be submitted to the next GEB meeting, with the breakdown of funds inside countries/outside countries. It was agreed that the existing version of the reporting templates will be used for 2012 activities and the amended version to be used from 2014 (for the 2013 activities report).

2. AGENDA ITEM 2 – for approval: Principles for apportioning expected and available funds among years

Introduction: The principle and process of apportioning expected and available funds among years has been presented given the fact that the cycle of disbursement of funds to Global Trust Fund does not always follow a calendar year and is different from one donor to another.

The secretariat requested that the GEB agree on the principles on proportional assignment of funds among years.

Discussion:

- AfDB requested that the 2% administrative charge going to the Global Office should be shown separately from the regional funds;
- BMGF asked if there was some flexibility in the proportional assignment when a PP requires more or less funds. It was clarified that this was a starting point for workplans and that any funds assigned to a region but not covered in the workplan for one year could be rolled over. Funds carried over to the following year could be used but it would have to be agreed by the GSC.
- DfID clarified that the tranches can be given out at different times if necessary.

DECISION 2: *The principle for proportional assignment of funds among years was endorsed, with the amendment that the 2% admin fee to be shown separately.*

3. AGENDA ITEM 3 – for information: Preliminary presentation of priorities for 2013 workplans at global and regional levels

Introduction: Each PP presented the main priorities for 2013 that will be the basis for the detailed workplan and budget for activities at global and regional levels.

Discussion:

- A question was raised by FAORNE on the overlap of 7 countries which are covered by both Africa and Near East regions. AfDB indicated that the approved Action Plan for Africa covers all African countries without exception. It was decided that this would be further discussed in the meeting with PPs which will be held on the 3rd December 2012 and bilaterally if necessary. The relevant countries are to be consulted about their preferences.