

Global HIV Prevention Working Group Meeting

Virtual meeting, 22 April 2021

Participants: Sheila Tlou (UNAIDS, Coalition Co-Chair), Siobhan Crowley (Global Fund), Chewe Luo (UNICEF), Christine Stegling (Frontline AIDS), Paula Munderi (GPC Coordinator), Elizabeth Benomar (UNFPA), Gina Dallabetta (BMGF), Rachel Baggaley (WHO), Raymond Yekeye (Zimbabwe NAC), Job Khasewa (Kenya NACC) Ruth Morgan-Thomas (NSWP for key population networks), Daniel McCartney (IPPF), Mitchell Warren (AVAC), Marsha Martin (consultant Management Response)

Observers: Damilola Walker (UNICEF), Clare Morrison (Frontline AIDS), Clemens Benedikt, (GPC sec), Souad Orhan (GPC Sec), Lycias Zembe (GPC Sec), Hege Wagan (GPC sec, Rapporteur)

Apologies: Sara Klucking (PEPFAR OGAC), Marie Laga (Institute for Tropical Medicine, Antwerp), Nyasha Sithole (Athena/AFRIYAN), Susie McClean (Global Fund)

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTION POINTS

1. Welcome and action points

All Global Prevention Working Group (GPWG) members were welcomed to the meeting by the GPC coordinator connecting from Maputo. She informed that she was travelling with UNAIDS EXD to support the engagement towards the 'Education Plus' initiative but also to meet with key stakeholders on HIV prevention. The group was introduced to the agenda.

The action points from the January GPWG meeting were presented for accountability and update and everyone was reminded to respond to the outstanding agreed actions.

2. Revised ToR of GPWG and Co Chairs, Elizabeth

The revised ToRs for the GPWG and co-chairs were circulated before the meeting and were welcomed in the meeting. It was particularly welcomed that the revised GPWG ToR had taken on board and reflected the political role of the group.

Discussion

- The specifics of the current members will be shifted to an annex. The actual composition might be discussed linked to our discussion on the management response.
- Regarding the composition of the GPWG there was a suggestion to better reflect the USG side to engage the PEPFAR prevention person, CDC prevention person and USAID focal person in the PWG. This was welcomed by the group.
- In growing the group we might also want to organize the GPWG differently to add smaller task teams to be more efficient with a quicker turnaround time.
- The management response should inform our agreement around the PWG ToR and Co Chairs.

3. The Key Populations deep dive, - next steps

The summary of the action points from the four Key Populations Deep Dives conducted in 2020-21 was presented to the meeting.

Actions and follow up related to funding, strategic information, packages and delivery modality, guideline updates, strengthening work to address barriers, country guidance and strategy, social contracting and financing mechanisms were reflected in addition to specific recommendations related to young key populations. Details can be accessed in the presentation.

One additional aspect was the Key Populations Community of Practice. A first meeting is proposed for 13 May 2021, and ToRs and approach have been circulated. It will gather technical staff from governments, civil society and UN.

Discussion:

- The need for extensive outreach to inform and engage all partners in the Community of Practice was stressed. These include the different UNAIDS cosponsors like UNDP and UNODC together with WHO, UNFPA and UNICEF, to ensure we are not duplicating existing groups and also engage beyond the prevention working group.
- The meeting discussed the need for better information on key populations overall, including further disaggregation by age particularly among the younger age groups.
- It was stressed that key populations and young key populations need to be represented in the work on prevention. The meeting was reminded that the revised GPWG ToR include representatives from all key populations and also one representative of young key populations.
- Discussions highlighted that programming and related implementation tools reflect the different needs of the young key populations (15-18, and the 19 to 24), taking a granular approach to each of the key populations. The meeting was reminded of the technical briefs for young key populations (young transgender people, young men who have sex with men, young sex workers and young people injecting drugs, young incarcerated people) that were developed a few years back. They are available on the WHO website and WHO will circulate them to the group.
- In 2019, UNFPA, WHO, UNDP, UNICEF, and the Young KP networks worked on an implementation toolkit inspired by the technical briefs. The link was provided by UNICEF: <https://childrenandaids.org/aykpToolkit>
- IPPF shared the Health, Rights and Well-Being: A Practical Tool for HIV and Sexual and Reproductive Health Programmes with Young Key Populations in Eastern Europe and Central Asia: <https://eeca.unfpa.org/en/publications/health-rights-and-well-being>
- The group expressed the importance and willingness to strengthen work with young key populations. GA Sub Group on YKP programming should be considered with a view to engaging country stakeholders and responding to needs for guidance.
- The GPWG should be able to connect the tools and guidance, technical know-how and policy discussions together with the partnerships at country level.

Action points:

- Circulate the YKP briefs and tools and consider if there is need for update; **WHO, Frontline AIDS, NSWP**
- Share info on the Key Populations Community of Practice; **GPC secretariat**
- Young key populations sub- group to be explored as part of the GPWG based on mapping and engagement with already existing groups; **GPC secretariat**

4. Management response

The consultant thanked the GPWG members and presented a power point summarizing the draft management response based on the desk review and interviews with the GPWG members.

The consultant reflected on the actions and influences since the External Review including the GPC Ministerial meeting in November, R4P, the prevention Think Tank and the new Global AIDS Strategy.

The External Review put forward 26 recommendations for the different stakeholders to address. The consultant presented the response to the key recommendations by stakeholder group, including cosponsors, co-convenors, GPC secretariat, national AIDS programmes/authorities, GPWG and the UNAIDS Strategy (slides with details available).

In addition to the recommendations some consensus statements and summary messages that came out of the discussions with the GPWG members were presented. She expressed that the GPC and next Road Map have a unique opportunity to implement the inclusive response that we know need to be done.

The GPC Coordinator expressed thanks to Marsha Martin and indicated that the report will be circulated.

Discussion:

- It was clarified that the audience for the Management Response is all members of the GPC and they are clearly reflected in the External Review and the Management response. We have to make sure this is clearly reflected in the draft that will be circulated. The external review was requested by the PCB, but the ownership is with the membership.
- It was expressed that it would be useful to prioritize and have essential actions highlighted to ensure we are not “lost in the amount of actions” and allow the Management response to contribute towards the operationalization of the next Road Map and GPC.

Revised ToR for the GPWG

An extensive discussion on the ToR, building on the online circulation and feedback, addressed the composition and governance of the GPWG. In terms of representation, it was reminded that the names of members will be annexed.

Discussion:

- For the specific groups represented it was expressed that the revised ToR is reflecting the request from NSWP and ATHENA network to expand and include additional representatives of gay men and other men who have sex with men, transgender people, people who inject drugs in addition to sex workers. A representative of young key populations has also been added. The revised structure has 11 civil society representatives out of the total of 25 seats in the PWG, which is quite strong.
- CSO representatives advised that the Global Key Population Networks should be approached and asked for representation in the GPWG. The GPC secretariat will facilitate the process. It was also reflected that a possible revised governance structure should allow CSOs not represented to have a voice at the table.
- Regarding the cosponsors composition in the GPWG it was discussed among WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA. A stronger push to have cosponsors with responsibility of Human Rights and Gender equality, while ensuring the UN is not over-represented in the group, was highlighted.

- The group was reminded of discussions on the need for the GPWG to be a space for political conversations and having people with this profile engaged. It was agreed that a dedicated discussion is needed on who should be brought on board in terms of the political connection and political advocacy we want to put forward. The Rights Alliance Southern Africa (ARASA) or Georgetown Policy Lab were mentioned.
- The governance structure needs to allow the currently suggested 25-28 person GPWG to be more representative and inclusive without paralyzing the work of the group. Suggestions were to develop an executive committee that ensures progress. This could come with a constituency mechanism or sub groups/task teams that bring the voices of different constituencies with clarity and purpose on particular topics.
- It was agreed that the governance, management and coordination linked to the GPWG structure need to be supported by the secretariat. This would allow for a functional and accountable prevention working group.

Co-chairs

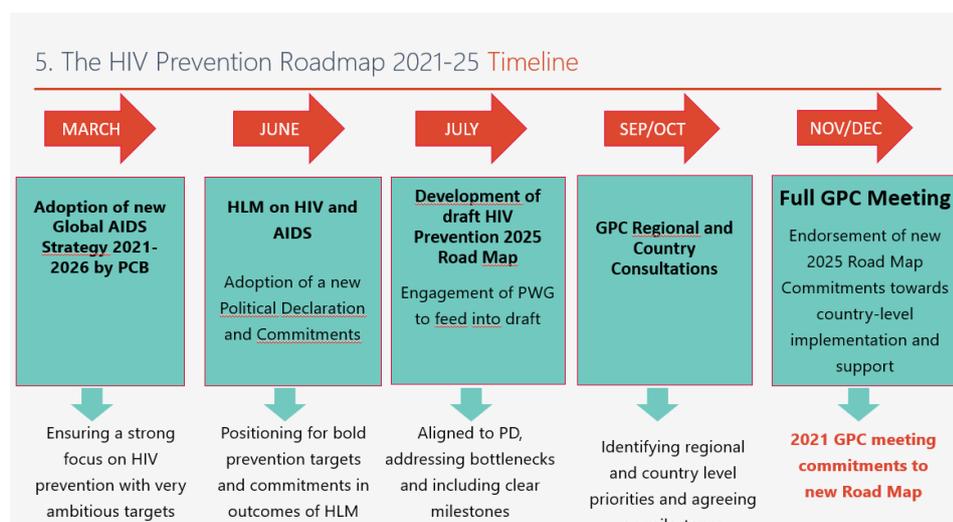
- One nomination for the GPC Co Chair from civil society had been received, Mitchell Warren. He accepted the nomination and the GPWG welcomed the new co-chair. Sheila Tlou will continue to serve for another term to ensure continuation.
- There were no observations to the revised ToRs circulated.

Action points:

- ToRs of the GPWG will be revised to reflect the discussion and be circulated, **GPC Sec**
- The specific GPWG names will be included in an annex. In the ToR we will keep the categories and numbers represented, **GPC Sec**
- A dedicated GPWG discussion on representation of Human Rights- **GPC Sec**
- Letter from UNFPA and UNAIDS EXD to co-chairs will be issued, **GPC Sec**

5. The HIV Prevention Roadmap 2021-25

The timeline for the year was presented with a focus on the 2025 HIV Prevention Road Map aligned to the new Global AIDS Strategy and Global AIDS monitoring and reporting.



The High- Level Meeting will take place on the 8-10 June with a new Political Declaration (PD) being negotiated for adoption. The new 2025 Road Map will be built on the 2021 Political Declaration like the 2020 Road Map was built on the 2016 PD commitments. The aim is to have a draft 2025 Roadmap in July and conduct regional and country consultations. Following the consultations, including strengthening the regional specificities as recommended by the External Review, a High-Level meeting to adopt a new Prevention Road Map is suggested for Nov-Dec 2021. The timelines are tight but the mandate is to update the Road Map, rather than developing a new one.

A prevention side event for the High-Level Meeting was agreed by all GPWG members. The GPC Coordinator shared the information on the five official HLM panels where prevention will be integrated throughout.

The GPC Secretariat committed to develop a concept note based on the GPWG discussion. The agreement was to focus on political leadership and “breaking through the politics”. It was also stressed that while the HLM side event is an opportunity, the GPWG needs to fully engage in ICASA.

Action points:

- Develop a draft concept note for the HLM prevention side event and organize a dedicated discussion- **GPC secretariat**
- Engage in ICASA sessions and submit proposals- **Sheila and GPWG**

GPWG Meeting frequency

More frequent meetings were suggested to further enhance communication. In addition, a dedicated session on developing the Road Map was put forward.

Action points:

- Develop a calendar of bi-monthly meetings for the next 6-8 months including dedicated discussions like on the Road Map- **GPC Sec.**
- Circulate GPWG presentations ahead of meetings for pre-read - **GPC Sec**

The co convenors expressed appreciation for the GPWG taking the time to attend the call and for their continued commitment. A new call will be organized to discuss the side event.

Finally- Congratulations to Nyasha with the new baby girl from the whole GPWG