



Chair's summary

UNITAID Executive Board meeting

November 29-30, 2006

The Board convened in Geneva on November 29 and 30 2006, in the presence of all its members. The alternate chair apologizes for the absence of Philippe Douste Blazy, who is attending at the same time a meeting in New Delhi with President Bill Clinton to announce lower prices for paediatric medicines for HIV/AIDS funded by UNITAID. The Board took note that it reached its quorum (i.e. a majority of its 9 voting members) and was in position to make decisions.

1- New Board membership

The Board of UNITAID acknowledges and welcomed the announcement from the Republic of Korea to provide financial support to UNITAID. The Board endorsed the Republic of Korea as a new member of the Board representing Asian countries.

2- Financial Commitment Policy

The Executive Board approved the proposed UNITAID Financial Commitment Policy. In accordance with this Policy, each donor is expected to confirm its contribution for 2006 and 2007 by December 31, 2006.

In order to specify the predictability principle set forth in UNITAID's Constitution, the Executive Board directs the Executive Secretariat to consult donors on the type of legal framework under which, in addition to their annual financial commitments, donors could confirm the long-term nature of their contribution to UNITAID, taking into account each country's particular legal constraints.

3- Constitution and By-Laws

The Board of UNITAID endorsed the amended Constitution and By-laws (dated November 30, 2006) upon consideration of the recommendations from the working group formed by the Board to review the proposed changes to the interim Constitution and Bylaws. The NGOs and communities abstained on the amendment related to making drugs available at the lowest possible price.

4- Consultative Forum

The Executive Board broadly endorsed the proposed process for the preparation of the Consultative Forum. The Board requested that the Executive Secretary propose a date in the first semester of 2007 for the first meeting of the Consultative Forum that would provide sufficient preparation time. Ideally this meeting would be adjacent to another event so as to streamline the cost of its organization.

5- New Donors adherence process

The Executive Board endorsed the step by step process by which new donors can join UNITAID.

The representation of donor countries at Board meetings will be determined under the Constitution that the Board shall adopt in March 2007. The final Constitution could, for instance, determine donor representation under constituencies. Pending the adoption of this final Constitution, new donors that join UNITAID may attend meetings of the Executive Board as observers.

6- Transparency and Key Performance Indicators

The Board of UNITAID endorsed on a provisional basis documents concerning the UNITAID Transparency Policy (dated November 30, 2006) and the UNITAID Key Performance Indicators for 2007 (dated November 30, 2006).

It is requested that the Transparency Policy and the Policy on Ethics and Conflict of Interest be reviewed at the time of the next Board meeting, in particular to take into consideration proposed amendments respectively by NGOs and WHO. The Key Performance Indicators will also be reviewed at the time of the next Board meeting.

7- Global Fund

UNITAID welcomed the decisions of the Board of the Global Fund at its 14th meeting. The UNITAID Executive Board stressed the need, in the implementation of the Round 6 and in the definition of the roadmap between UNITAID and the Global Fund:

- to receive information from the Global Fund that confirms that UNITAID funding should be additional and allow an increase in the number of patients under treatment compared to the current level under existing Global Fund financed programs;
- to reach agreements on price ceilings: when UNITAID agrees on price/volume with suppliers in specific niches, upper prices will not be supported (the prices of reference will be discussed with the Global Fund);
- to carry out pooled procurement: UNITAID and the Global Fund agree on the facilitation of voluntary pooled procurement in order to improve the prices and the availability of medicines and diagnostics; for each niche the secretariats will examine options to implement pooled procurement (including the flows of funds).

8- HIV/AIDS – Pediatric ARV

In addition to the 2006 allocation (9.1 m\$), the Board of UNITAID authorized the Executive Secretary to provide an additional USD 25.7 million in 2007 for the implementation of pediatric ARV programs.

9- Tuberculosis – Pediatric TB

The Board of UNITAID authorized the Executive Secretary, beyond the 864,000 \$ adopted of 2006, to provide an additional allocation of USD 4,801,000 for the tuberculosis pediatric TB Program submitted by GDF/Stop TB Partnership to be implemented in 2007.

10- Pre-qualification

After a 1 m\$ allocation in 2006, the Board of UNITAID authorized the Executive Secretary to provide 6 m\$ in 2007 Budget in the area of pre-qualification.

11 - HIV/AIDS – 2nd line ARV

The Board of UNITAID authorized the Executive Secretary to commit up to 45 millions USD for 2nd line ARV program in 2007. The Board of UNITAID also gave a political "green light" for 81 millions USD to be implemented in 2008.

The Board asked the Executive Secretary to work with stakeholders (particularly the Global Fund and PEPFAR) on the best way to ensure additionality in the use of UNITAID funds and to define a short and medium term strategy. Decision on the list of recipient countries will be made through a written consultation by the Executive secretariat.

12 - ACT scale-up

The Board of UNITAID authorized the Executive Secretary to commit up to USD 19,021,239 for 12,243,489 treatments for ACT scale-up in 2007. The Board of UNITAID also gave a political "green light" to support the ACT scale up program until 2010.

The Board of UNITAID authorized the Executive Secretary to provide funding to support ACT scale-up programs in Burundi (USD 714,997) and Liberia (USD 608,400).

13 - Tuberculosis – Multi-drug resistant (MDR) TB Scale up

The Board of UNITAID authorized the Executive Secretary to commit USD 19,890,000 for MDR-TB treatment in 2007. The secretariat was asked to review the initial proposal in order to study possible inclusion an additional list of middle-income countries by the next Board meeting.

14 - Acceleration of Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) and early pediatric HIV care scale up

The Board of UNITAID confirmed the green light status of the action and authorized the Executive Secretariat to pursue its work to further develop the action for consideration at the next UNITAID Board. UNITAID support to this program could reach USD 4,267,000.

15- Initial Budget for 2007 and operational costs

The Board approved the revised 2006 budget for operational costs for a total amount of 1,198,000 USD.

The Board also approved the budget for 2007 including (i) commitments to actions under the 2007 budget representing a total financial commitment of 174,235,000 USD and (ii) operational costs representing a total amount of 9,374,000 USD./.