

REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE OF COSPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS (CCO)

Annotated outline

Additional documents for this item: N/A

Action required at this meeting—the Programme Coordinating Board is invited to:

Take note of the report by the CCO Chair

Cost implications for the implementation of the decisions: none

OPENING COMMENTS

1. The opening section will note the historic importance of the year 2021, with a High-Level Meeting on AIDS convened in exceptional circumstances during exceptional times. The section will note the United Nation's (UN) Secretary-General's 10 clear recommendations to Member States, and share reflections on the Political Declaration emerging from the High-Level Meeting.
2. This section will also:
 - stress the importance of collectively recommitting to the 2030 goals to end AIDS, while noting the latest key data regarding new infections and deaths;
 - express appreciation for contributions from all actors working towards ending AIDS, while also addressing the complexities and repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic; and
 - refer to relevant outcomes of the recently concluded 74th World Health Assembly.

REFLECTIONS ON 40 YEARS OF HIV AND 25 YEARS OF THE JOINT PROGRAMME

3. This section will note 40 years of progress in: science; the expansion of testing and treatment; evolutions and innovations in HIV prevention; championing gender equality, human rights and community engagement; and pioneering inclusive governance and partnerships.
4. The section will highlight how the Joint Programme has worked for 25 years to accelerate progress, including through a focus on ensuring that better data and evidence-based decision-making support targeted efforts to reach communities that are most at risk. It will also note the critical importance of leadership, from communities to governments, and the importance of the Greater Involvement of People living with HIV principle for the HIV movement, and which is now being applied to other issues, including noncommunicable diseases.
5. The section will also note how, despite the progress, many of the challenges faced in 1996 still exist. They include the continued, pervasive challenges to implementing and sustaining combination prevention, and widening inequalities, demonstrated through the push back on rights and the shrinking of civic space—trends that block and frustrate further progress.
6. Attention will be drawn to how the six objectives agreed for the Joint Programme in the ECOSOC Resolution 1994/24 are as relevant today as when they were agreed.
7. The conclusion of this section will share how the Joint Programme's role in leadership, advocacy, developing evidence-based norms, standards and other public goods is as relevant in 2021 as at any other time in its history, as populist movements continue to challenge science as a basis for policy and action.

BUILDING THE JOINT PROGRAMME

8. This section will note the context in which Joint Programme was formed. The global HIV epidemic was expanding at a time when politicians in many countries were turning their backs on AIDS the issue, and in a context that lacked the critical funding mechanisms that we know today.
9. The section will note that 1996 was also a time when communities around the world were leading action, fighting stigma and discrimination and mobilizing extraordinary

prevention, care and awareness-raising initiatives. Research programmes were being accelerated, condom access was expanding, harm reduction programmes were established, and support services reached out to key populations and people living with HIV.

10. This section will conclude by noting how the Joint Programme has worked to connect sectors and raise visibility—not least through its own unique governance structure.

A NEW GLOBAL AIDS STRATEGY AND A DECADE OF ACTION

11. This section will reaffirm Cosponsors' support to the Global AIDS Strategy and stress the importance of the Strategy's focus on addressing the multiple and intersecting inequalities that challenge progress towards ending AIDS.
12. The section will also:
 - place the new Global AIDS Strategy in the context of broader strategic efforts;
 - reflect on how the Joint Programme has evolved in line with emerging complexities and inequalities, providing critical leadership during the era of the Millennium Development Goals, leading into the current decade of action towards the Sustainable Development Goals, with its focus on mobilizing more governments, civil society and businesses, and calling on all people to make the SDGs their own;
 - link the SDG decade of action to UN Reform and related transformative change processes underway across the UN system—noting how the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic will require significant strategic shifts and course correction in efforts to achieve all 17 of the SDG goals by 2030;
 - note that a COVID-19-related surge in critical social and structural drivers increased, for example, violence against women, girls and key populations, and has the potential to worsen the HIV situation in many contexts and therefore will require Joint Programme action;
 - note how better, more granular and real-time data and analysis is required to identify gaps, and how stronger links between community-led responses and primary health care can be leveraged for HIV impact; and
 - conclude by noting the collective and individual challenges of UN agencies in maintaining funding in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

SERVICES, SYSTEMS AND ENABLING ENVIRONMENT THROUGH AN INEQUALITIES LENS

13. This section will note how the diverse mandates of the 11 UN system organizations and the unique Joint Programme model ensure a comprehensive and multisectoral response to HIV that provides the critical base from which to steer progress towards the goals of the Global AIDS Strategy;
14. The section will also share individual and collective highlights on multisectoral working, drawing on select, historic milestones that suggest pathways for future collaboration.
15. The importance of developing a Unified Budget Results and Accountability Framework (UBRAF) that incentivizes greater collaboration and connectivity across the Joint Programme—and between the mutually reinforcing priority areas of the new strategy—will be highlighted.
16. This section will conclude by noting how core UBRAF funding to Cosponsors has enabled the Joint Programme to maintain critical HIV capacity at headquarters, regional and country levels. It will note how the Strategy's critical interdependencies require a

coordinated Joint Programme response that draws on the unique mandates of Cosponsors, enabling them to contribute to both HIV-dedicated programming and HIV-related programming that leverages across agencies, systems and sectors for HIV impact.

LEVERAGING COSPONSOR MANDATES AND LEADERSHIP FOR HIV PREVENTION

17. The section will note how prevention and treatment require an approach that leverages the synergies between services, systems and the enabling environment. It will welcome the renewed commitment to HIV prevention and the opportunities to reframe and reenergize prevention through the Global AIDS Strategy.
18. An overview of ongoing challenges to reduce new HIV infections will be shared, noting the value of individual and collective contributions to ensure a comprehensive approach.
19. Particular areas of expertise and capacity will be highlighted, within and across the Joint Programme in areas related to: sexual and reproductive health and rights; gender equality and women's empowerment; comprehensive sexuality education; harm reduction; effective interventions in sectors such as education, prisons and closed settings; food security and nutrition; legislation; justice; social protection; and work to reach young people, women and girls and key populations in all their diversities.
20. The importance of the Global HIV Prevention Coalition, the Global Partnership for Action to Eliminate All forms of HIV-related Stigma and Discrimination, and the Education Plus initiative will be underscored.

LEVERAGING COSPONSOR MANDATES AND LEADERSHIP FOR TREATMENT ACCESS

21. This section will note the critical role of the Joint Programme in leveraging the synergies between services, systems and enabling environments in support of treatment scale up.
22. The section will reinforce the role of treatment in HIV prevention, including through the scale-up of pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis, and the promotion of messages highlighting that successful viral load suppression as a result of treatment halts onward sexual transmission of HIV.
23. Reflections will be made on key milestones in the Joint Programme's work to drive testing and treatment scale-up—facilitated through close partnering with, and support for, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (the Global Fund), and other partners.
24. Remarks and perspectives on remaining challenges will be shared, including those related to expanding access to essential commodities and the ongoing importance of cross-agency collaboration and community engagement.

MOBILIZING RESOURCES AND INFORMING AND GUIDING THE USE OF RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE HIV RESPONSES

25. This section will highlight the importance of the Joint Programme's work with countries to encourage well-targeted investment of domestic and international resources and the development of strategies and policies that enable partnerships with funding agencies.

26. Examples of collaboration with PEPFAR, the Global Fund and other partners, will be highlighted—for example, through investments in reaching key populations, eliminating vertical transmission, testing and treatment scale-up, and addressing the needs of adolescent girls and young women, and integrating gender equality into the governance of the HIV response and other areas.
27. This section will also:
 - stress the importance of an accelerated effort to ensure key populations are appropriately prioritized and community responses are resourced;
 - highlight the importance of further leveraging appropriate integration of services both within health systems and across the broader network of relevant development sectors; andconclude by stressing the critical importance of ensuring that targeted country support and strategic country presence is optimized as the Joint Programme continues to evolve.

LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND: FOCUSING ON COMMUNITIES AND SETTINGS

28. This section will emphasize the importance of working with diverse communities and in diverse and often challenging settings and contexts in order to reach all people in need.
29. Examples from across the Joint Programme will be shared to highlight how this work has been supported and strengthened through predictable core UNAIDS funding;
30. The section will also highlight how UBRAF funds have enabled multisectoral action on HIV, including through a focus on gender-based violence, in different contexts, including refugee and displaced person settings.
31. The importance of flexible UBRAF funding will be stressed, with reference to some of the work made possible in support of COVID-19 through the reprogramming of country envelope funds.

CONCLUDING REMARKS: ENDING INEQUALITIES, ENDING AIDS

32. The conclusions will note that in 2021, as in 1996, the world needs a Joint Programme driving a multisectoral response with a Secretariat that is fit-for-purpose.
33. Key remarks in this concluding section will also:
 - note that Cosponsors require support in delivering both HIV-dedicated and HIV-related programming to reach the goals of the new Global AIDS Strategy and the broader SDG agenda;
 - stress how funding raised for and allocated across the Joint Programme has been and will remain critical to ensure a joined-up UN response with the flexibility critical to leverage catalytic opportunities as they emerge and adapt to changing country needs;
 - welcome the zero draft of the new UBRAF and outline the importance of ensuring greater transparency, accountability and proportionality in the allocation of resources and the subsequent streamlined reporting;
 - support the clear UBRAF focus on country and community impact, and seek to ensure that resources are matched to the needs of countries and communities in a way that strategically leverages the capacities and expertise of Cosponsors;
 - note the commitment of the Committee of Cosponsoring Organizations to a UBRAF that ensures investments across the Joint Programme and that supports

Cosponsors' efforts to maintain critical capacity at country, regional and headquarters levels;

- offer to further support the Secretariat in ensuring that the ongoing alignment process appropriately evolves in the context of the Secretariat's role and responsibilities within the broader Joint Programme; and
- note how, over the past 25 years, strong political and financial commitment, generated and sustained by the UNAIDS Joint Programme, has shown what can be achieved.

34. The report will end by restating how multisectoral action and leveraging resources for HIV impact across UN agencies and sectors are still critically needed, through the application of an inequalities lens, to close the gaps that are preventing progress towards reaching the 2025 targets and ultimately ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.

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