

Proceedings of the Twenty Third Meeting
of the India Country Coordinating Mechanism
for the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

The Twenty-Third Meeting of the India Country Coordinating Mechanism (India-CCM) for the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) was held on 30th October 2006 at Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi. A list of India-CCM members and invitees present at the meeting is enclosed.

Shri Prasanna Kumar Hota, Secretary, Health & Family welfare, MoH&FW, GoI and Chair of the India-CCM presided over the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 1

Presentation of Phase I Progress and Phase II Proposal of the two Round IV HIV/AIDS grants being implemented by NACO and PFI respectively for assessment and endorsement of the India CCM for submitting the request to GFATM for continued funding for Phase II:

- ?? Joint Director, NACO Dr D Bachani made a detailed presentation on the performance of the service delivery and outcome indicators; the financial disbursement and utilization for Year 1 of Phase I of the Round 4 GFATM HIV/AIDS Grant being implemented by NACO followed by the project implementation plan and budget for the Phase II of the grant.
- ?? Project Director, PFI Dr Mary Varghese made a detailed presentation on the performance of the service delivery and outcome indicators; the financial disbursement and utilization for Phase I of the Round 4 GFATM HIV/AIDS Grant being implemented by PFI followed by the project implementation plan and budget for the Phase II of the grant.
- ?? It was reiterated that even though implementation start dates of the NACO and the PFI grants were different, they are being reviewed and the proposals for continued funding are being submitted simultaneously in order to synchronize the NACO grant cycle with the financial cycle of Government of India as well as with the PFI grant cycle. The LFA representative clarified that the synchronization is being undertaken with the prior in principle permission of the GFATM.

- ?? Following the presentation the members of the India-CCM deliberated on the performance and the proposed Phase II implementation plans of the two grants.

- ?? The following issues were clarified by Ms K Sujatha Rao, AS&DG - NACO on Grant implemented by NACO at the request of the members:
- The targets and budgets for the last two quarters of Phase I (quarters 7 & 8) were being amalgamated with the respective targets and budget lines of Phase II in order to bring about the desired synchronization of the grant cycles.
 - During the rapid scaling up of service delivery that has occurred and envisaged for Phase II, the staffing and enabling requirements have been taken care of in the plan in a correlated manner.
 - Maintenance of the CD4 machines has been adequately addressed through the warranty process followed by annual maintenance contracts with the suppliers.
 - The higher than expected coverage with respect to the counselling and testing targets were due to the establishment of a threshold level of service delivery points and an intense media campaign informing the eligible beneficiaries about the availability of such services free of charge.
 - While appreciating the rapid scale up of services, the need to ensure that the quality of the services is maintained was stressed by the members. In response to this it was highlighted that appropriate quality assurance mechanisms were being put in place by NACO.
- ?? Issues related to HIV testing of suspected TB patients presenting to the DOTS and Microscopy centres of the RNTCP were discussed. The Chair advised that the merits of this strategy, its impact and the collaboration mechanisms between the TB and the HIV/AIDS Control programmes to address the critical issue of HIV-TB co-infection and co-morbidity to be deliberated upon and the necessary policy formulated by an appropriate technical expert group constituted jointly by the two programmes.
- ?? The members were informed about the successful efforts and the formal mechanisms being put in place by NACO to establish ART centres in the Health facilities of Public Sector Undertakings. This strategy to enhance the delivery channels of ART services was endorsed by the CCM.
- ?? The following issues were clarified by Dr Mary Varghese, Project Director, PFI on Grant implemented by PFI at the request of the members:
- The specific role of the Sub-Recipient Engender Health – Development of Training Modules and Training of the Service Delivery Personnel of the entire consortium.
 - Counselling services are being provided by the District Level PLHA networks at the Government ART centres where concomitant counselling centres have not been established by the NGO consortium in its project areas.
 - Since the initial efforts to establish full scale ART centres from scratch at Corporate Entities proved daunting and resource intensive, the remaining targeted ART centres in the Corporate Sector are being established by strengthening the existing health facilities of the Corporate Entities.

- The Project Director of Delhi SACS brought up the issue of the Government ART Centres in the Delhi State not being covered by the care and support services of the NGO Consortium. On the request of the Chair, PFI clarified that the grant agreement signed with the Global Fund did not include Delhi for care and support. NACO suggested that the unutilized surplus of Phase 1 may be used to cover Delhi for care and support activities. After further deliberations, the Chair summed up the view of the CCM to endorse the inclusion of Delhi State in the Phase 2 of Round 4 and recommended the same for consideration by the Global Fund and advised NACO and PFI to discuss the modus operandi of including Delhi State in consultation with the GFATM.
- ?? The following suggestions were offered by the members to enhance the future performance of the Grant implemented by PFI:
- To ensure the establishment of ART Centres in the Corporate Sector through effective public-private-partnership strategies. In this connection the representative of ASSOCHAM offered to organize a meeting in collaboration with CII and FICCI to facilitate the NGO Consortium to form effective partnerships with the corporate sector for the establishment of HIV Counselling and Testing and ART centres.
 - To place more emphasis on the capturing and reporting on the outputs that can and would be achieved through the implementation of the grant rather than limiting performance indicators to the inputs provided.
 - To clearly identify and focus on the comparative advantages of being a NGO Consortium in the types of services delivered and thereby augment and enhance in a significant manner the considerable scale of services provided by the government partner.
- ?? After further deliberation, the members formally rated the Phase I of both the Grants and unanimously gave a rating of “A – Expected and exceeding expectations” for the overall performance and for all except the following specific elements of the performance assessment categories which were rated “B1 – Adequate”:
- NACO - Overall performance of the Principal Recipient in managing the Global Fund grant.*
- PFI - How well the program has achieved the intended results to date?*

The Chair concluded the meeting after drawing attention to his retirement from Government service the following day and thanking all the members for their cooperation and the honour of chairing the India-CCM. The members resolved to place on record the sincere appreciation of the CCM to Mr P K Hota, Secretary Health and Family Welfare for the able leadership provided to the India-CCM by facilitating the strengthening of this unique multi-stakeholder partnership to address the resource needs and the strategic directions essential for reducing the national disease burden of the three diseases.

List of Members present in the meeting

- 1) Shri P. K. Hota – Secretary, Health & Family Welfare - MoH&FW, GoI, India-CCM Chair
- 2) Shri K.K.Abraham – President – INP+, India-CCM Vice-Chair
- 3) Ms. K Sujatha Rao – AS & DG (NACO) - MoH&FW, Govt. of India
- 4) Mr. Raghuvir Singh – Additional Secretary & Financial Adviser – MOH&FW, Govt. of India
- 5) Dr. J.P. Kapoor – Project Director – Govt. of Delhi on behalf of Mr. D.S. Negi, Principal Secretary (Health)
- 6) Dr. Kamini Walia – Senior Research Officer – ICMR, MoH&FW, Govt. of India on behalf of Dr. N.K. Ganguly, Director General
- 7) Ms. Paramita Sudharto – Public Health Administrator – WHO- on behalf of Dr. Salim J. Habayeb, WHO Representative to India
- 8) Dr. Vidya R. Ganesh – Chief HIV/AIDS Section – UNICEF on behalf of Mr. Cecilio Adorna, Country Representative
- 9) Dr. Denis Broun- Country Coordinator – UNAIDS
- 10) Mr. Billy Stewart – Health Adviser – DFID on behalf of Ms. Joanna Reid, Senior Health Adviser
- 11) Mr Robert Clay, Director- Health, USAID on behalf of Mr. George Deikun - Mission Director – USAID
- 12) Ms. Gina Dallabetta – Senior Programme Officer – Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation on behalf of Mr. Ashok Alexander, Director
- 13) Dr. Ramnik Ahuja - Consultant Health-CII on behalf of Shri R. Seshasyee, President
- 14) Mr. M.K. Garg – Senior Advisor (HR) – ASSOCHAM on behalf of Shri Anil K. Agarwal, President
- 15) Shri S.C. Goyal – Secretary General – TB Association of India
- 16) Fr. Tommy Kariyilakulam – Administrator – Bel Air Hospital
- 17) Dr. Debjani Banerjee – Incharge Care & Support Division – DMSC on behalf of Mr. Mrinal Kranti Dutta, Durbar Mahila Samanwaya Samiti
- 18) Mr. Kumar Iyer – Programme Manager – SAHARA on the behalf of Mr. Neville Selhore, Director

List of Members not present in the meeting

- 1) Ms. Rita Teaotia – Joint Secretary – MoH&FW, Govt. of India
- 1) Mr. R.K. Srivastava – Director General of Health Services, MoH&FW, Govt. of India
- 2) Dr. C.N. Deivanayagam – Health India Foundation, Chennai
- 3) Ms. Suneeta Singh – Sr. Public Health Specialist – World Bank
- 4) Ms. Sharareh Amirkhalili - Country Representative-UNFPA
- 5) Shri Madhusudan Prasad - Joint Secretary (FB) – Ministry of Finance
- 6) Mr. J.C. Goswami – Principal Secretary (Health), Govt. of Assam
- 7) Shri Deepak Kumar - Secretary (Health & Family Welfare) – Govt. of Bihar
- 8) Shri I.V. Subba Rao - Principal Secretary (Health), Govt. of Andhra Pradesh
- 9) Dr. Amarjit Singh – Commissioner cum Secretary (Health and Family Welfare), Govt. of Gujarat
- 10) Surgeon Vice Admiral V.K. Singh - Director General - Armed Forces Medical Services, Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India
- 11) Dr. P. Venugopal - Director - All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi
- 12) Mr Saroj K. Poddar – President – FICCI, New Delhi
- 13) Dr. P. Krishnamurthy – Director – APAC, Chennai
- 14) Dr. Vanlalmuana - Director – SHALOM, Mizoram

List of Invitees

Permanent Invitees present in the meeting

- 1) Dr. Jotna Sohkey– Additional Project Director – NACO, MoH&FW, Govt. of India
- 2) Dr. P.L. Joshi - Director - Directorate of National Vector Borne Diseases Control Programme, MoH&FW, Govt. of India
- 3) Dr. Teja Ram, Chief Medical Officer (TB) on behalf of Dr. L.S. Chauhan, DDG (TB), MoH&FW
- 4) Mr. Ramesh Chandra – Country Coordinator – UNOPS, Local Fund Agent

Permanent Invitees not present in the meeting

- 1) Dr. Maxine Olson – UN Resident Coordinator in India

Special Invitees present in the meeting

- 1) Mr. Deepak Gupta – Additional Secretary – MoH&FW, Govt. of India
- 2) Dr. Mary Varghese - Project Director – Population Foundation of India – on behalf of Mr. A.R.Nanda, Executive Director

Special Invitees not present in the meeting

- 1) Mr. S. Suresh Kumar – Director Finance – NACO, MoH&FW, Govt. of India

Additional Participants

- 1) Dr. B.K. Rao - Chairman Expert Committee on Health - ASSOCHAM
- 2) Mr. M. G. Verma - Office Assistant - ASSOCHAM
- 3) Mr. S. Vijaya Kumar - Grant Manager-Population Foundation of India
- 4) Mr. Subrat Mohanty - Program Manager - Population Foundation of India
- 5) Dr. Phanindra Babu – Manager - Population Foundation of India
- 5) Dr. Damodar Bachani - JD (IEC) - NACO, MoH&FW, Govt. of India