

**GFATM
COUNTRY COORDINATING MECHANISM**

Minutes of the meeting held on 28th July 2006, at 4.00 pm, in the Conference Room of the Anti Malaria Campaign, Public Health Complex, 555/5, Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo 05.

Present:

Mr Shirley Tissera	-	Congress of Religions / CFPA – Vice Chair
Dr W P Fernando	-	Consultant, VBDC & GFATM, MOH.
Dr S Puri	-	Actg. WHO Representative to Sri Lanka
Dr Lalith Chandradasa	-	Director, GFATM Project, Sarvodaya
Dr Chandra Sarukkali	-	Director, NPTCCD
Dr Nimla Edirisinghe	-	Director, National STD/AIDS Campaign
Ms Swarna Kodagada	-	Alliance Lanka
Dr W A Ferdinand	-	Independent Medical Practitioners' Association
Prof. Carlo Fonseka	-	University Grants Commission (Academia)
Mr M I M Iqbal	-	Sewa Lanka Foundation
Dr V I Jayasuriya	-	Ceylon National Association for Prevention of TB
Prof. Jennifer Perera	-	Sri Lanka Medical Association

Observers:

Ms Hiranthi Ratnayake	-	Local Fund Agency
Dr Supriya Warusavithana	-	WHO
Dr Susie Perera	-	National STD/AIDS Programme

Excused:

Mr R Maligaspe	-	Secretary, MOH (Chairman)-indisposed
Dr K Navarathne	-	World Bank Mission (out of Colombo)
Dr R R M L R Siyambalagoda	-	Director/ AMC (due to sickness)
Dr Abera Bekele	-	UNICEF (out of the country)
Mr D M L Gunaratne	-	Family Planning Association (out of the country)
Dr Chris Nonis	-	Ceylon Chamber of Commerce

Absent:

Mr S W Gunawardena	-	Janasetha Sahana Foundation
Ms Janet Leno	-	UNAIDS- (has left the country after completing the term)

Proceedings

1. **Confirmation of the minutes of the 51st meeting**

Minutes were confirmed as proposed by Ms swarna Kodagoda and seconded by Prof. Jennifer Perera.

2. **Matters arising from the minutes**

Dr Punsiri Fernando said that as planned, a workshop was held on 10th June. In addition to the CCM, members, also present were the persons and representatives of organizations who were selected by the CCM Sub Committee, as potential contributors towards proposal formulation. Attendance was very good. Minutes of this workshop has already been circulated. Sub groups were formed to draft the proposal. Dr Fernando explained that name of Dr Supriya Warusawithana was not included in the subgroups because, being the WHO Professional Officer handing the GFATM Project, it was assumed that she would assist all the 3 sub groups.

3. **Main Item:**

The draft proposal of the TB and Malaria components had been circulated earlier among the CCM members. The draft proposal of the AIDS component was presented at the meeting today. The members agreed with the three proposals and endorsed the country proposal as a whole. It was decided that the members absent today, will be given the draft AIDS proposal, in addition to the other two proposals they have already been sent. Their signatures will be obtained subsequent to their studying the proposals.

4. **Endorsement of the Regional proposal on HIV/ AIDS:**

Director STD/ AIDS Programme, presented the Regional Proposal titled “SCALING UP THE REGIONAL RESPONSE TO HIV & AIDS FOR VULNERABLE MOBILE POPULATIONS IN THE SAARC REGION” formulated by the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Secretariat (SAARC) in partnership with UNDP Regional Centre in Colombo, to be submitted to the GF. The CCM members present at the meeting **endorsed the** proposal, after agreeing to it.

5. **New Members & Resignations**

Dr Fernando tabled a letter received from Dr Adrian Senadhira who was representing Lions Multiple, conveying his resignation from the CCM.

A letter received from Chairman, University Grants Commission was tabled nominating Prof. Carlo Fonseka of the CCM, following a decision taken at a Board meeting. Another letter received from Sri Lanka Red Cross Society was also tabled nominating Mr S D K Dassanayake, member of the Central Governing Board and Chairman of the Matale District Branch to the CCM.

The CCM agreed to these nominations and the Vice Chair welcomed them to the CCM. Mr Dassanayake has been nominated in response to a request from the CCM for a member who would represent the interests of malaria patients and those who are vulnerable to malaria. Mr Dassanayake has been a former officer in the Department of Health, with wide experience about malaria-vulnerable people living in Matale district. Now his work covers the entire country, with emphasis on Matale district.

6. **Presentation regarding proposed scheme to formalise representation in the CCM, of non- governmental organizations.**

The present CCM was formed in February 2002 when there were no CCM guideline re-formulation of CCMs. On seeking clarification from GF secretariat it has been informed that, after studying the constitution of the Sri Lanka CCM they feel that there is no objection for the original members to continue if the members of the CCM agree. However it has been decided by the CCM that the non-governmental organizations must be formally selected again as per CCM Guideline, and a leading NGO, Sarvodaya has been requested to initiate the process.

Dr Chandradasa (Sarvodaya) said that a newspaper advertisement was inserted calling for Expressions of Interest, and a scheme has been suggested to give a score to each organization. The scheme was presented to the members and it was agreed to discuss it at the next meeting.

7. **Request by PR2 to increase the allocation for the Research Study entitled “KAP study on the usage pattern, net shape preference and sleeping habits of community”.**

A letter received from Dr Chandradasa, Director, GFATM Project, Sarvodaya (PR2), was tabled seeking approval of the CCM that the allocation for the above study (USD 7500) be increased to

USD 14500, as per the revised proposal submitted by the Department of Parasitology, University of Colombo. The revision has been subsequent to a suggestion made by the Anti Malaria campaign that the study, which originally was to cover only the district of Anuradhapura, be extended to include district of Vavuniya too. This revision will make the study much more useful. The extra funds can be taken from the balance amount of USD 12000 allocated to the research project title “ A study to assess the impact of use of larvivorous fish in malaria control”, which has not been undertaken by any University. The CCM agreed to recommend this revision to the GF.

8. Appointment of district level M & E Officers:

Dr Fernando said that it would be very useful to have full time M & E Officers functioning at district level, working on contract basis, to carry out continuous monitoring & evaluation of GFATM malaria project work. They can be attached either to the office of Deputy Provincial Director of Health or Regional Malaria Offices. Their remuneration will be Rs 15,000/= (USD 150) per month. The CCM agreed to recommend this to the GF. Funds are to be obtained by a revision of the programme.

9. Reimbursement of cost of subsistence & accommodation to the CCM members who perform field visits (inspection of project work)

The UNICEF has contributed towards the CCM Secretariat funds, for the above purpose. However UNICEF has informed that all claims must be supported by receipts of payments incurred by the members.

Members were of the opinion that most of the hotels which may be suitable for use by the CCM members, charge, much more than USD 50 per day (full board) whereas the payment fixed by the CCM is USD 50. Members were also of the opinion that it would not be proper to request a partner organization to incur expenditure more than USD 50/per day, for the CCM members. Therefore the members have to find suitable alternative accommodation and meals without staying in hotels in which the daily expenditure is expected to be more than USD 50. Under these circumstances it would often not be possible to produce receipts. The members recommend that a flat rate of USD50 be paid for a day (with night-out) and a flat rate of USD 25 if the field visit does not involve a night-out. This would allow members even to share accommodation whenever necessary.

Infact, the government considers as a full day if the travel involves more than 12 hours and, as half-day if travel is between 6 hours and 12 hours. It was decided to recommend to UNICEF to allow the CCM Secretariat to adopt the following scheme.

Payment of:

- a) flat rate of USD 50- more than 12 hours and including an overnight stay (without the necessity to produce bills)
- b) flat rate of USD 25- if travel involves more than 6 hours without overnight stay (without the necessity to produce bills)

Another reason why the above scheme is more suitable is because members will have to incur taxi fare to come to the CCM Secretariat from where transport is provided for the field trip, and also again to return to their permanent residence, once the CCM vehicle returns to the Secretariat after completing the field trip.

Dr W P Fernando
Consultant - GFATM VBDC
Focal Point - CCM