

Minutes of the 66th meeting of Country Coordinating Mechanism of Sri Lanka held on 22nd July 2008, at 3.00pm, in the Conference Room of the Anti Malaria Campaign, Public Health Complex, 555/5, Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo 05.

Present:

Dr. Athula Kahandaliyanage	- Ministry of Healthcare and Nutrition (Chairman/CCM)
Mr. Shirley Tissera	- Congress of Religions/ CFP (Vice Chairman / CCM)
Dr P.G. Mahipala	- Ministry of Healthcare and Nutrition
Dr. R. R. Abeyasinghe	- Project Director, GFATM Projects, MOH
Prof. Carlo Fonseka	- University Grants Commission
Dr. Chandra Sarukkali	- Director / NPTCCD
Dr. Nimal Edirisinghe	- Director / NSACP
Dr. L. P. Chandradasa	- Director GFATM Project / Sarvodaya
Mr. D.A.D.N.C. Wimalaratne	- Rural & Community Development Association
Ms. Swarna Kodagoda	- Alliance Lanka

Observers:

Dr Supriya Warusavithana	- WHO
Dr V. I. Jayasuriya	- CNAPT
Dr N. Punchihewa	- SLMA
Dr. G. Weerasinghe	- Collage of Venereologists
Dr. K. Buddhakorala	- Collage of Venereologists
Mr H S P Ranaweera	- Project Accountant / GFATM
Ms. Hiranthi Ratnayake	- Local Fund Agency (PWC)
Ms. Surovi Salgado	- UNAIDS
Ms. H R S Kotuwegoda	- CNAPT

Excused:

Mr. David Bridger	- UNAIDS
Mr. Gamini Wanasekara	- The Family Planning Association
Ms. Kusum Wasala	- Wason Foundation
Dr. S.L.G Jayasuriya	- IMPA
Mr. M.I.M. Iqbal	- Sewa Lanka Foundation

Absent:

Dr. Ajith Mendis	- Ministry of Healthcare and Nutrition
Dr. (Mrs.) K. Navarathne	- World Bank Mission
Dr. Agostino Borra	- WHO Representative
Dr. Chris Nonis	- Ceylon Chamber of Commerce
Mr. S.K.D. Dassanayake	- Sri Lanka Red Cross Society
Ms Princy Mangalika	- Lanka Plus

Proceedings

The meeting was initially chaired by Mr Shirley Tissera, Vice Chair CCM and subsequently by Dr Athula Kahandaliyanage, Chairman CCM.

1. Confirmation of the Minutes of 65th Meeting

The minutes were proposed as being in order by Dr Nimal Edirisinghe and seconded by Ms Swarna Kodagoda.

2. Matters arising from the minutes

- Dr Abeyasinghe readout the letter which has been written to Secretary MoH regarding non participation of the medical officers trained in Jakarta in the Round 8 HIV Proposal Development. Members approved the contents of the letter.
- Dr. C. Sarukkali explained that the motor cycle issue was not resolved as yet. The matter was discussed with Chairman, CCM who promised to expedite the issue.
- Dr. R R Abeyasinghe explained that the registration process of the CCM is still on going. Chairman, CCM requested that the articles be submitted to the Legal Officer for clearance.
- Dr Abeyasinghe explained that Round 8 Malaria country proposal was submitted to the GFATM, but the HIV proposal was not submitted, since Sarvodaya's attempts to complete the HIV proposal were not successful. He further said CCM secretariat waited until 26th June before finalizing the Country Proposal.

3. Round 8 Proposals

Dr RR Abeyasinghe informed the CCM that the HIV proposal was not received at the CCM Secretariat before the closing time and only the malaria elimination proposal was submitted to the GFATM as a R8 Proposal. He pointed out the need to learn from this and to institute a mechanism within the CCM to prevent such an occurrence in the future as the country had been deprived of a valuable funding opportunity for HIV/AIDS prevention as there was a major funding gap in this regard after the end of the World Bank funded project. He also stressed the need to apply for Round 9 funding of the HIV component. The Vice Chair, Prof Carlo Fonseka, Dr Mahipala and Ms Swarna Kodagoda expressed their views on the need for applying for future funding.

Following discussions the CCM decided to continue to work on the framework of the proposal already partly developed for HIV. It was further decided that the CCM will call for expressions of interest for the upcoming Round 9 only for HIV and HSS. Those applicants whose proposals had been accepted for inclusion in the Round 8 proposal will not need to resubmit expressions of interest, however applicants whose proposals were not included could submit new EOIs/proposals.

5. Request for extension of two Round 1 malaria grants and one Round 1 Tuberculosis grant by a further 6 months

Dr R R Abeyasinghe highlighted the positive contribution the round 1 malaria grants have had in reducing disease transmission in the target conflict affected districts since 2003. The three round 1 grants have specifically targeted reducing disease burden among marginalized population groups in some of the most under served areas of the country. The CCM noted that the three grants concerned have faced tremendous difficulties in implementation during the last three years due to several factors especially the periodic escalation and associated destabilization of the affected areas and the adverse impact on the health systems that has impacted the speed of implementation of the grants and due to this the grant has not been able to complete all grant activities and have savings that they would like to utilize to complete grant activities. Therefore the CCM requests a six-month no cost extension for all three Round 1 grants.

6. Updates on grant performance

It was noted that at the last CCM meeting Mr. David Bridger requested that updates be provided to CCM members on the current status of grants. Dr. Abeyasinghe reminded CCM members that all PUDRs pertaining to all the grants are routinely made available in the conference room for perusal of CCM members before and after meetings and at anytime in the Secretariat.

Updates;

Malaria Round 1

Dr Abeyasinghe explained that some of the indicators pertaining particularly to procurements in this grant are unlikely to be achieved due to the factors that prevailed during the past five years in the country, however many of the performance and service related indicators are likely to be achieved. Current forecasts indicate that grant funds will only be sufficient to complete the agreed workplan with no balance funds remaining.

TB Round 1

Dr Chandra Sarukkali, Director TB said that delay of sending funds and delays in settlements from some districts have caused implementation problems in the Round 1 grant. She stated that US \$ 100,000 allocated for a survey on ARTI remains unspent due to inability to conduct the survey. A discussion regarding expediting the use of unspent funds followed and several decisions were made. Dr PG Mahipala requested D/NPTCCD to arrange for a meeting with district accountants to expedite settlements.

Malaria Round 1 grant Sarvodaya

Dr Lalith Chandradasa presented grant performance and activities carried out by Sarvodaya. He explained the usefulness of using the private sector for disease control and showed a video on private sector involvement in the control of Malaria and other vector borne diseases. Dr. Chandradasa stated that approximately US \$ 350,000 remains unspent primarily due to savings as most of the grant indicators had been achieved or exceeded.

7. Membership of the CCM

Non-voting membership nomination from SLMA

Dr Abeyasinghe tabled a letter from Chairperson of the SLMA saying that Dr Iyanthi Abeyewickrame who represented SLMA in the CCM as an observer has taken up appointment overseas. The SLMA, therefore had nominated Dr Nilamane Punchedewa as its observer to the CCM. Dr Weerasinghe G and Dr Buddhakorala K were representing the Collage of Venereologists as observers as requested by the College.

8. Round 9 Proposals – Calling for EOIs

Dr Abeyasinghe explained that CCM can call for EOIs for R9 from interested parties whose EOIs were rejected for HIV/AIDS component in round 8 or from new parties wishing to submit EOIs. The CCM decided that the EOIs and proposals that were accepted for the round 8 HIV/AIDS proposal need no resubmit proposals unless they wanted to do so. Chairman CCM mentioned that cooperation of all the sectors was needed to submit a successful proposal.

Dr Supriya Warusavithana stated that WHO is going to have a capacity building workshop in August this year, she requested to send the correct people for the training. Chairman CCM said that necessary action would be taken appropriately. Dr Abeyasinghe explained that UNAIDS has made a good framework for the HIV/ AIDS proposal during round 8 and it was decided to use this framework for the proposed Round 9 HIV proposal.

Dr Chandradasa stated that key consultants involved in the preparation of Round 8 HIV proposal not aware of GF needs. And he proposed that CCM must be actively involved in reviewing the progress and requested the appointing of a subcommittee to facilitate this process. The Chairman CCM said, government has a strategic plan of activities for HIV/AIDS control and requested ML/BL partners to assist in the proposal formulation by facilitating the process and providing necessary technical expertise.

Vice Chairman requested that all the persons who participated in proposal writing workshop in Jakarta be involved in Round 9 proposal development.

Dr Weerasinghe speaking on behalf of the College of Venereologists, stated that the Collage is ready to support CCM in proposal development. Chairman CCM pointed out all sectors, NGO, Govt., Private sector and others must work together. Accordingly the following subcommittee was appointed;

Dr P G Mahipala (Chairman)

Dr Nimal Edirisinghe

Dr. R. R. Abeyasinghe

Mr. Shirley Tissera

Dr Lalith Chandradasa

Mr. D. Bridger

Dr. S. Warusavithana

Ms. S. Kodagoda

Dr G Weerasinghe

Dr. N. Punchihewa

It was decided that as required others may be included to into the subcommittee to make the proposal successful. It was decided to seek financial & technical support as appropriate from the WHO & UNAIDS for proposal development.

9. CCM Funding – current status

Dr. Abeyasinghe explained that registration of CCM under companies' act as a trust was being explored on the advice of the Legal Officer, Ministry of Healthcare & Nutrition. On the advice of the Chairman CCM the draft article will be submitted to the Legal Officer & Attorney General before registration.

10. Participation of the Partnership Forum – December 2008

Dr Abeyasinghe stated that every 2 years GF organizes a Partnership Forum. The last meeting was in South Africa in 2006 and the next meeting is proposed for December 2008. The GF has invited the following members of the CCM to attend the Forum to be held in Senegal during December 2008;

Dr Lalith Chandradasa,

Dr Chris Nonis

Princey Mangalika

Shirley Tissera

Dr R R Abeyasinghe

11Purchase of Motorcycles – NPTCCD

Dr Sarukkali said that motorcycle problem has not resolved yet. She explained to Chairman, CCM the situation from the beginning. Chairman, CCM advised her to meet him at the MoH early to discuss and resolve this issue. Dr Sarukkali said if we do not get an extension to Round 1 TB grant this will be lost. She also expressed the importance of purchasing the motorbikes as the Public Health Inspectors are not doing the default tracing activities in some places since they do not have motor cycles.

12. Other matters

Dr Chandradasa tabled a letter which previously circulated to members saying CNAPT has prepared IEC materials using logo and name of the NPTCCD without permission of the campaign. Members stated this should not be allowed. Following discussion the CCM decided that all IEC material developed using funds from the GFATM by non-

governmental PRs & SRs should be approved by the focal organization (AMC, NPTCCD & NSACP) before they are produced to ensure conformity to national strategies.

- Dr Edirisinghe requested CCM approval to utilize funds earmarked for fuel for the proposed new vehicles to two existing vehicles until such time the new double-cabs are purchased. Since the NSACP is using its own vehicles to implement the project the CCM decided to approve this request to release Rs 20000/= identified for fuel to the NSACP for both vehicles.
- Dr Lalith Chandradasa asked for vehicle tax from grant; Dr Abeyasinghe informed CCM can make a request.
- Ms Swarna Kodagoda asked that if possible to use grant funds to keep bank guarantee of Rs 34000/=. Dr Abeyasinghe said that it cannot be allowed as the SR should do it.
- Dr Sarukkali queried that the status of the Financial workshop in India. Dr Abeyasinghe explained, Director /NPTCCD and Director/NSACP has nominated their accountants to GF without obtaining approval from the MoH. The Hon. Minister had rejected their nomination and approved two officials from the MoH to attend the workshop together with the Project Accountant.
- Dr R R Abeyasinghe mentioned that next Regional Meeting of the GFATM South & West Asia Cluster will be held in Colombo in November.

13. The Next CCM meeting

The date for the next meeting will be notified to the members in due course.



Dr R R Abeyasinghe
Focal Point CCM
2008.07.28

Dr Rabindra R. Abeyasinghe
Focal Point
Country Coordinating Mechanism
Sri Lanka