

Note for the Record – Health Data Collaborative Partners Meeting

Location: Virtual meeting by WebEx

Date: 18 June 2020 16:00 – 17.00 CET

Participants:

Countries: KENYA (Isabel Maina)

Multilateral and Inter Governmental Institutions: UNICEF (Jennifer Requejo, Chika Hayashi, Debra Jackson, Remy Mwamba), UNAIDS (Peter Ghys)

Bilateral donors, philanthropic institutions, regional funding entities: GIZ (Tessa Lennemann) DFID (Nicola Wardrop), USAID (Ana Scholl, William Weiss), Rockefeller Foundation (Manisha Bhinge)

Global Health Initiatives: PHCPI (Jeff Markuns, Beth Tritter)

Research, Academia and Technical networks: CDC (Chris Murrill), UniOslo (Jørn Braa), Data4SDGs (Karen Bett), Open Communities (Paul Biondich)

Civil Society: Path (Haillie Goertz), Global Network of People living with HIV (Javier Bellocq)

Private Sector: n/a

WHO Participants:	Samira Asma, Ramesha Saligrama Krishnamurthy, Lisa Hedman, Wendy Venter, Anh Hong Chu
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HDC Secretariat:	Craig Burgess, Mwenya Kasonde
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Agenda:

Chair: Craig Burgess

1. Welcome and introduction
2. Update from working groups and RHIS TORs
3. Introduction of constituency focal points, way forward and new co-chairs
4. Country engagement progress update
5. HDC Work plan 2020-2023
6. Communications: Events and Updates to website
7. AOB

Summary of Discussion

1. Welcome and introduction: (Secretariat-Craig)

- Secretariat (Craig) opened the call and introduced co-chairs Chris Murrill (CDC) and Jennifer Requejo (UNICEF) and explained this would be the last call based on the old governance mechanisms and that from July monthly calls would be for the Stakeholder Representative Group (according to constituency nominations) plus co-chairs of the working groups.
- Jennifer explained she is replacing Austin's role filling in the co-chair role for both the HDC and will be working together with Peter Ghys to represent the multilateral and intergovernmental organisations constituency.
- CDC will play the co-chair role until a country representative is found (hopefully in next month)
- AGD DDI, Samira added she is here to support all with partnership work cohesively.

2. Update from working groups and RHIS TORs: (Secretariat-Mwenya)

- Secretariat (Mwenya) presented the Working Groups slide of the HDC presentation. The co-chairs on the call explained briefly about what their group is working on. There are currently five working groups:

1. **Civil registration & vital statistics:** UNICEF (Debra) explained that this group has been a long-existing UN group but they are now linking with HDC to reduce duplication. Their current focus is on linking CRVS and legal identity, as well as birth and death registration.

2. **Epidemic intelligence** (not in attendance)

3. **Digital health & interoperability**

4. **Logistics management and information systems** – WHO (Lisa) explained their role is to reinvigorate strategy, as well as being part of the inter-agency supply chain group. Their focus is on aligning supply chain data, as well as using AI and machine learning to help use existing supply chain data to be more predictive of medicine markets.

5. **Community data:** UNICEF (Remy) and USAID (Ana) explained their main focus is helping countries implement community information systems. They are also working with the interoperability group regarding platform and software.

- Secretariat (Mwenya) explained that the RHIS TORs document is currently being reviewed by WHO colleagues and will be sent back after this internal review.

3. Introduction of constituency focal points, way forward and new co-chairs: (Secretariat-Craig)

- HDC is moving to a constituency-based model of governance from July. Specifically, there are seven different constituencies each with representatives and alternates: the HDC countries (3 representatives); multilateral and intergovernmental institutions (2 representatives, 1 of which is WHO); bilateral donors and foundations (2 representative); global health initiatives (1 representative); research academia and technical networks (2 representatives, 1 of which is CDC); civil society (1 representative); and private sector (1 representative).

- The 3 HDC co-chairs will be : a country representative (to be identified - until then Ben Dahl from CDC will play this role), Jennifer Requejo (UNICEF) and Somnath Chatterjee (WHO)
- From July onwards there will be a monthly call with each stakeholder representative and focal points from each of the working groups.
- WHO (Samira) suggested addressing data at a disaggregated level should be a priority for the HDC, as leaving no one behind is a crucial part of the SDG agenda and working groups should have specific milestones to work towards.

4. Country engagement progress update: (Secretariat-Mwenya)

- As mentioned in the previous meeting, HDC is trying to focus work on country impact. So far, we have engaged eight current HDC countries: Malawi, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Cameroon, Myanmar, Indonesia and Bangladesh.
- Secretariat has reached out to these countries through the WHO and MOH, and hope to engage with them more and involve them in these calls
- Over the next few weeks, Secretariat will have 1-1 calls with each of the country focal points to gather an in-depth assessment of their countries needs and concerns. The next two 1-1's are with Malawi and Kenya. It is hoped that in September many more country partners will be engaged and onboard with HDC processes.

5. HDC Work Plan 2020-2023 (Secretariat-Craig)

- The draft work plan has been circulated, and, as agreed in the March meeting, is structured around four objectives (3 specific HDC objectives plus an objective for management, coordination and communication of HDC). Secretariat (Craig) welcomes input, feedback, and high-level guidance.

In response:

- UNAIDS (Peter) observed that the work plan does not reflect the working groups, therefore, will each group have their own work plan? Secretariat (Craig) clarified that the working groups are currently working independently of HDC mechanisms, and they have multiple work plans and support. Moving forward, the secretariat is looking to align the working groups so that they will all have more input into the overall HDC work plan. UNICEF (Jennifer) agreed with the need to have clear alignment and mechanisms for how the plan will be achieved and how working groups will be affiliated and part of HDC.
- UNICEF (Debra) added that we need to work as a collaborative; also highlighting the need to have a flexible funding structure so everything doesn't have to go through the secretariat – plea for funding HDC activities in totality as part of the work plan.
- Secretariat (Craig) mentioned the feedback from donor colleagues is that we need to demonstrate impact at a country level.
- PHCPI (Jeff) added that the work plan is unclear of targets and timelines. Secretariat (Craig) clarified that the targets are just the target number of countries. However, a lot needs to be done to detail

targets on how we measure each activity. In the next two weeks secretariat would like your thoughts on how we measure each of the objectives with specific targets – welcome feedback.

- UNAIDS (Peter) asked if the secretariat have funding. Secretariat (Craig) advised that the majority of funds still needs to be secured and raised.
- Secretariat (Craig) added that the plans need to be broken down; we have the three-year plan, but we also need a six-month plans to be more focused in discrete outcomes. Samira mentioned this and should be very specific in next six months in terms of outcomes.

6. Communications: Events and Updates to website (Secretariat-Mwenya)

- The secretariat is proposing an event at the end of September with as many HDC countries as possible – to review progress, agree on work plan and ensure stronger country voices to guide action.
- The website is being updated. The search functionality on the knowledge hub is being improved to allow you to search for documents more easily. The knowledge hub is currently open access; therefore, secretariat is looking into getting a private space on the website.

7. AOB + key action points

- GAVI (Heidi) identified the need for a sub-group related to the **GIS using satellite imagery** in regards to better use of sub-national data to understand inequity. Co-chairs of the Community Data group mentioned they would be interested in this. **Action: Heidi will arrange a call with them and anyone else who is interested.**
- UNAIDS (Peter) highlighted the fact that **data security** is important and needs to be addressed in either a working group or as a major cross cutting issue. **Action: Useful to get HDC members perspective on this and establish if it should be addressed by all working groups, or does it require a separate working group.**
- The RHIS working group is still receiving WHO inputs from technical units and will be sent back to the drafting group.
- PATH (Hallie) added she had a call with DHI and understands they have a small working group focused on data policy and governance. **Action: Hallie will ask for their input and feedback to the interoperability group.**
- CDC (Chris) asked the secretariat to send out a list of the current membership of the working groups **Action: secretariat to send out.**
- (UNICEF) Jennifer mentioned she will follow up with secretariat regarding the governance on how working groups are established. **Action: Jennifer to send out to secretariat for governance of working groups**

8. Closing Remarks (Secretariat-Craig)

- Secretariat thanked everybody for attending and will send out an email next week confirming dates of the next call.