

Note for the Record – Monthly HDC SRG Meeting	
Location: Zoom	
Date: 17 December 2020, 16:00-17:00 CET	
Meeting Chair: Jennifer Requejo (UNICEF)	
HDC Co-Chairs	Helen Kiarie (Kenya)
HDC Participants:	CDC (Chris Murrill), GAVI (Heidi Reynolds), UKFCDO (Nicola Wardrop)
Working groups:	<i>Civil Registration and Vital Statistics</i> (Azza Badr, WHO) <i>Community Data</i> (Remy Mwamba, UNICEF) <i>RHIS</i> (Theo Lippeveld, Jean Pierre de Lamalle, Rifat Hossain)
WHO secretariat:	Craig Burgess, Mwenya Kasonde
Objectives:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To provide feedback on leadership advocacy event 16th December 2. To provide practical recommendations on implementation of HDC Workplan 2021 Q1 activities and milestones 3. To review approve CRVS WG TORs 	
Agenda:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome and introduction: 5 mins 2. Communication, events and advocacy (for discussion): 20 mins <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback from SRG on leadership event and continuing momentum in 2021 3. Governance and admin (for approval): 10 mins <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of HDC work plan 2021 Q1 activities and suggestions for achieving 2021 milestones 4. Update from working groups (for approval): 20 mins <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRVS TORs review, update and time scale for work 	

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Communication, events and advocacy (for discussion): 20 mins **Feedback from SRG on leadership event and continuing momentum in 2021**

HDC Secretariat- Mwenya Kasonde

- Thanks to all who supported, joined and participated in yesterday's leadership event
- Summary of panel sessions:
 1. Country driven data and digital efforts
 2. Renewing commitments for data and digital efforts
 3. Data governance, open data, digital health, partnership & disaggregated data
 4. Practically making collaboration & partnership work for data and digital

HDC Secretariat-Craig

- Key achievements;
 1. Demonstrated country leadership by the engagement of four ministers of health
 2. The recurring theme throughout the event was data as a global public good
 3. Positive feedback on the videos with good reality checks through the Kenya and Botswana videos
- Would be good to get feedback as we continue using this momentum for the HDC
- Thank you to each panel members
- Letters will be sent to heads of agencies thanking them for their engagement (in progress)

UKFCO-Nicola Wardrop

- Event went well and positive feedback from leadership
- Broad in terms of the organizations and representation across the constituencies
- Concrete examples from the country level and also at the global level on what organizations are focusing on, new technology and how it's all coming together
- Would like to know about the attendance

CDC-Chris Murrill

- Congratulations on a very efficient event and also wanted to acknowledge the moderator Catherine, who did an excellent job
- Are there plans for a debriefing report capturing highlights and key messages?

WHO-Rifat Hossain

- Data as a global public good, is a great thing if there is a consensus around it
- When it comes to data that are produced by national authorities that is routine or administrative data making it a global public good is much harder
- For example, less than two years ago, Tanzania blocked all data that are produced within their national boundaries and it could not be used by anybody, including those who actually paid for the data.

UNICEF-Jennifer Requejo (Chair)



- Important point about the sensitivity around data, global goods and sharing

WHO-Azza Badr

- Just want to say thank you to secretariat for organising an important event
- Pulled people for across the world and with a focus on countries. It went very well.

UNICEF – Jennifer Requejo (Chair)

- There is a question on attendance
- Another one around whether there'll be a formal report from the conference
- The other is what do we do about the data sensitivity issue and the production of global goods

HDC Secretariat-Craig Burgess

- On attendance 314 total users, 150 maximum concurrent views 202 unique viewers
- The geographical spread includes countries in Africa, Asia, UK, US
- In terms of the report, our colleague, Nicole is working on an overview and we are looking at a more detailed one and will share as soon as possible
- In terms of the data sharing and data sensitivities it's a very well taken point. Moving ahead this may be addressed by the new governance WG on data and digital governance
- There was a joint UN statement on privacy and personal protection during COVID-19, signed by over 30 UN agencies on data sharing, coordinated by UN SG office

HDC Secretariat – Mwenya Kasonde

- On event attendance, yes, 200 unique participants
- Interesting geographical spread from as far as Senegal, Austria and China

UNICEF - Jennifer Requejo (Chair)

- Important event to keep high level engagement
- Need to remember what the HDC wants to showcase about its work at these different events
- As Craig noted there can be some things around global governance in the global goods but then also balancing that with the work at the country level
- We might want to plan an event that would give us some time to make progress on the work plan, maybe every year
- We should also consider mapping of all of the activities and events that are happening in a calendar year
- At this high level it can be a useful way to think how the next event might build on other planned major digital event or health system strengthening event
- Also debriefing and thinking on the outreach and how can that be improved to get even more people to attend

UNICEF-Remy Mwamba

- Congratulations to the Secretariat for this event
- Going forward, we need to really to come up with this report and to share it with key organizations so that we can get more traction
- This issue of data sharing is really important, we are going through concerns with COVID 19 when trying to monitor the disruption of services, vaccine deployment etc
- We could use the World Health Assembly to move this agenda forward

UNICEF-Jennifer Requejo (Chair)

- There's the whole tool kit set that's now been developed for the COVID-19 monitoring that needs to be rolled out along with the whole issue of the vaccine. I wonder how HDC can help with that

Secretariat - Craig Burgess:

- Final thoughts; great to have Ministers involved so they can spread the word during the World Health Assembly and would also be great to piggyback other events

Governance and admin (for approval): 10 mins

Review of HDC work plan 2021 Q1 activities and suggestions for achieving 2021 milestones

UNICEF - Jennifer Requejo (Chair)

- Next is the scope of work for potential additional consultant support
- The document was circulated and the floor is open for feedback

Secretariat - Craig Burgess

- We are considering recruiting consultants and also trying to think laterally about any other way of getting the work done, perhaps members of the HDC could do this and we need support to implement now the work plan is approved. Challenge will be balance between review / analysis and making sure it is practical and supporting action in countries

CDC-Chris Murrill

- Obtaining a consultant or two would be critical to keep the activity moving along, because I don't know whether the any of the active members of this group would have time to do all this work
- We can certainly provide input and review their products, but we're going to really have to engage people who are external to this steering group to do these activities.

UKFCO - Nicola Wardrop

- Only other option would be students but then the quality is not quite certain.
- Consultants would definitely be the best way forward.

UNICEF - Jennifer Requejo

- Yes, students are wonderful, but they also require more oversight. So that doesn't necessarily shift the burden.

UNICEF- Remy Mwamba

- Which countries are we targeting? I've seen that we're talking about 10 countries or how are we going to select those countries.

Secretariat- Mwenya Kasonde

- We have currently focused on 10 countries (six being in the Africa region and four being the South East Asia region), hence us proposing 1 consultant based in each region
- We are against the notion of HDC countries versus non HDC countries, but both financial and technical resources are limited
- As part of our work plan and next year we would like to add two more countries to make it 12 with a special interest in fragile and small island states

UNICEF - Jennifer Requejo (Chair)

- What is the approach to getting to more countries on board?

Secretariat – Mwenya Kasonde

- We're guided by countries themselves. Ideally we are approached by Governments
- Sri Lanka and Zambia have expressed interest and we may engage them further moving forward
- Some emphasis has been made on focusing on fragile states and bringing more diversity to our list of countries. So that's certainly a broader discussion to have

UKFCO-Nicola Wardrop

- Wanted to check with regards to best practices, does that come from the technical working groups in those areas?
- And just to make sure it's clear that in some countries, some of this work might have already been done and by the country and in previous years, to what extent you would need to set that out in advance.

RHINO - Theo Lippeveld

- Scope of work and best practices. One of the interesting things that we need to gather data on in the, in the HDC countries is how much are these data and digital health systems are in fact impacting on service delivery, because that's the ultimate goal of and the SDG's in general. Could these consultants look at that aspect in a more explicit way.
- Countries: I wonder if Ethiopia has ever expressed interest. It's an interesting country where a lot of things are happening in health information systems and data systems in general. Is there any chance that you could have a look at that country also.

UNICEF - Jennifer Requejo (Chair)

- We should explore what that might look like in terms of a study design. That, could be its own piece of work and a research piece assessing with baseline service delivery looked like and then trying to think through what the variables would be
- It may be slightly out of scope for these consultancies, but it's something to explore

Secretariat - Craig Burgess

- In response to Nicola, I am hoping that these consultants, because they'll be part of the HDC will be able to access the different WGs and avoid duplication of the work already done
- In terms of Ethiopia, we would encourage them to apply while we try to manage the expectations
- HDC is about alignment and efficiency, we can work through different channels, put them in touch with partners in the UHC 2030 mechanism for example, who have a lot of information and data on alignment, budget cycles and mapping already.

UNICEF - Jennifer Requejo (Chair)

- With the terms of reference, let's give the group additional time, ideally until the first week of January for feedback so that we can keep this moving forward, but make sure we get comments as needed.



Update from working groups (for approval): 20 mins
CRVS TORs review, update and time scale for work

WHO-Azza Badr

- The proposal is to revitalize the CRVS Working Group and to utilize the coordination at country level for supporting CRVS systems in the HDC countries.
- There are similarities with the UNLIA agenda, which also explores this in overlapping countries in Africa and so on

UNICEF - Remy Mwamba

- There are several groups working on this, namely the UNLIA as well as some government ministries (Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice etc)
- For me, the focus here should be leveraging efforts to accelerate civil registration

Secretariat - Craig Burgess

- Two question; how do you see the CRVS Working Group linking with the SCORE initiative?
- Secondly what are your timelines?

WHO- Azza Badr

- Remy touched on the importance of this group, to project the role of the health sector is strengthening CRVS
- UNLIA has also different focus countries than HDC
- On how do we link with SCORE, we are part of SCORE. So it's what we recommend for countries to do in order to improve the systems
- With timelines, we would like to start working towards the end of January

UNICEF - Jennifer Requejo

- Terms of reference might need a slight adjustment to make it clear the distinctive added value of the group just as you've explained as leveraging the health sector and, and then just maybe a sentence on the link with the SCORE
- It sounds like there's agreement to move forward

Action Points

- Map relevant events for 2021 that may be leveraged for future HDC events (HDC Secretariat)
- Await feedback on and finalise consultancy support TORs (HDC Secretariat)
- Adjust CRVS TORs and open call for membership (WHO-Azza Badr)