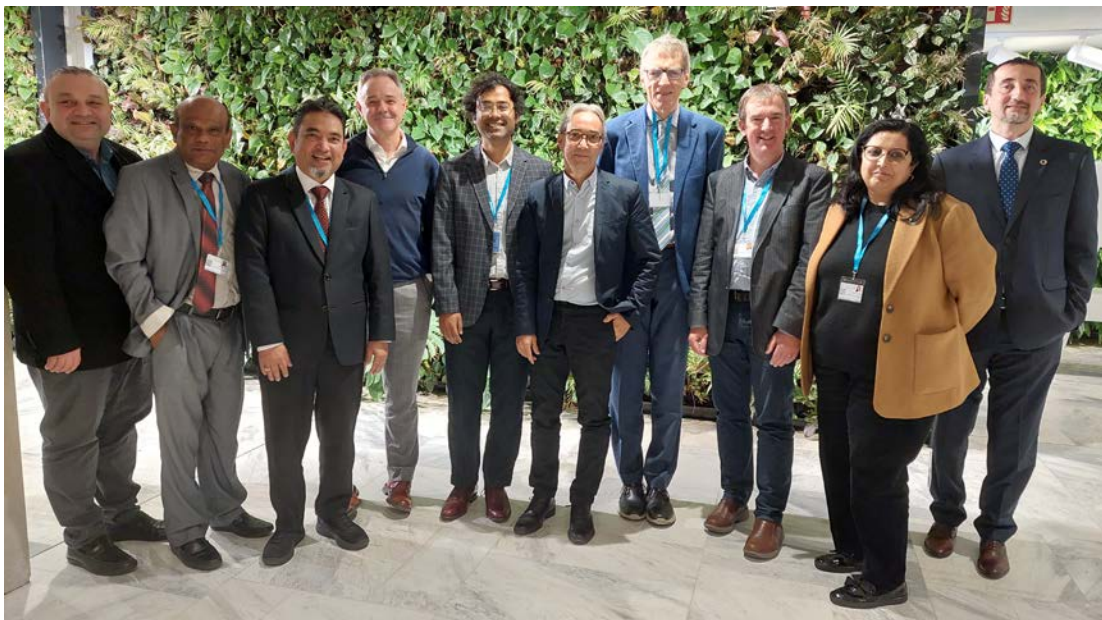


# Report of the Standing Committee

Ms Ann Robins, UNICEF  
(Chair of the Standing Committee in 2024)



## 114<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee

(Chair in 2023: Dr Mandeep Dhaliwal, UNDP)

*Hosted by the World Health Organization in Geneva*



## 115<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee

(Chair in 2024: Ms Ann Robins, UNICEF)

*Hosted by the United Nations Children's Fund in New York*

# SC114 Decisions and recommendations

## Update on TDR activities

- Welcomed progress made in the last several months, including finalization of the new TDR strategy 2024–2029.
- Congratulated TDR on the recent high-profile elimination of visceral leishmaniasis in Bangladesh and the role that both TDR and implementation research played in the process.

## Financial and Programme management update

- Approved starting the implementation of the programme budget and workplan for 2024–2025 at the US\$ 40 million level as presented.
- Welcomed the efforts made to ensure next biennium has stable funding. Agreed that more effort was needed to increase the designated funding (DF) fundraising.
- Agreed to increase the proportion of DF funding moving forward with the 2026–2027 budget scenario levels. Reiterated the value of this approach in the current challenging context to assist in addressing the four global challenges as outlined in the strategy and to support additional fundraising.
- Reiterated concerns about the funding situation after 2025 and noted the urgency of diversifying the donor base by approaching BRICS countries and other non-traditional donors.

# SC114 Decisions and recommendations (continued)

## Implementation of TDR's Strategy 2024–2029

- Welcomed the draft revision of the performance framework to support implementation of the new strategy. Requested Standing Committee members to provide further comments and engage in dialogue with TDR staff on the wording of the framework by the end of 2023, to allow for additional consultation with the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) in March 2024, review by the Standing Committee in April 2024 and final approval by the JCB in June 2024.
- Recommended engaging a health economist to provide additional expertise in return on investment and return on equity from TDR's activities. The final document should have a balance of examples from the past and proposed investment in the future and clearly complement the current strategy

## Planning within the Science Division

- Discussed succession planning in preparation for the retirement of the current TDR Director coming up in 2025, and the process and next steps for recruitment. Requested that a subcommittee be created to steer the process and that an update be provided to the Standing Committee at its next meeting.

# SC115 Decisions and recommendations

## Update on TDR activities

- Congratulated on the solid technical and implementation mechanism in place to allow for results on the new strategy to be demonstrated as early as end of the first year of its implementation in 2024.
- Recommended focusing on one or two global challenges and developing an overarching integrated project proposal which can serve as the basis for fundraising designated funds. Reiterated the need for these to be closely aligned with the activities of the Programme funded by undesignated funds.

## Financial and Programme management update

- Endorsed the TDR results report 2023 for the Joint Coordinating Board's (JCB) approval.
- Endorsed the TDR Risk Management report 2023 for JCB's approval.



# SC115 Decisions and recommendations (continued)

## Implementation of TDR's Strategy 2024– 2029

- Welcomed the revised version of the TDR Performance Framework. Recommended that additional indicators of geographic diversity be included in addition to gender and involvement of disease endemic countries. Endorsed this version with possible revisions to be presented for the JCB's approval.
- Recommended using the results that are based on the TDR Performance Framework in the form of a *dashboard of results* which would be available on TDR's website.
- Recommended that the investment case be used for fundraising activities as planned and to complement the current strategy.

## Planning within the Science Division

- Welcomed progress made and accordingly the timeline for the recruitment of the new TDR Director in 2025 and thanked the recruitment sub-committee for the work done to date

# SC115 Decisions and recommendations (continued)

<b>News from the TDR co-sponsors including how they can collaborate with TDR</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Recommended that TDR use the identities of the four co-sponsors in its communications and closely engages with each agency in the process of dissemination of results, achievement or planning via partnership and global engagement processes currently in place.</li></ul>
<b>Governance and partnerships update</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Endorsed the STAC membership and the STAC and Scientific Working Group (SWG) terms of reference for JCB's approval.</li><li>Welcomed the plans to open a call for new STAC members in 2025.</li><li>Agreed to recommend a new JCB Chair and Vice-chair at the JCB meeting in June 2024 and plans for meetings of JCB resource contributors and disease-endemic country members to confirm the representatives on the Standing Committee.</li></ul>
<b>Any other business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Agreed that the next session of the Standing Committee would take place virtually 25–26 November.</li><li>Agreed to hold extraordinary meetings of the Standing Committee as required in the process of the recruitment of the new Director.</li></ul>