

## 116th meeting of the TDR Standing Committee

Virtual, MS Teams  
25-26 November 2024

### Summary of decisions and recommendations

| <i>Agenda item</i>                                                                                                                                     | <i>Decisions, Recommendations</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| <b>Welcome and opening remarks</b>                                                                                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr Karin Källander, Chair of the Standing Committee; Senior Health Specialist and Team Lead Implementation Research, UNICEF opened the meeting and welcome all the participants.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Follow-up to the recommendations of the 115th session of the Standing Committee (SC) and the 47th session of the Joint Coordinating Board (JCB)</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr Garry Aslanyan, TDR Partnerships and Global Engagement Manager, reported on follow-up to the recommendations from the previous meetings, noting that many of these recommendations are part of the agenda of this meeting.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Planning within the Science Division</b>                                                                                                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcomed progress made with the selection process for the new Director, noting the high number of qualified applicants from diverse regions, gender, public and private sectors.</li> <li>Thanked Dr Farrar for requesting an extension of the current Director's contract until end of June 2025 to cover the next JCB meeting.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Update on TDR activities</b>                                                                                                                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcomed the update on activities in 2024 and rollout of the new strategy.</li> <li>Congratulated on the various events and advocacy efforts conducted in 2024 to mark TDR's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, including those that took place in LMICs and at various conferences.</li> <li>Requested that TDR continues to demonstrate to funders and partners the return on investments from TDR's activities in countries, emphasizing the critical role of implementation research in catalysing introduction of new tools in countries, including those supported by PDPs.</li> <li>Reiterated that funding landscape continues to be challenging and requested that TDR needs to be strategic and proactive in its planning.</li> </ul> |

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| <b>Financial and Programme management update</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcomed the financial update as of October 2024 and outlook 2024–2027</li> <li>• Requested to continue to plan conservatively and consider any savings as potential for bridging the gap to the next biennium.</li> <li>• Welcomed the updated version of the TDR Investment Case</li> <li>• Requested development of a comprehensive communications strategy to share the examples and cases from the investment case with funders, partners and global community, highlighting the value added of TDR’s activities over the years and into the future.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Governance and partnerships update</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acknowledged the efforts made by the new SWG in supporting the current strategy.</li> <li>• Expressed satisfaction with the high number of applications received in response to the Call for new STAC members for 2025 and beyond.<br/>Requested the new slate of STAC members to be presented at the next meeting for review in advance JCB’s approval in 2025.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Any other business</b>                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreed to hold the next session of the Standing Committee meeting on 29-30 April 2025 virtually.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

## Participants

### ***Members***

Dr Karin Källander, UNICEF (Chair)

Dr Mandeep Dhaliwal, UNDP\*

Dr Fatima Barry, World Bank

Dr Jeremy Farrar, WHO

Dr Sunil De Alwis, Chair, JCB

Dr Daniel Eibach, Vice-Chair, JCB

Dr Dirk Mueller, Representative of the JCB  
resource contributor group

Dra. Iris Lorena Cazali Leal, Representative  
of the JCB disease endemic countries group

Professor Margaret Gyapong, Chair, STAC

### ***Special Programme (TDR)***

Dr John Reeder, Director

Dr Garry Aslanyan, Manager, Partnerships  
and Global Engagement

Dr Michael Mihut, Unit Head, Programme  
Innovation and Management

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\*Unable to attend