

98th Session of the TDR Standing Committee

UNICEF HQ, New York, USA 15th floor, room 1505

22 - 23 October 2015

Summary of decisions and recommendations

<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Decisions, Recommendations</i>
Welcome and opening remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Theresa Diaz, Chair of the Standing Committee (SC) and host of the meeting, welcomed everybody to the meeting • Dr Winnie Mpanju-Shumbusho, the new TDR Special Programme Coordinator and Assistant Director-General of the HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases Cluster (HTM), reiterated the significance of TDR as an important contributor to the new development agenda
Greetings and updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair of the Joint Coordinating Board (JCB), Chair of the TDR Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) and Director, TDR provided greetings and thanked UNICEF for hosting the meeting. TDR was commended for its efforts which contributed to the 2015 Nobel Prize for Medicine given for neglected diseases.
Follow-up to the 97th session of the Standing Committee (SC) and recommendations from JCB38	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcomed the report on the follow-ups to the recommendations of the 97th session of the SC which were all fully implemented • Recommended circulating the recommendations from the SC to JCB in advance of JCB meetings • Recommended TDR continues to present cases of TDR supported research at JCB meetings to showcase the impact of the Programme's work • Recommended providing access to STAC documentation to all JCB members as part of JCB meeting background documentation • Recommended enhancing communication and advocacy about TDR in countries (especially small island nations) that require higher levels of support from TDR
Update on TDR activities and implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommended broadly sharing the analysis of lessons learned from the experience with running MOOCs¹, especially focused on participation from low-income countries • Suggested that TDR engage in collaboration with high level organizations such as the East, Central and Southern African Health Community (ECSA-HC), West African Health Organization (WAHO), New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and others
Financial update and 2016-2017 outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledged progress made in financial implementation • Recommended clarifying the fact that most of the funds available to be spent until the end of 2015 have already been allocated to specific activities with only a delay in implementation • Recognized that the challenges with timely ethical approval are partly contributing to the slower implementation rate

¹ Massive open online courses

Agenda item	Decisions, Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended using consistent terminology to ensure clear understanding of such terms as committed, encumbered and unspent funds
Update on the 6th TDR External Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Endorsed the selection of Oxford Policy Management as the consultant to conduct the 6th External Review. If required, the consultant may be asked to seek input from scientific and technical advisers in the course of the review. Recommended establishing a small subgroup of the SC to oversee the external review process and to provide timely feedback on documentation. Theresa Diaz, Sue Kinn and Modest Mulenga kindly agreed to be part of the subgroup. SC members will be copied on all communications with the subgroup.
News from the TDR co-sponsors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcomed progress made by individual co-sponsors to enhance collaboration with TDR
Update on the Pooled Health R&D Fund and demonstration projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcomed the work and progress achieved by TDR in developing the pooled health R&D business case Proposed that SC members be included in the current survey done by the McKinsey consultants
Any other business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreed to meet for the 99th session of the Standing Committee on 19 and 20 April 2016 at the World Bank in Washington, USA. The co-sponsors will meet in advance of the SC meeting. Expressed thanks and appreciation to Dr Diaz for Chairing the 2015 meetings and to UNICEF for hosting the Standing Committee

Participants

Dr Theresa Diaz, Chief, Knowledge Management Implementation Research, UNICEF

Dr Tenu Avafia, Policy Advisor, UNDP

Mr David Wilson², Decision & Delivery Science Global Solutions Leader, Global HIV/AIDS Programme Director, World Bank

Dr Winnie Mpanju-Shumbusho, TDR Special Programme Coordinator and Assistant Director General, HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases, WHO

Professor Hannah Akuffo, Chair JCB

Dr Shahnaz Murad, Vice-Chair JCB

Dr Sue Kinn, representative of the JCB resource contributor group

Dr Modest Mulenga, representative of the JCB DEC group

Professor Charles Mgone, Chair STAC

Special Programme (TDR)

Dr John Reeder, Director

Dr Garry Aslanyan, Manager of Partnerships and Governance

Dr Beatrice Halpaap, Portfolio and Programme Manager

² Not able to attend