

Executive Committee Call 29 January 2021

Attended:	Apologies:	Secretariat:
Joanne Carter (Vice-Chair) Selamawit Bekele Timur Abdullaev Erika Arthun Pierre Blais / Kylie Luu Amy Bloom Paula Fujiwara Tereza Kasaeva David Lewinsohn Austin Obiefuna / Aaron Oxley Cheri Vincent	Anjali Kaur	Lucica Ditiu Jenniffer Dietrich Suvanand Sahu Catie Rosado
Minutes of Discussion		

Hosting Update

1. Update and discussion about the progress in regard to hosting.
2. **Action items:**
 - The Executive Committee to receive a new update as early as possible in February.

Stop TB Partnership Board Leadership

3. The Secretariat described the policies and processes from the Stop TB Partnership’s Governance Manual that outlines the nomination and election procedures for the Vice-Chair’s appointment. The Secretariat presented the documents it developed based on the Governance Manual containing the timelines and terms of reference for an Independent Taskforce that will oversee the nomination process for the role of Vice-Chair.
4. The Executive Committee discussed the Independent Taskforce composition, and requested that the Secretariat contacts Board members with the Taskforce’s terms of reference seeking expressions of interest to volunteer their time for the Independent Taskforce. The expression of interest from Board members received by the Secretariat will be shared with the Executive Committee that will work on balancing members’ competencies, gender, and geographic representation to establish the Independent Taskforce. The two members from the Executive Committee that will join the Taskforce will complement the skills, gender and geographic representation of the three members selected from the Board.
5. The Executive Committee discussed to add a phrase in the Taskforce’s terms of reference cautioning Board members that are possibly interested in being considered as Vice-Chair, not to volunteer for the Independent Taskforce in order to prevent a conflict of interest.

6. The Executive Director provided an update on the progress made in gaining ground for a new Chair of the Board.

7. Action items:

- The Executive Committee to review the TOR for the Independent Taskforce by 8 February.
- The Secretariat to take from the Governance Manual the role and responsibilities of the Vice-Chair to develop the terms of reference of the position, and for the Executive Committee to review the document with deadline for feedback: 5 February.
- The Secretariat to send a communication to eligible Board members about volunteering for the Independent Taskforce.
- The Executive Committee members to express in writing their interest in becoming part of the Independent Taskforce to the Secretariat.

Covid Pandemic dramatic impact on TB Response

8. Civil Society representatives updated the Executive Committee about the dramatic impact the COVID-19 response and the lockdowns are having on country TB programmes, especially in terms of case notifications. The hardest hit are countries in Asia (around 25% drop), and for MDR-TB it is countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

9. The situation is very alarming, and the Global Fund has received the same signals from implementing countries. The Global Fund can certify that TB programmes are disproportionately hit during the COVID-19 pandemic, and to a greater extent than HIV and malaria programmes.

10. The Executive Committee recognizes the global COVID-19 pandemic as a critical emergency situation for TB, one that needs action from the entire community.

11. Action items:

- The Executive Committee to garner action from the TB community to support addressing the emergency situation.
- The Executive Committee looks forward to a global discussion to better understand available data.

AOB

12. **Next Call:** The next call of the Executive Committee is scheduled for 23 February 2020.