Governance Update Summary Report

This brief summary report provides an update about the governance matters since the last board meeting.

I. Renewal of board members from rotating seats

Rotational seats on the Board include representatives from countries affected by TB and the six constituencies (TB-affected communities, developed country NGOs, developing country NGOs, the private sector, research working groups and implementation working groups) – see Governance Manual, page 6. The following four constituencies went through a transparent process to renew or elect new board representation, following the end of the term of their current board members.

1. TB-affected Communities

Following the communication from the Partnership Secretariat informing both board members that their terms had ended and the possibility of renewal or new representative selection, the board members from the TB-affected Communities constituency requested for assistance with the process.

A letter from the two board members was sent to its constituency where one stepped down with immediate effect and the other board member sought renewal for another term. However, the renewal encountered objections and hence both seats were open for elections. A call for applications to become a Communities’ Representative on the Board closed on 31 March 2017. From 7 to 12 April the constituency members cast their votes for two representatives. The results of the election was a renewal of the current TB-affected Communities board members. They are Mr Timur Abdullaev, International TB Consultant and Ms Thokozile Phiri Nkhoma, Executive Director of Facilitators of Community Transformation (FACT) in Malawi.

2. Developing country NGO

The Constituency led its own process of renewal/selection of representation to the board. The outcome was the renewal of its current board member, Mr Austin Obiefuna, Executive Director at AFRO Global Alliance, for another 3-year term.

3. Developed country NGO

Similarly, the Developed Country NGO constituency led its own process of renewal on a no-objection basis, which led to the renewal of Mr Aaron Oxley, Executive Director at RESULTS UK.

4. Private Sector

The Private Sector constituency seat on the board is vacant; therefore, there is no board member to extend until a selection is finalized, or to coordinate a selection process with its constituency. In this special case, the Partnership Secretariat was requested to handle the process. A call for applications was open for one month, and the Secretariat pre-screened the candidates and put forward to the Executive Committee the application of two eligible candidates for approval. Following this decision, the candidates were presented to the Private Sector constituency to decide on which candidate would be the board member and which the alternate.

Dr Robert Newman, Global Head of TB Programmes, Global Public Health, Johnson & Johnson was voted in as Board Member, and Ms Kate Antrobus, Executive Director of Lion’s Head Global Partners as Board alternate. Both will represent the global business community as one of the voting members on the Coordinating Board.

The term of office for all board members of the rotating seats is three years, renewable once, in accordance with Paragraph 8 of the Governance Manual. The members that have been newly elected and/or re-elected will serve their term from 1 May 2017 until end May 2020.
II. Board Committees

1. Finance Committee member
One seat on the Finance Committee is vacant. As the deadline for nominations was extended, we hope to be in position to announce the candidates for the position at the Board meeting in May. The process outlined by the Governance Manual requires that, after receiving applications from qualified individuals, the Stop TB Secretariat compiles all nominations for the revision and recommendations from the Finance Committee chair and Executive Committee. Following this, the EC makes a recommendation to the board, and the board will approve the candidate electronically.

2. Executive Committee
Two flexible seats are available to rotating seat board members who’s perspective are not represented on the Executive Committee and that voice interest and are ready to commit time to participate on the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee postponed the selection and appointment of board members to its flexible seats until after of the completion of the replenishment of the membership of the board.

III. Change of Sub-Working Groups status

1. Sub-Working Groups: Childhood TB, Public-Private Mix and End TB Transmission
The Board leadership and Partnership Secretariat had received requests from the Working Groups’ Subgroups: Childhood TB, PPM and End TB Transmission Initiative to be granted the status of full Working Group. The Executive Committee discussed over 2 different conference calls the pros and cons of granting the full Working Group status. It was noted that there will be no additional financial implication on the Secretariat from this decision, nor additional administrative burden. It will rather imply an even bigger engagement of all Working Groups in common work towards ending TB as well as a bigger visibility and identity. As such, the Private-Public Mix for TB care and prevention, End TB Transmission Initiative and Child and Adolescent TB were granted full status of Working Groups.

IV. Next steps

The Stop TB Partnership propose the following next steps:
1. Compile for review the nominations received as of 12 May 2017 for Finance Committee Members.
2. Initiate the selection and appointment of board members to the 2 flexible seats of the EC.

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1 http://us3.campaign-archive2.com/?u=85207b84f0f2d8ddc9bd878de&id=6986007077