The Global Fund

Update to the Board

Special Issue on the 38th Board Meeting

Welcome from the Board Leadership

Dear Board colleagues,

It was great to see you all in Geneva last week for the successful meeting and selection of the next Executive Director (ED), Peter Sands. He will be starting officially in March, but will be getting up to speed in the meantime. We think the results of the ED Selection, and in fact, the entire meeting reflected the vision of 'One Board' we are continuing to strive toward. And we look forward to working together to make this next chapter the most impactful yet for the Global Fund.

Should you receive inquiries from the press regarding the ED selection process, we ask that you refer them to the Global Fund, Head of Communications, Seth Faison, at seth.faison@theglobalfund.org or +41 79 788 1163.

We would like also to extend a thanks to each of you for your flexibility with the adjustments in format of the Board meeting, in particular, the strong utilization of the pre-day sessions. They were very well attended and, we think, built a strong understanding and foundation for the key issues covered. We plan to continue this approach going forward, enabling a focus on strategic discussions with ample time for decision-making during the meeting itself. We also appreciate the efforts to made by most to provide constituency statements in writing and in advance. This helped move the meeting much more efficiently through our rigorous agenda.

And much work continues for the Board as shared through the Board Work Plan. As mentioned, seven Electronic Decision Points are coming your way over the next few weeks including grant approvals. For some of those EDPs, calls will be convened by the Secretariat to address concerns and questions. Board Leadership will focus immediately on the recommendations of committee leadership for you to consider. The respective EDP on Appointment of Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs is anticipated to go out to the Board on 20 December 2017.

While you will continue to hear from us and OBA, we want to take this opportunity to thank you for your contributions in time and talent to continually strengthen our fight against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.
We wish you and your families a wonderful holiday season!

Best regards,
Aida and John

Debrief on the 38th Global Fund Board Meeting

October and November were intense months for our Board, preparing for and gathering at the 38th Board meeting in Geneva. During two days of tireless, highly interactive and constructive discussions, the Board approved critical decisions that would impact the work of the Global Fund in the year to come. The most prominent decision was appointment of the next Executive Director of the Global Fund, Peter Sands, followed by a distinct recognition of Marijke Wijnroks' work over the past months in her capacity as Interim Executive Director.

More operational decisions concerned welcoming and integration of additional public donors into the Global Fund governance structure and subsequent amendment in the Global Fund Bylaws, approval of the 2018 Corporate Work Plan and Operating Expenses Budget, development of resource mobilization action plan for 2018-2019, KPIs targets, and the first ever policy to combat fraud and corruption. In addition, the leadership of each Board standing committee had the opportunity to brief the Board on their respective work with a strong focus on those streams that will come forward for future Board decision. Introduction of this new format aimed at raising Board awareness around upcoming topics for its consideration and allowed for leveraging and empowering of the Board committees. We would be keen to hear your thoughts and views on following this approach at the next Board Meeting on 9-10 May 2018.

Some of our Board constituencies reiterated importance of succinct Board documentation and its volume. We are glad to communicate an ongoing progress in that regard as the volume of total Board pre-read documents has decreased from 588 pages (BM37) to 468 pages (BM38). We remain ambitious and will continue to strive to even greater improvement in preparations to the May Board Meeting. The report of the 38th Board Meeting is currently work in progress and respective EDP is anticipated to be sent out to the Board on 13 December 2017.

HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!