

Minutes  
of  
Policy and Advocacy Advisory Council Meeting: 7

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The PAAC meeting was held at the NCDCPH on January 17, 2017 at 15:00.

**Objectives:**

- To discuss the final version of TSP, M&E Framework and Budget
- To give PAAC final recommendation for TSP to be presented to CCM for final approval

**Attendees:**

<i>Nino Berdzuli</i>	Deputy Minister of Labor, Health and Social Affairs, PAAC Chair
<i>Irma Khonelidze</i>	Deputy General Director, National Center for Disease Control and Public Health
<i>Ketevan Chkhatarashvili</i>	Curatio International Foundation (CIF), President
<i>Mzia Tabatadze</i>	Curatio International Foundation (CIF), HIV expert & M&E specialist
<i>Tea Jibuti</i>	Curatio International Foundation (CIF), TB expert
<i>Irine Javakhadze</i>	Ministry of Finance of Georgia, Budget department/State and consolidated Budget Formulation Division, Chief Specialist, PAAC member
<i>Ucha Nanava</i>	National Center of Tuberculosis and Disease Control
<i>Nino Badridze</i>	Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical Immunology Research Center, Head of Epidemiological Department, PAAC Member
<i>Lasha Tvaliashvili</i>	RPRV, Representative of HIV infected community, PAAC Member
<i>Maia Tsereteli</i>	NCDCPH
<i>George Kuchukhidze</i>	NCDCPH, PIU, TB Program Manager
<i>Ketevan Stvilia</i>	NCDCPH, PIU, HIV Program Manager
<i>Maka Danelia</i>	NCDCPH, PIU TB M&E Officer
<i>Irakli Katsitadze</i>	LFA
<i>Nana Nabakhtevili</i>	LFA
<i>Eliso Bichashvili</i>	Ministry of Corrections, Medical Department
<i>Tsitsi Surameli</i>	Ministry of Corrections, Medical Department
<i>David Kakhaberi</i>	“Equity Movement”, project manager, Representative of KAP, PAAC member
<i>Natalia Zakareishvili</i>	UNFPA, Program Analyst, PAAC Member
<i>Ana Chagaridze</i>	Tbilisi City Hall, HealthCare Programs Department
<i>Tamar Botsvadze</i>	MdM
<i>Natalia Gordeziani</i>	Curatio International Foundation (CIF)

<i>Irina Grdzeliidze</i>	CCM, Executive Secretary
<i>Natia Khonelidze</i>	CCM, Administrative Assistant
<i>Tamar Zurashvili</i>	PAAC, Policy and Advocacy Specialist

The meeting was opened by Chairperson Dr. Nino Berdzuli who welcomed the attendees and presented the meeting objectives. She underlined the importance of the meeting due to the fact that after the meeting the Transition Plan should be presented to CCM as a final document. She suggested the group to discuss the M&E framework with corresponding activities in details and encouraged the group for active involvement in the discussion process. The proposed working format was accepted by the group.

Dr. Ketevan Chkhatarashvili started detailed review of TSP M&E objectives with corresponding indicators for each activity, estimated budget and responsible institution/s that was followed by intensive group discussion and appropriate decisions to give approval and final recommendation for each proposed activity or to refine it accordingly.

- The first discussion was held around Activity 1.1.1.2. *Monitor and foster policy interventions to remove the legislative barriers for access to HIV Prevention and harm reduction service in civil and penitentiary sectors*, with corresponding specific indicators for changing drug policy legislation – Dr. Berdzuli stated that indicators for the given activity are more detailed compared to other ones and suggested the group to review and agree on more general formulation. Dr. Irma Khonelidze agreed with Dr. Berdzuli's view. Dr. Mzia Tabatadze proposed the following formulations: (1) number of amendments in the Criminal Code, in the Administrative Code and in General Law concerning amounts for psychoactive substances or (2) more general formulation - number of policy changes implemented. Intensive group discussion led to the decision to refine the M&E corresponding indicators according the formulation version 1.
- The next issue for discussion was Activity 1.1.2.1. *Review State Procurement Law and relevant regulations to identify potential barriers for social contracting to deliver HIV services under the state funding*. Dr. Irma Khonelidze pointed out two different issues for the indicator (State Procurement Law and relevant regulations reviewed and potential barriers for social contracting identified) of the above mentioned activity: (1) Introduction of social contracting in Georgia and (2) assessment of existing Law and development of operational manual for CSOs to participate in state procurements. Dr. Khonelidze thinks that this issue needs more clear formulation. As Dr. Chkhatarashvili explained the activity envisions reviewing existing law and regulations in order to identify barriers (if any) for contracting civil society organizations for HIV/TB services provision under the state funding; and pointed out another issue – to develop operational manual for CSOs to participate in state procurements based on the barriers/challenges identified through the review process. Dr. Chkhatarashvili stated that the formulation of the activity with corresponding indicators will be reviewed, refined and clearer formulations developed. Dr. Nino Berdzuli suggested sharing the refined formulations by e-mail. In addition Dr. Khonelidze suggested developing definitions of terms for CSOs/CBOs.

- Active discussion was held around the Activity 2.2.2.2.1 Develop policy for production (professional competencies / qualification framework, course accreditation, and certification) for non-medical staff/CSO personnel as well as medical personnel of PHC and Dr. Berdzuli suggested defining specific definitions of non-medical personnel working in non-governmental sector.
- One of the most important issues for discussion stated by Dr. Khonelidze was defining responsible parties during the TSP implementation process. The TSP M&E Framework identifies NCDCPH as a responsible party in the vast majority of activities. Dr. Khonelidze underlined that given the intersectoral character of the transition plan the responsibility for carrying out its activities should not be placed on one institution, rather it should be distributed to appropriate parties. Thorough discussion was followed by the following decision: the responsibility column will be divided in two columns, one indicating the financing source and the other – listing all potential stakeholders sharing the responsibility and taking part in the implementation of respective activity. CIF consultants' team will make the proposed changes that will be circulated among PAAC members for further comments.

At the conclusion Dr. Nino Berdzuli stated that all the above mentioned comments will be integrated in the TSP final document, once again the revised version will be circulated among PAAC members via e-mail. In case of further comment for the revised document PAAC members will provide them within the one working day and afterwards the documents will be presented to CCM. Dr. Nino Berdzuli summarized the meeting and thanked the participants.

#### **Decision Points:**

- PAAC approves the TSP final document and recommends it for CCM approval with a condition that the comments proposed during the meeting will be integrated in the final documents.
- By January 20, 2017 12.00 pm CIF consultants' team will present the revised document that will be circulated among PAAC members for their final review;
- By January 23, 2017 12.00 pm PAAC members will provide comments if any and subsequently they will recommend the final document to the CCM for approval.

#### **Minutes prepared by Tamar Zurashvili**

Policy and Advocacy Specialist, PAAC

Nino Berdzuli

Tamar Zurashvili

Chair of the PAAC

Policy and Advocacy Specialist

Deputy Minister of Labor, Health and Social  
Affairs of Georgia

