



Minutes of the 41st CCM meeting

June 1, 2009

10:00

Venue: Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs, Tbilisi

CCM Members:

Alexander Kvitashvili - Minister of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia;
George Tsereteli - Deputy Chairman of the Parliament of Georgia;
Irakli Giorgobiani - First Deputy Minister of Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia;
Papuna Petriashvili – First Deputy Minister of Finance;
Vakhtang Akhaladze - Head of Patriarchate Public Health Department;
Koba Khabazi - Member of the Parliament of Georgia;
Badri Balavadze - Adviser of the Medical Department Ministry of Penitentiary, Probation and Legal Assistance;
Paata Imnadze – National Center for Disease Control and Public Health, General Director;
Levan Baramidze - National Center for Disease Control and Public Health, Deputy Director;
Tengiz Tsertsvadze - Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical Immunology Center, Board Chairman;
Khatuna Todadze - Research Institute on Addiction, Deputy General Director;
Archil Salakaia - Director of the National Center for Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases;
Akaki Lochoshvili -Global Fund Projects Manager;
Giovanna Barberis – International Representative, UNICEF;
Tamar Sirbiladze – USAID, Senior Health Advisor;
Tea Tsagareli - “Save The Children”, Project Director;
Nata Avaliani - American International Health Alliance, Caucasus Regional Director;
Maia Kavtaradze - Project Coordinator, GOPA/KfW;
Amiran Gamkrelidze – World Health Organization, HIV/AIDS Program Coordinator in Georgia, on behalf of **Rusudan Klimiashvili** - WHO Country Coordinator;
Nikoloz Nasidze - MSCI, Program Director;
Elguja Meladze- Employers’ Association of Georgia, President;
Tamar Sirbiladze - “Bemoni”, Chairperson;
Iza Bodokia - HIV/AIDS Support Foundation, Director;
David Ananiashvili - “Georgian Plus Group”, Director;

CCM Secretariat:

Eka Iashvili - HIV/AIDS Technical Consultant;
Levan Sharashidze - TB Technical Consultant;
Natia Khonelidze - Administrative Assistant;

Agenda:

- 10:00 – 10:10** **Welcome speech /remarks**
Mr. Alexander Kvitashvili, Minister of Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia
- 10:10-10:20** **Presentation of the HIV proposal to be submitted to the Round 9th Call for Proposals**
Mr. Tengiz Tsertsvadze – Infectious Diseases, AIDS and Clinical Immunology Center, Board Chairman;
- 10:20-10:30** **Presentation of the TB proposal to be submitted to the Round 9th Call for Proposals**
Archil Salakaia – Director of the National Center for Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases
- 10:30–10:40** **Endorsement of the proposals to be submitted to the Round 9th Call for Proposals launched by the Global Fund and nomination of the Principle Recipient to the Round 9th Country Proposals**
Ms. Eka Iashvili - HIV/AIDS Technical Consultant
- 10:40–10:45** **Election of the Principle Recipient to the Round 9th Country Proposals**

Alexander Kvitashvili – greeted the participants of the meeting, expressed his gratitude for their presence and satisfaction that the CCM recognized the importance of endeavour and actively participated in the development phase of the 9th Round Proposals. He stated that the agenda of the meeting envisaged the discussion and endorsement of the proposals to be submitted to the 9th Call for Proposals and election of the Principle Recipient of the Round 9 Proposals. Then he noted that unfortunately Mrs. Roelofs was not available in Tbilisi and thus could not attend and he himself would chair the meeting.

Afterwards Mr. Kvitashvili gave the floor to **Prof. Tsertsvadze**.

Tengiz Tsertsvadze - informed the attendees on the outcomes of last few weeks work on the proposal that was built on the components presented at the previous CCM meeting and coordinated with PTF members. He stressed that the proposal entitled “Increasing survival rates of people with advanced HIV infection through scaling-up management of opportunistic infections and containing HIV drug resistance” identified two major objectives: development and implementation of national HIV drug resistance (HIVDR) prevention and assessment strategy; improvement of management of opportunistic infections (OI) and co-infections. He underlined that HIVDR was the major public health problem. Its emergence was inevitable, given HIV's high replication and mutation rates and the necessity for lifelong antiretroviral treatment. HIVDR limits treatment options and had been shown to be associated with unfavorable diseases outcomes. With the current proposal funds were requested to develop and implement national HIVDR strategy based on WHO recommendations. The purpose of the strategy was to minimize emergence and spread of HIVDR with long term objective to prolong and maximize the quality of life for people living with HIV by supporting optimal ART programme functioning. After he specified the activities of the first objective and proceeded with the second objective of the presented proposal. During the speech Prof. Tsertsvadze emphasized that the objective would comprise of the management of HIV/HCV Co-infection, prevention of cervical cancer, improving diagnostics of mycobacterial infections and treatment of atypical Mycobacterial infections among HIV positive individuals, development of laboratory capacity for diagnosing fungal infections, strengthening technical capacity for HIV/AIDS clinical management.

Alexander Kvitashvili - thanked Prof. Tsertsvadze and invited **Dr. Salakaia** to follow the agenda

Archil Salakaia – informed the CCM members that working on the TB proposal to TGF Round 9 call for proposals was completed and endorsed by Partners Coordination Meeting. He stressed that the proposal was developed with the wide participation of the different stakeholders including CCM members. The feature of the working process on the proposal was the fact that initially the working plan and budget was developed on the basis of the current needs to cover the financial gaps in TB control in Georgia, and then this was incorporated in two proposals: Round 9 and RCC Wave 7. RCC Wave 7 will mainly support the objectives stated in the Round 4 TB project and ensures sustainability of the activities supported by this project. This proposal will be finalized and presented to one of the next CCM meetings for approval. The proposal to Round 9 is presented now for endorsement.

Proposal “Sustaining universal access to quality diagnosis and treatment of all forms of tuberculosis including M/XDR-TB” with the budget of EURO 15,198,017, has five objectives:

1. **To strengthen National TB Control Programme management, coordination, monitoring and evaluation and capacity building**
2. **To improve diagnosis of TB including M/XDR-TB**
3. **To ensure quality treatment of all forms of TB**
4. **To ensure adherence to TB treatment by intensive patient support and follow up**

5. To inform TB control actions by evidence-based information deriving from operational research.

Dr. Salakaia mentioned that TB control in Georgia had visible achievements with the support of the TGF and successful submission to the Round 9 was very important, as the new grant would allow the country to ensure sustainability of those achievements.

Akaki Lochoshvili proposed to apply for consolidation of Round 9 and RCC wave 7 TB grants in case if Georgia will be successful in both applications. CCM members agreed on that.

Alexander Kvitashvili - gave floor to Ms. Iashvili

Eka Iashvili - thanked the presenters and members involved in elaboration of proposals for their contribution and addressed the members with the request to vote for the endorsement of the proposals.

The proposals received unanimous endorsement by the CCM members confirmed with signatures of the attachment C hardcopy by all attended permanent and rotational members of the CCM.

Eka Iashvili - thanked the members and stated that the issue, connected with the Principle Recipient of TGF grants had to be decided. She mentioned that Georgian Health and Social Projects Implementation Center (GHSPIC) was the Principal Recipient of the Global Fund grants and responsible for the implementation of all ongoing three projects. The Center, at the same time, is implementing several other projects in the field of health care and social protection, funded by the World Bank, EU and other state programs. It has more than 6 years experience of successful implementation of the Global Fund projects. During this period of time GHSPIC has obtained important skills in the spheres of strategic planning, financial management and procurement procedures in accordance with the Georgian legislation. The Center has effective organizational leadership, management, decision making and accountability systems as well as well-established Project Management Reporting procedures and forms and a good track record in the provision of statutory reports to the CCM and other stakeholders. All the above stated conditioned TGF content to finance the second phase of the projects, which is one more proof of the fact that the Centre is a successful implementer of the programmes and has long professional experience in this sphere.

In addition that NGOs have a very high share in implementation of the Global Fund's Grants (out of which 65 % comes on NGO sector and the rest 35% on Gov. sector and the majority of NGOs that have PR capacity are among sub-recipients of ongoing grants, thus due to conflict of interest they couldn't be nominated).

Proceeding from all above-mentioned factors she suggested to the members to nominate the Georgian Health and Social Projects Implementation Center as a sole candidate for acting as the principle recipient for the Round 9th proposals.

Regarding the nomination of Sub-Recipients, members agreed that SRs will be nominated after the grants become effective.

Following review the Health and Social Project Implementation Center - the principal recipient of the ongoing GFATM projects, was nominated as the 1st choice candidate for PR to the country proposals and on the basis of voting it was accepted unanimously the decision on becoming of GHSPIC the Principle Recipient of the Round 9 Proposals.

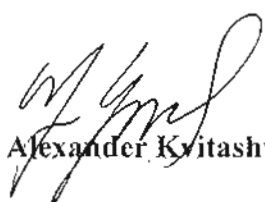
Alexander Kvitashvili - emphasized that during the years GHSPIC had proved to be a reliable partner and he had no doubt in regard to the effective work of the Center.

Finally Mr. Kvitashvili thanked the participants for their presence and stated that Mrs. Roelofs fully supported the submission of the Proposals to the the 9th Call for Proposals and she would confirm her

endorsement with her signatures to the attachment C as well as to the Annex 2 upon her availability in the city. The aforementioned documents will be sent to TGF.
The meeting was announced closed.

Decisions:

1. **The proposal received unanimous endorsement by the CCM members confirmed with signatures of the attachment C hardcopy by all attended permanent and rotational members of the CCM**
2. **Following review the Health and Social Project Implementation Center - the principal recipient of the ongoing TGF projects, was nominated as the 1st choice candidate for PR to the country proposals and on the basis of voting it was accepted unanimously the decision on becoming of GHSPIC the Principle Recipient of the Round 9 Proposals.**



Alexander Kyitashvili

Vice Chair of the CCM



Natia Khonelidze

Administrative Assistant to the CCM