

**GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY AGENDA
STEERING GROUP MEETING
1 May 2019
World Bank, Washington D.C.**

1. The second GHSA Steering Group under the chairmanship of the Netherlands was organized on 1 May 2019 at the World Bank in Washington D.C. The following members of the GHSA 2024 Steering Group attended the meeting: Argentina, Australia, Canada, Finland, Indonesia, Italy, the Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Thailand, and the United States. GHSA Consortium, PSRT and the World Bank, as well as permanent advisors OIE and WHO. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Herbert Barnard, Director of International Affairs of the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport of the Netherlands.
2. The meeting was preceded on the previous day by a meeting to discuss Financing for Country Level Preparedness, called by the World Bank, which established a theme of financial resourcing discussions for the Steering Group meeting.

Reflection on WB & GHSA Event April 30

3. Tim Evans reflected on the discussions of the 30 April GHSA & World Bank event on financing pandemic preparedness. He underscored the importance of having the Ministries of Finance on board for domestic resource mobilization. There also is a need to have one language around Global Health Security that convinces the political level. Lastly, the IDA19 Replenishment in June is a window of opportunity for concrete action.

WHO: Global Preparedness Monitoring Board and Report

4. The GPMB Annual Report is due for launch in September 2019 and can provide an opportunity to forward the proposals for the GHSA. The GPMB collected 231 recommendations from several different institutions and key stakeholders in the field of global pandemic preparedness. GPMB concluded that progress has been made in terms of awareness and the performance of JEEs. However, the same recommendations made in 2009 (during the H1N1 outbreak) were still being made now, so there is a need for scale-up.

Action Package Work Plan presentations

5. Action Package Coordination Task Force (Saudi Arabia and the Netherlands) noted that they had not received all Work Plans for 2019. The Task Force raised the issue of proxies for Action Packages. Next SG meeting there could be a discussion on how to address activities that are not officially organized in an Action Package but do contribute towards the same goal. The United States pointed out the need to clarify what all the Action Packages offer. If we want other countries to join, they have to know what will they receive to drive their interest. The Steering Group also noted the need for a more uniform approach to the Action Package Work Plans. The Work plans look promising, but lack a certain overlap in structure and level of detail. The Task Force Action Package Coordination will work on this during the next months.

Immunization

6. Australia would like to see reduced prominence of 'adverse reactions' in the document – noting that vaccine hesitancy is a far greater health security threat that requires more focus and resources to address than any product side effects. AP lead responded this will be more fully addressed in the next work plan. Australia also requested more specificity in the plan's activities, including request for more explicit prioritization of routine immunization expressed in the work plan. Finland flagged e-level conference on vaccinations in September a potential engagement opportunity.

National Laboratory Systems

No presentation was provided.

Surveillance

No comments.

Workforce Development

7. This Action Package is robust regionally through ASEAN and could serve as an example for the incorporation of other regional architectures (e.g. ECOWAS). US commended the robust approach to regional engagement of AP, and noted that as there is engagement from a regional body, there is more

potential for sustainability. At the same time, the Netherlands highlighted that Action Packages should ideally be globalized, and that this might be further pursued with the Stakeholder Engagement Taskforce. Thailand noted that leads are planning to work through Ministries of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) to reach out to other countries outside of the regional network.

AMR

8. This AP has been rapidly effective, and the steering group acknowledged the UK and Japan's contributions. The multi-lingual and split timezone engagement offered by the leads is a good practice that the steering group encouraged other APs to adopt.
9. The steering group noted the participation of non-GHSA members, and will pursue membership requests from state participants. Encourage best practices from AMR to be adopted by others.

Biosafety & Biosecurity

10. Finland suggested the AP could work through the Global Preparedness Strategic Network. Engaging with countries in their National Action Plan design and implementation could be advantageous. Offering expertise of this group through that network may be beneficial for reaching the country level. US commented that for the more technical APs, there is a need to ensure that the member countries know what's being offered by the AP to drive their motivation to join.

Zoonotic Diseases

11. The Steering Group stressed the importance of preventing duplication within this work plan with other OIE, OneHealth and regional initiatives, and noted that the GSHA should promote existing guidelines and framework documents before adding to the current stock.
12. Australia noted that this workplan seemed extremely ambitious and resource-intensive, and requested leads identify the resourcing for the plan, or change to more sustainable and achievable goals. Suggested prioritization of the activities may assist here. Finland noted the need to incorporate environmental health considerations. Indonesia noted all comments.

Presentation new Action Package on Financing

13. The Group highlighted the urgency of this Action Package; many countries have performed JEEs, but domestic financing for preparedness is lagging behind. Although this Action Package is not designed to provide the financial resources to fill these gaps, this AP aims to assist countries in accessing available resources by providing underlying business cases, supporting navigation of international and domestic mechanisms, and technical support.
14. Finland highlighted the need for support in accessing both domestic and international financing sources. Indonesia requested a review of the consistency between the strategic objective of the package and its proposed activities, and highlighted that these should be complementary to financing tools already. PSRT supported the development of the AP, and offered assistance and partnership. PSRT had identified an health economist that its members offered as in-kind support. As one of the founding partners of this Action Package, the World Bank strongly supported the AP, and encouraged members to seriously consider membership. OIE asked for clarification that the AP will support resourcing of all sectors. US emphasized the need to include all sectors in supporting resource access.
15. After some discussion, the Group affirmed the creation of the Action Package on Financing affirmed in principle. The Chair will commence a consultation process on the work plan document. The Chair will communicate and circulate by email the proposal. They will reflect and give input to the proponents (The World Bank and the USA). Other members may participate if interested. Deadline for this: May 31st, 2019. Then, they will reconvene via teleconference by June 30 to discuss and reaffirm the action package.

Presentation of the Taskforce work plans + Preliminary results

Advocacy & Communications

16. The taskforce is developing materials regarding advocacy and communications for external actors. They are focusing in the civil society and non-government stakeholders/ actors as a target. The taskforce is looking at materials already developed that could be adapted and compiled in a communications package, and later made available for the GHSA Secretariat. The taskforce is looking forward to working together

with the Stakeholders Engagement taskforce. They also welcome the participation of other countries for the development of these materials. The Taskforce currently has one country partner, the US. Looking forward to get more countries engaged.

17. The meeting encourage the TF to upload materials to the website and to use social media channels more frequently. Australia emphasized the need to move quickly beyond the 'scanning' phase and into production of new materials. Also noted that advocacy and communications skills, rather than technical health skills, will be required if this taskforce is to be successful. Suggested taskforce leads may need to identify individuals with these skills within their members who are not usually engaged in GHSA work. US also noted the need for relevant skills and suggested taking advantage of forthcoming meetings to solicit these skills from other stakeholders. Canada noted the communication element is very important to the GHSA. Suggested to review the current communication strategies of the GHSA. The Secretariat offered it is open to working with the taskforce. Finland recommended that the update and maintainance of current communication channels – social media and the website – be prioritized before embarking on new work.

Stakeholder Engagement

18. Identified five areas to increase stakeholders' engagement: multisectoral participation, internal engagement (GHSA), external actors' engagement, domestic and community level engagement, and non-governmental participation.
19. *Regarding multisectoral participation:* There have been some recent events on security (Australia, Fin prep meeting, and others). The objective is to capitalize on this type of events to promote multisectoral engagement. Need to develop three one-pagers on security, agriculture & other to facilitate engagement with other stakeholders.
Regarding internal participation: need to identify who in GHSA are active participants, analyze what to do with those members who do not participate actively and possibly assign them to other members who could act as mentors in order to promote their active engagement.
In the external actors' area: Need to produce materials to engage with external actors and communicate to them what the GHSA is working to encourage their participation.
In terms of community engagement: the TF proposes having side events. These could also be used to engage the non-governmental sector.
20. The GHSAC recommended using the convening power of sectoral multilaterals like the World Bank to reach other sectors, i.e. Finance. Finland emphasized its intention to actively participate in the taskforce. The Netherlands requested that the activities in the TF's plan note the perspectives to be included, i.e. that one-pagers for the finance sector use the input of those from the relevant sector in their formation.

Accountability & Results

21. By June the TF will propose how to track GHSA 2024 progress on various areas. Links have to be established with WHO strategic partnership portal for health security, which provides an overview of countries progress, donors engagement, a resource mapping dashboard, partners contributions and support received by area, among others. Objectives of the portal: increasing transparency, accountability, multisectorality and inclusivity.
22. Canada noted the importance of not to implying an extra burden on members of the GHSA in terms of the provision of information. Indonesia noted the existence of existing dashboards.

Action Package Coordination

23. Action Packages should be aligned with and supported by the strategic priorities of GHSA. The AP leads outlined plans for regular communication and consultation with taskforces. The Task Force also emphasized the need for increased collaboration between APs by sharing best practices and tools. The Taskforce will work on finding a suitable platform for this.

Update Preparations GHSA Ministerial Senegal: 11-13 November 2019

24. Visit to Senegal by Indonesia and the Netherlands was fruitful, the location looks good. The Secretariat will send the Save-the-Date to all the members.
Regarding the agenda, the hosts proposed that community engagement and financing be central. The

chair requested Senegal provide necessary information for the Save the Date as soon as possible, including contact point and registration web address.

25. The Group approved the core themes, but suggested some work on the bi-lingual wording of the meeting title. Thailand noted that a draft agenda is essential to ensure the value in attending is made clear to potential invitees early. US suggested theming topics by day to ensure value in Ministers' time. US also suggested side events focused across sectors to ensure multi-sectoral attendance. GHSAC queries whether Senegal's head of state would attend, and noted that an early confirmation of this would support the attendance of prominent philanthropists and ministers. The chair requested the Hosts confirm the date they would send invitations as soon as possible. Senegal committed to sharing a concept note in the next fortnight.

GHSA Secretariat Update

26. The Secretariat is under-resourced and they requested members consider providing in-kind support. The Steering Group requested more thought on the sustainability of the secretariat beyond 2019. The PSRT offered to provide guidance/counsel on strategy for the future of the secretariat.

Procedure for the selection of the 2020 Steering Group Chair

27. The GHSA 2024 framework specifies that the current chair should send out a call for expressions of interest in the role of chair for the next year. The Steering discussed and approved the currently outlined process for selecting the next SG Chair. There was a proposal for the role to rotate alphabetically within the steering group, with the role remaining voluntary, but this was not strongly supported. It was decided to incorporate the process for the 2021 chair in the current call, to improve predictability. Australia noted that due to the small size of the steering group and the requirement that the chair be a current member, any member of the steering group unable to chair in upcoming years may consider offering their seat to another state.

28. AOB:

Task Force on communications to draft a note on pros and cons for changing the logo in June (even a refurbishment) (Netherlands). Suggest discussing new membership requests in June.

29. Follow-up actions:

- World Bank will provide specifics to the US treasury, per proposals discussed during the Financing for Preparedness Meeting.
- Inviting the individuals comprising the GPMB to the Ministerial Meeting in Senegal
- Convene a SG Conference call end of June/beginning of July to reaffirm Action Package on Financing, discuss EOI's for the position of SG chair, and prepare the next Ministerial meeting (the Netherlands)
- Send the proposal on the AP on Financing to all member states and collect their input (deadline May 31) (The Netherlands)
- Finalize the Save-the-date for the Ministerial Conference of 11-13 November by June (Senegal)
- Send out Save-the-dates to all GHSA members (the Secretariat)
- Finalize and share the Agenda/Concept note for the Ministerial meeting with all GHSA members (Senegal)
- Propose tools for tracking GHSA progress by June (Accountability & Results Taskforce)
- Develop three one-pagers on security, agriculture and other to facilitate engagement with other stakeholders (Stakeholder Engagement Taskforce)