

Agenda Item: Membership Committee Report to the Board of Trustees

Summary:

This report contains a summary of the agenda items considered and discussed by the Membership Committee at its meeting on 26th October 2021.

Action Required:

The Board of Trustees **to consider the individual requirements under each subheading.**

Membership Committee

Report to the Board of Trustees

The Membership Committee (MC) met virtually on 26th October 2021. Below are the outcomes of the proceedings:

1. ACCREDITATION REVIEW OUTCOMES

Membership Committee reviewed the outcomes of the following five Member Associations that underwent an accreditation review:

- **Mali** - Association Malienne pour la Protection et la Promotion de la Famille
- **Egypt** - Egyptian Family Planning Association
- **Cook Islands** – Cook Islands Family Welfare Association
- **Belgium** – Belgische Federatie voor Seksuele en Reproductieve Gezondheid en Rechten / Fédération Belge pour la Santé et les Droits Sexuels et Reproductifs
- **Republic of Serbia** - Serbian Association for Sexual and Reproductive Rights

Noting that there are standards with which the afore mentioned Member Associations do not yet comply, and that these Associations are taking steps to remedy this, the MAs of **Mali; Egypt; Cook Islands; Belgium; and Republic of Serbia** cannot currently be re-accredited and will remain accredited members of IPPF.

➤ **Action required: BoT to note this information**

2. ACCREDITATION REVIEW FOLLOW-UP

The Membership Committee reviewed the progress reports of the following sixteen Member Associations that underwent an accreditation review under the third accreditation phase:

- **Congo** - Association Congolaise pour le Bien-Etre Familial
- **Cameroon** - Cameroon National Association for Family Welfare
- **Zambia** - Planned Parenthood Association of Zambia
- **Botswana** - Botswana Family Welfare Association
- **Comoros** - Association Comorienne pour le Bien-Etre de la Famille
- **Tanzania** - Uzazi na Malezi Bora Tanzania
- **Sierra Leone**- Planned Parenthood Association of Sierra Leone
- **Mozambique** - Associação Moçambicana para Desenvolvimento da Família
- **Mauritania** - Association Mauritanienne pour la Promotion de la Famille
- **Indonesia** - Indonesian Planned Parenthood Association
- **Republic of Korea** - Korea Population, Health and Welfare Association
- **Finland** – Väestöliitto
- **Lithuania** – Seimos Planavimo ir Seksualines Sveikatos Asociacija
- **Ukraine** - NGO Women Health and Family Planning
- **Afghanistan** - Afghan Family Guidance Association
- **Nepal** - Family Planning Association of Nepal

Noting that there are standards with which the afore mentioned Member Associations do not yet comply and that they are taking steps to remedy this, they cannot currently be re-accredited. The respective Regional Offices should continue monitoring the implementation of the follow-up action plans within the period agreed. During that period, the Member Associations of **Congo; Cameroon; Zambia; Botswana; Comoros; Tanzania; Sierra Leone; Mozambique; Mauritania; Indonesia; Republic of Korea; Finland; Lithuania; Ukraine; Afghanistan;** and **Nepal** will remain accredited members of IPPF with no change to their membership status.

➤ **Action required: BoT to note this information**

3. UPDATE ON THE CARIBBEAN FAMILY PLANNING AFFILIATION MEMBERS' JOURNEY TO ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Following the Western Hemisphere Regional Office separation from IPPF, the following five members of the Caribbean Family Planning Affiliation went through the due diligence process to assess their eligibility to apply for IPPF Associate membership against the criteria outlined in Procedure 6 of the IPPF Standards and Responsibilities of Membership.

- Antigua & Barbuda
- Aruba
- Dominica
- Guadeloupe
- Martinique

The due diligence process was completed in March 2021 and a detailed report on each of the five organizations was produced. The report outlined where they had satisfied the necessary criteria for membership but also pointed out areas that needed improvement. Based on this, each organization was presented with a series of recommendations to address.

Two of the affiliates, Antigua & Barbuda and Dominica, have addressed their recommendations and have submitted their application for Associate Membership.

The affiliate of Aruba also submitted an application for Associate Membership which was reviewed and discussed by the Membership Committee. Membership Committee (MC) agreed that, from the information provided, the affiliate did not yet meet the criteria to apply for Associate Membership and requested the Region to provide more information about the affiliate at the May 2022 meeting of MC.

The affiliates of Guadeloupe and Martinique are both currently experiencing challenges at the national level that has impacted their abilities to engage with actors in order to address the due diligence recommendations, and, as such, are not yet in the position to submit their applications for Associate Membership. They are expected to submit their applications at the May 2022 meeting of MC.

➤ **Action required: BoT to note this information**

4. IPPF ASSURANCE MECHANISM

In response to a request from the Board of Trustees and the Finance, Audit & Risk Committee (C-FAR) members, management developed a plan to upgrade IPPF's assurance mechanism. The report presented to C-FAR at their May 2021 meeting highlighting the initiatives that will be taken up in the short, medium and long term in building and strengthening IPPF's assurance mechanisms was shared with the Membership Committee.

➤ **Action required: BoT to note this information**

5. PAVING THE WAY FOR THE FOURTH ACCREDITATION PHASE

In this final year of the third accreditation phase, IPPF have sourced a consultancy agency to undertake a thorough review of its existing accreditation tools and processes in order to develop an improved, fit for purpose system for the Federation. The review involves consultations with key stakeholders.

A survey of Member Associations has already been conducted and the report of their feedback is now available. The report can be accessed here [International Planned Parenthood Federation: Document Center \(boardable.com\)](https://www.boardable.com).

Feedback has also been gathered from Member Association volunteers that participated in reviews of other Member Associations as part of an Accreditation Review Team. Input from donors is being gathered.

Secretariat staff engaged in accreditation processes will soon be consulted and focused group discussion will be held based on the results of the Member Association survey to form recommendations for next phase of Accreditation.

Other peer models are also being reviewed and a draft report with key findings and recommendations will be available by November 2021.

➤ **Action required: BoT to note this information**

6. RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCREDITATION

The Membership Committee reviewed the accreditation review results of the Member Associations of Malawi; Cote d'Ivoire; Madagascar; Jamaica; Peru; Tunisia; Lebanon; Pakistan; Tuvalu; Estonia; India and Iran, which were all found in full compliance with IPPF Membership Standards under the third accreditation phase, and **recommends** to the Board of Trustees that **Family Planning Association of Malawi; Association Ivoirienne pour le Bien-Etre Familial; Fianakaviana Sambatra; Jamaica Family Planning Association; Instituto Peruano de Paternidad Responsable; Association Tunisienne de la Santé de la Reproduction; Lebanese Association for Family Health; Rahnuma - Family Planning Association of Pakistan; Tuvalu Family Health Association; Eesti Seksuaaltervise Liit / Estonian Sexual Health Association; Family Planning Association of India; and the Family Health Association of Iran** be re-accredited as Full Members of the Federation.

➤ **Action required: BoT to approve this recommendation**

7. UPDATE ON SUSPENSIONS

7.1 Membership Committee reviewed the update on the suspension of the Kenya Member Association. Noting that the situation is still ongoing, and the matter is still before the court, Membership Committee **recommends** to the Board of Trustees that the suspension of Family Health Options Kenya be continued.

➤ **Action required: BoT to approve this recommendation**

7.2 Membership Committee noted that there has been no further communication from the Senegal Member Association since the information presented in May 2021.

In August 2021, the Africa Regional Office recruited a consultant to identify and conduct an assessment of potential collaborative partners in Senegal to ensure access to SRHR programs and services to especially meet the needs of the unreached and under-served communities, including young people.

Noting that the situation that led to the Association being suspended is still ongoing, Membership Committee **recommends** to the Board of Trustees that the suspension of Association Sénégalaise pour le Bien-Être Familial be continued.

➤ **Action required: BoT to approve this recommendation**

8. APPLICATIONS FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Membership Committee reviewed the application from the Antigua & Barbuda affiliate of the Caribbean Family Planning Affiliation for IPPF Associate Membership. Noting that the application meets the requirements, as outlined in Procedure 6 of the IPPF Standards and Responsibilities of Membership, Membership Committee **recommends** the application from Antigua & Barbuda Planned Parenthood Association for Associate Membership of IPPF be approved by the Board of Trustees.

➤ **Action required: BoT to approve this recommendation**

Membership Committee reviewed the application from the Dominica affiliate of the Caribbean Family Planning Affiliation for IPPF Associate Membership. Noting that the application meets the requirements, as outlined in Procedure 6 of the IPPF Standards and Responsibilities of Membership, Membership Committee **recommends** the application from Dominica Planned Parenthood Association for Associate Membership of IPPF be approved by the Board of Trustees.

➤ **Action required: BoT to approve this recommendation**

9. CONFIRMATION OF ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Following recommendations from the Regional Director, IPPF Arab World Region and the Regional Director, IPPF ESEAOR, Membership Committee **recommends** to the Board of Trustees that the Associate Membership of the Iraq, Yemen, Australia and Papua New Guinea Member Associations be confirmed for the period 2021 – 2022.

➤ **Action required: BoT to approve this recommendation**

10. EXEMPTION FROM PHASE III ACCREDITATION

Membership Committee reviewed the request from the Arab World Regional Office to exempt the Member Associations of Yemen and Syria from undergoing accreditation reviews during the current third accreditation phase.

The Yemen Member Associate is an Associate Member type 1 which was due to undergo an accreditation review this year as part of the process to becoming a Full Member of IPPF.

Since 2015, Yemen has been experiencing a devastating conflict which has resulted in a nationwide humanitarian crisis. Millions of Yemenis are facing famine, the world's largest ever single-year cholera outbreak, and conflict. Despite this, Yemeni Association for

Reproductive Health (YARH), have implemented several interventions to improve health access for women and girls and provide essential life-saving services to vulnerable groups.

Since 2016, YARH has succeeded in providing around half a million SRH services to around 166,000 clients living in humanitarian contexts. The Association has also been providing Comprehensive Sexuality Education to young people under very restrictive and unstable living conditions.

The Syria Family Planning Association (SFPA) is a Full Member of IPPF and the leading NGO in promoting awareness of family planning and delivering SRH services to the Syrian population and works in close collaboration with several local agencies such as Women's Union, where two of the Association's 18 clinics are located and with international agencies including UNFPA, UNICEF, UNHCR, IMC, WHO, and UNDP. These agencies have pursued a partnership with the SFPA to extend various SRH and other medical services for displaced people living in shelters, where they suffer increasing levels of violence and social complications. This resulted in the gathering of experience and expertise which has allowed SFPA to proactively respond to the surging unmet needs for SRH services.

Despite the challenges of operating in a conflict prone area, SFPA has succeeded in providing around 32.5 million SRH services to around 7.2 million clients living in humanitarian contexts including Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) to young people under very unstable living conditions.

Because of the difficult circumstances that still exist in Yemen and Syria, which were increased by Covid 19 under a near-non-existent health system in both countries, the accreditation process is surrounded by many difficulties and even the possibility of remote visits face difficult logistical issues, including the weakness of the internet and the prolonged power outages.

Membership Committee **recommends** to the Board of Trustees that the Yemen and Syria Member Associations be exempt from having to undergo the accreditation review process during the third accreditation phase.

➤ **Action required: BoT to approve this recommendation**