

Board of Trustees  
2-3 December 2021

Refers to  
agenda item 5

**Agenda Item: MA Communications**

**Summary:**

IPPF Regional offices have reached out to engage board members over the last few months. Some BoT members have attended regional meetings and plans are in place to engage further during Q1 2022.

Commitments on this Agenda item:

Meet and greet with President, ED and a youth representative of the MA in your country or region

Quarterly 'brown bag' sessions with 4 MA's grouped by IPPF themes i.e., Youth, safe abortion access, SOGIE, COVID19, responsive virtual service delivery and comprehensive sex education.

An opportunity to engage in sessions at the 2021 Regional and Youth Forums. This will be within and outside of your region. The forums will be an opportunity for Mas to collaborate, share learning and strategic reflection, and build a sense of solidarity

And other engagement opportunities as they arise."

**Action Required:**

The Board of Trustees is required to note this update

**Overview:**

IPPF Regional offices have continued to organize board engagement activities for the year. Most board members have been invited to engage at the Regional and Youth forums and either hosted or attended sessions. Key strategic points of reflection emanating from the regional forums where engagement with member associations revolved around youth engagement, Strategy 2028 as well as significant changes for SRHR within different countries. The participation of board and committee members enriched the sessions by sharing their perspectives from being engaged in global Federation wide strategic discussions. Having these engagements has allowed the board and committee members to gain increased knowledge and of the key challenges as well as best practices being undertaken by the MAs, enriching their understanding of the MA capacities and needs. The board presence in these forums and platforms builds staff morale, showing board leadership and board interest and involvement by showing meaningful engagement.

Further engagement for 2022 will be concretised after the final regional forums where board members will have further (virtual or physical) meetings with member associations to ensure that the key goals are reached for maximum engagement.

### **AWRO:**

As Sami is the only board member in the AWRO there have been several moments of engagement with him through virtual meetings and calls. Board Chair, Kate Gilmore attended the AWRO regional forum which enabled honest and meaningful engagement.

Ulukbek Batyrgaliev, will participate as a panelist in the upcoming “4th MENA Regional Adolescent Health Conference” happening from the 1st to 3rd of December 2021 in Egypt.

### **ARO:**

Trustees from Nigeria, Zambia and Cameroon attended the ARO regional forums. The Africa Youth meeting was held on the 4<sup>th</sup> November with dialogue between young people and board representatives on the IPPF’s Strategy2028.

This meeting brought together many young voices from across the continent to share their experiences and expectations from the federation in the implementation of Strategy2028. In attendance were YAM representatives from across Sub-Saharan Africa, as well as external youth networks such as Y+, AfriYAN and Board of Trustee members; Jacob Mutambo (Zambia) and Ulukbek Batyrgaliev (Kyrgyzstan).

In delivering the opening statement, Jacob emphasized the importance of the role that young people had to play in the meeting, specifically the strategy session. He stressed that what matters is not their level of experience, but their experiences in their communities regarding SRH; that they must take this opportunity to share those experiences to ensure that they get the IPPF that they want.

For 2022, more engagement in different meetings and forums in the Region will be planned for through face to face or virtual, more connection and experience sharing with other MAs in the region.

### **ACRO:**

Board members, Kate Gilmore, Daniela Defex and Santiago Cosio as well as Rose Marie Belle Antoine and Neish McLean attended the ACRO Regional Forum on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> November. Plans are in place to engage board members further in regional and youth forums for early 2022.

### **EN:**

Board Chair, Kate Gilmore and Ulukbek Batyrgaliev addressed the Europe Network Regional Forum on November 19<sup>th</sup>. Ms Petra Bayr is significantly involved in several engagements regarding SRHR, at the regional level. She will participate in a panel with the EN Regional Director at the launch of the Gender Equality Index 2021 in November.

### **ESEAOR**

As per the last paper board members participated in various regional forums. COVID restrictions are still in place in most countries and this has still presented challenges for any physical visits. However board members are getting to interact with member associations through the various regional forum meetings.

May Myint, Membership Committee member participated in the Virtual Accreditation Review of Samoa MA (SFHA) from 16 to 23 August.

Yueping Guo, Strategy, Investment and Policy Committee member opened the Roundtable on Ageing and Declining: Is IPPF Coping with Population Realities held on 13 October.

Kate opened the Joint Opening Session of the Regional Forum & Regional Youth Forum on 1 November with participation from May Myint, Yueping Guo and Andreas Prager. Guo spoke at the Strategic Direction and Priorities Session. May Myint spoke at the Digital Health Session. Surakshya Giri will speak at the at the Regional Forum on Meaningful Youth Engagement planned for the 18<sup>th</sup> November. All 2022 plans will be finalised in December.

### **SARO**

Board members were invited to the SARO Regional Forums during November. COVID restrictions are still in place and therefore physical visits have still not resumed within the region. However further plans for 2022 are to engage board members through an international social media outreach with member associations as well as physical visits.

### **Conclusion:**

Regional offices are concretising plans for board engagement for Q1 2022 through the various regional forums being held in November and early December.