

Board of Trustees  
9-10 March 2022

Refers to  
agenda item 2

## Agenda: Chair's And DG's Progress Report

### Trustee Update – March 2022

We trust you've entered the new year in the spirit of inspiration and hope, as well as the necessary outrage as we advance our strategic agenda. Whilst we don't know what's ahead of us, the way we live with Covid is changing. The way trustees work together will evolve, and we look forward to both virtual and in person meetings defining our engagement in 2022.

The **strategy design process** is now in its 3<sup>rd</sup> phase. A small writing team, led by former Dutch youth SRHR ambassador Sanne Thijssen met for a week-long writing retreat in January. The team drew from the [many Phase 2 roundtables, research and forums](#). They've presented their work to the DLT, and a first draft has just gone to C-SIP who'll share this prior to our meeting. Your feedback and the response from the wider Federation will inform another iteration for C-SIP's review in April. In June, the board will make final decisions on the thematic priorities, before it goes to Members for an indicative vote in early July. Further changes may be required after the indicative vote; and we will rely on trustees to carry IPPF through this process.

Despite the turbulent situation in Afghanistan; **IPPF's MA, AFGA** overachieved last year, ensuring 62,989 Contraceptive Years of Protection (CYP) against a goal of 55,000 CYPs. With the support of the **Japanese Supplementary Fund**, AFGA supported more than 6000 pregnant women with home-based obstetric care and delivery services. An equally significant achievement was midwives supporting more than 800 women to deliver safely, with virtual support from gynecologists. BMZ also contributed to the above efforts.

The **difficulty in dispersing funds to countries where the threat of sanction provides further paralysis and insecurity** has of course compromised how we best support AGFA, the Family Health Association Iran and others. Our New Delhi and London based finance teams have been working closely with Barclays bank to ensure all staff and trustees are included in the mandatory acuity check; and we are hopeful that we can flow funds toward the SRH services and support that people deserve no matter where they live.

The AUD19.9m DFAT funded **RESPOND** program commenced in mid-2021, with 19 MAs involved across the Asia Pacific region. Whilst still in set up, MAs trained 670 providers and reached .8 million people with 1.6 million SRH services (68% of the target). 1300 people received sexual and gender-based violence support/case management, **with growing demand in Pakistan for Afghan refugees**. This project has exposed some of our data weaknesses, and whilst we have transformed our relationship with this and other donors over the last 3 years, confidence remains vulnerable to mistakes in target setting, **data capture and monitoring**.

**WISH** partners continued to operate under a no cost extension (NCE) with significant reduction in the scale and scope of activities (Bangladesh, Mozambique, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Afghanistan and Pakistan closing/closed out), and waves of COVID-19. Despite this, in the last quarter we reached 55% above target, with >1.5m CYPs and >181 thousand new users of contraception. 15.6% were under 20 years of age. Operations covered humanitarian settings, including Somalia and Tigray. Whilst delays in FCDO awarding the costed extension tested everyone, they have now committed a

final GBP22.5m to cover us through to March 2023. There are indications of a further extension until September 2023.

**Feminist Opportunities Now (FON)** is an **AFD** funded project under a final approval process which will see €14 million for 4 years, implemented by a consortium led by IPPFARO in 10 countries: Mexico and Columbia in Latin-America (led by MDM), Bangladesh and Sri Lanka in Asia (led by CREA) and in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kenya and Mali (led by IPPFARO). The goal is to strengthen women's movements, via sub-grants to smaller feminist organisations.

Our Brussels team were able to influence the **European Union's Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)** budget from 2021 - 2027. €1,55b – double the funds – was earmarked to the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV). We then won a 4-year award of €600,000 per annum. Year one supports the Secretariat. Selection relied on a strong track record in sub-granting, so we are working toward a partnership that will allow us to forward grant to MAs; critical given so many EU MAs have scant funding opportunities if not supported by their governments.

As you will see in the C-FAR section, last year's income was higher than budgeted (US\$ 175.6 m against budgeted income of US\$ 139.4), ending the year USD37.3 million ahead of the total budgeted deficit. This was due to additional core income from Germany, Denmark and Norway and an advance in the form of restricted income from DFAT, higher overhead recovery, a significant bequest and lower expenditure made under Stream 1, 2 & 3. Expenditure was impacted by triple whammy grants and funding not allocated to suspended MA's or ACRO due to fewer MA's than anticipated. Savings due to COVID restrictions impacted income as well. The upload of the budget 2022 is imminent.

We had an overwhelming response to the call for new members to join the **International Medical Advisory Panel (IMAP)** - almost 60 applicants, and a final 8 selected given their expertise across youth activism, (in)fertility and sexual health: Paul Blumenthal, Metin Gulmezoglu, Michalina Drejza, Gail Knudsen, Zozo Nene, Arachu Castro, Chipu Gwanzura, Edmore Munongo.

The new **grading and pay-scales** have been communicated in all geographies bringing a unified approach to the process and methodology used across the Secretariat. The first tranche of increasing those under pay-scales to the minima took effect from 1 January 2022 with a plan in place to address all pay under minima by January 24. Phase 2 of the Pay and Grade work will be completed by mid-2022, including: job design across the Secretariat; approach to pay reviews and pay progression; and the Benefits framework.

2022 is a pivotal year for IPPF as not only we will launch our new 6-year Strategic Framework but also have a large number of **core funding agreements that are up for renewal**. We will develop multi-year core applications for Australia (2023-2026), Finland (2023-2024), New Zealand (2022-2024), Norway (2023-2026); Sweden (2023-2026), and Switzerland (2023-2025). Having so many renewals in one year is always a risk; especially in the event of unexpected external shocks (as we saw with FCDO) that would prevent governments from providing IPPF with the same level of funding. We will need to ensure donor confidence in IPPF's ability to develop a Strategy they would like to endorse with multi-year commitments.

We've had a productive follow up meeting in December 2021 with **AECID (Government of Spain)** to explore a cooperation agreement; routing funds through UNFPA and connecting their missions with relevant MAs. This is similar to what we've achieved in Colombia; Profamilia is now a key SRHR implementor for an MoH programme (€4million) due to start in Q2. We also met with **DFAT (Australian Government)** to explore the renewal, and the Pacific strategy.

We've continued dialogue with PPFA and US partners and are expecting the US Congress to decide on **'permanent repeal' of the Global Gag Rule** by March 11; it may be included as a policy in

upcoming budget negotiations. We remain cautious yet hopeful, despite the delays. The Biden-Harris administration lifting the GGR has allowed **re-engagement with USAID**, for example funds have started for Bangladesh and Ethiopia MAs, with the Ethiopia MA having secured USD3.5M. IPPF is also participating on two global-level competitive bids and over a dozen country-level bids. While this is good news, the permanent repeal is of course critical for us and the sector at large.