

Chair's and DG's Progress Report - Trustee Update – September 2022

Three months away from our General Assembly and still this feeling that we will be gathering again in difficult times with sexual and reproductive rights (SRHR) under sustained attack, a covid pandemic that persists, and a monkey pox emergency impacting the most marginalised groups - specifically gay men and other men who have sex with men. Along with that, a sense of global insecurity, food and energy prices skyrocketing and, for many, austerity measures on the horizon.

The last year has been brutal for the Federation; for SRHR. We were very fortunate to get our very own Delhi revolution just before the Covid pandemic. Those reforms, the resilience of MA frontline care providers, the courage of activists and donors' generous support throughout have allowed IPPF to survive, and even thrive during this last year. As you heard in Morocco, **an estimated 72 million people were served by IPPF in 2021; 6.1 million of which were assisted in crisis-affected settings.** This is the highest number of people reached by IPPF, despite fewer MAs.

This year we have responded to 15 **emergency requests**, reaching 716,618 people across every region. We continue to support new partner organizations as part of our Ukraine response, extending our action to Hungary and Poland with large numbers of refugees. We are also responding in Afghanistan (ongoing political crisis, compounded by the earthquake), Malawi (tropical storm), Yemen (ongoing crisis), Sri Lanka (national commodity stockout), Ecuador (floods and refugees from Venezuela), and Kenya and Ethiopia (famine in the Horn of Africa).

The fallout from the overturning of **Roe Vs Wade** persists, with 26 states imposing bans or total restrictions. The UK hosted its 3rd **Ministerial Conference on Freedom of Religion and Belief (FORB)** led by anti-abortion MP [Fiona Bruce](#). Controversial, given Trump-led history of FORB as cloak for anti-LGBTI bigotry and UK's recent pulling of a gender statement supporting SRHR with 22 *signatories*. IPPF engaged in back-channel mobilization and generated a lot of media. So much, that a redraft was later circulated (without the SRHR language). This garnered only 10 *signatories* and much protest, still unresolved. In better news, focused back-channel advocacy saw Colombia walk away from the **Geneva Consensus Declaration**. Our Africa region continues to co-host a small series of widely attended webinars on opposition and abortion in the wake of Roe.

Strategy 2028. The indicative vote opened on 20 July, with all MAs invited to submit a vote offering a choice to endorse the strategy as it is currently written. The vote closed 30 August, at which point 77 of the 108 eligible MAs had voted. A week after, an additional eight MAs submitted votes – representing all regions and all sizes. Of the 85 MAs that voted, only one voted against. 23 MAs did not vote. In total, 78% of all eligible MAs voted to endorse the strategy. Of those that voted, 99% voted to endorse it. It has already contributed to shaping the about to be finalised Niu Vaka II strategy for Pacific MAs. The accompanying draft results framework is presented under agenda item 4 for your guidance.

The IPPF **business planning** continues its first planning cycle under the post-reform resource allocation model. MAs were trained on the revised tools, alongside information on the additional scoring criteria aligning to Strategy28. Board/C-SIP dialogues focused on delivery of the strategy. MA Business Plans will be assessed by the Technical Review Team, consisting of external experts, including staff. The Secretariat began developing its 2023-25 Business Plans aligned to the strategy, alongside 12 agreed Secretariat priorities. DLT reviewed the new focus and capabilities required to deliver S28. Modelling is currently underway to have a proposal for aligning the Secretariat ready to share in October.

A total of 27 MAs expressed their interest in leading a **Youth consortium**, with five MAs submitting full applications. After a two-tier review process, the consortium led by our MA in Burkina Faso alongside Tunisia, India, Mali, Niger and Togo MA's were awarded the bid. They will focus on the enabling environment necessary for young people to access CSE. It has a solid and meaningful focus on youth leadership which YAM and Afriyan, an external youth organization leading youth advocacy at the regional level.

The 2019-2022 designation of funds towards a series of MA-led and hosted **IPPF Centres and Funds** is nearing an end. Future funding will happen through a dedicated Stream 2 channel. An external evaluation has been commissioned to document best practice from the pilot. A draft report is expected by end of month and will inform future funding, operations, and Secretariat support.

In July, we hosted the **Japanese Vice Minister Hitoshi Kikawada** in our London office. Kikawada then met with the Foreign Minister, requesting an increase for 2023. We also hosted the annual policy dialogue with Japan. There are now strong indications toward an increase for 2023, including additional support for our work in crisis settings. **Germany (BMZ)** also significantly increased its core funding support in 2022 from a budgeted EUR10 million to EUR17 million - their highest contribution yet. EUR5 million is earmarked for IPPF's response to the Ukraine crisis. I will be visiting Germany to meet with the Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development and parliamentarians in the context of Germany's launch of its feminist policy and to negotiate contributions for 2023. **Norad** confirmed they lifted the freeze to our core funding (approx. US\$7.3m) that was put in place due to cuts made in response to the Ukraine crisis. A new 4-year agreement is under discussion. However, we are still waiting for the **Government of Sweden's** decision on lifting the freeze to the 2nd tranche of our 2022 core funding (approx. US\$5.1m).

FP2030 announced a new model whereby 5 Regional hubs will carry the work closer to the countries. IPPF ESEAOR's bid to host the Asia Pacific Hub was successful. The agreement considers a partnership toward 2030 ensuring actions at the regional and country levels galvanize government commitments to SRHR. 8 staff led by a Managing Director will oversee the work, and be located in our Regional Office. This work will elevate our regional leadership in SRHR, with MA's engaged at all levels.

As of 30th June 2022, we are circa US\$14.7m ahead of our **budgeted deficit under unrestricted core**. This is largely a result of slower release of MA funding due to delayed submission of reports and the youth consortium funding which went through a detailed tendering process ending August. For **restricted funding** we are ahead by circa US\$8.3m, due to receipt of higher contributions from Norad, BMGF, SAAF (additional grant) and emergency grants for Ukraine from UNFPA, CARE & OSF. Our current general reserves are US\$15.81m as compared to US\$24.06m end 31st Dec 2021. In parallel, C-FAR approved long and short-term investments of surplus funds, affording better EOY returns. For

Forex, the US\$ continues to strengthen against all other currencies and our forex advisors are advising to either hedge or convert to other currencies that we hold to ensure a strong investment portfolio.

For the first time we undertook a **unified pay review**, deploying a consolidated budget to different market circumstances. This meant visibility of increases before spending, and we now have a clear understanding of what is mandatory and what is not - enabling us to make informed, fair and competitive choices about pay movement in local markets. We also set an organizational currency conversion mechanism for USD salaries to support improved equity within and across geographies.

The **International Medical Advisory Panel (IMAP)** confirmed [Dr Chipo Gwanzura](#) as its new chair. Dr Gwanzura is passionate about advancing sexual and reproductive health rights of women and adolescents and will work alongside Dr Michael Mbizvo (IMAP current chair) over the next few months to ensure a smooth transition. IMAP meets this month and will launch IPPF's new client-centered clinical guidelines.