Sanitation and Water for All
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING DRAFT MINUTES
(CONference Call) JUNE 7, 2011

Attendees:
Steering Committee Members:
1. Mr. Sanjay Wijesekera, DFID, Vice-Chair
   Mr. Peregrine Swann, DFID
2. Ms. Ebele Okeke, Leading Spokeswoman
   for WASH
3. Ms. Sudha Sharma, Nepal
4. Ms. Erma Uytewaal, for DGIS
5. Ms. Rolien Sasse, EWP
6. Mr. Henry Northover, WaterAid
7. Mr. Mohamed el-Rawady, CEDARE
8. Mr. Jon Lane, WSSCC
9. Mr. Rudy Amenga-Etego, ANEW
10. Mr. Salisu Abdulmumin, AMCOW
Regrets: (note a few people tried to call in and were unable to connect)
1. Mr. Jawed Ali Khan, Pakistan
2. Mr. Johan Gely, SDC
3. Ms. Clarissa Brocklehurst, UNICEF
4. Mr. Darren Saywell, IWA
5. Mr. Yakub Hossain, FANSA
6. Mr. Kepha Ombacho, Kenya
7. Mr. Yaw Sarkodie, Ghana
8. Ms. Lindiwe Lusunga, South Africa
9. Mr. Disan Ssozi, Uganda
10. Mr. Oswald Chanda, AfDB

Mr. Robert Bos, WHO (Observer)
Mr. Piers Cross, Secretariat

SUMMARY OF ACTION POINTS

For Urgent Action
1. SC Members requesting financial support to Stockholm should notify Cindy by June 15.

For Immediate Follow-Up
2. Secretariat: Complete the non-English speaking African Country SC Member election in time for the person to attend Stockholm.
4. Secretariat will ensure SWA Partners are aware of 5YD on Sustainable Sanitation messages and what is happening with the effort.
5. Secretariat: Revise the Governance Document to reflect the new Research and Learning Constituency and follow-up with the Partners to identify a representative to sit on the Steering Committee.
6. CPTT Chair and Secretariat to discuss Communications issues for the CPTT work.

Due at Stockholm (August):
7. CPTT to draft the relationship of the TT with the Partnership and report at Stockholm, for discussion.
8. SDC, IRC, and EWP, along with Margarita Pacheco, Advisor to the Vice-President in Colombo, will lead a group to put together a Concept Note addressing issues around ‘expanding’ the Partnership into the Latin America and Caribbean region. This group will table a developed Concept Note at Stockholm for discussion on how to go forward.
9. EWP along with donor SC members, the Secretariat and other interested parties will have an offline conversation about the EWP Proposal and report on the issue in Stockholm.
10. HLM TT/Secretariat to define a clear strategy/design for the 2012 HLM and preparatory process, bringing key issues to the SC in Stockholm.
11. Secretariat (WSSCC) to improve basic SWA communications material.
Minutes

1. Update from Chair
Approval of Previous Minutes (April): Approved

Welcoming of two new SC Members
- Leading Spokeswoman Seat: Eng. Ebele Okeke, former head of Nigerian civil service
- Asia Seat: Dr Sudha Sharma, Secretary for Health, Government of Nepal

Note, the election for the non-English speaking African Country new SC Member is ongoing.

 Secretariat: Complete the non-English speaking African Country SC Member election in time for the person to attend Stockholm.

 Secretariat: Update SC Bios and send around.

New Partners: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Burkina Faso have joined recently.

InterAction Council:
The Council, comprising former heads of State, prioritized water in their annual plenary session in May, including several recommendations. This is a potentially interesting opportunity to align with another effort to raise the profile of water with high-level politicians. (http://interactioncouncil.org/final-communiqu42)

Launch of the Sustainable sanitation: five-year drive to 2015:
The United Nations Secretary General’s Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation will officially launch the 5YD on July 21. The launch will be attended by the UN Secretary General SG, UNSGAB’s Chair, and UNICEF’s Executive Director. Background: The concept was suggested by UNSGAB following success of International Year of Sanitation. The aim is to maintain high level political engagement in sanitation. It’s a rallying cry, not a work program and is led by a UN-Water sub-committee, chaired by UNICEF. The sub-committee will identify key messages and develop advocacy material.

 Secretariat will ensure SWA Partners are aware of messages and what is happening.

2. Key Issues (30 min)
Engagement in Latin America
There is interest to ‘bring’ SWA to the Latin America/Caribbean region. The Steering Committee is interested to further explore how this can best be done, in particular looking at several issues:
- The ‘value added’ and comparative advantage of SWA in LAC
- The capacity within current SWA Partners to actively engage and support in LAC
- Ensuring that the focus of SWA – established primarily to support low-income, highly aid-dependent, ‘off-track’ countries – is not lost.
- How to focus outreach to ‘target’ countries where SWA can support

It was also noted that:
- Civil society can benefit from SWA with a renewed focus but also LAC civil society can be seen as a resource for other regions.
- SWA is a global partnership and therefore we should be exploring all regions.
- There is a risk of broadening the Partnership’s focus too much.
- LAC countries highlights the issue of equity and access issues within countries, which is also an issue in other regions. Looking at what role SWA can play in LAC and in addressing issues of access within a country can also add value to SWA elsewhere.
- SWA should also be considering how to work in the Middle East as the issues are slightly different there as well.

Summary: SWA is a global initiative and there is room for SWA to move into new regions. However, key questions around: maintaining focus (off-track), what is the added value of new geographic areas (two-ways: knowledge sharing, equity within countries which is an issue everywhere); comparative advantage (linked to added value and focus), and capacity (in the small Secretariat as well as Partners). The Steering Committee agreed to develop a comprehensive Concept Note to address the issues and table it in Stockholm in order to determine how to go forward in the region.

- SDC, IRC, and EWP, along with Margarita Pacheco, Advisor to the Vice-President in Colombo, will lead a group to put together a Concept Note addressing issues around ‘expanding’ the Partnership into the Latin America and Caribbean region. This group will table a developed Concept Note at Stockholm for discussion on how to go forward.
  - Secretariat will work with Partners to identify a lead partner and arrange for work to begin.
  - Secretariat will reach out to WSP in LAC as well given that they are now undertaking CSOs and may be interested in contributing/reviewing the Concept Note. It was agreed WSP could contribute significantly to the exploration of ideas.

End Water Poverty Proposal – Rolien Sasse, EWP

The SC did not have a quorum at this meeting and therefore is not able to make decisions such as fund allocations. EWP noted that a lack of funds could jeopardize and/or minimize CSO involvement in SWA.

- EWP along with donor SC members, the Secretariat and other interested parties will have an offline conversation about the EWP Proposal and report on the issue in Stockholm.

3. Standing Committees and Task Teams: Work Progress Update

Governance Standing Committee

The Steering Committee decided to form the new Constituency: Research and Learning. Early communications indicate that nine of the current 18 Sector Partners will move into the new Research and Learning Constituency.
Secretariat: Revise the Governance Document to reflect the new Constituency and follow-up with the Partners to identify a representative to sit on the Steering Committee in time for Stockholm.

Country Processes Task Team
TOR: The revised TOR was tabled. (Annex) CPTT is producing a lot of work – how do we communicate? Website? Circulate Minutes and papers? How does TT relate to the Pship? We know there are a lot of countries that would benefit from additional support to strengthen planning processes, yet we don’t have an answer of how to connect those countries to SWA.

- CPTT Chair and Secretariat to discuss Communications issues.
- CPTT to draft the relationship of the TT with the Partnership and report at Stockholm, for discussion.

NPRI: The National Planning for Results Initiative (NPRI) is under development. The purpose of this activity is to facilitate how SWA strengthens linkages, best practices, diagnostic tools, reach out and creating linkages with larger scale financing. There are some questions remaining around the current Concept Note, namely:
  - Define the role of the Country Processes Task Team with NPRI
  - Understand how other agencies might relate to it. Currently only UNICEF and WSP are identified as implementing agencies in the Note. There are other capable Partners not identified within Concept Note. What is the relationship?
  - Broad oversight of NPRI. What is the governance? Where is the locus for responsibility to oversee or at least monitor NPRI’s work?

Liberia Joint Mission: A group of Partners went to Liberia to support the Government to set out a roadmap of key actions. This Liberia exercise benefited from a great deal of in-country activism. Key ministries, Ministers, Parliamentary members, civil society and other partners all pushed for the Mission and ‘demanded’ a response from SWA Members. It was country-level activism that drove the process. It is key is for major stakeholders in Liberia to produce a sector financing plan which will give some financial indication of how to finance coverage targets and then look at where financing is coming from. There will need to be continuing input from SWA. If the integrity of mission is going to be realized, there is an obligation for SWA partners to respond when the multistakeholder forum in Liberia requests follow up. For Liberia as well as any future country –level support activities, it is incumbent on SWA Partners to step forward to participate in Missions, provide support, etc.

2011-2012 HLM Task Team
LDC-IV Conference: WASH was very low on the priority list at the Conference in May. WSSCC’s Chair spoke at the one session focused on WASH. She highlighted sanitation and SWA.

New TT Chair: As Clarissa Brocklehurst is leaving UNICEF at the end of June, Darren Saywell, IWA, will serve as Interim TT Chair until Clarissa’s replacement is in place.
2012 HLM Plans: The Secretariat and TT will prioritize the definition and begin outreach to countries before Stockholm and bring significant issues for discussion to the next SC Meeting.

- HLM TT/Secretariat to define a clear strategy/design for the 2012 HLM and preparatory process, bringing key issues to the SC in Stockholm.

4. Secretariat: Update

AfricaSan: Very few SWA SC members will be at AfricaSan. Thus far, Jon WSSCC and possibly Rudy from ANEW. There are likely Developing Country SC Members attending as well as AMCOW. As there will not be a major presence of SC members and the agenda is very full, SWA will not have a big presence at AfricaSan. SWA is hosting a session on aid-effectiveness which will highlight the recent Liberia Joint Mission.

Recruitment: The Coordinator of the Secretariat has been recruited. Cindy Kushner, currently the Interim Coordinator will begin as a UNICEF staff member in July. The Administrative Assistant is currently being recruited. Consultants to work on HLM monitoring (at UNICEF) and Communications (at WSSCC) are also now in place.

Stockholm plans:
The next SC Meeting will be in Stockholm for a FULL DAY on Sunday, August 21.

- SC Members requesting financial support to Stockholm should notify Cindy by June 15.

5. AOB

A common question is around the difference between SWA and WSSCC. WSSCC will be refreshing basic communications material relating to SWA and answer questions such as this in the coming month or so. This could be used to induct new members of the SC, partners as well as for further outreach.

- Secretariat (WSSCC) to improve basic SWA communications material.