

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, 15 -16 OCTOBER 2020

MINUTES AND ACTION POINTS

This was the first meeting of the End Violence Executive Committee following a major 2019-20 review of the organization's business model and governance structure. In line with the review's recommendations the former Executive Committee and Fund Steering Committee have merged into a single Executive Committee, supported by three Working Groups: Pathfinding Progress Working Group, Safe Online Working Group and Safe to Learn Working Group.

DAY 1

The Executive Committee:

Executive Session (chaired by outgoing Executive Committee Chair Dr. Daniela Ligiero)

1. Confirmed Dr. Etienne Krug (WHO) and Dr Joan Nyanyuki (Africa Child Policy Forum) as Chair and Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee, along with the initial membership of the Committee (see Annex A for list of members) and agreed to identify a second Vice-Chair in due course.
2. Thanked Dr. Daniela Ligiero (Together for Girls) and Maureen Greenwood-Basken (Wellspring Philanthropic Fund) for their significant contribution as Chair and Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee over a two-year period that had included the Business Model Review of the End Violence Partnership, refining the Partnership's approach to country engagement, and the initial response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. Confirmed Sanjay Wijesekera (UNICEF), Alex Butchart (WHO) and a CSO representative (tbc) as Co-Chairs of the Pathfinding Progress Working Group.
4. Confirmed Christian Papatentiou (UK Home Office) as Chair of the Safe Online Working Group (SOWG), noting that Christian and the SOWG would consider identifying an additional Chair.
5. Confirmed Martin Niblett (UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office) and Maureen Greenwood-Basken (Wellspring Philanthropic Fund) as Co-Chairs of the Safe to Learn Working Group, noting the intention of identifying an additional Chair, ideally from among the Education sector partners of the Safe to Learn coalition.

6. Agreed to establish a sub-group of the Executive Committee to consider in more detail the criteria and process to (a) expand and diversify membership of the Executive Committee; and (b) identify a new Board Chair, following confirmation from Board Chair Henrietta H. Fore that she would step down as and when a suitable successor is identified and in place.

ACTION: Secretariat to convene the sub-group as soon as calendars allow.

7. Noted that the End Violence Secretariat had experienced a particularly challenging year. And that despite the personal impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the challenges of remote working and the inevitable difficulties of the team streamlining and transition, the Secretariat team had shown incredible professionalism and commitment to the mission in continuing to deliver high quality support to the Partnership.

Welcome, Agenda and Intro Remarks

8. Approved the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 29 April – 1 May 2020.
9. Welcomed the new chairs and members of the Executive Committee and Working Groups.

Executive Director's Update

10. Welcomed the Secretariat's role in supporting the Partnership's response and continued work in addressing the heightened risk of violence against children during COVID-19 and beyond.
11. Expressed cautious optimism considering the challenges and opportunities across the Partnership's portfolio, i.e. current funding and capacity gaps alongside prospective new political and financial commitments expected to be generated through the Solutions Summit series.
12. Noted that a priority for 2021 would be a consultative process to prepare a new multi-year strategy for the Partnership.

ACTION: Secretariat to propose a process and timeline for preparing a new Partnership strategy.

Progress Updates: Pathfinding

13. Noted progress in Pathfinding, including: an increase in the number of Pathfinding countries and cities; the launch of a Pathfinding Dashboard to monitor and track implementation progress; partners' work to adapt and scale-up INSPIRE (in selected countries to begin with); the strengthening and streamlining of country engagement with clearer roles for the Secretariat and partners; and the significant uptake of parenting tips around the world.
14. Approved the Terms of Reference for the Pathfinding Progress Working Group (PPWG).

15. Approved the proposed role of in-country partners in Pathfinding, setting out minimum expectations for partners collaborating as members of the End Violence Partnership.
16. Requested that the PPWG consider tightening plans for strategic engagement and sustainable integration of work on corporal punishment, parenting and EVAC in humanitarian contexts.

ACTION: PPWG to consider this with support from the Secretariat.

17. Emphasized that national action plans are at the core of Pathfinding work and the need for effective and thoughtful ways to ensure that these plans consider all forms of violence.
18. Proposed that the value-add of Pathfinding be clarified, particularly in terms of its objectives and how change is measured at the country level.

ACTION: Secretariat to provide more detailed briefing on Pathfinding to Executive Committee members and partners, as requested.

Progress Updates: Safe Online

19. Noted the links between online and offline violence, sexual exploitation and abuse, and the gender dimensions of such abuse.
20. Noted that the Safe Online Working Group (SOWG) Terms of Reference are under development and will be shared for approval at the next Executive Committee meeting.
21. Noted Safe Online progress and results, in particular: ensuring that the issue of child online safety is included in global policy debates and in plans to expand online connectivity; and growing and strengthening the Safe Online Investment portfolio through a new funding round, establishment of the Technology Coalition Safe Online Research Fund and strengthened knowledge management, grant management and performance evaluation.
22. Noted the potential for the Safe Online initiative to drive change and accelerate progress across the wider End Violence Partnership portfolio; the Safe Online team has been intentionally building synergies and greater coherence with Pathfinding and Safe to Learn.
23. Highlighted the need to integrate child online protection into regional and national action plans, policies and strategies to end violence against children, noting that there are already examples of this work happening in multiple countries e.g. Ghana, Uganda, Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Namibia, and others.
24. Noted the need for joint advocacy to protect children and their rights online, including on: end-to-end encryption and the threats it poses to the efforts of law enforcement, CSOs and industry to detect, investigate and rescue victims of online abuse; and imminent legislative changes in the European Union that could have a profound impact on ongoing efforts to end online CSEA.

25. Welcomed the new collaboration with the Technology Coalition through a Safe Online Research Fund which would inform change in terms of design, policy and practice of the tech industry, but at the same time noted that the End Violence Partnership should maintain its independence, neutrality and ability to take a position and advocate with the tech industry on issues that might endanger children.

DAY 2

The Executive Committee:

Safe to Learn

26. Noted progress against the Safe to Learn strategic roadmap; welcomed efforts to move the initiative from global advocacy and commitments to an increasing focus on country-level action; and emphasized the importance of monitoring and highlighting the impact of the Call to Action at the country level through the programmatic framework, benchmarking, and country-level collaboration model.

27. Noted that unequal access to safe learning environments had been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting school closures, and welcomed the flexibility shown in re-programming initial grants from the Safe to Learn window of the End Violence Fund to adapt to the COVID-19 context.

28. Recommended that Safe to Learn should: (a) engage ministries of education and mobilize partners as high-level, political advocates, including civil society organizations; (b) continue cross-sectoral collaboration and links between the Partnership's different areas of work (Safe Online, Pathfinding, and Safe to Learn; and (c) embed the Call to Action in the education sector, system and existing coordination structures at the country level.

29. Noted that the Safe Schools investment case being prepared the World Bank was due for completion by the end of 2020.

30. Noted that recruitment of a Safe to Learn Director is underway.

31. Noted that the new Safe to Learn Working Group would meet soon to discuss raising the level of ambition of the initiative and ways to effectively implement the Call to Action.

Knowledge

32. Commended the Secretariat for its Knowledge outputs, particularly the progress of the Knowledge Network and Platform.

33. Agreed that Knowledge is a key element of the Partnership's value-offering, noted the minimum viable Secretariat cost of \$300,000/year for Knowledge management, and encouraged partners to help secure the necessary investment.

34. Recommended that Knowledge management should: (a) include children's initiatives and voices; (b) engage universities and academia; (c) help bridge the gap between data experts, policymakers and practitioners; (d) connect advocacy efforts; and (e) keep in mind the ethical considerations of collecting data from children.

People, Finance and Resource Mobilization

35. Noted progress in streamlining of the Secretariat, the ongoing critical need for flexible, sustainable funding, and plans to establish a Resource Mobilization Advisors Group.

36. Noted that the Secretariat was preparing a detailed Business Plan for 2021 showing how committed resources would be used to deliver agreed Partnership priorities.

ACTION: Secretariat to share with the Executive Committee in early 2021 the detailed Business Plan.

37. Noted that governance members could support resource mobilization for the Secretariat and Fund by: (a) providing flexible funding to the Secretariat; (b) sharing intelligence on funding opportunities from donors in their network; (c) connecting/introducing the Executive Director/Secretariat to new donors; (d) joining the Executive Director/Secretariat on calls with donors to help make the case for investment; and (e) helping to secure commitments to announce at the Solutions Summit Leader's Event in 2021.

38. Noted that despite ongoing current challenges in sustainably resourcing the Secretariat, it was important to keep the bigger picture in mind, i.e. that significant progress had been made in recent years, including: SDG 16.2 helping drive coherence of the EVAC field; initial Partnership progress and growth, raising awareness and laying the foundations for impact at scale for children; agreement on a small number of Partnership priorities to drive change at scale, e.g. Pathfinding, Safe Online, Safe to Learn; clarity on the Partnership's value proposition as a platform for collective advocacy, action and investments; a Partnership fitter for purpose with new governance structures and improved ways of working following the Business Model Review; and a streamlined Secretariat clear on its role as a convener, connector and facilitator of collective action.

Solutions Summit Series

39. Welcomed progress in preparing for the launch of the Together to #EndViolence global campaign and Solutions Summit Series, noting that to succeed it would require a whole-of-Partnership approach.

40. Recommended that the campaign and Summit Series should: (a) further develop a small number of specific policy calls; (b) capture existing partner commitments and identify resource requirements in the delivery plan for the Summit Series; (c) be clear on target audience(s) and potential donors for commitments and adjust the approach and pitch accordingly; (d) target high-level participation and trigger 'competition among governments' in achieving SDG 16.2 and find meaningful ways for Pathfinding countries to be involved; (e) link EVAC with other and broader agendas, e.g. violence against women, structural drivers of violence,

education; (f) focus on building back better while accelerating the SDGs and mobilizing all stakeholders from local to the global; and (g) as part of the End Violence Partnership governance refresh identify a new Board chair and members who can mobilize political and financial commitments for the Leaders' Event.

End Violence Secretariat
January 2021

ANNEX A: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Executive Committee Members

1. Maureen Greenwood-Basken, Wellspring Philanthropic Fund (**Safe to Learn Working Group Chair**)
2. Debora Cobar, Plan International *represented by Leila Asrari*
3. Iain Drennan, WePROTECT Global Alliance
4. Kul Gautam, Independent Expert
5. Etienne Krug, WHO (**Executive Committee Chair**)
6. Daniela Ligiero, Together for Girls
7. Jim Mercy, CDC
8. Najat Maalla M'jid, UN SRSG VAC
9. Amanda Melville, UNHCR
10. Martin Niblett, UK FCDO (**Safe to Learn Working Group Chair**)
11. Joan Nyanyuki, Africa Child Policy Forum (**Executive Committee Vice-Chair**)
12. Christian Papaleontiou, UK Home Office (**Safe Online Working Group Chair**)
13. Bidisha Pillai, Save the Children *represented by Bill Bell*
14. Karin Strandås, Government of Sweden
15. Howard Taylor, End Violence (**Ex-Officio**)
16. Emily Travis, UK FCDO
17. Sanjay Wijesekera, UNICEF (**Pathfinding Progress Working Group Chair**)

Secretariat

1. Ace Acheron, Governance
2. Sally Burnheim, Deputy Director
3. Katharina Anton Erxleben, Safe to Learn
4. Matthew De Galan, Resource Mobilization
5. Andrew Hassett, Communications (and Solutions Summit)
6. Marija Manojlovic, Safe Online
7. Catherine Maternowska, Knowledge and Learning
8. Hazel Mills, Executive Assistant
9. Sabine Rakotomalala, Pathfinding