



The Medicines Patent Pool

Governance Board Meeting Chairman's Summary

8 December 2011
London, United Kingdom

Attendees: Charles Clift (Chair), Bernard Pécoul, Paulo Teixeira, Sigrun Møgedal

Regrets: Precious Matsoso

Patent Pool Staff in attendance: Ellen 't Hoen (Executive Director, *ex-officio* Board member), Chan Park (General Counsel), Robyn Harshaw (Accenture Development Partnerships)

The Board discussed how the Medicines Patent Pool (the Pool) could expand and formalise its consultative mechanisms in response to demands made by civil society. The goal of these mechanisms should be for the Pool to have more proactive consultation with its stakeholders in government, the private sector and civil society, particularly the communities of people living with HIV (PLHIV). The Pool and its Board sought to increase the channels of communication with civil society, while recognising practical limitations, such as current travel demands on civil society and the Pool's organisational capacity.

The major regular components of the Pool's consultative mechanisms should include: regional meetings, normally through side events at major conferences or independently arranged meetings at the margins of these conferences, and a regular slot at UNITAID's annual Consultative Forum to discuss the Pool's objectives in the coming year.

The Board was pleased that the Pool hosted a well-attended side event at the recent meeting of International Conference on AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections in Africa (ICASA) in Addis Ababa and had also participated actively in the UNITAID Consultative Forum.

In addition, the Board decided to expand the Pool's Expert Advisory Group to include two experts drawn from organisations representing communities of PLHIV and to expand the Board to include a representative of the communities of people living with HIV.

The Board also recognised the Pool's commitment to transparency and emphasised the importance of continued progress. To this end it adopted the by-laws of the Medicines Patent Pool which include the provision that "the report of the Expert Advisory Group on the results of the final negotiations, together with the Board's final decision, shall be made publicly available on the website of the Foundation" (Art. 16.4). The by-laws will be published on the website pending approval of the Swiss Supervisory Authority.