



Summary Note
7th SUN Lead Group meeting
5th May 2015

- I. **The 7th meeting of the SUN Movement Lead Group was held on Tuesday 5th May 2015 by teleconference.** The Lead Group considered the findings of the Independent Comprehensive Evaluation (ICE) and the recommendations for the future of the SUN Movement after 2015. Five Lead Group members attended the meeting, whilst a further 15 were represented.
- II. **The Coordinator of the SUN Movement a.i provided a report on the progress** that has been made throughout the Movement since the September 2014 meeting, presented the key findings of ICE and the main recommendations proposed following consultations with the Movement's members.
- III. **The Lead Group received, with appreciation, the final report of the Independent Comprehensive Evaluation.** They noted the progress being made but urged that the highlighted weaknesses be addressed. They welcomed the feedback provided by the Movement's members, appreciated the consultative process of developing the recommendations - and endorsed the 18 recommendations.
- IV. **The Lead Group's guidance to the Movement on the actions required to establish the priorities, stewardship arrangements and operational modalities of SUN after 2015:**
 - I. The recruitment of a new SUN Movement Coordinator, appointed by the UN Secretary General, be prioritised;
 - II. An Executive Committee be appointed to oversee the functioning of the Movement. A Transitional Stewardship Team will be formed in the interim;
 - III. A renewed Lead Group of Champions be put in place by January 2016;
 - IV. That a strategy for 2016 to 2020 be completed by December 2015, and that it be developed in the spirit of collaboration and work to preserve the unique qualities of the Movement. It must not distract from the ongoing work to deliver results;
 - V. The strategy should prioritise advocacy, coordination, accountability, capacity strengthening, and resource mobilisation.
 - VI. The 'Principles of Engagement' should be strengthened and acknowledge the unique role of empowered women, a changing climate and the ongoing struggle for equity;
 - VII. That the Movement acknowledge the wider nutrition landscape - in particular the post 2015 agenda and the outcomes of the second International Conference on Nutrition ICN2 – and seek to work with others to leverage results;
 - VIII. The Networks and the SUN Movement Secretariat should be reinforced with adequate human and financial capacity to reflect the ambitions of the Movement. They appreciated that resource mobilisation needed to begin now and be in addition to investments in SUN countries, by SUN country governments and their partners.
 - IX. The Communities of Practice should be professionalised - again with adequate resourcing.

The detailed note for the record follows.

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Lead Group participants: Anthony Lake (Chair); Tom Arnold (SUN Movement Coordinator a.i.); Vinita Bali (CEO, Britannia Industries); Michael Anderson (CEO, CIFF); Nahas Angula (Minister of Defence, Namibia).

Additional participants (nominated by Lead Group members): Syed Monjurul Islam (Bangladesh); Wilbald Lorri (Tanzania); Tara Shine (MRFCJ); David Ray (CARE); Anne Heughan (Unilever); Shawn Baker (BMGF); Kaosar Afsana (BRAC); Richard Greene (USAID); Marc van Ameringan (GAIN); Martin Bloem (WFP); Meera Shekar (World Bank); Isatou Jallow (NEPAD); Office of Minister Paradis, Canada); Antoine Haguenaer (for office of Bruno le Maire); Jean- Pierre Halkin (EC);

Apologies: Armando Guebuza (President of Mozambique); Jakaya Kikwete (President of Tanzania); Sheikh Hasina (Prime Minister of Bangladesh); Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (Finance Minister, Nigeria); Nina Sardjunani (Indonesia); Ibrahim Mayaki (NEPAD); Nadine Heredia (Peru); Paul Polman (Unilever); Helene Gayle (CARE); Chris Elias (BMGF); Mary Robinson (MRFCJ); David Nabarro (UNSG SRSG FSN); Alfonso Lenhardt (Acting USAID Administrator); Jay Naidoo (GAIN); Fazle Hasan Abed (BRAC); Ertharin Cousin (WFP); Christian Paradis (Canada); Sri Mulyani Indrawati (World Bank); Neven Mimica (EC); Bruno le Maire (MP, France).

Reflecting on the update of progress since their September 2014 meeting, the Lead Group:

- 1) Welcomed the extraordinary energy within the national SUN Movements, challenging us all to do more to support their commitments.** They welcomed the commitment of Botswana, as the 55th SUN country to join the SUN Movement.
- 2) Acknowledged the exciting progress being made by SUN countries in reducing stunting.** Tremendous progress is being made by SUN countries: Tanzania has reduced stunting by 18% in four years, Bangladesh by 29% in 10 years, and Kenya by 9% in five years. There are many more examples. These successes are contributing to the reduction in tens of thousands of child deaths every year.
- 3) Cautioned against complacency.** Over 3 million children still die every year because of malnutrition and 17 million children suffer from severe acute malnutrition. Stunting affects over 160m children. Under-nutrition is holding back development, and stunting potential.
- 4) Reiterated its encouragement on the integration of nutrition across all humanitarian activities from preparedness planning, to response capacity, to recovery.** Despite progress being made in many countries hard fought for gains can be lost in an instance: disasters such as the devastating earthquake in Nepal, and protracted crises in Yemen or Syria, expose the vulnerabilities of communities to shocks where pre-existing high-levels of under-nutrition are exacerbated with devastating consequences.
- 5) Recognised the progress being made by the SUN Movement's networks, noting especially that:**

- a. **Civil Society** now has more than 3,000 member organisations, most of which are national NGOs. Five Civil Society Alliances have launched in the past 6 months, and in Niger, three regional branches were established since December;
- b. The **Business Network** are working to support requests from 29 SUN countries to improve business engagement;
- c. The **Donor Network** has worked well to track their spending on nutrition, in a coordinated and systematic way, and are reporting significant increases in funding for nutrition. A new funding mechanism- the Power of Nutrition- was launched last month. The Lead Group welcomed the focus on improving alignment to stimulate more nutrition for the money; and
- d. The **UN Network** continues to support SUN governments throughout the Movement and is reorganising its work to build on the momentum created by the second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2).

6) Urged all in the SUN Movement to engage and align with the evolving global nutrition landscape to support renewed ambitions. This includes the ICN2 and the discussions underway around the Sustainable Development Goals and the post 2015 agenda.

The Lead Group’s appreciation of the Independent Comprehensive Evaluation (ICE) of the SUN Movement:

- 7) The Lead Group received, with appreciation, the final report of the Independent Comprehensive Evaluation.** They noted the findings that highlighted the Movement’s:
- a. Efforts to galvanise – and sustain- political attention on the importance of nutrition and of reinforcing the country level focus nutrition. Political commitments to nutrition were seen as a key ingredient lacking in previous multi sectoral efforts on nutrition;
 - b. Relevance in highlighting the need to focus on under nutrition in the first 1000 days, and the effectiveness of a multi-stakeholder, multi sector, multi- level approach to nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive approaches; and
 - c. Goodwill that has been accumulated and the experience that has been built.
- 8) The Lead Group also noted that there is good evidence that the transformations that the SUN Movement is advocating are feasible and can have lasting benefits.** However they recognised that weaknesses highlighted by in the evaluation require urgent attention, in particular:
- a. The need to better generate evidence of impact of scaling up nutrition, despite early indications that approaches are beginning to work;
 - b. The need to encourage stakeholders across the networks to better align their actions with countries’ costed plans and common results frameworks and support efforts to strengthen them as appropriate;
 - c. Weaknesses in the Movement’s current design, including the approach to costed plans and common results frameworks, monitoring and evaluation, and country level structures; and
 - d. Weaknesses in implementation and the time taken to put in place elements of the existing strategy and roadmap.
- 9) The Lead Group considered the evaluation’s recommendations including:**
- a. That SUN should be continued and strengthened, building as far as possible on the existing framework and addressing the identified shortcomings;

- b. A new five year strategy be developed that serves both as an updated constitution and operational plan;
- c. The need to reinforce accountability and aid effectiveness, especially as related to common results frameworks and an independent assessment process;
- d. Promotion of country level flexibility and differentiation, such as tailoring network plans to country circumstances, and recognising that scaling up nutrition cannot be pursued at the same pace in all countries;
- e. Focus on countries where under nutrition is a significant burden and recognise that stunting must be tackled in tandem with other dimensions of malnutrition;
- f. Strengthening the gender and equity aspects;
- g. Strengthening of monitoring and evaluation and that the Movement could benefit from the independent role played by the Global Nutrition Report; and
- h. Improved accountability through an overhaul of the Lead Group and the creation of a senior body that can supervise the implementation of the updated strategy.

10) The Lead Group appreciated that the Movement has been widely consulted on these findings, noting in particular that:

- a. Over half of all SUN country government focal points had conferred with their partners in the multi- stakeholder platforms, to provide their views on how the Movement can best support their work in the years ahead;
- b. An even greater proportion of national civil society alliances provided their feedback, alongside development partners, UN system agencies, business and academia; and
- c. The outcomes of the Dar es Salaam meeting to discuss the evaluation and response, and to develop recommendations for the Lead Group.

The Lead Group’s guidance on the future of the SUN Movement after 2015:

11) The Lead Group expressed their gratitude to His Excellency Jakaya Kikwete, President of Tanzania, for hosting the Dar es Salaam meeting, and endorsed the 18 recommendations made by the Visioning Sub Group.

12) On stewardship of the Movement the Lead Group decided that:

- a. The recruitment of a new SUN Movement Coordinator, appointed by the UN Secretary General, be prioritised;
- b. The UN Secretary General be requested to appoint a new Lead Group of Champions to take on their role from January 2016; and
- c. An Executive Committee be appointed to oversee the functioning of the Movement. A Transitional Stewardship Team will be formed in the interim.

13) On strategic approaches and priorities, the Lead Group decided that a strategy for 2016 to 2020 should:

- a. Prioritise: advocacy, coordination, accountability, capacity strengthening, and resource mobilisation;
- b. Build on the successes and preserve the unique qualities, so that it continues to be country-led, multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral, catalytic and a Movement;

- c. Safeguard the 'Principles of Engagement', and that these acknowledge the unique role of empowered women, a changing climate and the ongoing struggle for equity; and
- d. Acknowledge the wider nutrition landscape - in particular the post 2015 agenda and the outcomes of the second International Conference on Nutrition ICN2.

14) On operational modalities the Lead Group decided that:

- a. The Networks and the SUN Movement Secretariat should be reinforced with adequate human and financial capacity to reflect the ambitions of the Movement; and
- b. The Communities of Practice - that are linking the requests for support from SUN countries with expertise throughout the networks - should be professionalised - again with adequate resourcing.

15) The Lead Group requested that the strategy – and accompanying road map - be completed by December 2015, that it be developed in the spirit of collaboration, consultation and transparency and – of vital importance during this transitional period – that efforts do not distract from the drive to deliver results.

16) For supporting the implementation of the renewed strategy the Lead Group emphasised the need for adequate and predictable resources for funding the Movement's support structures, including the SUN Movement Coordinator, the SUN Movement Secretariat (SMS), the Secretariat's of the SUN Networks, and for the professionalization of the communities of practice. This resource mobilisation should be in addition to investments in SUN countries, by SUN country governments and their partners.

17) Finally, the Lead Group asked that the evaluation, the Movement-wide response, and the Lead Group decisions be publically available. The statement by the evaluation's quality assurance advisors, that attests to the 'adequate' independence of the process and the 'sufficient' quality of the evidence, whilst highlighting some concerns over the compressed timeframe of the evaluation and the need for 'further work' on gender and equity, should also be made available.

Conflicts of Interest in the SUN Movement:

18) The Lead Group welcomed the report by the Global Social Observatory (GSO) and noted that efforts to identify and manage conflicts of interest warrants continuous attention by governments and multi-stakeholder platforms. They encouraged that the lessons learned from the GSO process be considered in the development of the updated strategy, and tasked the SMS with sharing and disseminating the learning across the Movement. They acknowledged that the current WHO process on Engaging with Non-State Actors will further guide and support country efforts on preventing and managing conflict of interest.

The next meeting of the Lead Group will be held in September 2015, in New York, at a venue, date and time to be decided.