

Implementation of the Framework of engagement with non-State actors (FENSA)

Regional office department: _SEARO

INTRODUCTION:

1. The 138th session of the Executive Board requested the Secretariat to provide a balanced and objective report of the implications of the implementation of the Framework of engagement with non-State actors (FENSA) well in advance of the resumed session of the Open-ended intergovernmental meeting of 25-27 April 2016.

2. To this end, all WHO Regional Offices and Clusters in Headquarters and a selection of Country Offices are invited to provide their inputs through this questionnaire.

3. The adoption and implementation of FENSA will modify the way WHO manages its engagement with non-State actors (NGO's, private sector entities, philanthropic foundations and academic institutions). The main changes concern the following points.

- a. FENSA will cover all engagements with all non-State actors, while the current policies cover engagement with private sector entities and NGOs in official relations only.
 - i. Transparency will be increased through a Register of non-State actors. The Register is web-based application that will include information on the non-State actors such as their objectives, governance, funding, and description of proposed engagements.
- b. The Director General will report annually on engagement with non-State actors.

QUESTIONS

1. Please provide a rough estimate of the **numbers of non-State actors** and engagements in 2015. Kindly exclude the engagements related to RO response to emergencies as this will be in Question 3. *Use Attachment 02 for your response.*

In filling up Attachments 02 and 03, please note several considerations.

- Include only the formalized engagement such as the following: a meeting with official invitations, agenda, list of participants, etc.; any interaction involving a signature of an agreement or MoU to receive resources, work as implementing partner, allow the use of advocacy material, enter into technical collaboration, etc.
- Preparation for such engagement, informal contacts by phone, e-mail or informal discussion are not considered as engagements.
- For counting the number of NSAs, count only those who have actually participated. Also, count the number of entities only and not individuals. If 5 representatives of the same NGO participate in a meeting it should be counted as one engagement with one non-State actor.
- For counting the number of engagements, count only as one engagement if a series of meetings in the same year is on the same subject with the same or similar invitation lists. For example, if OHE engages in the PIP process with 2 meetings with 200 invited and 40 attending both meetings and 20 attending only one of the meetings, this will be counted as one engagement. However, the number of NSAs (refer to previous bullet) will be 60 as there were 40 who attended the first meeting and 20 who attended the second meeting.
- Seven different grants from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation are to be counted as 7 engagements coming from only 1 philanthropic foundation.
- When WHO is organizing a conference, it is one engagement with x number of non-State actors (x representing the number of non-State actors who have participated).

2. Please write your comments on the methodology used and difficulties faces in estimating the volume of engagements.

- Lists of participants of the meetings organized by PIR in the year 2015 were considered while calculating/estimating the number of engagements with NSAs.

3. Please estimate the number of non-State actors your regional office engages with in emergency situations (as described in the Emergency Response Framework: <http://intranet.who.int/homes/ccu/documents/documents2/erm%20handout.pdf>) and describe the type of these engagements. *Use Attachment 03 for your response.*

4. Please describe the main opportunities you see for the work of your regional office with the adoption and implementation of FENSA.

- FENSA will provide clear guidelines on all engagements with all types of non-State Actors in a more transparent manner.
- FENSA will also facilitate engagements with large number of potential private donors/NGOs in the SEA Region and may facilitate generation of funds for under-funded programmes.
- FENSA will open gates for and urge the agencies to engage into multisectoral partnerships.
- FENSA will facilitate better information, documentation, lessons learnt on NSAs and engagements (streamlined process, earlier decisions will be available).

5. Please describe the main risks you see for the work of your regional office with the adoption and implementation of FENSA. This question does not refer to the risks of individual engagements as defined in FENSA but rather to the overall risks and challenges of implementing FENSA as a new policy.

- a) Implementation of FENSA may result into much higher number of engagements with NSAs.
- b) The process of engaging with NSAs including due-diligence and risk-assessment is potentially cumbersome and very time-consuming.
- c) Due to cumbersome and time-consuming process, may lose few good donors.
- d) With the introduction of FENSA, the engagement process will not be flexible, if required.
- e) Undue influence by few big private-sectors donors/donor-driven priorities.

6. Please describe the specific resources (staff and activity costs) currently working on engagement with non-State actors for your regional office. *Use Attachment 04 for your response.*
7. Please describe the specific incremental resources (staff and activity costs) that you would expect to be necessary to implement FENSA. If applicable please give resource needs for the focal points and processes in the regional office separate from estimations for resource needs of technical units and explain your assumptions and methodologies. *Use Attachment 05 for your response.*