

## Coordination Meeting Between UNAIDS, Bondhu Social Welfare Society & Network of PLHIV Executive Committee Members and NOP+ EC meeting

10<sup>th</sup> March, 2020

Venue: Conference room, Network of PLHIV, Mohammadpur, Dhaka.

Supported By: Bangladesh Country Coordinating Mechanism (BCCM)



A coordination meeting between Network of PLHIV (NOP+) EC members, Bondhu Social Welfare Society and UNAIDS as well as Executive meeting was held on 10<sup>th</sup> of March 2020 at NOP+ office meeting room, Adabor, Mohammadpur, Dhaka. Bangladesh Country Coordinating Mechanism (BCCM) supported the program and attends the meeting as observer. Representatives from each organization were attended the meeting. Dr. Saima Khan, Country Manager, UNAIDS, Dr. Rawnak Jahan, UNV from UNAIDS, Mr. Manaj Kumar Biswas, Coordinator, BCCM, Md Harun-Or-Rasid, Deputy Coordinator, BCCM, Dr. Nilufar Begum, Executive Director, AAS, Mr. Shale Ahmed, Executive Director, BSWS, Mohammad Rafiqul Islam, Manager, T & C, BSWS, Md. Sanwar Hossain, PM, AAS, Dr. Ahsanul Alam Kishor, PLHIV EC membr, BCCM & oversite committee member, M s Mukti Vice president, NOP+ and all the executive member of NOP+ were attend in the meeting. General Secretary of PLHIV Network Mr. Hafizuddin Munna moderated the meeting while Mr. Abdur Rahman President, NOP+ was present as chair. The meeting was divided three two parts from 9:30am to 2:00pm NOP+ sits with UNAIDS and BCCM. After lunch 3:00pm to 4:00pm a meeting was held between BSWS & NOP+ and then in the afternoon NOP+ EC meeting was held. The meeting was started by an introduction part from all participants where NOP+ G. Secretary described the agenda of the meeting. A welcome speech was delivered by NOP+ president; Abdur Rahman then UNAIDS country manager Dr. Saima Khan, BCCM coordinator, AAS

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Executive Director Mrs. Nilufar Begum, delivered their welcome speech. The agenda of the meeting were as follows:

- Introduce EC members with UNAIDS, BCCM & Bondhu Social Welfare Society.
- Bondhu Social Welfare Society & UNAIDS own agenda/instruction for NOP+
- Seeking funding/staff/logistic support for NOP+ from UNAIDS & Bondhu Social Welfare Society.
- Share the next collaborative working plan between UNAIDS, BSWS and NOP+
- EC meeting agenda including Constitutional change, BCCM Alternate Member, NOP+ Registration & Policy

## **Discussion:**

- Mr. Hafizuddin Munna NOP+ presented a multimedia presentation on PLHIV Network's mission vision and the future activity plan. In the presentation it was mentioned that social safety net issue and other challenges of PLHIV network which is necessary at presentation like network legal registration, loan for entrepreneurship, job facility, Monthly allowance, and Safe home / Shelter home for PLHIV etc support is required. Regarding these issues NOP+ asked some Advocacy meeting related support from UNAIDS and BSWS both. Beside this, different types of advocacy and activity support like Advocacy with different types of organizations, Discrimination/ Stigma, Service strengthening, Media based, Day Observation, CSR based, Community Sector Program, GO-NGO collaboration, Need based advocacy, Networking/ 1-1 Advocacy, Campaign- Social Media, Joint Advocacy Meeting, CPC Involvement , Program Monitoring- Joint Monitoring, Adherence monitoring etc. were mentioned in the presentation. Along with this, Mr. Munna also present some necessary requirements for NOP+ strengthening which is Existing office and support extended, HR Support, Logistic Support, Skill based training program/ Capacity development program of PLHIV Network, Support to divisional Network Team , AGM, Quarterly EC Meeting, Quarterly Divisional conference/council in ART center, HR Policy, Finance Policy, Gender Policy, Child Safe Guard Policy, Previous strategic plan review and plan development and to explore International Networking exposure visit or conference support for NOP+.
- In regard to the registration of NOP+, Mr. Abdur Rahman from NOP+ shared the update. We had a meeting & also made communication with respective of Social

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Welfare Office. And as per their instruction we collected form as well prepared all the necessary documents and presented at the meeting. Primary work is ongoing about registration. He also asked some necessary financial support from the stakeholders like for audit report and others communication cost. He also requested for to provide support for previous strategic plan review and 2 years plan development, policy and printing materials support, staff support and logistic & financial support for divisional committee members.

- In reply of the registration process, Dr. Ahsanul Alam Kishor BCCM & oversight committee member said he will give some financial support for registration process. He also mentioned that before CCM meeting EC committee should sit with BCCM member for the update of PLHIV community so that he can raise the important issues to CCM meeting. He mentioned about the problem of ART center where some PLHIV are complained facing problem when they come from too far to collect ARV but due to insufficient time they can't collect ARV. So he recommended taking initiative to solve the problem.
- M S Mukti, Vice President of NOP+ mentioned about activity plan of NOP+ and he suggested make some short list of immediate activities of NOP+ like Registration and necessary financial support for it. She also asked for some advocacy meeting support to Stakeholders especially for CPC involvement in HTC & ART centers. Also an orientation program is needed with hospital doctor's regarding PLHIV surgery and other diseases.
- In reply of the presentation and in her speech Dr. Saima Khan recommended to contact with APN+ for int'l networking, contact with consultant/TSM for making policies, communicate with ASP and write a letter to ASP addressing joint monitoring visit in ART centers. She also suggested for an assessment study to know PLHIV overall situation so that we can identify the problems in service points and as well as their social safety net issue. Dr. Saima Khan is also mentioned that an orientation program is required for the newly elected committee members of NOP+.
- Mr. Manaj Kumar Biswas mentioned two important issues from the perspective of BCCM. He requested to NOP+ EC to give feedback in next funding request what he

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shared and in replace of Habiba Akter he requested to select a new representative for BCCM & oversight committee from NOP+ EC members.

- In reply of his request there was a voting process was organized where NOP+ EC nominated names for BCCM member selection where two names were proposed (M S Mukti, Vice President of NOP+ and General Secretary of PLHIV Network Mr. Hafizuddin Munna)
- Dr. Nilufar Begum in her speech she welcomes everyone and requested stakeholders to support as much as possible. She also appreciates this newly elected committee because of their activeness and prays for good luck.
- Mr. Shale Ahmed from BSWS mentioned in his speech BSWS always tries to cooperate with PLHIV community where nowadays they are providing support for 250 plus MSM/TG- PLHIV under the platform 'Sparsha'. He also described about BSWS mission, vision and activity areas. In reply of the presentation, he suggested to hire a consultant and make a constructive plan for next few years so that NOP+ can have yearly target and end of the day NOP+ can achieve the target. He will contact with UNAIDS to take the initiative about consultant. He also interested to give support for NOP+ legal registration like audit report and after submitting papers he will also try to support for registration process. Regarding staff he mentioned that NOP+ EC member Rasel Ahmed Jony's project is about to close but he will try to incorporate him in NOP+ or will give a staff support for NOP+
- In the meeting Mr. Rofiqul Islam Royel from BSWS, disseminate the national disclosure policy where all types of disclosure issue is mentioned. This is the first disclosure policy in Bangladesh BSWS by engaging ASP, NOP+ and other organization. He suggested sharing it to PLHIV all over the country.
- In the afternoon during the EC meeting Mr. Kamal Hossain, Treasurer NOP+ mentioned that they changed bank signatory current president, secretary and treasurer is the new signatory. He raise a point about NOP+ general member add issue other KAP-PLHIV and change the necessary correction of NOP+ constitution.

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- NOP+ Publisher Secretary. Mr. Sagar said about Secretariat support, printing materials like printer, scanner and logistic support for NOP+. He also mentioned about capacity building training of NOP+ EC & general members.
- EC member Bibi Amena requested to add IOS medicine facility and available nutrition support in ART Centers for poor PLHIV.
- EC Member Mr. Jahangir Alam mentioned about a new ART center in Sunamganj district because of a big number of PLHIV residential area in Sylhet. He also mentioned about CPC Include in ART centers & HTC centers and also priority basis ART center should decentralize in the district level.
- EC member Shariat Ullah was discussed about different types advocacy meeting, Annual survey for client satisfaction in ART centers and Social gathering, Divisional Conference and Quarterly gathering in Hospital ART Centers.
- Mr. Kamruzzaman EC member of NOP+ mentioned about Bogra ART center where authority is giving ART for 1 month. He mentioned about in active NOP+ and requested to take initiative for replacement on them.
- Imtiaz EC member mentioned about psychosocial support of PLHIV & NOP+ linkage with ART centers.

Finally, Mr. Abdur Rahman, newly elected President of NOP+ thanked to all. With these decisions mentioned below, then the meeting was closed.

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### **Decisions**

#### **Legal registration of NOP+:**

In the meeting it was decided by all that for registration process kishor vai will give some financial support for NOP+ registration and also NOP+ members who are capable to donate, they will contribute. Mr. shale Ahemd will also help for registration process after submitting the papers.

#### **NOP+ Policies & Yearly Audit by CSO firm:**

Shale Ahmed from BSWS will provide the audit support for registration also. Two years audit report by a CSO must be completed for registration and it was also decided UNAIDS will provide consultant or TSM support for making some policies like HR policy, Finance Policy and NOP+ portfolio/profile for strengthening the network. by hiring a consultant. Mr. Shale Ahmed is also committed to provide consultant and make a constructive plan for next few years so that NOP+ can have yearly target and end of the day NOP+ can achieve the target. He will contact with UNAIDS to take the initiative about consultant.

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## **BCCM Representative Replacement:**

In the meeting it was decided by voting that Mr. Hafizuddin Munna, G. Secretary NOP+ will be the alternate Member of BCCM & Oversight committee member in place of Habiba Akter. From the existing EC member's only two names were nominated which are M S Mukti, Vice President of NOP+ and General Secretary of PLHIV Network Mr. Hafizuddin Munna. Mr. Munna got 11 votes and Mrs. Mukti got 2 votes from the EC committee. So Dr. Ahsanul Alam Kishor, PLHIV EC member, BCCM & oversight committee alternate member will promote as the BCCM & oversight committee member.

## **Advisory Panel of NOP+**

As per the constitution an advisory of 7 members are required for NOP+ organization and legal registration which will be formed by PLHIV and Non PLHIV combination in different community/ Sectors. In this regard, EC members decided the sectors for Advisory committee mentioned below:

1. Representative from ASP
2. Representative from UNAIDS
3. Representative from BCCM
4. Representative from Virology Department, BSMMU
5. Representative from Save The Children
6. Representative from Bondhu Social Welfare Society
7. Representative from NOP+

EC committee will circulate all the names and confirmations after communicating with them officially.

## **Staff and logistic Support:**

Regarding staff support of NOP+ Shale Ahmed from BSWS committed to give staff support as NOP+ G secretary Mr. Munna mentioned that a big number of MSM/TG PLHIV are leading NOP+ existing committee.

## **Constitutional Change & AGM/ EGM Arrange:**

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To strengthen network it was decided that NOP+ constitution should revise and some necessary changes demands. In this regard, EC committee will sit with their divisional members and they will give feedback by 7 days. Then EC committee will take the opinion and incorporate them into the constitution. Beside this NOP+ General and EC committee should extent from 44 to 48 members, (IDU-PLHIV, SFW-PLHIV, other PLHIV related to new ART centers) & EC 13 to 15 members for making a strong and participatory team. A decision was made to organize an AGM/ EGM to complete all the structural process for network.

### **Joint Advocacy Meeting at ART Center:**

To create all the ART centers as center of excellence a decision was made to organize a joint advocacy meeting with ART centers (NOP+, ASP, UNICEF, UNAIDS & NOP+ member orgs) which will also be helpful to include diagnosed PLHIV to ART centers. OIS Medicine should provided and & nutrition support should in a proper way from ART centers. Also ART center should extend in Sunamganj and priority district to make the service accessible. In the ART advisory committee NOP+ should include.

### **Enroll CPC:**

Enrolling community peer canceller in all ART centers where it is needed and all HTC center so that HTC and ART centers can ensure proper counseling friendly environment, peer approach, follow-up, psychosocial support for the PLHIV and have the access untraced PLHIV and family members to ART centers. CPC must be recruiting by the recommendation of NOP+

### **Exposure Visit:**

It was also decided to arrange some exposure visit in India, Nepal and other sub continental countries network to make the capacity building of NOP+, and also support and access to attend international conferences so that network members can learn about international networking for NOP+ future benefit.

### **Capacity Building Training:**

All are agreed that newly elected members need some capacity building training to understand the program, their responsibilities and develop some basic skills like computer, presentation & writing skills to develop their leadership.

### **Advocacy Meeting with Donors or Stakeholders:**



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EC members are decided to sit with all the relevant donors and stakeholders with NOP+ agenda and work plan for the sustainability of NOP+ ( ICDDR, Unicef, UNAIDS, WHO, UNFPA, BRAC and other stakeholders and CSR etc.)

## **Different Types of Advocacy:**

It was decided to have some required advocacy in the work plan like service provider capacity building advocacy, 1 to 1 advocacy with different types of organizations, media, and regular advocacy with ASP and relevant parties.

## **Annual Survey for client satisfaction and PLHIV Assessment study:**

In the meeting everyone is also agreed that it is necessary to start an annual survey for PLHIV service receiver and service provider to know their opinion and to cover the gaps in the service centers.

An assessment study is needed for PLHIV. Dr. Saima Khan will try to give support for an assessment study to know PLHIV overall situation so that we can identify the problems in service points and as well as their social safety net issue.

## **NOP+ membership & Income activities:**

Participants were decided to increase NOP+ membership from all over the country by approving existing membership form through sensitization meeting, court yard meeting etc. so that network can follow-up & sensitize their member regularly. It is also necessary to involve with some income generating activities for the sustainability of network in future.

## **Logistic support:**

Urgently NOP+ need few secretariat support to make the organization functional properly like Office supporting staff, partial finance officer, administrative officer etc. Along with this it was also decided that some logistic support like Furniture, Computer, Printer, Laptop office extension, telephone etc is required for NOP+. It was also decided to print some leaflet for NOP+ and Visiting card & ID card for NOP+ members. Some ICT based support (Like Data Base, Website, Apps etc) and Social Media based activities is also need to start from NOP+ as next steps initiative.

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## **PLHIV Gathering in Divisional Level:**

With presence of HTC and ART center's authority, Local governance, Service provider and ASP a divisional conference or gathering is a much needed activity for NOP+ so that it can make a multi dimensional linkage process and access between all the community. Along with this a yearly national conference is also needed to be held with GO-NGO, Media and different community engagement

## **Exposure Visit and International Network:**

In our sub continental countries PLHIV networks are very strong and properly functional. So in this stage we need to have some exposure visits like in India, Nepal, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore etc. So it was decided to arrange some exposure visit in future for strengthening NOP+ and also have access to participate in International conference for international networking and funding support.

## **HTC Center Enroll & continue in Next funding Model:**

PLHIV Network has some member organization that is CBO and self-help organizations working since long time in HIV prevention. It is realized that to increase testing percentage or number it is very necessary to available testing facility in those CBO organizations. So it was decided to include in the next funding (NFM 3) Exiting 4 HTC centers of AAS and newly set up two HTC centers at MAB & CAAP office.

Because community can reach easily to the risk people and last three years highest number of HIV positive was indentified from the CBOs.

As an Example AAS centers data is given below:

Year	Total HIV test	HIV positive identified	Percentage (%)
2017	2583	362	14%
2018	645	73	11%
2019	853	63	7.5%

This activity plan will be activate and regulate within the next three years and it will continue with more necessary inclusion.

Finally in the long run everybody wants to see NOP+ (as the vision of NOP+) as an established authorized organization with full professionalism, financially solvent and capable, nationally & internationally recognized and active to ensure PLHIV rights and policy making.

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