

**Committee of Senior Representatives (CSR)
Twenty-eighth Meeting
Bonn, Germany
24 October 2017**

Reference	CSR 28/10/1
Title	NDPHS evaluation
Submitted by	Secretariat
Summary / Note	-
Requested action	Discussion and decision

Background

To date, the NDPHS underwent three evaluations: a self-evaluation in 2006 and two independent (external) evaluations in 2008 and 2013.

The aim of the 2013 evaluation was to provide insights and recommendations on procedural and organisational matters in the NDPHS and on the outcome of the past strategy and the formulation of a new one.

The outcome of the 2013 evaluation was a set of more than 40 recommendations. These were divided into two areas: the development of a new strategy and organisational issues in general. For each recommendation, the responsible NDPHS structure was defined. The Secretariat's assessment is that most of the recommendations have been addressed at least to some extent; therefore, the evaluation has provided an important basis for defining the Partnership's future work.

Matters for discussion and decision

1. Aim of the evaluation.

- What is the main aim of the evaluation?
- Is the focus more backwards oriented (assess the work done and its impact) or forward looking (what could be the areas where the NDPHS could have an impact and achieve concrete results)?
- Could the evaluation also address matters such as whether there is a need to look into the Oslo Declaration and possibly revise it?

2. Time of the evaluation

When should the evaluation be performed? Previous two external evaluations were performed every five years. If one follows this schedule, the next evaluation would be due in 2018. However, many Partners have asked to perform the evaluation later.

- Arguments for postponing the evaluation:
 - Many Partners have mentioned that they would like to give sufficient time to the new Director of the Secretariat to assess the on-going work and allow her to reflect on potential improvements before the evaluation;
 - The current NDPHS Strategy will last until 2020 and evaluation should be performed as close to the expiry of the Strategy as possible, thus giving valuable information for preparing the next Strategy.
- Arguments for performing the evaluation in (second half of) 2018:
 - The outcomes of the evaluation are very important for development of the new NDPHS Strategy. It took almost two years to develop the current Strategy, which expires in 2020. To be able to adopt the new Strategy in late 2020, an approximate timeline would look as follows:



3. Financing

Should the CSR decide that an external consultant be employed for the purpose of carrying out an independent (external) evaluation, it would need to discuss the financial aspects, including the source(s) of funding. The employment of the external consultant during the evaluations in 2008 and 2013 was financed by Germany. To that end, Germany generously provided EUR 30,000 in 2008 and EUR 43,047 in 2013.