Terms of Reference of the Technical Review Panel[1]

[1] As approved by the Board on 28 January 2002 (GF/B01/DP04) and subsequently revised ((GF/B15/DP37), (GF/B21/DP07), (GF/B23/DP18)), and revised by the Board on 9 May 2025 (GF/B53/DP03).

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1. Background

1.1. The Technical Review Panel (TRP) is an impartial and independent team of experts appointed by the Strategy Committee in accordance with the delegated authority from the Global Fund Board (Board)[2] with the responsibility of providing rigorous, independent technical assessment of funding requests made to the Global Fund.

1.2. The TRP serves as an advisory body to the Board and fulfills its mandate under the oversight of the Strategy Committee. The TRP Chair is an ex-officio member of the Strategy Committee and reports on the TRP's work and membership matters, as well as supporting the deliberations of the Strategy Committee.

1.3. The Global Fund "Strategy for 2023-2028: Fighting Pandemics and Building a Healthier and More Equitable World" (Global Fund Strategy) provides the framework for achieving greater impact.

1.4. The Global Fund's process for accessing funding is set forth in the Core Guiding Principles for Differentiation[3]. Operationalization of these principles is jointly agreed upon between the TRP and the Secretariat, in close collaboration with the Strategy Committee, and in line with these TRP Terms of Reference. In addition, the Secretariat and the TRP provide regular updates to the Strategy Committee on progress and lessons learned in the operationalization of the Core Guiding Principles for Differentiation.

2. Mandate

2.1. The TRP performs the following key functions (as outlined below in points 2.2 - 2.13) to fulfill its mandate under the oversight of the Strategy Committee.

Technical guidance on program design

2.2. In accordance with the Global Fund Strategy and any subsequent guidance from the Board, the TRP is responsible for *assessing the strategic focus, technical soundness, potential for impact of funding requests and the extent to which programs are poised for sustainability.* TRP assessments are based on country context.

2.3. Through its reviews, the TRP is responsible for advising on how Global Fund investments can achieve the greatest impact and contribute to the goals and objectives set out in the Global Fund Strategy.

2.4. As part of its recommendations for funding, the TRP may, as appropriate:

a. Identify issues and strategic actions to be addressed during grant-making and/or grant implementation relevant to country-specific context and feasible to achieve in a certain time frame and effective manner;

[2] Charter of the Strategy Committee approved by the Board on 28 January 2016 (GF/B34/EDP07) and amended on 13 June 2018 GF/B39/EDP02) and on 14 November (GF/B42/DP06).
[3] Core Guiding Principles for Differentiation (GF/SC01/DP03).

b. Recommend removal of specific interventions, change in strategic focus, prioritization or financing, and/or reprogramming;

c. Request clarifications or actions on specific technical recommendations requiring support from technical partners to align with normative guidance and best practice, in coordination with the Secretariat; or

d. Request further iteration or resubmission of specific elements of the funding request.

2.5. Recognizing that program split decisions are made by applicants before TRP review of investment guidance or funding request submissions, the TRP may still provide observations and lessons learned regarding the allocation of funding.

2.6. The TRP provides feedback to applicants regarding the strategic directions, targets and outcomes, and/or quality of funding requests, as well as a clear rationale on its assessment and indication of, if applicable, why funding requests have been recommended for further iteration. The outcomes of TRP review are provided to the Secretariat and the applicant, as part of the process of seeking the Grant Approval Committee (GAC)'s recommendation to the Board to approve the specific grant and its funding. Any material differences between TRP and Secretariat recommendations will be disclosed to the Board prior to the Board's approval of the relevant grant, and feedback will be provided to the TRP Leadership.

2.7. In the event of programmatic revisions to grants, the Secretariat will seek TRP approval in accordance with the requirements of the Global Fund's Operational Policy Note on Revise Grants (as may be amended from time to time).

2.8. Subsequent to its review, the TRP provides strategic recommendations to the Board and to the Secretariat, in the following areas:

a. Programmatic directions to support countries to position programs for maximum impact;

b. Financing programs or program elements including recommendations on Unfunded Quality Demand;

c. Prioritizing between competing funding requests (or parts thereof) as appropriate; and

d. Providing recommendations and/or adjustments on the priorities and technical approach of a funding request, as needed in order to maximize impact in line with the objectives of the Global Fund Strategy.

Advisory function

2.9 In its advisory function, and with the agreement of the Strategy Committee, the TRP may provide technical advice and guidance on strategic focus, technical soundness, potential for impact, sustainability and value for money (VfM) of new initiatives, innovative projects and/or mechanisms undertaken by the Global Fund to complement the core programs at various points in the grant cycle.

2.10. Advisory reviews to be undertaken by the TRP, including the scope of the review, will be included in the TRP workplan, and the TRP Leadership will provide regular updates to the Strategy Committee.

Reporting on lessons learned to inform strategy, policy and operations

2.11. The TRP shall share lessons learned, in particular those that may have broader policy and financial implications. Lessons learned shall be reported to the Board through the Strategy Committee, and coordinated with the Secretariat, as appropriate. As such, the TRP also contributes to the Global Fund's strategy and policy development processes.

2.12 While maintaining its independence, the TRP will engage with the Secretariat, technical partners and the wider Global Fund partnership, as relevant, to ensure lessons learned and observations from the review of funding requests are shared.

2.13 The TRP may perform other functions consistent with the provisions of these Terms of Reference, or as otherwise requested by the Board or the Strategy Committee.

3. Membership

3.1. The TRP is a pool of impartial and independent experts from which members are drawn to serve on review panels as needed. TRP members serve in their personal and technical capacities, and they do not represent their employer, government or any other entity.

Areas of expertise, competencies and skills

3.2. Collectively, TRP membership shall reflect diversity of gender, race, sexuality, nationality and geographical regions including experts from Global Fund implementer countries. The TRP membership shall reflect strong technical expertise, in respect of scientific, programmatic, operational, systems and structural contexts of health, in the following key areas: (i) HIV, (ii) tuberculosis (TB), (iii) malaria, (iv) resilient and sustainable systems for health, including community systems strengthening (v) community leadership, equity, human rights and gender equality, (vi) pandemic preparedness, and (vii) strategic investment and sustainable financing.

3.3. Collectively TRP experts shall have demonstrable experience, understanding, and knowledge of:

a. Latest scientific evidence, up-to-date international guidelines and normative guidance, including new developments, approaches and technologies for addressing HIV, TB or malaria;

b. Building people-centered, integrated resilient and sustainable systems for health, community systems strengthening; community-based and -led responses, and pandemic preparedness;

c. Climate and health;

d. Gender equality, human rights and equity, including inequities related to race, ethnicity and indigenous background, engagement and leadership of most affected communities, notably people living with and/or affected by HIV, TB and/or malaria including programs for key and vulnerable populations;

e. Digital health technologies and data privacy;

f. Sustainability and transition, value for money, innovative financing mechanisms, partnerships, health finance, market-shaping; and

g. Developing, implementing, managing, evaluating and/or reviewing programs at the country and/or

regional level.

3.4. Individual TRP members shall possess a range of professional skills necessary to conduct the TRP's mandate including:

a. Demonstrable high standards of integrity and ethical behavior;

b. Proven experience, in-depth understanding and ability to interpret programmatic results building on previous investments to inform strategic decision making, for assessing Funding Requests on: strategic focus; appropriate mix of interventions and choices on prioritization for maximum impact; program quality, effectiveness and efficiency; development of effective strategies to (i) address health and community systems and service delivery challenges, (ii) build sustainability and prepare for donor transition and (iii) improve programmatic results;

c. Proven experience and ability to review Funding Requests and associated documentation presented in English and to articulate and communicate effectively in writing review outcomes, complex results and lessons learned in English to key stakeholders including government, technical and development partners, community and civil society at national, regional and global levels; and

d. Ability to work respectfully and effectively with colleagues, from diverse gender, racial, national, ethnic and indigenous backgrounds, and being sensitive, empathetic, and understanding of country contexts, challenges and opportunities including those related to racial, ethnic and indigenous inequalities.

Eligibility

3.5. Applicants to the TRP will be requested to submit a Declaration of Interest before being considered for TRP membership by the Strategy Committee.

3.6. Members of the Global Fund Secretariat are ineligible for appointment to the TRP[4]. Global Fund Board Members, Alternate Members, Constituency Focal Points, members of the Board's Standing Committees[5] or individuals who participate in constituency delegations, and/or members of Country Coordinating Mechanisms[6] shall stand down from these roles to be eligible for appointment to the TRP. In cases where the employment or other circumstances of an individual applying for TRP membership has a strong likelihood of actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest (COI), which may significantly limit their ability to effectively perform TRP functions, the Ethics Office may advise that the individual not be appointed to the TRP, or advise on appropriate COI mitigation measures.

Selection and appointment of TRP members

3.7. Appointment of TRP members is the responsibility of the Strategy Committee, with the Secretariat providing support in administering an open and transparent process to recruit and present candidates to the Strategy Committee for appointment, and the TRP Leadership providing input on the process and

[4] Former Global Fund staff are eligible to apply for TRP membership only after the cooling off period applicable to their specific separation from the Global Fund has passed.

[5] As defined by the Global Fund's By-laws, as amended from time to time.

[6] The reference to Country Coordinating Mechanism includes Regional Coordinating Mechanisms and sub-Country Coordinating Mechanisms

candidates.

Term duration

3.8. Once appointed to the TRP, TRP members are eligible to be called to serve on the TRP for up to six years from the date communicated in the recruitment letter, subject to a mid-term review after 3 years and considering Global Fund needs, members' performance and members' interest and availability to continue serving. This prescribed six-year term may be extended by the TRP Chair for up to six additional months, as agreed on an individual basis, based on performance criteria and deliberation processes defined by the TRP. All term extensions must be reported to the Strategy Committee annually through regular reporting by the TRP Chair. Once a TRP member's term of service has ended, the TRP member cannot be appointed to the TRP again until a minimum of three years has elapsed since their last participation in a TRP review, unless otherwise called upon by the TRP Chair if required to fill gaps[7].

3.9. **Membership termination:** TRP membership may be terminated upon voluntary resignation submitted by the relevant TRP member. The TRP Chair can also request a TRP member to step down from the TRP before the end of their term (including any term extension) based on the TRP's robust performance assessment processes, or in case of breach of applicable ethics or COI rules and policies.

3.10. **"Cooling Off" Period**. To preserve the independence and integrity of TRP reviews and to avoid actual, potential or perceived COI, TRP members shall observe a "cooling off" period after they have ended their services to the TRP as further outlined in the Ethics and Conflict of Interest Procedures for Technical Review Panel Members.[8]

Participation of members in the TRP Reviews.

3.11. Not all members serving on the TRP will participate in every review window. Participation of members in review windows will be determined by workload and required expertise, and seeking a balanced membership considering factors including, but not limited to, nationality, ethnicity, geography and gender, and aiming to fully utilize the membership pool. Drawing on the TRP performance assessment process, the TRP Leadership will consult with the TRP Focal Points (see sections 4.5 and 4.9 below) and will consider the performance of TRP members when identifying members to serve on the TRP for each review window or other TRP work.

Membership Replenishment

3.12. Membership of the TRP will be replenished periodically as needed, and replenishment intervals may vary.

3.13. Members of the TRP who have not served on the TRP within six years of their appointment to the TRP or are on the most recent TRP member reserve list approved by the Strategy Committee, can be appointed or re-appointed to the TRP, as applicable, through a streamlined and simplified process based on their availability and Global Fund needs.[9]

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[7] In accordance with GF/B25/DP11

[8] Ethics and Conflict of Interest Procedures for Technical Review Panel Members. https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/3047/trp_coi_guidelines_en.pdf

[9] The TRP describes its internal procedures and confidentiality requirements in the Technical Review Panel Operating Procedures Manual and the Funding Request Review Approach Manual.

3.14. On an exceptional basis, and in consultation with the Secretariat, the TRP Chair may invite individuals with specific expertise not available in the TRP membership pool to serve on the TRP as guest experts, if required, in order to fill gaps for specific reviews. All such invitations must be reported to the Strategy Committee through regular reporting by the TRP Chair. Ethics and COI policies, as well as confidentiality obligations applicable to TRP members, also apply to such individuals.

4. Governance

4.1. The TRP reports to and is accountable to the Board through the Strategy Committee.[10] The TRP has the responsibility to organize its work and its internal operations and processes in accordance with these Terms of Reference, efficiently and effectively building on achievements and lessons learned.[11]

TRP Leadership selection

4.2. Members serving on the TRP, shall elect a Chair and two Vice-Chairs from among their membership, constituting the "TRP Leadership". The TRP Leadership serves a term of three years or until the election of their successor(s), whichever occurs first. Should the need arise, the Strategy Committee shall have the authority to extend a Chair and/or Vice-Chair's term for a limited time to ensure an orderly TRP Leadership transition.

4.3. If a member serving on the TRP, is elected Chair or Vice-Chair in their last three years of service, the elected TRP member's term will automatically be extended to cover the period of their service as TRP Chair and/or TRP Vice-Chair. Neither the TRP Chair nor any TRP Vice-Chair may run for a second term. However, the TRP Vice-Chairs are eligible to run for the position of TRP Chair.

4.4. In electing their TRP Leadership, members serving on the TRP are encouraged to consider whether the TRP Leadership reflects the diversity of the TRP membership.

Nomination of focal points

4.5. The TRP Leadership will designate certain members serving on the TRP, as key points of contact for each of the TRP expertise groups ("TRP Focal Points").[12] TRP Focal Points are selected by the TRP Leadership based on the relevant technical expertise areas under the Global Fund Strategy and in accordance with section 3 above.

4.6. In order to facilitate induction of the TRP members during their first TRP review window, the TRP Leadership may pair new members with an existing TRP member who will provide guidance and mentorship.

Planning and budgeting

4.7. The priorities and annual workplan for the TRP are approved by the Strategy Committee. The TRP Leadership develops the priorities and associated workplan and budget annually in collaboration with the

[10] Charter of the Strategy Committee approved by the Board on 28 January 2016 (GF/B34/EDP07) and amended on 13 June 2018 (GF/B39/EDP02).

[11] The TRP describes its internal procedures and confidentiality requirements in the Technical Review Panel Operating Procedures Manual and the Funding Request Review Approach Manual.

[12] The TRP Leadership defines the roles and responsibilities of the TRP Focal Points in the TRP Focal Point Terms of Reference

Secretariat. This includes considering the pipeline of TRP reviews scheduled for the upcoming year, emerging trends and needs that will require TRP engagement in its advisory function as well as operational aspects required for the optimal performance of the TRP mandate.

4.8. Annual budgets associated with the work plans are developed through a bottom-up budgeting process, by TRP Leadership with the Secretariat, and will be reviewed and recommended by the Strategy Committee for the Audit and Finance Committee's (AFC) recommendation to the Board as a component of the Global Fund's annual operating expenses budget. The Strategy Committee will ensure that the resources for the TRP are sufficient to deliver the approved TRP workplans. Material deviations[13] from a TRP workplan and/or associated budgets will be reported to the Strategy Committee for recommended approval.

Oversight and accountability of the TRP

4.9. The TRP will develop a set of prioritized data-driven key performance indicators (KPIs) that provide on an annual basis a holistic assessment of the TRP's performance, using a qualitative and quantitative approach,[14] covering all areas of its mandate. Consistent with its oversight role, the Strategy Committee will review the assessment, evaluate the TRP's effectiveness in fulfilling its Terms of Reference, and respond accordingly, including providing feedback on the KPIs used for the assessment. The Strategy Committee may request an independent assessment of the TRP's work including feedback about the usefulness and relevance of the TRP recommendations to specific country contexts.

4.10. The TRP will work with the Secretariat, Country Teams and other relevant stakeholders in the Global Fund partnership to develop a systematic feedback loop from applicants and partners on the quality, relevance, appropriateness and impact of technical recommendations provided by the TRP. Furthermore, TRP members should be updated on the status of the recommendations they raised during their reviews.

4.11. The TRP will develop a systematic and structured performance assessment methodology for individual TRP members, including the TRP Leadership and TRP Focal Points. These assessments will be used to provide feedback to individuals, inform midterm performance reviews, and to inform subsequent selection of TRP members to participate in TRP reviews and other TRP work.

4.12. The TRP will solicit guidance from the Strategy Committee as needed to inform course correction and enhance the performance and effectiveness of the TRP in delivering on its mandate.

Working groups

4.13. The TRP Leadership may establish and oversee working groups of selected members serving on the TRP to complete specific tasks. Additionally, the TRP may provide technical guidance and/or recommendations on specific topics, as approved by the Strategy Committee, in accordance with these Terms of Reference.

5. Ethics and Conflict of Interest

[13] A work plan or budget revision shall be considered material if it is inconsistent with the rationale provided by the Strategy Committee for approval of the original work plan and budget and/or if it involves a more than 30% change to the total budget.
[14] This may include, but not limited to, feedback from the TRP members, the Secretariat staff and the Country Steered review tool.

5.1. TRP members shall demonstrate high standards of integrity and ethical behavior, and uphold the independence and impartiality of the TRP. TRP members must abide by applicable requirements, policies and codes,[15] including, but not limited to, the Global Fund *Code of Conduct for Governance Officials,*[16] the Global Fund *Policy on Conflicts of Interest,*[17] the *Ethics and Conflict of Interest Procedures for Technical Review Panel Members* [18, 19] *and the Global Fund's Operational Framework on the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, Sexual Harassment, and Related Abuse of Power.*[20]

5.2. **Confidentiality**: TRP members are bound by an obligation of confidentiality in the conduct of their duties and are required to sign confidentiality undertakings prior to commencing work as a TRP member.

5.3. **Disclosure and Recusal Requirements in relation to Conflicts of Interest**.

a. Each TRP member is required to submit a Declaration of Interest form to the Global Fund's Ethics Office prior to commencing TRP work and to update it annually and whenever there is a material change[21] in the information disclosed in the form.

b. Throughout the period of membership, TRP members shall disclose all actual, potential or perceived Conflicts of Interest to the TRP Chair.

c. The TRP Leadership shall disclose all actual, potential or perceived Conflicts of Interest they may have in writing to the Ethics Office for a decision. In view of their leadership roles, they may be subject to additional Conflict of Interest restrictions as determined under the Ethics and Conflict of Interest Procedures for Technical Review Panel Members or by the Ethics Office.

d. Disclosure and recusal requirements are further prescribed in the Ethics and Conflict of Interest Procedures for Technical Review Panel Members. TRP members are required to strictly comply with these requirements, and they shall not be eligible to participate in any review process until such requirements have been fulfilled.

5.4. In case of ambiguity or disagreement over the interpretation of the existing policies on ethics and Conflict of Interest, the matter will be referred to the Ethics Office by the TRP Chair or by the Secretariat for decision.

5.5. Conduct-related matters in relation to TRP members shall be raised to the Ethics Office and may be escalated to the Ethics and Governance Committee of the Board as prescribed by the *Code of Conduct for Governance Officials*. The Ethics Office has the responsibility to undertake a preliminary assessment of potential ethical and integrity-related misconduct by Governance Officials of the Global Fund (including

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[15] The Ethics Policy framework relevant to the TRP include the following, as amended and updated from time to time: Ethics and Integrity Framework; Code of Conduct for Governance Officials; Policy on Ethics and Conflict of Interest for Global Fund Institutions; the Global Fund Policy to Combat Fraud and Corruption; Whistle-blowing Policy and Procedures for the Global Fund; and Ethics and Conflict of Interest Procedures for Technical Review Panel Members

[16] https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/4293/core_codeofethicalconductforgovernanceofficials_policy_en.pdf

[17] https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/6016/core_ethicsandconflictofinterest_policy_en.pdf

[18] https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/3047/trp_coi_guidelines_en.pdf

[19] These procedures include, but are not limited to, the restriction of TRP members from participating in the development of funding requests to the Global Fund, otherwise advising applicants or beneficiaries of Global Fund financing (e.g., Country Coordinating Mechanisms and Principal Recipients) during their service as TRP members, and principles on separation and a "cooling off" period as specified in the TRP internal guidelines.

[20] https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/11239/core_pseah-related-abuse-power_framwork_en.pdf

[21] Examples of material change include and are not limited to change of employment, change of role in current organization, commencement of a consultancy assignment etc.

TRP members), determine if breaches to the *Code of Conduct for Governance Officials* or other Global Fund policies and procedures have occurred, and advise the Ethics and Governance Committee of the Board.

6. TRP review modalities

6.1. Technical review undertaken by the TRP is an independent, transparent process based on rigorous scientific and programmatic reviews of documentation to determine whether investments are positioned to achieve the greatest impact in a wide variety of epidemiological and country contexts.

Differentiation and review approaches

6.2 The following differentiated review approaches will be used, in line with the Core Guiding Principles for Differentiation, the TRP Review Approaches Manual[22] and the level of information needed for a cost-effective review process[23]. These approaches are aimed at responding to specific objective(s) and funding request type(s). Moreover, in limited circumstances, ad hoc approaches may be used for innovative mechanisms and in challenging operating environment (COE) contexts that may require it.

a. **Tailored for Transition:** The TRP will streamline its review process and feedback to the applicant (including TRP group composition, number of recommendations and actions requested, etc.) and limit its review to the identified areas of focus for Global Fund investments.

b. **Tailored for Focused Portfolio:** When the TRP is required to review these portfolios, the TRP will streamline its review process (including TRP group composition, number of recommendations and actions requested, etc.), and provide targeted feedback to the applicant to improve the strategic focus of the program.

c. **Program Continuation:** Based on criteria jointly agreed between the TRP and the Secretariat, certain country components may access their allocation through a streamlined TRP review process, or a costed extension granted in accordance with relevant policies, which does not require a TRP review. To maximize impact of investments, Program Continuation components may, in addition, be reprogrammed at any time during the grant life cycle, subject to TRP review of all proposed material reprogramming decisions. When TRP review is required for these portfolios, the TRP will streamline its review process and provide targeted feedback to the applicant to improve the strategic focus of the program.

d. **Full Review:** Full Review Funding Requests provide the TRP with a comprehensive view of the country's strategic priorities and proposed programmatic interventions. These Funding Requests should be based and refer to National Strategic Plans at country level. The TRP conducts a

[22] The purpose of this manual is to provide Technical Review Panel (TRP) members with a detailed description of how the TRP reviews the different types of funding requests submitted to the Global Fund. The TRP conducts its reviews in accordance with the Global Fund Strategy 2023-2028 and the TRP Terms of Reference, while applying a differentiated approach across different country contexts. This manual covers the review approaches for the five types of funding requests which countries can submit to the Global Fund to access their allocation funding: Full Review, Tailored for National Strategic Plans, Tailored for Focused Portfolios, Tailored for Transition and Program Continuation. In addition, it describes the review approach for Prioritized Above Allocation Requests (PAAR) and PAAR updates, and for TRP clarifications; funding requests related to Catalytic Investments (CI) (namely Matching Fund Requests, Strategic Initiatives (SIs) and Multicountry requests); the TRP's engagement under the COVID-19 Response Mechanism (C19RM) and other initiatives

[23] In line with the basis for differentiation and material change triggers jointly agreed by the Secretariat and the TRP, the Grant Approvals Committee will assess and determine potential application and review modalities.

comprehensive overall review of a country's investment approach and the strategic priorities for an identified component.

6.3. In accordance with the Core Guiding Principles for Differentiation and the TRP Review Approaches Manual, differentiated application and review modalities will be (i) evidence-informed, building on challenges, results and impact of previous implementation periods; (ii) tailored to different contexts including epidemiology, operating environment, considerations regarding sustainability and transition, fiduciary and programmatic risks, allocation size, etc., (iii) take into consideration material changes to disease programs,[24] and (iv) ensure that investments are complementary to those of other donors and domestic financing in implementer countries.

6.4. **Review group composition.** The TRP Leadership will determine, for each application approach or other types of TRP engagement, the size, composition and membership of the group from among members serving on the TRP, consistent with TRP Operating Procedures and the TRP Review Approaches Manual, and with due regard to diversity to ensure the most effective review.

TRP meetings

6.5. The TRP will conduct its reviews (referred to as TRP windows) via in-person meetings, remotely or a mix of both. The TRP Leadership may also call meetings to discuss other TRP work or internal TRP matters including organizing retreats.

6.6. The TRP will receive from the Secretariat relevant contextual, operational, and risk information concerning the funding requests under review or investment guidelines requiring their input. Key documents include Core Information Notes, plus Technical Briefs made available to applicants.[25] These should be read by all TRP members as they are the basis for applications to the Global Fund. Additional information includes policy guidance, analysis of lessons learned and the performance of existing programs, as well as feedback mechanisms to set the basis for determining the level and depth of review. The Secretariat is responsible for collecting this input internally and coordinating it with input from Technical Partners. The TRP will take into account and refer to any information and guidance provided by the Secretariat to the countries during review and in the TRP's feedback to applicants.

6.7. To the extent possible, following the assessment conducted by the members serving on the TRP and participating in the relevant reviews, the TRP Leadership will facilitate TRP outcomes and recommendations through Panel deliberations, providing objective, transparent, evidence-based decision making and reporting to the Board. TRP assessment outcomes and recommendations on the Funding Requests submitted to the Global Fund, as well as lessons learned presented to the Secretariat, technical partners, Strategy Committee and the Board will be based on the latest scientific evidence, up-to-date international guidelines and normative guidance, assessment of quality of investments, as well as programmatic, epidemiological and country contextual considerations.

6.8. If the TRP Chair determines that review outcomes and recommendations cannot be reached by the deliberations of the TRP, then they may facilitate resolution through additional internal mechanisms (e.g.

[24] Changes to scope and scale resulting to material changes in the overall strategic focus, technical soundness and potential for impact of investments in a disease program

[25] All Information Notes and Technical Briefs can be found on the Applicant Guidance section of the Global Fund website

through a peer review approach or parallel independent assessment of the funding request). In addition, they may request additional information from the applicant, technical partners or the Secretariat, as appropriate. In such cases, the TRP Chair may also request additional support from the TRP Vice-Chairs or relevant TRP Focal Points to facilitate the development of final TRP review outcomes and recommendations.

7. TRP engagement with the Strategy Committee and the Board

7.1. The TRP Chair will participate on the Strategy Committee in accordance with the Strategy Committee Charter. At the discretion of the Chairs of the Strategy Committee and Board, the TRP Chair shall have a standing invitation to the Strategy Committee and Board meetings to observe proceedings through an "all areas pass."

7.2. The TRP Leadership will coordinate with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Strategy Committee to identify matters and methods to report to the Board directly. A summary of the TRP report to the Strategy Committee shall be included as part of the Strategy Committee report to the Board.

7.3. The TRP Chair may, at their request and on the recommendation of the Strategy Committee Chair, have a time slot available as part of the pre-Board briefings to present TRP-related matters to all delegates present at the Board Meeting.

7.4. In the exceptional event that the TRP Chair is unable to attend a governance meeting, they should designate a Vice-Chair to replace them, subject to prior approval of the Chair of the governance meeting (i.e., the Board Chair or the Strategy Committee Chair).

7.5. TRP Leadership also interfaces with Global Fund internal stakeholders. In particular, TRP Leadership will meet with the GAC regularly, ideally at each window, to exchange information on any key issues and/or policy direction. TRP Leadership will report back to TRP members as appropriate to strengthen the feedback loop between the GAC and the TRP. TRP Leadership also interfaces to mutual benefit with the Independent Evaluation Panel (IEP).

8. TRP engagement with other parties

8.1. The TRP Chair and/or Vice Chairs represent the TRP in dealing with other parties, including partner organizations, and they can assign another TRP member, if necessary, to represent them.

8.2. The TRP will explore collaboration opportunities with similar review bodies to enhance synergies and information exchange that benefit the mandate of the TRP while maintaining its independence and in accordance with applicable confidentiality and COI requirements.

8.3. The TRP will work with the Secretariat and agree on the process and the criteria to ensure effective TRP engagement with the Global Fund partnership throughout the grant lifecycle, including engagement before Funding Request submission or check-in during grant-making and implementation as needed.

8.4. The TRP will engage with technical partners that can provide critical resources to inform the TRP review and advisory mandates including through current results reports, updates in scientific evidence,

normative guidance and lessons learned on the best strategies and effectiveness of programmatic interventions for given epidemiological, system and transition contexts. In all its engagement with technical partners, the TRP shall uphold its impartiality and independence.

8.5. The TRP is supported by various teams in the Secretariat in its review and advisory functions. This includes cascading the TRP's lessons learned and Secretariat support for TRP reviews and analysis of the effectiveness, impact and sustainability of Global Fund investment as well as responses, and implementation challenges at country level.

8.6. The TRP Secretariat shall facilitate the effective functioning of the TRP and its activities, support communication with other parties, manage logistics and provide analysis in a manner that supports the TRP's impartiality and independence, the confidentiality of internal TRP deliberations and the anonymity of TRP members for specific reviews, including reviews of funding requests.

9. Honoraria and operational costs

9.1. Members serving on the TRP, will receive an honorarium, in addition to travel expenses. The amount of honorarium and any additional remuneration will be determined in accordance with policies approved by the Board or committee with delegated authority.[26]

9.2. The Secretariat shall engage the TRP Leadership in the management of the TRP budget including when setting the honoraria for remuneration of specific TRP work and activities.

[26] As per the Global Fund Honorarium Framework approved by the Board on 8 March 2018 (decision point GF/B38/EDP13).