OCTOBER 29, 2021

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOD/2021/10 DOC 01 | FOR DECISION VIA NON-OBJECTION

EXTENSION OF THE PROVISIONAL INDEPENDENT TECHNICAL ADVISORY PANEL

Please note: Documents are deliberative in nature and, in accordance with the GPE Transparency Policy, are considered to be public documents only after their appraisal by the relevant governance instance. It is understood that members will circulate documents among their constituency members prior to consideration for consultation purposes, with the exception of documents that are confidential.

Objective

1. At its October meeting, in light of delays with country pilots, the Executive Committee approved a request, within its delegated authority, to shift the Board deliverable on the Terms of Reference (TORs) for the permanent Independent Technical Advisory Panel (ITAP) from December 2021 to March 2022. The Executive Committee's decision to shift the ITAP deliverable is, however, contingent on Board approval of the extension of the provisional ITAP.
2. The Executive Committee therefore recommends an extension of the provisional ITAP through June 30, 2022, for Board decision. The extension will ensure that the independent assessment of Cohort 2 countries is not delayed while the permanent ITAP is established, while also providing additional time to compile lessons learned.

Recommended Decision

BOD/2021/11-XX—Provisional Independent Technical Advisory Panel (ITAP): The Board of Directors:

1. Approves an extension of the provisional Independent Technical Advisory Panel (ITAP) through June 30, 2022, as requested in BOD/2021/10 DOC 01, to enable the finalization of the terms of reference for the permanent ITAP, following consultation with the Performance, Impact and Learning Committee, for Board decision in March 2022.

Background

3. In December 2020 the Board authorized the Secretariat to pilot the GPE 2025 Operating Framework and approved the establishment of an Independent Technical Advisory Panel (ITAP) to assess the status of countries in relation to GPE funding requirements. It further requested the Secretariat develop TORs for the ITAP by February 2021 and provide an update on lessons learned and proposed adaptations in June 2021.

4. In January 2021, the Coordinating Committee agreed to shift the deliverable of the TORs for the permanent ITAP to May 2021 in order to enable lessons learned from the country pilots to inform the TORs and further concurred with the proposal to set up a provisional ITAP to support the implementation of the country pilots.

5. In May 2021, in view of delays with the start of the pilots, the Executive Committee agreed to further extend the deliverable of the TORs for the permanent ITAP and lessons learned deliverable to December 2021.

6. Since June 2021, the provisional ITAP has convened panels and drafted assessments for three country pilots (Tajikistan, Kenya and El Salvador); two country panels are being convened (Democratic Republic of Congo and Nepal); and one country has not yet submitted its ITAP package (Uganda).

7. In all countries, the country-driven analysis of requirements has taken longer than expected. For two countries, feedback from country partners on draft assessments, a requirement for the finalization of reports for the Board, has also been delayed.

8. While progress has been made, it remains too early to consolidate lessons learned from the provisional ITAP involvement in the country pilots. The Executive Committee concurred with the Secretariat's assessment that more time is needed to gather data on lessons learned to inform the finalization of the TORs for the permanent ITAP and agreed to a shift of the TORs deliverable to March 2022, contingent on Board approval of the extension of the provisional ITAP.

9. The proposed timeline is as follows:

November 2021:	The Board extends the provisional ITAP through June 2022
March 2022:	The Board approves the TOR for the permanent ITAP
March-May 2022:	The Secretariat conducts the recruitment and selection for the permanent ITAP
June 2022:	The Performance, Impact and Learning Committee approves the membership of the permanent ITAP
July 2022:	Permanent ITAP is operational