

Summary of Questions for PDP Staff

PDP Access Steering Committee Discussion Paper: Metrics to track progress and success on access to new products Logan Brenzel, PhD (loganbrenzel@gmail.com)

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1. Rationale and background

Product development partnerships (PDPs) and donors have recognized that ensuring access to new products is a complex challenge. Creating access to new products requires PDPs to track, develop, and manage a wide range of information at country, regional, and global levels. For PDPs, defining success in access is critical. At the 2008 PDP Access meeting, participants agreed to the following definition of access:

“For PDPs, access refers to a coordinated set of activities needed to ensure that the products developed will ultimately have an equitable public health impact. Achieving that impact requires products that are available, affordable, and acceptable to end users, and adopted into developing country health systems.”

The PDP Access Steering Committee (SC) has developed a series of Discussion Papers on key issues facing PDPs. The purpose of these Discussion Papers is to explore and document PDP experiences and challenges with regard to access. Although each PDP has its own access objectives, a set of common metrics to track progress on access as defined above, is lacking or ill-defined. Therefore, the purpose of this Discussion Paper is to outline a set of metrics that PDPs could use to track progress and success in achieving access to new products or products under development. The objectives of the paper are to:

- Review and analyze the indicators that are currently being measured to reflect access and success by PDPs; and,
- Propose a set of indicators based on this review and discussions with PDP staff, donors, and country nationals.
- Identify how these indicators can be tracked by individual PDPs.

The main audience of the Discussion Paper is the PDPs themselves, along with their donors. A draft of this paper will be discussed at an upcoming PDP Access Steering Committee meeting 12-13 December, 2011.

The following list of questions will help to structure our discussion on measuring access and success. The answers to these may vary depending upon the product, and the goal is to capture the range of experience.

1. How does your PDP define success? (generally or for a specific product)
2. How does your PDP define access? (generally or for a specific product)
3. How are success and access linked?

4. How do you see the definition of access developed by the Access Steering Committee being integrated into the efforts of the PDP?

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5. What is your role regarding access to the products developed by your PDP?

6. Could you identify critical milestones/activities that relate to ensuring success and/or access for your products prior to licensure relating to availability, affordability, acceptability, and adoption?

7. Could you identify critical milestones/activities that relate to ensuring success and/or access for your products post- licensure related to availability, affordability, acceptability, and adoption?

8. At what point will the work of this PDP end, and a transition to another entity occur (in terms of ensuring access and uptake of your product(s))?

9. Does this PDP have, or is the PDP currently developing, a framework, mechanism or a process for measuring and tracking access milestones or steps? Are there any indicators that you use internally to track progress on access? Please describe these indicators, how often they are collected/measured/discussed and sources of data.

10. What resources have been put behind measuring and tracking access in your PDP? How many staff, how much staff time on average, and what has this cost?

10. What challenges and constraints do you anticipate to measuring or tracking access to future products? What have been the lessons learned?

11. Does your PDP have an approach that you think would be useful for other PDPs in terms of a framework for measuring access steps and milestones? What aspects do you think would be most useful?

12. Are there any documents, reports, or other materials that would be useful for us to review prior to developing this paper?

Thank you for your participation in this survey of PDPs. The responses will be kept confidential and collated and fed back to you prior to preparation of the draft report to ensure accuracy.