**Summary of the one-day PRE-CSO Meeting on Global Financing Facility**

**Nairobi**

**Nov 14, 2015**

**Background**

A multi-stakeholder groups meeting is planned to take place Nov 16 – 18, 2015 by the World Bank. The main purpose of the meeting, is to exchange experiences and lessons learned on implementation of the GFF model in countries and to focus on how to structure effective country platforms for GFF. The partnership of RMNCH and several members on the investors’ advisory group recognized the importance of meaningful engagement of civil society groups in GFF country platforms to achieving results and with the support of the Bank, organized a pre-CSO meeting to propose minimum standards of transparency and inclusiveness of civil society engagement.

**Objective**

The objective of the meeting was to provide a forum for discussion and exchange among civil society organizations from GFF front-runner second wave countries and generate minimum standards of CSO engagement in country platforms.

**Outcomes**

* The participants clearly pointed out that there was disconnect between the pre-CSO meeting and the learning event. Very few civil society people participating in the pre-meeting were invited to the learning event. The Bank acknowledged the point, but reiterated that there were plans to hold a series of meetings which would provide opportunities for providing input to the process.
* The group also made it clear that one CSO representative was not enough
* Representatives of CSO had the obligation to represent the entire agenda and not the issues that they cared about.
* The choosing of the CSO needs to be based on merit and not on relationship.
* There needs to be sufficient notice provided for meetings
* Representatives need to be known and accessible.
* The Bank insisted that the model of engagement could not be prescriptive, while the CSO argued that lack of a prescriptive approach made it difficult for CSO to demand or participate in the process.

**Lessons Learned**

Key lessons learned from country implementation is that the involvement has not be systematic in the case of Tanzania, while in Kenya, the process has been far more open, but has required champions within the Bank mission to ensure a more inclusive approach.

**Next steps**

Inputs were given to the organizers in strengthening the minimum standards documents (see attachment).

Follow-up is required with PRMNCH as to how the Coalition and FP2020 help in strengthening CSO engagement and increasing the transparency for improved services.