



## **RHINO**

Routine Health Information Network, Inc  
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Boston, MA 02210  
<http://www.rhinonet.org>

## **Minutes**

**RHINO Board of Directors' Meeting**  
**06/08/2015**

*RHINO board of Directors' Meeting Minutes  
Arlington VA, June 8, 2015*

**Board Members Present:** Juan Eugenio Hernandez, Theo Lippeveld, Nancy Pielemeier, Jim Setzer (alternate for Ann Lion), Vincent Shaw, Jason Smith, Peter Speyer, Sally Stansfield, Tisna Veldhuijzen van Zanten (alternate for Barbara Turner)

**Board Members Unable to Attend:** Kathy O'Neill (scheduling conflict with Measurement and Accountability for Results in Health Summit), Jean Pierre Delamalle (schedule conflict)

**Invited Participant:** Amanda Makulec, Communications Specialist

**RHINO Secretariat Present:** Aimee Silva

The Board of Directors' Meeting was held on June 8, 2015 at the JSI Arlington office at 10:00am.

### **1. Welcome & Update**

The Board Chairman Theo Lippeveld welcomed everyone and started the meeting by giving brief introductions to all board members present. Amanda Makulec, Communications Specialist and Aimee Silva, new secretariat staff were introduced to the board.

### **2. Minutes of last Board Meeting (December 2014)**

The Board Members proceeded to review the minutes from the last Board of Directors Meeting, December 16, 2014. No revisions to the minutes were recommended by Board members.

### **3. Meeting Agenda**

The Board Chairman introduced the agenda and invited the members to suggest other topics and/or make comments. No other items to the agenda were proposed.

### **5. Overview of 2015 Activities (presentation and discussion)**

Board Chairman Theo Lippeveld gave a slideshow presentation on RHINO activities January – June 2015 (see attached). There were three main advocacy events: RHIS Day New Delhi (February 21), HISP Conference (April 21-24) and the RHIS Curriculum Review: Consultative Meeting (April 27-28).

### **5. Update on Regionalization of RHINO (presentation & discussion)**

The second portion of this presentation discussed the planned activities for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. The first activity of June is the Measurement and Accountability for Health summit (June 9-11). The summit includes a panel on Health Facility and Community HIS moderated by RHINO president.

Two activities that are currently in process are the RHIS network for South Asia, managed by PHFI and the RHIS network for Southern Africa, managed by UP and HISP/South Africa. The board reviewed the draft concept notes and potential for bringing in various supporting partners (MOH, etc.). Juan Eugenio suggested including AFRO. He also suggested working through HISP networks to gain access to governments. All except 3 have active HISP teams who are linked directly to the government. Working with those groups would help to compliment the work.

A pilot testing of harmonized and contextualized RHIS core curriculum is also anticipated, but first needs to be developed by the task force.

Jason made a comment regarding the face-to-face meetings for South Asia and Southern Africa RHIS networks. He noted that there are lots of opportunities to work in West Africa. USAID has asked for MEASURE to do work in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast and Ghana. Asked us to think about what we can do in West Africa, based off the partners that are currently there.

Tisna asked about IRSP in Benin.

Board Chairman Theo Lippeveld mentioned that he will be the Senior Technical Advisor for the Liberia Embedded TA under the MEASURE Evaluation project. Two advisors, Romain Tohouri (JSI) and Walter Obiero (Futures Group) will be spending 3 months in Liberia working with the Ministry of Health to strengthen the National HIS including the RHIS.

Jason Smith made a comment stating that Latin America needs some maintenance TA; West Africa is started with Ebola and HIV funds. USAID is mostly focused on Africa, so Asia is a stretch (“aspirational”).

## **6. Update on RHINO Communications (presentation & discussion)**

Amanda Makulec, Communications Specialist gave a RHINO communications update. There were a number of key achievements relating to the Knowledge Management and Communications Strategy from January-May 2015. The RHINO listserv was cleaned and updated and migrated into MailChimp for improved analytics. A network survey was conducted to determine the organizations and locations affiliated with each of our network members. More than 200 articles were identified to be added to the RHINO Bibliography and we have initiated the process of redesigning and updating the RHINO website and branding.

Comments regarding the Logo and Branding:

- RHINO in English with image makes sense, but once it is translated it does not

- The image of a rhino should not be prominent
- Colors are earthy tones that could be associated with the animal, not HMIS
- Need to shift to emphasize the Network or Data

Action Item:

- Virtual input from board once we have examples from Denise/Beth on sample logo designs.

## **6. RHINO Secretariat**

Aimee Silva was briefly re-introduced but was out of the room during the time for this update. Theo Lippeveld provided a brief update on the finances of RHINO, both those funded through MEASURE Evaluation and those held by the NGO.

Tisna raised points about the need for RHINO activities to be driven by global priorities, not just those of MEASURE Evaluation. She recommended considering developing an app that could be available for purchase for looking up global health statistics or something similar.

Theo discussed the possibility of designing and opening up a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) as part of the wider RHIS curriculum development underway. The course could be free for any participant, but would require paying a fee to receive a formal certificate of completion or certification. These fees could also be leveraged to support RHINO.

The board agreed that the current environment, with an emphasis on routine information within the SDG discussions, may provide new opportunities for seeking funding. The question of how fundraising would be done through regional RHINOs versus the global network was not discussed in depth.

Action Item:

- The RHINO Board and Secretariat to continue exploring fundraising options for RHINO, including

## **7. Re-election of the Board Membership**

All the present Board Members supported the extension of the board terms for Peter Speyer and Jason Smith for two years. It was also determined that Elizabeth Ashbourne's term will be discontinued and a new World Bank member will be recruited. The Chairman proposed two new board members be voted in for 2-year board terms: Sangeeta Singh (PHFI) and Andy Beckett (University of Pretoria). All Board Members approved these additions. Jorn Braa from the University of Oslo was also unanimously accepted when proposed to the board. Lastly, ex-official board member Najeeb Al-Shorbaji will be replaced by Kathy O'Neill.

Action Item:

- Jason Smith and Theo to explore options regarding potential new World Bank board member

The current list of RHINO Board members and current status of the board terms is provided in Appendix 1.

## 8. Closure

The Board Chairman notified the members that the RHINO secretariat plans to organize another board meeting within 6 months to follow up on the many ideas generated through this meeting. He closed the meeting at 12:00pm, thanking the Board Members for their participation.

**Signature by Aimee Silva**

  
RHINO Secretariat

## Appendix 1: RHINO Board Members' Current Status

Current Board Members		
Name	Organization	End of Term
Theo Lippeveld	John Snow Inc	December 2016
Jason Smith	UNC	June 2017
Jean-Pierre Delamalle	AEDES/Belgium	December 2016
Nancy Pielemeier	ABT Associates	January 2016
Sally Stansfield	Deloitte Consultants	January 2016
Barbara Turner	URC	January 2016
Peter Speyer	IHME	June 2017
Ann Lion	ABT Associates	January 2016
Vincent Shaw	HISP/South Africa	January 2016
Juan Eugenio Hernandez	INSP/Mexico	December 2016
Sangeeta Singh	PHFI/India	June 2017
Andy Beke	University of Pretoria	June 2017
Jorn Braa	University of Oslo	June 2017
<b>Ex Officio Board members</b>		
Kathy O'Neill	WHO	

## Appendix 2: Board of Directors Meeting Agenda



**ROUTINE HEALTH INFORMATION NETWORK  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING,  
June 8, 2015 at 10.00am EST  
At JSI/DC Office, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
1616 North Fort Myer Drive  
Arlington, VA 22209  
AGENDA**

<b>TIME</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DOC</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>
10:00 - 10:05	<b>Welcome and update</b> <i>Theo Lippeveld</i>		Information
10:05-10:15	<b>Minutes, Board Meeting, December 16, 2014</b> <i>Theo Lippeveld</i>	BD2014/3	Information
10:15-10:20	<b>Meeting Agenda</b> <i>Theo Lippeveld</i>	BD2015/1	Approval
10:20-10:45	<b>Overview 2015 activities</b> <i>Theo Lippeveld</i> Followed by discussions	BD2014/2	Information
10:45-11:10	<b>Update on RHINO decentralization</b> Followed by discussions <i>Theo Lippeveld</i>		Information
11:10-11:30	<b>Update on RHINO communications activities</b> <i>Amanda Maculec</i>		Information
11:30-11:45	<b>RHINO secretariat</b> Followed by discussion <i>Aimee Silva</i>		Information
11:45 - 11:55	<b>RHINO Board Elections</b> (including proposed new members) <i>Theo Lippeveld</i>		Approval
11:55 - 12:00	<b>Closure followed by Working Lunch</b>		Information