



RHINO

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

Minutes RHINO Board of Directors' Meeting January 23, 2017

*RHINO Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
Arlington VA, January 23, 2017*

Attendance

Board Members Present: Theo Lippeveld, Jason Smith, Jean-Pierre De Lamalle, Sally Stansfield, Tisna Veldhuijzen van Zanten (stand in for Barbara Turner), Juan Eugenio Hernandez, Jordan Tuchman, William (Bill) Heisel, Nancy Pielemeier

Board Members Unable to Attend: Vincent Shaw, Barbara Turner, Alvin Marcel, Ayo Akala, Kathy, Jorn Braa, O'Neill

Communications Specialist Present: Yes

RHINO Secretariat Present: Yes

The Board of Directors' Meeting was held in the JSI Rosslyn office for local attendees and remotely via WebEx on January 23, 2017.

Summary of Action items

A summary of the action items from the meeting are as follows:

- **Regarding Overview of Activities:**
 - Board members will submit a paragraph before the next board meeting explaining what they do and how they are contributing to RHINO. When the Save the Date arrives (2 months out), this would be a time to send any updates to be included in the activity summary report. These reports could either be individual or organization based.
 - Bill Heisel and Sally Stansfield can reach out to Bloomberg Project Director, Philip Setel and Alan Lopez from the University of Melbourne when they are in Seattle regarding fundraising for RHINO, specifically with the Bloomberg Health Initiative.
 - Nancy Pielemeier will continue to explore the One Campaign and consider an elevator speech to Jamie Drummond.
 - Tisna Veldhuijzen van Zanten will send presentations from the Center for Global Development forum on vital statistics to the board.
 - Looking ahead, the MEASURE Evaluation contract ends in 2019. In the next couple years, the board needs to view RHINO as an independent organization and take into account what is required for it to be financially independent.
 - Board members will consider how future board members are selected and how to maintain engagement.
- **Regarding Communications Update:**
 - If there are any journal articles or grey literature that the board members or their colleagues would like to have added to the RHINO Resource Library, please send the article details to suzanne_slattery@jsi.com.
 - Suzanne will send her bio and contact information to the board.
 - Further discussion on widening RHINO to a global audience.
- **Regarding RHINO Secretariat:**
 - Please send updated headshots and bio-blurbs to the Secretariat so they can be added to rhinonet.org

- Theo Lippeveld
- Jean Pierre de Lamalle
- Tisna Veldhuijzen van Zanten
- Send any RHINO forum topics or potential moderators
- Future Topics
 - Data Visualization (of Routine Data)
 - Amanda Makulec is willing to coordinate, and Sally will reach out to Deloitte
 - Question: How do you build a dashboard that people actually look at?
 - Potential Kick Off Speaker: Hans Rassling
- Send blog posts to Aimee Silva
- **Regarding Re-election of Board Membership:**
 - Aimee will add Tisna Veldhuijzen van Zanten bio to the RHINO website, and update the Board Chairman information.
 - Theo Lippeveld will write to Vincent Shaw (term expired 01/2016), inquiring if he accepts his position extension.
 - Bill Heisel will send information to the board regarding how to nominate someone for the Roux Prize.

Detailed Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome & Update

The Board Chairman Theo Lippeveld welcomed everyone and introduced Tisna Veldhuijzen van Zanten, replacing Barbara Turner from URC and Suzanne Slattery, who will be taking over RHINO communications from Amanda Makulec.

2. Minutes of last Board Meeting (January 2016)

The board members proceeded to review the minutes from the last Board of Directors Meeting, July 20, 2016. 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 provide comments. Tisna Veldhuijzen van Zanten suggested we discuss a 6-month plan for RHINO and Jean Pierre asked that in the future, board members report out what they have doing between meetings in their individual organizations and how they relate to RHINO.

Action item: Board members will submit a paragraph before the next board meeting, explaining what they do and how they are contributing to RHINO. When the Save the Date arrives (2 months out), send any updates to be included in the activity summary report. These reports could either be individual or organization based.

Jason Smith mentioned that it would be great for Vincent Shaw to share his experiences with HISP.

4. Overview of 2016 Activities (July – December 2016)

Board Chairman Theo Lippeveld provided a handout with the summary of 2nd semester activities (see abridged version in Appendix 3). This handout included descriptions of the RHINO satellite session in Vancouver, Regionalization of RHIS strengthening, WHO – MEASURE Evaluation and RHINO collaboration, RHINO communications, and RHINO membership.

5. Update on Regionalization of RHINO (discussion)

Board Chairman Theo Lippeveld gave a brief overview on the status of the regionalization of RHINO.

Juan Eugenio Hernandez presented the seven-year experience of RELACSIS at the Vancouver satellite session. Vincent Shaw presented on the Southern African network. You can see his presentation (along with all the others) on the RHINO website.

There are also two regionalization initiatives underway: 1) The AeHIN RHIS Focus Group in Asia in collaboration with the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) and 2) The West Africa RHIS Strengthening Network in collaboration with the West African Health Organization (WAHO).

The AeHIN focus group meeting will take place on March 7, 2017 in Myanmar. MEASURE will send several facilitators including Tariq Azim, Hemali Kulatilaka, and Theo Lippeveld. PHFI will also likely have a representative, and we are still working on funding relevant country representatives with the help of USAID and SEARO.

We are also making progress in the West African group. Issiaka Sombie presented for WAHO at the Vancouver satellite session. WAHO, MEASURE Evaluation, and RHINO had a meeting after the satellite session to discuss WAHO creating a concept paper on groups in West Africa that will be submitted to the Ministerial Committee in March. If approved, there will be a core team meeting in October/November in Niger.

Board Chairman Theo Lippeveld expressed that the satellite session was a success. Over 60 participants attended the RHINO Vancouver meeting and a number of side meetings transpired between multiple organizations afterwards. This session helped prove that RHINO is not a purely USAID-funded initiative and it can have a worldwide impact.

Action item: Looking ahead, the MEASURE Evaluation contract ends in 2019. In the next couple years, the board needs to view RHINO as an independent organization and take into account what is required for it to be financially independent.

Communications Specialist Amanda Makulec mentioned the importance of working on the sustainability of RHINO but also the sustainability of the regional networks. **Question:** In regards to the regionalization of networks: Is there a vision that every regional network will be a standalone network, like RELACSIS? Or should there be global governance where financing still comes through the Global NGO?

Tisna Veldhuijzen van Zanten also questioned how membership of the board is chosen. How are we engaging the members into selecting the board (democratize)? As a sitting board we can set the criteria, but need to think long term and how it can become a membership organization.

Action item: Board members to consider how future board members are selected and how to engage members.

6. Update on RHINO Communications (presentation & discussion)

Amanda Makulec, outgoing Communications Specialist, introduced Suzanne Slattery who will be transitioning into her position this spring. Amanda referenced the 2nd Semester Activity Report which has details of our communications work which includes: promotional materials (pens, folders, etc.) and specific blog posts. There has also been an increase in requests from external organizations to post on the RHINO blog. Seven blogs were published on RHINO.net.org in 2017/Q1.

Action item: If there are any journal articles or grey literature that the board members or their colleagues would like to have added to the RHINO Resource Library, please send the article details to suzanne_slattery@jsi.com.

Action item: Suzanne will send out her bio and contact information.

Question: Jean Pierre asked if it is possible for the RHINO website to become more multilingual without being too heavy of a burden.

Action item: Further discussion on widening RHINO to a global audience.

7. RHINO Secretariat

Aimee Silva provided a brief update on the finances of RHINO. It was agreed upon that board members who are backed by organizations would be asked to contribute \$1,000 annually. In order to contribute, board members stated that they will need invoices.

Bill Heisel stated that he thinks this is a reasonable request and something that should be an expectation of board members. In order to be self-sustaining, we could ask for a larger contribution.

Theo Lippeveld said that he would like to start with \$1,000 based on our activities. Money is not the only mechanism that will help RHINO be successful.

Action Item: Please send updated headshots and bio-blurbs to the Secretariat so they can be added to rhinonet.org

Action Item: Send any RHINO forum topics or potential moderators

8. Re-election of the Board Membership

Theo Lippeveld officially announced that he is stepping down from the position of Board Chairman and his replacement, Jean Pierre de Lamalle, was unanimously approved. Theo

Lippeveld and Board Chairman Jean Pierre de Lamalle's terms have been extended to 01/23/2019. Sally Stansfield, Tisna Veldhuijzen van Zanten, and Juan Eugenio Hernandez's terms were also extended to 01/23/2019.

Action Item: Aimee will add Tisna Veldhuijzen van Zanten bio to the RHINO website and update the Board Chairman information.

Action Item: Theo Lippeveld will write to Vincent Shaw (term expired 01/2016) inquiring if he accepts his position extension.

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

9. Closure

Bill Heisel presented the Roux Prize Award which is a \$100,000 prize for a DATA USE Champion. The deadline to nominate is January 31.

Action Item: Bill Heisel will send information to the board regarding how to nominate someone for the Roux Prize.

The outgoing 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.



RHINO Secretariat

Appendix 1: RHINO Board Members' Current Status

Current Board Members		
Name	Organization	Term
Theo Lippeveld	John Snow, Inc.	January 2019
Jason Smith	UNC	June 2017
Jean Pierre de Lamalle	AEDES/Belgium	January 2019
Nancy Pielemeier	Independent	January 2018
Sally Stansfield	Deloitte Consultants	January 2019
Tisna Veldhuijzen van Zanten	URC	January 2019
Jordan Tuchman	ABT Associates	January 2018
Vincent Shaw	HISP/South Africa	January 2019
Juan Eugenio Hernandez	INSP/Mexico	January 2019
Sanjay Zodpey	PHFI/India	January 2018
Andy Beke	University of Pretoria	June 2017
Jorn Braa	University of Oslo	June 2017
Alvin Marcelo	AeHIN	January 2018
William (Bill) Heisel	IHME	July 2018
Ayo Akala	World Bank	July 2018
Ex Officio Board members		
Kathy O'Neill	WHO	



**ROUTINE HEALTH INFORMATION NETWORK
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING,
January 23, 2017 at 10.00am EST
At JSI/DC Office, 16th Floor
1616 North Fort Myer Drive
Arlington, VA 22209**

AGENDA

TIME	ITEM	DOC	PURPOSE
10:00 - 10:05	Welcome and update <i>Theo Lippeveld</i>		Information
10:05-10:15	Minutes, Board Meeting, July 20, 2016 <i>Theo Lippeveld</i>		Information
10:15-10:20	Meeting Agenda <i>Theo Lippeveld</i>	BD2017/1	Approval
10:20-10:35	Overview 2st semester 2016 activities Followed by discussions <i>Theo Lippeveld</i>	BD2017/2	Information
10:35 -10:50	Update on RHIS satellite session in Vancouver Followed by discussion <i>Theo Lippeveld</i>		Information
10:50-11:10	Update on RHINO communications <i>Amanda Makulec</i>		Information
11:10-11:40	RHINO Secretariat Update on financial situation Followed by discussion <i>Aimee Silva</i>		Information
11:40 - 12:00	RHINO Board Elections Replace President-Chairman of Board <i>Theo Lippeveld</i>		Approval
12:00 - 12:10	Closure followed by Working Lunch		Information



Summary Activity Report RHINO July - December 2016

RHINO Board meeting July 20, 2016

The RHINO board met through a conference call on July, 20, 2016. 11 of the 15 Board Members attended. The main agenda item was the preparation for the RHINO satellite session in Vancouver in November. Board members representing international NGOs were requested to contribute \$ 1,000 to finance the keynote speakers for the meeting. Two new members were approved: Ayo Akala from the World Bank and William Heisel of the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). Detailed minutes of the meeting are available.

RHINO Satellite session on November 14, 2016, in Vancouver, Canada

The Routine Health information Network (RHINO) organized a session on Strengthening Routine Health Systems (RHIS) through Regional Networks on Monday November 14 at the 2016 4th Global Health Systems Research Symposium in Vancouver. RHINO has taken the opportunity of the Health System Research Symposium, which gathered more than 2,000 public health researchers and practitioners, to discuss how RHIS advocacy and knowledge management efforts can be decentralized, by setting up regional networks of countries to promote best practices and lessons learned to increase the performance of RHIS in the member countries.

The RHINO session was attended by around sixty participants. Dr. Theo Lippeveld, President of RHINO, welcomed the audience to the Vth International Meeting of RHINO. Keynote speaker was Eduardo Celades from WHO/Geneva who presented the Health Data Collaborative, which was set up after the M&A4Health Summit to ensure coordination of the various HIS strengthening efforts. A panel of four experts presented regional network experiences from Latin America (Juan Eugenio Hernandez for RELACSIS), Asia (Sanjay Zodpey for the AeHIN RHIS Focus Group), West Africa (Issaka Sombie for WAHO), and Southern Africa (Vince Shaw for HISP/South Africa) . This was followed by group work, where regional groups discussed potential innovative mechanisms for setting up new regional RHIS strengthening networks, for sharing best practices on improving RHIS performance, and institutionalizing these networks to advocate for strong country RHIS. In his summary remarks, Dr. Lippeveld called for further development of regional RHIS strengthening networks, because of their great potential to create opportunities for South-South sharing of best practices and lessons learned.

A detailed report on the Vancouver session has been uploaded on the MEASURE Evaluation website. To promote accessibility to the session for those not attending the Symposium, the panel presentation was livestreamed via Webex. In addition, all presentations from the event can be viewed on the RHINO Slideshare (<http://www.slideshare.net/rhisnetwork>) and are linked on RHINOnet.org. Costs of the meeting were \$ 15,233. RHINO Board members have contributed \$ 8,000 of that amount..

Regionalization of RHIS strengthening

Currently, two regionalization initiatives on RHIS strengthening are underway: (1) The AeHIN RHIS Focus Group in Asia in collaboration with the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI); (2) The West Africa RHIS Strengthening Network in collaboration with the West African Health Organization (WAHO).

As for the AeHIN RHIS Focus Group, Prof. Sanjay Zodpey of PHFI gave a presentation at the RHINO satellite session in Vancouver on November 14 on the process of setting up the RHIS Strengthening Network in Asia. On December 14 Lippeveld met with Alvin Marcelo, the Executive Director of AeHIN in Washington DC to discuss the organization of the first Core Team meeting of the AeHIN RHIS Focus group, which is now scheduled for March 7, 2017 in Myanmar. As for funding the MEASURE Evaluation and PHFI TA as well as some of the country representatives, discussions are still ongoing between PHFI, MEASURE Evaluation and SEARO.

We have further worked with the West African Health Organization (WAHO) on the development of a West Africa RHIS Strengthening Network. Alimou Barry and Jason Smith attended the Joint Annual HIS meeting in Praia, Cabo Verde in the week of September 26. Prof. Issaka Sombie from WAHO gave a presentation at the RHINO satellite session in Vancouver on November 14 to discuss the past and current work that WAHO is undertaking to strengthen RHIS in the region. The satellite session was followed by a meeting between the WAHO delegation led by Dr. Laurent Assogba, Deputy Director and the MEASURE Evaluation team led by Jason Smith, Deputy Director. It was decided to formalize the setting up of a RHIS network in 2017. For that purpose a concept paper will be developed to be submitted to the Ministerial Committee in March. If approved the network will be officialized in October during the HIS representatives meeting.

WHO – MEASURE Evaluation and RHINO collaboration

RHINO continues to be involved in the recently established Health Data Collaborative, and more particularly in the RHIS sub-group. Kathy O'Neill, Jorn Braa, and Theo Lippeveld, all three RHINO Board members, co-chair the RHIS sub-group. Several meetings took place in the second semester of 2016.

RHINO communications

Various promotional materials such as flyers, folders, and pens were developed for the RHINO satellite session in November. They can be used in future meetings. Also, we continued to use MailChimp for key communications to the RHINO listserv where detailed analytics are beneficial for tracking our reach. The open RHINO listserv (rhino@lists.jsi.com) continues to be active for use by all RHINO members.

RHINO increasingly receives requests from members and external organizations to post announcements and articles on the RHINO Blog (rhinonet.org/blog). Seven blogs were published on RHINOnet.org in 2017/Q1, including:

- Informing Investments in Health Information Systems (11 October 2016) – MEASURE Evaluation
- How can you improve the performance of the Routine Health Information System in your country? (25 October 2016) – Theo Lippeveld (JSI)
- Health systems resilience: The domains and characteristics (1 November 2016) – Tariq Azim (JSI)
- Building an SMS Reminder/Recall System to Generate Demand in Benin (English and French) (28 November 2016) – Meredith Baker (VaxTrac)
- 2016 OpenMRS Implementers Conference in Kampala, Uganda (28 November 2016) – OpenMRS
- Routine Health Information Systems: A Curriculum on Basic Concepts and Practice (1 December 2016) – MEASURE Evaluation
- Summary of the RHINO Satellite Session at the HSR Symposium (8 December 2016) – Aimee Silva

RHINO membership

Our membership increased again in this semester with 67 new subscribers, bringing the total to 1,017 subscribers.