**RBM PARTNERSHIP TO END MALARIA**

**Nominations for Chair of the new RBM Partnership Board**

## **Background**

Since its inception in 1998, the RBM Partnership has played a critical role in global efforts that reduced malaria deaths by half, saved 11.7 million lives, and prevented more than two billion new malaria infections.

Despite advances in lowering the global burden of malaria, progress has slowed or stalled in recent years. The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, health systems challenges, reduced effectiveness of some of the tools for fighting malaria and a significant funding gap have had a compounding effect slowing progress. As a result, the RBM Partnership’s work as the malaria community's global, multisectoral platform for coordinated action will be instrumental in getting back on track to reach elimination targets and milestones, as well as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

At its 25th meeting on 25 October 2022, the RBM Partnership Board adopted a new hybrid structure to better represent the perspectives of malaria-affected countries and other constituencies into the Partnership’s governance. This new composition will include representatives from malaria-affected countries, key donors, civil society, the private sector, the science and innovation community, and independent members who will join in their private capacity.

To guide and oversee the process of transitioning to the Board, the existing Board appointed a Transition Oversight Committee (TOC), comprised of both current and prospective Board members, as well as other RBM Partnership stakeholders. After all nominations are complete, the new RBM Partnership Board will hold its first meeting in-person on 15-16 May 2023 in Geneva, Switzerland.

## **Call for Board Chair Nominations**

The Partnership is looking for a new Board Chair who will have the opportunity to shape the Partnership’s future and respond energetically in the face of headwinds in the fight against malaria. [[1]](#footnote-1) This new Chair will occupy an essential role in managing the Board’s affairs—ensuring it is organized properly, functions effectively, and meets its responsibilities—as well as maintaining ongoing and effective communication with and among Board members, the CEO and Partners.

The new Chair of the RBM Partnership Board will be selected based upon their individual skills, capabilities, as well as their personal and organisational networks and broader commitment to the Partnership. To maintain a diverse, representational Board as outlined in the RBM Bye-Laws, the Board particularly encourages nominations from malaria-affected countries.

This document provides an overview of the nomination and selection process for the Chair of the new RBM Partnership Board.

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| The deadline for receipt of nominations is **7 April 2023**  with the nomination and selection process due to conclude on **Friday, 21 April 2023**.  A Nomination Form can be found in **Annex 1**. |

## **Overview of Eligibility, Chair commitment and Selection Criteria**

Eligibility

The RBM Partnership is seeking a highly sophisticated individual who is able to develop and maintain important relationships that will assist the Partnership in accomplishing its mission. The selected candidate will have led complex, strategic and mission-driven organisations, and will bring experience with multi-constituency groups, in a leadership capacity. The Chair of the RBM Partnership Board should bring a high standing in the malaria community, diplomacy and gravitas to the position. More specific information on the responsibilities of RBM Partnership Board members and the Chair as well as the Partnership’s expectations on the skills and experience that a Chair would bring are set out in **Annex 2**.

To maintain a diverse, representational Board, with at least half of the Board Members are drawn from malaria-affected countries and regions, the Partnership encourages nominations for the Board Chair from those countries and regions.

## Chair commitment

The RBM Partnership Board Chair will serve the Partnership for a term of two years, renewable once for a period of up to two years, at the discretion of the Partnership Board. The Chair is expected to be a driving force of the Board and the RBM Partnership more generally. This will require a considerable time commitment (indicatively 20-30 days per year) as well as enthusiasm for the role. The role does offer an opportunity to have a positive impact on the lives of millions affected by the scourge of malaria.

Selection Criteria

In identifying a Board Chair, the above factors will be taken into account. Nominations from candidates from malaria-affected countries and regions are actively encouraged.

## **Nomination and Selection Process**

Candidates for the Board Chair may be nominated by Partners or sitting members of the Partnership Board in its current composition. Any individual is encouraged to self-nominate if they have the required skills and experience and is willing to commit the time required.

The nomination form is attached in **Annex 1**. Nominations should be sent to the RBM Board Affairs at [BoardAffairs@endmalaria.org](mailto:BoardAffairs@endmalaria.org).

In their nomination of candidates, all individuals and nominating partners and groups need to ensure that due regard is paid to the above criteria and to ensure that all nominees:

* + 1. Agree to their names being put forward.
    2. Are prepared to serve on the Partnership Board and to attend all meetings either in-person, by videoconference or teleconference.
    3. Recognise that they are only being nominated and that selection for the Board is subject to a selection process and approval by the full Partnership Board.

The Chair of the TOC, together with several other prospective members of the new RBM Partnership Board, will assume the role of a selection committee for the Chair of the Board. The selection committee will review nominations and recommend suitable candidates to assume the role of Board Chair. They will make recommendations for the full TOC to consider and identify a candidate that may be appointed by the Board in its new composition at its first meeting on 16 May 2023.

**Selection Timeline**

1. **On 3 March 2023:** Formal call for nominations published on RBM website: https://endmalaria.org/
2. **7 April 2023:** Nominations close.
3. **Until 21 April 2023:** Selection Committee reviews nominations and agrees recommendation to the Transition Oversight Committee.
4. **16 May 2023:** the RBM Partnership Board in its new composition will appoint the Chair.

**Information and Support**

Any questions about the nomination process or any other aspects of the unaffiliated Board member selection process should be sent to RBM Board Affairs at [BoardAffairs@endmalaria.org](mailto:BoardAffairs@endmalaria.org).

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**Annex 1:**   
**Nomination Form for Chair of the new RBM Partnership to End Malaria Board**

**Person Making the Nomination:**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Name:*** | |  |
| ***Current Position and Organisational Affiliation:*** | |  |
| ***Contact Information:*** | ***Email:*** |  |
| ***Telephone:*** |  |

**Person Being Nominated:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Name:*** | |  |
| ***Current Position and Organisational Affiliation:*** | |  |
| ***Gender:*** | |  |
| ***Country / Region of Origin:*** | |  |
| ***Contact Information:*** | ***Email:*** |  |
| ***Telephone:*** |  |

**Has the Person Being Nominated:**

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| --- | --- |
| 1. *Had the requirements for Board Membership explained to them?* |  |
| 1. *Understood that nomination does not automatically mean they will be selected for the Partnership Board?* |  |
| 1. *Agreed that their name can be put forward into nomination?* |  |

**Qualifications of the Person Being Nominated:**

If available, please provide a CV or a link to a web-profile with information on the nominee’s background and experience. In addition, in no more than 500 words, please explain why the nominated person meets the criteria to become the Chair of the RBM Partnership Board and what he or she would contribute to the Board and the RBM Partnership more broadly:

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Completed nomination forms should be returned to RBM Board Affairs at [BoardAffairs@endmalaria.org](mailto:BoardAffairs@endmalaria.org).

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**Annex 2:**   
**Roles and responsibilities and skills and experience of the RBM Partnership Chair**

## The first part of this Annex 2 sets out the roles and responsibilities that the RBM Partnership Board members and the Board Chair are expected to take on. The second part sets out the skills and experiences that Board members and the Chair are expected to bring. These sections are drawn from the Bye-Laws as adopted by the Partnership Board at its 26th meeting in November 2022 and indicative criteria for Board members and the Chair that were presented to the Board at its 25th Board meeting in October 2022.

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Responsibilities

The RBM Bye-Laws as adopted by the RBM Partnership Board at its 26th Meeting in November 2022 (section 4.3.3) outlines the following responsibilities of all Board members, including the Chair, in that they are expected to:

* Commit time (non-remunerated) of approximately 15 days per year and to attend all Partnership Board meetings.[[2]](#footnote-2)
* Act as an advocate on behalf of the Partnership to all stakeholders and support the CEO and the Secretariat in its partnership resource mobilization efforts by making new connections, and utilizing existing relationships to garner awareness and funding for the Partnership’s Vision.
* Read documents and gain an understanding of all issues, prior to Partnership Board deliberations (meetings (in person and video), teleconferences, email communication).
* Reach out to the groups or constituencies that they represent to ensure the Partnership Board’s discussions are informed by constituents’ views and that the groups and constituencies are made aware of the outcome of Board meetings.
* Participate fully in Partnership Board meetings and discussions.
* Reach out to Partners, either individually or through any groups of like-minded Partners that may have been formed, to ensure that the Partnership Board’s discussions are informed by a wide range of views from within the Partnership.
* Actively contribute and support the development / refinement of the Partnership Strategy and workplan.

The Board Chair has the following additional responsibilities:

* The principal role of the Partnership Board Chair is to lead the Partnership and, along with the CEO, to be the public face of the Partnership.
* Facilitate Partnership Board deliberations by ensuring that the agenda is set in advance, all issues are addressed, and a diversity of opinions are heard.
* Set annual performance objectives for the CEO.
* The Chair will have regular performance discussions with the CEO which may involve other Board members as appropriate. The Board Chair will formally meet the Executive Director of the Host Agency once per year and they will jointly meet the CEO for a formal annual review at that time.

Skills and experience

In terms of skills and experiences, all RBM Partnership Board members, including the Chair, are expected to be able to demonstrate most of the following skills:

* In-depth understanding of and personal commitment to the Partnership principles, core values, and achievement of its Vision.
* Be recognized as a leader in global health and/or development with the understanding and knowledge required to help shape overall strategic direction for the Partnership.
* In-depth knowledge of the issues around malaria, international health and/or development, and development financing.
* Strong leadership and management skills.
* Ability to act as an ambassador/advocate and to represent the Partnership at a senior level (e.g. represents a larger viewpoint, possess decision-making authority within their organization).
* Experience working in a multicultural environment.
* Experience serving in partnerships and governing bodies, and the ability and capacity to network effectively and broadly.
* Facilitative and consultative approach—diplomatic with policy and strategic skills.
* Access to the necessary communication infrastructure to carry out their role as Partnership Board Members effectively (e.g. telephone, fax, e-mail and mobile phone).
* Ability to work in written and spoken English and/or French.

In addition, the Chair is expected to demonstrate the following:

* High profile leader with the ability to leverage resources, bring a rich network to bear, and influence policies to further the RBM Partnership’s mission
* Ability to develop and maintain important relationships for the RBM Partnership and solicit input from a wide range of stakeholders
* Ability to lead and manage a diverse Board including high-level representatives from governments and other stakeholders
* Excellent communicator, listener, and collaborator
* Ability to develop and maintain productive relationships with the Board, Vice Chair and CEO
* Broad-based and long-term view of strategic and organizational goals and an ability to foster open debates on those and other subjects
* Capability to inspire and influence positive behaviour and actions across the Partnership

1. In accordance with Article 4.4 of the Bye-Laws adopted by the RBM Partnership Board at its 26th Meeting in November 2022, the Board Chair may be a representative Board member or an unaffiliated one. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. While there is no remuneration for RBM Partnership Board members, in accordance with the hosting organisation’s (UNOPS) policy certain expenses will be reimbursed. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)