



INTERNATIONAL PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION (IPPF)

BACKGROUND

The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) is an international non-governmental organisation composed of a network of associations which advocate and provide services in areas related to sexual and reproductive health.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

IPPF is composed of IPPF Member Associations from six different regions (Africa, Arab World, East and SE Asia and Oceania, Europe, South Asia, Western Hemisphere). National members elect representatives to their Regional Councils which, in turn, elect Regional Executive Committees. Five representatives from each region are elected to the Governing Council, which is both IPPF's governing and its executive body.

ACCOUNTABILITY SUMMARY

TRANSPARENCY

IPPF does not have a specific policy guiding what, when and how information is made public. However a commitment to openness and transparency is made in the IPPF *Standards and Responsibilities of Membership* which identifies key standards of transparency required for IPPF accreditation (Principle 4). Specifically, Member Associations need to ensure information is provided to external stakeholders interested in their work and their use of funds. A general commitment to transparency is also made in the *Code of Good Governance* (Principle 6) which identifies key principles of good governance for all IPPF Governing Bodies.

Responsibility for transparency is split according to information type within IPPF. At the central office level, the Head of the Resource Mobilisation Department is responsible for provision of information to donors. Oversight of general communications and handling information requests lies with the Head of the External Affairs Department. Finally, oversight of the IPPF Standards and Responsibilities of Membership, and thus of the commitments to transparency required of Member Associations, lies with the Head of Governance and Accreditation. Currently, no training is provided to staff on how to implement IPPF's transparency commitments. The *Standards and Responsibilities of Membership* is available online in Arabic, English, French and Spanish.

PARTICIPATION – EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

IPPF sets out its external stakeholder engagement policies in several documents. *Setting Standards for Youth Participation* guides IPPF's engagement with youth in its programming and decision making, offering standards against which Member Associations are encouraged to assess themselves. The *Youth Action Movement Operational Framework* is being taken forward to incorporate the democratic election of youth representatives to IPPF's governing bodies. Engagement with people living with HIV/AIDS is being strengthened through IPPF involvement in the *Code of Good Practice for NGOs Responding to HIV/AIDS* and specifically the mandatory use of the *Self-Assessment Checklist: Meaningful Involvement of PLHIV and Affected Communities* across Member Associations. 'The Right to Participate' in the *IPPF Policies* states that when programmes and services are being designed, implemented and evaluated, efforts should be made to involve young people and ensure they have real decision making power. A commitment to strengthen engagement with both youth and people living with HIV is also made in the *2005-2015 Strategic Plan*. However, no commitment is made to making public the outcomes of stakeholder engagement.

Responsibility for overseeing external stakeholder engagement is split according to stakeholder group. Within the Regional Offices, Youth Focal Points are responsible for youth participation. Oversight of engagement with people affected by HIV and AIDS lies with the Senior Advisor HIV / AIDS. At the regional level this responsibility lies with HIV/AIDS Focal Points. Training on youth participation is led by the Regional Offices according to Member Association needs and the regional context.

PARTICIPATION – MEMBER CONTROL

IPPF is composed of Member Associations from six regions which are represented in their own Regional Councils. Representatives from each Regional Council have one vote each. Five representatives from each Regional Council members are elected to the Governing Council, the governing and executive body of IPPF. As its governing body is also its executive body and it adheres to key good practice principles such as allowing all members to add items to its agenda, IPPF's structure ensures equitable member control and representation.

Headquarters: London, UK

Countries of operation: 180

Budget: £120.6 million (2007)

Employees:

- IPPF Secretariat: 298
- IPPF: 28,000

Website: www.ippf.org

Accountability Initiatives signed up to:

- Code of Good Practice for NGOs in Responding to HIV/AIDS

2008 GLOBAL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT RATINGS			
Dimension	Score	INGO Rank	2008 Rank
Transparency	27%	8	22=
Participation: External Stakeholder Engagement	88%	3	3
Participation: Member Control	100%	1=	1=
Evaluation	78%	4=	11=
Complaints & Response: Internal	86%	1=	3=
Complaints & Response: External	9%	8	22
Overall	62%	6	13

= denotes tied ranking

EVALUATION

Evaluation practices within IPPF are guided by three key documents. The *Monitoring and Evaluation Policy* commits to engagement with key stakeholders. The *IPPF Standards and Responsibilities of Membership* also make a strong commitment to monitoring and evaluation and to using data to inform decision making, adjust programmes when necessary and continuously improve performance. The *Secretariat Performance Review Systems* provides for a regular review that covers finance, governance, and supporting strategies within IPPF's Secretariat. IPPF does not commit to disseminating its evaluation policies to key stakeholders and to making evaluation results publicly available.

Overall responsibility for the *Monitoring and Evaluation Policy* lies with the *Head of Organisational Learning and Evaluation*. The training of Member Associations is the responsibility of Regional Offices. The Central Office provides regular training to Regional Office Focal Points on monitoring and evaluation. IPPF also has a number of mechanisms for ensuring dissemination of lessons from evaluations within the organisation, such as regional focal point meetings, *Learning days within Central Office*, newsletters and Member Association exchanges.

COMPLAINTS AND RESPONSE - INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL COMPLAINTS

The *IPPF Whistleblower Policy* guides the handling and investigation of misconduct complaints from staff. The policy commits to keep the identity of complainants confidential and to protect internal complainants against retaliation. There are three internal channels through which a complaint can be made - manager, relevant Director or Manager of Human Resources, and Director General- and a number of external channels including the UK Charity Commission and Public Concern at Work, a NGO that advocates for whistleblowers. Overall responsibility for the *Whistleblower Policy* lies with the Director General. Formal training on the *Whistleblower Policy* has only been provided to the Head of Human Resources. Divisional Directors and managers, the other potential recipients of internal complaints, receive ad hoc training. There is no explicit commitment to ensure independence in the investigation process.

External stakeholders can make complaints on issues related to fraud and misuse of IPPF funds through the Fraud Reporting Template, available on the IPPF website. However, it is not intended for wider complaints regarding non-compliance with organisational policies and procedures, and no information is provided regarding complaint handling procedures. Furthermore, no commitment is made to ensuring the investigative independence and no information is provided to external parties on how complaints will be investigated. The Head of Finance is responsible for receiving and handling external complaints and the Deputy Director General is responsible for overseeing the investigation. While the current *Head of Finance* has not been provided with specific training, IPPF commits to provide training as necessary.

ONGOING ACCOUNTABILITY REFORMS

For the current accreditation review cycle, training on the revised accreditation system provided to Secretariat staff and volunteers will cover all aspects of the membership standards and thus also standards relating to transparency and openness.

PERFORMANCE SNAPSHOT

IPPF scores well above all sector averages in participation and evaluation. As its governing body is also its executive body and each member has one vote, IPPF faces no issues of inequitable member control. Furthermore, IPPF makes commitments to stakeholder engagement in a series of policies and documents and includes key stakeholders (women and youth) in its governance. As its external complaints handling policy is open to external parties only in reference to financial issues, IPPF has relatively weak capabilities in complaints handling and performs similarly to sector averages. IPPF also has weak capabilities in transparency, in part due to the lack of adequate training in transparency and openness policies. Thus, IPPF ranks 6th within the INGO sector and 13th overall for its accountability capabilities.

