

POLICY FORUM MONTHLY MEETING –NOVEMBER 1, 2007
CARE INTERNATIONAL OFFICES,
TIME: 10AM-1PM

MATTERS ARISING:

- Rose Mushi elected a member of the Steering Committee
- Policy Website is ready, members will be sent their login names and passwords through email

OPENING

The meeting was officially started by the Chairman of Policy Forum's Steering Committee, Hebron Mwakagenda at 10:25am. There was a round of introduction as there appeared to be a few new faces.

ATTENDANCE:

1. Will Jensen	HIVOS
2. Odovar Bjorknes	NPA
3. Lina Magoma	PF
4. Kelvin Mwanshilo	YPC
5. Matondane Diana	PF
6. Namwaka O Mwaikinda	PF
7. Hebron Mwakagenda	The Leadership Forum
8. Gertrude Mugizi	PF
9. Semkae Kilonzo	PF
10. Pelician Lyimo	HEMFA
11. Octavius Kisinda	TENMET
12. Ruth Carlits	HAKIELIMU
13. Rita Toutant	TNCHF

AGENDA

1. Steadman Group: Presentation of the Tanzania All Media Products survey Report 2007
2. Feedback from PETS East Africa conference- Gertrude/ Hebron
3. CDF Bill- Hebron
4. PMORALG/ CSO Round Table Meeting- Semkae
5. General Budget Support Annual Review- CSO response letter and member signing.
6. Working Group Updates
7. AOB

STEADMAN GROUP:

- Steadman Group came and presented the Tanzania all Media Survey (TAMPS) Report of 2007. They pointed out that the survey is done annually and they intend to have one bi-annually for all major cities i.e.; Dar es Salaam, Arusha, Mwanza, Mbeya and Dodoma.

- TAMPS show how media is consumed and audience fragmentation, it also contains data on TV, Radio, Print-Newspapers etc.
- The Thelma software will be installed at the Policy Forum Secretariat offices in two weeks time. All members are welcome to use it.

FEEDBACK FROM PETS CONFERENCE

- The Conference was held in Arusha at Impala Hotel from 24th-26th of October. CSOs from Uganda, Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania and Ethiopia participated. It was co-organized by Policy forum and International Budget Project (IBP).
- The idea behind the meeting was to share lessons learned in PETS by the respective countries, share methodologies and look into possibility of collaborating in Public Expenditure Tracking.
- Two main areas were identified for collaboration- Access to Information laws (enactment and amendments) and tracking of Constituency Development Funds (CDF)

OUTCOME:

- All Countries to track CDF and learn major lessons from Kenya, where they have a longer experience in tracking CDFs.

COMMENTS:

- Not only CSOs to undertake PETS, in places where there are no CSOs, individuals should be trained to undertake PETS, especially CDF

CDF BILL

- There is still no update on the CDF Bill, Hebron was told that the bill is still at the printers.
- It was noted that the bill was not passed but the funds for CDF are allocated, this is a bit dodgy.
- Also the bill is likely to be passed under certificate of urgency, excluding people the right to see the bill 3 weeks before being read for the first time in parliament.
- Hebron to still follow up on getting the bill, although it might be too late

PMORALG AND CSOs ROUNDTABLE

- Workshop to be held on the 26th to 27th November 2007 to discuss the future of Local governance Reform Programme which come to an end in June 2007 and come up with some practical proposals.
- The workshop will be held at Njuweni Hotel in Kibaha attracting 25 participants, members and non members of Policy Forum Local Governance Working Group (LGWG)

GBS ANNUAL REVIEW

- CSOs only invited during the opening and closing dates only, not invited as participants.
- Email circulating to all members to sign on a Public Statement on the uniform stand of the CSOs regarding our stand on the General Budget Support Annual Review.
- Therefore it was decided that we do not participate in the GBS review this year despite being invited to do so. To have participated in a few sessions selected by Government, with no notice, would contravene conventional principles of governance including those agreed to by Government itself and donors in this country.

WORKING GROUPS UPDATES

- Local government working Group- Workshop to be held on the 26th to 27th November 2007 to discuss the future of Local governance Reform Programme

AOB

- TENMET- Supplied their recent publications to members
- HAKIELIMU- Supplied their recent publications to members
- CARE- There will be a participatory meeting between non state and the poor, invitations to come soon