

## Reports of Small Discussion Groups: Taking A New Look at Condoms

### Group 1

- WG Linkages: Forecasting needs of youth and of couples for condoms.
- Challenges: Influencing the GFATM to ensure inclusion of SRH in programming and evaluation. Offer technical assistance on programming (some RHSC members are on the GFATM Board).
- Strategic linkages: When the US gives money to IFI, make sure RH commodity security is represented.

### Group 2

- WG Linkages:
  - RMA: resource requirements for purchase, financing mechanisms for purchase.
  - MDA: commercial approaches for condom marketing; proper market segmentation to identify approaches; continued prequalification of suppliers.
  - SSWG: Capacity building: inspection, testing, procurement and delivery infrastructures at local level.
- Challenges:
  - Condom activities are high profile, often carried out in media spotlight.
  - Emotive issue; condoms can prevent a potential life-threatening condition.
  - Politics of condom promotion and supply.
  - Are condoms a medical device or consumer product?
  - Behavioral/social/lifestyle preferences surrounding choice to use condoms.
  - Easier to distribute and promote than prescription drugs (+ and -).
  - Direct relationship to sex (+ and -).
- Strategic linkages: Importance of delivery of condoms for prevention purposes at relatively low cost, to reduce the future cost burden of treatment.

### Group 3

- WG linkages:
  - Mobilizing resources: access to GFATM funding is in response to country requests. As they apply for funding, we can support countries' national programs in including condoms as a priority.
  - SSWG RH Interchange and monitoring/tracking system.
  - Financing studies, other WG tools and instruments.
- Strategic linkages:
  - Systems improvements are taking place benefiting all commodities, i.e., PMTCT is raising the bar for a range of health interventions.
  - Proliferating social marketing programs within a country.

### Group 4

- WG linkages: similar messaging across all WGs on key points we want to make on condoms.
- Strategic linkages: RHSC members' country offices should work together within a country: and, together, work with the national agencies in that country. We need to create incentives to get them to do this.

#### Group 5

- WG linkages: SSWG financing studies can help countries identify mechanisms for funding condom supplies.

#### Group 6

- WG linkages
  - Prequalification of generic supplies.
  - Ensure that capacity building in procurement includes condoms.
  - Be sure condom testing is done before shipping to the country—to avoid complications when they are tested upon arrival and are not accepted at port.
  - Be sure condoms are included when there are tax reductions.

#### Group 7

- WG linkages
  - Use a total market approach to condom programming (if high risk groups are currently underserved—what about other groups?)
  - Ability to focus on quality.
- Challenges
  - Bring down the price of female condoms.
  - SRH services in and of themselves are essential. They also are a component of HIV prevention. Condoms are the entry point, but not the whole.
- Strategic linkages
  - Be opportunistic: use condom theme to push RH agenda within HIV prevention.
  - GFATM's monitoring indicators: include RH indicators.

#### Group 8

- WG linkages
  - Prequalification, which can expand supply base.
  - Strengthening country capacity; need to get governments to include condoms in their request when they ask for GFATM support.
  - Logistics: ensure right amount, proper storage.
  - Pricing of female condom: start discussion.
  - RH Interchange links to MIS systems, national coordination.
- Challenges
  - Need to look at youth needs/use and how to expand access.
  - Need for all UNFPA and USAID offices to know about RHSC.
- Strategic linkages
  - Assist GFATM with tracking.

ABC: look at how governments are changing policy and if there are changes in requests for condoms as a result of ABC requirements.