

1. INTRODUCTIONS

- a. *Jeremy noted that there were no new partners joining today and that it would likely be a brief meeting given almost all of the secretariat and many co-chairs were away on holidays last week*

2. REVIEW OF COVID-END ACTION ITEMS AND BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- a. *Jeremy pointed partners to the partner notes from 30 July (see attachment 2) and to the co-chair meeting notes from 11 August (see attachment 3)*

3. COVID-END NETWORK UPDATES

- a. *Heather provided an update on the horizon-scanning panel, which included pointing to the first briefing note (see attachment 4) and the first panel summary (see attachment 5), as well as to the slides (see attachment 6), which summarized points such as:*
 - i. *32 confirmed panelists are bringing diverse perspectives (across all dimensions of the taxonomy) and are drawn from diverse regions and from countries where diverse languages are spoken*
 - ii. *a broad range of potential issues for consideration (from the briefing note)*
 - iii. *a broad range of insights about issues for prioritization (from the panel discussion)*
 - iv. *documents will always be made available within three working days of each month's panel meeting at the following URL:*
<https://www.mcmasterforum.org/networks/covid-end/resources-to-support-decision-makers/horizon-scanning-panel>
 - v. *partners noted that they have already begun to discuss how to use these materials (e.g., Cochrane), that clinical management issues seemed underrepresented, and that we will have more robust consumer engagement with Maureen Smith joining this month's call*
 - vi. **ACTION:** Heather to share the documents each month with John Groves and Molly Meri Robinson Nicol at WHO (as well as, through a suggestion made in a private chat interaction during the Zoom call, to also post the documents each month to the COVID-END Community listserv to invite further discussion on the potential priority topics)
 - vii. **ACTION:** Partners to send (to covidend@mcmaster.ca) hyperlinks to documents, tweets, etc. that can be referenced in the briefing note
- b. *Report back from EViR funders forum*
 - i. *Jeremy provided an update about the presentation, which seemed to have been well received, and invited comments on the new slides about the implications of our work for funders/commissioners of evidence syntheses*
 - ii. **ACTION:** Secretariat to bring forward for a future discussion with the partners those issues that we think should be brought to a follow-up discussion specifically with the funders/commissioners in early September

4. UPDATE FROM ALL WORKING GROUPS

- a. Scoping – Jeremy noted that Ruth Stewart and other LMIC-based colleagues are near to submitting a paper to The Lancet*
- b. Engaging – Maureen noted that a new discussion about priority setting has been launched by Sandy Oliver and that the working group is considering the possibility of organizing webinars targeting members of the COVID-END Community*
- c. Digitizing – Jeremy noted that the co-chairs have both been on holidays and Kaelan noted that one of the key areas of current focus is about how to leverage COKA’s work*
- d. Synthesizing – Andrea noted that Vivian and others are pushing forward work on equity considerations*
- e. Recommending – Jeremy noted that we will be scheduling a brief presentation by Yasser about the quality of the first wave of COVID-19 guidelines, that the group is developing a guide to developing recommendations about COVID-19 (akin to the one developed by the Synthesizing working group), and that the group continues to have conversations about linkages to G-I-N among others*
- f. Packaging – Jeremy reminded partners that we will be coming back to them with the proposed revisions to the terms of reference for this working group*
- g. Sustaining – Jeremy provided a brief update about evaluation activities*

5. NEWS AND INITIATIVES OF INTEREST TO PARTNERS

- a. Jeremy noted the upcoming GIN webinar entitled Global guidance and local application during the COVID-19 pandemic: best practice for adaptation of guidelines
DATE: Wednesday August 19th
TIME: 9:00-10:30am EDT*

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Jeremy thanked Lucy Nakibukka and Newman Dieyi – two MPH students from Memorial University -- for all of their hard work and amazing contributions to COVID-END’s work*