

**RHSC SPRING MEETING 27-28 APRIL, 2007**

**MEETING EVALUATION  
SURVEY OF PARTICIPANTS**



Reproductive Health  
Supplies Coalition

# RHSC SPRING MEETING 27-28 APRIL, 2007

## MEETING EVALUATION

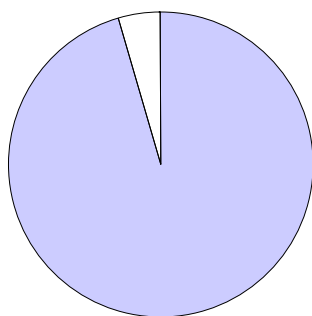
### SURVEY OF PARTICIPANTS

This report analyses the findings of a two-page evaluation form that was distributed to all participants on the last afternoon session of the Membership Meeting. Of the 55 forms distributed, 30 were returned to the meeting organizers. For the most part, the analysis aggregates repeat and first time attendees because the results show few significant differences between them. Where differences do appear, however, they are noted. A copy of the questionnaire is attached at the end of the report.

First-time attendees	N=13
Repeat attendees	N=17
Total respondents	N=30

#### Better understanding of the Strategic Plan and its development

Over 90 percent of respondents (N=28) came away from the meeting reporting better understanding of the Strategic Plan and the way in which it was developed. One respondent, for example, noted how well the Plan “was coming together” Another said it was a “very positive way forward”. And finally, one respondent noted having arrived with “concerns about the strategic plan workplan but [felt]...they worked through them in the break-out groups”



Yes  No

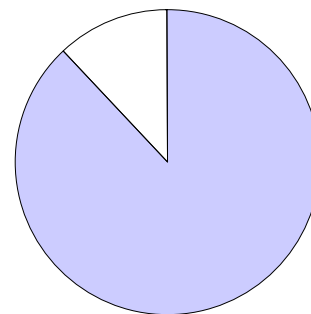
*Figure 1. Did you gain an understanding content and development process of the Strategic Plan?*

But better understanding of the Plan did not mean that all questions were answered. Seven percent of respondents indicated that they were still uncertain over the way the Strategic Plan would “impact on country workplans and the exact endorsement process”.

#### Good mix of plenary and breakout sessions

Over 85 percent of respondents reported satisfaction with the mix of plenary and breakout sessions.

The main complaint, irrespective of satisfaction with the mix, was the lack of time. Respondents suggested a number of possible remedies including fewer presentations and lunch time work sessions



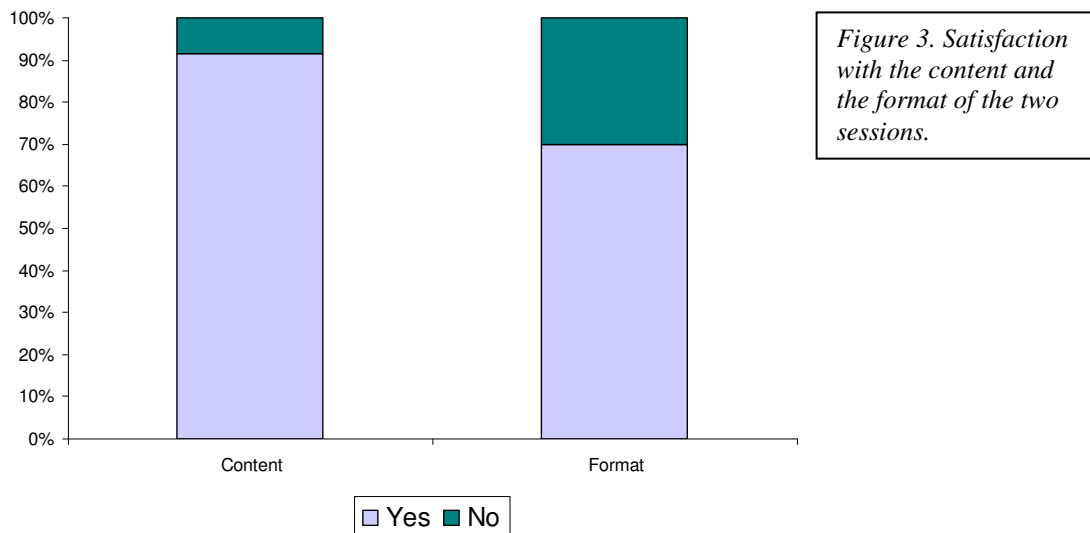
Yes  No

*Figure 2. Was there an effective mix of plenary and working group sessions?*

## Praise for Panel Discussions, but format needs improvement

With very few exceptions (N=2), respondents liked the content of the two panel sessions, *Changing Environment for International Development Assistance* and *RH Supply Security Committees*. One respondent described it as “an effective mix”. But even among those who offered praise, a few noted areas for improvement. They suggested, for example, making more explicit the relevance of the discussions to the Coalition – both generally and in terms of concrete action steps. Others found the discussions too focused on background information.

As popular as the content of the discussions may have been, however, less well-liked was the format of the discussion. Indeed, over a quarter of the respondents noted the lack of adequate time and/or the effort to squeeze too much into the limited time available. Some commented on the style of the presentations, saying they would like to have seen greater use of a common Power Point template.



## Everyone’s favorite: panel discussions and Pre-Qualification mini-workshop

Overall, respondents were highly satisfied with all five of the key presentations (Since Bonn, Strategic Plan, Changing Environment, Security Committees, and Pre-Qualification). Indeed, with “achievement of expectations” ranked on a scale of 1-4 (1=least satisfactory, 4= most satisfactory), scores averaged 3.19, with no presentation scoring less than 2.8. But the three “guest” presentations did stand out as being highly effective. These included the presentation on Pre-Qualification, and the two panel discussions on the Changing Development Environment and Contraceptive Security Committees. These received satisfaction scores of 3.61, 3.43, and 3.43 respectively.

## Organization of break out sessions could be improved

Although 80 percent of the respondents felt the breakout sessions were adequately structured to allow for planning and decision making, these results belied a general feeling that things could have been better. Indeed, even among the 80 percent, some remarked that time available to them was too short; others said the breakout groups were too big.

Among the 20 percent who expressed dissatisfaction, the comments were more diverse. Two people, for example, questioned the utility of dividing the breakout sessions across Working Group lines; others felt that in some cases “the group dynamic was not very spontaneous”; and still others suggested that groups incorporated people from too diverse backgrounds.

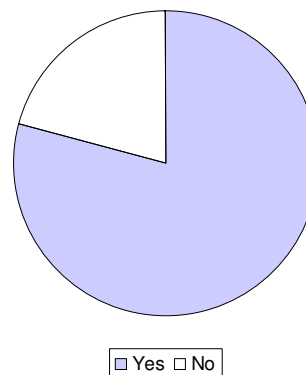


Figure 4. Were the breakout sessions structured so that your group was able to develop plans and make decisions?

## New-comers want to learn more about us

Taken as a whole, respondents were fairly evenly divided (47 vs. 53 percent) as to whether other issues could have been raised and/or discussed more fully at the membership meeting.

Divided into first-time and repeat attendees, however, a different pattern emerged. As illustrated in Figure 5, only one third of repeat attendees suggested the need for other issues to be discussed, compared to nearly two-thirds (62.5 percent) of first time visitors. Among the latter group, many suggestions had to do with the internal workings of the Coalition itself (issues with which they would have been less familiar). This included, for example, descriptions as to how the Coalition coordinated its work at country level; the different responsibilities of the Coalition and Secretariat; the membership issue; and finances.

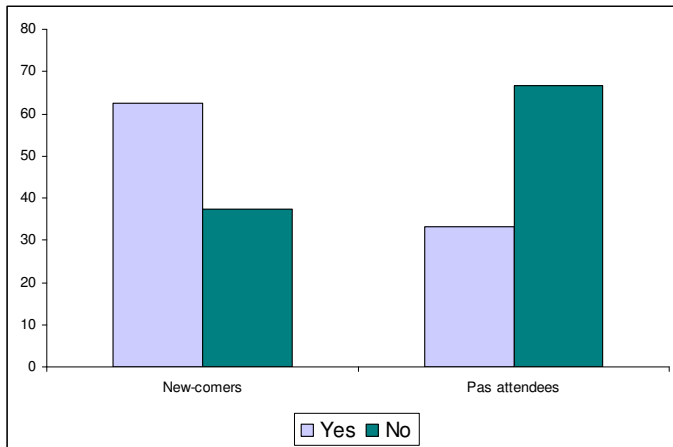
The following table lists verbatim from the evaluation survey, the issues respondents felt should have been addressed.

### First-time attendees

1. Joint activities
2. How to coordinate the work of the Coalition with the country work
3. Larger issue of what the Coalition (Secretariat) is going to be responsible for vs. what it contributes to regardless of "credit/attribution" or responsibility.
4. Membership
5. Mandate of the Coalition
6. How the Coalition intend to be known by and work with countries
7. Financial/budget report

### Repeat attendees

1. Engaging the commercial sector
2. What do we mean by "interpretation"
3. RHSC membership, especially engaging countries
4. What are the shortfalls of the RHSC which are likely to constraint its activities?
5. Concerns over increasing lack of emphasis on prevention.
6. Need to press for more condom survey



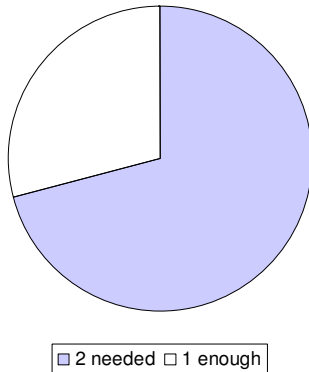
*Figure 5. Do you feel the agenda omitted key issues that the Coalition should be addressing?*

## Expect many familiar faces next October

Well over 90 percent of all respondents indicated their desire to attend the Coalition's next Membership Meeting, which will be held from 24-25 October 2007, in Washington, D.C. Copied verbatim from the evaluation form, their suggestions for discussion topics are as follows:

- Lessons learned and how to effectively apply them across countries
- Final draft for the Strategic Plan
- Influence of the political environment to supplies
- What are RHSC members/guests already doing in countries to address RH supplies? Which countries? What are the activities?
- How does this contribute to Strategic Plan? Are they collaborating with other RHSC members/partners?
- Membership
- What are the real prospects for regional approaches?
- Commercial sector participation
- Procurement
- Pricing
- Guidance on strategic implementation
- Focus on HIV/AIDS
- Strengthening of informational systems
- Support to the implementation of a protected budget line in RH and gender equity
- Help the countries that already take in charge the procurement in RH with advocacy and logistics

## For the time being, semi-annual meetings make sense



Over two-thirds (71 percent) of respondents believe that two membership meetings per year are necessary for the Coalition to achieve its goals and objectives. Some, however, qualified their comments by linking the frequency of meetings to the early developmental stage at which the Coalition now finds itself. Once the strategic plan, membership, and other “big” systems-related issues and action plans have been sorted out, they say, and then annual meetings may be sufficient

*Figure 5. Do you think 2 meetings per year are needed to achieve the Coalition's goals and objectives, or would one meeting be sufficient?*

## Participants left overwhelmingly satisfied

Nearly all respondents (95 percent) said that the meeting had met their expectations and almost the same proportion (90 percent) said the same about the logistics arrangements (hotel, venue, etc.).

There were, however, a number of suggestions put forth to improve things further;

- Greater use of simultaneous translation to save time and to allow non-English speakers to participate actively.
- Engage participants around issues where consensus-building can lead to the Coalition exercising its collective voice.

## COPY OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE

### RHSC Spring Meeting 27-28 April, 2007 Meeting Evaluation Survey of Participants

**1. Were the overall meeting objectives achieved? Specifically,**

- Did you gain an understanding content and development process of the Strategic Plan?

Yes

No

Comment:

**2. Was there an effective mix of plenary and working group sessions?**

Yes

No

Comment:

**3. Did you find the panel content and format of the two sessions, *Changing Environment for International Development Assistance*, and *RH Supply Security Committees* effective and/or productive?**

Content

Yes

No

Format

Yes

No

Comment:

**5. How would you evaluate the following sessions: Were they interesting and relevant? Did they achieve their objectives?**

Scale: 1 (poor), 2 (adequate), 3 (good), 4 (excellent)

Friday, 27 April 27	Score: interest, relevance	Score: achievement of objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since Bonn (Objectives: Introduce the overall objectives of the meeting. Describe the agenda for the coming two days. Highlight key achievements of the Coalition in the period since the last membership meeting in Bonn)</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic Plan (Objectives: Introduce the strategic plan. Review the development of the plan and the process for feedback. Present an overview of the plan's vision, goals, and focus areas.)</li> </ul>		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Changing Environment for International Development Assistance (Panel)</b> (Objectives: Provide an overview of the changes underway to foster greater country ownership of the development process. Understand better the practical implications and relevance of these changes with respect to the ability of the Coalition and members to achieve strategic plan goals and objectives.)</li> </ul>		
<b>Saturday, April 28</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>RH Supply Security Committees (Panel)</b> (Objectives: Assess the opportunities (and limitations) of national RH Supply Security Committees to act as catalysts and partners in the achievement of Coalition goals and objectives. Summarize priority supply concerns at country level to determine whether and how they are reflected within the Strategic Plan.)</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Prequalification and Coalition Procurement—Mini-Workshop</b> (Objective: Provide information about how Coalition member institutions can make concrete use of the WHO prequalification project to help ensure product quality.)</li> </ul>		

**7. Was the working group breakout session structured so that your group was able to develop plans and make decisions?**

- Yes  
 No

Comment:

**8. What issues or activities would you like to see addressed in the Autumn 2007 RHSC meeting?**

**9. Do you plan to attend the Fall 2006 RHSC meeting in Washington, D.C.?**

- Yes  
 No

Comment:

**10. Do you feel that the agenda omitted key issues/concerns that the RHSC should be addressing?**

- Yes  
 No

Comment:

**11. Do you think that 2 meetings per year of the general membership (i.e., format of the meetings to date) are needed to achieve the Coalition's goals and objectives, or would one meeting per year be sufficient?**

- 2 are needed  
 1 would be sufficient

Comment:

**12. Overall, were your expectations of the Coalition meeting met?**

- Yes  
 No



Comment:

**Planning & Logistics**

**14. Were the meeting logistics—provision of information before the meeting, hotel information, meeting venue, etc. satisfactory?**

- Yes
- No

Comment:

**15. Have you attended previous RHSC meetings?**

- Yes
- No

Comment:

**16. Do you have other comments that you would like to provide?**