

Online Discussion - What happens with XUNICEF communications after the end of March?

28 January 2026

Thank you for joining today's discussion on how we might continue communications between XUNICEF members after the current News & Views team retires on March 31.

We are encouraged that at least nine XUNICEF members have indicated willingness to help manage and lead communications going forward.

Any new team will face the longstanding challenges faced by the current team - how to encourage more discussion of topics that interest XUNICEF members, how to bring in younger and more recent retirees, how to expand beyond the very small number of current contributors, and how to encourage more of our many 'silent' members to participate beyond browsing what others contribute.

A change in platform from the current blog may be needed to better serve our community's needs—whether modifying the current blog or adopting alternative fora for easier and more rapid discussions. Each alternative requires research into its advantages and drawbacks. This will take time and effort, so for now we will need to keep working with the current blog format for the immediate future - albeit with tweaks until something new can be up and running.

The current editorial team stands ready to assist any new team or board in whatever way is helpful.

Apologies - sorry that I failed to turn on the recording and transcript functions for today's Google Meet session, so I won't attempt to summarize the rich discussion and many excellent points raised. Instead, here are the key action points from our conversation. Please add any others you feel are needed:

1. **Carina and Margherita** will connect directly this week. Everyone's email addresses are shown above for anyone who wishes to be in touch.
2. **Carina** will research various forum options that might replace the current blog.
3. **Margherita** will plan and lead a series of video discussions in coming months on topics of interest to XUNICEF members.
4. **Tom** will invite members who indicated interest (via email or survey) to a meeting next week to discuss formation of a new team or board to manage XUNICEF communications after March 31. You are welcome to join and I will share the invitation with you.
5. **Fouad** highlighted UNICEF's 80th anniversary this year as a great opportunity to build on the work we did for the 75th anniversary. We need to think how best to get started.
6. **Saad** raised the possibility of a rotating board to manage XUNICEF communications. Beyond the nine who have shown interest in joining a new team, we should think further on how to build a continuing support group.
7. **Margherita** will write an article for the blog to address concerns about how we go about choosing the location and leadership of future reunions. These concerns

need to be resolved soon so the group attending the Zimbabwe reunion is aware and doesn't undertake its own nomination process.

Please feel free to reach out with questions, additional action items, or clarifications.

Best regards, Tom