

GNDR Global Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday 3 Aug 2017 - 14:00 BST UK Time.

Board Participants

Marcus, Rod, Zenaida, Jose, Graciela, Kheswar, Oenone, Peter, Emad,

Apologies/Absent

Nigel, Emma, Farah (Chair), Lorna, Nicole, Papiloa, Ali,

Also attending

Jo Cartwright (Financial update), Esther Fletcher (Minutes), Jesus Cordero (Membership re-Categorisation update); Sergio & Virginia (Spanish interpreters). Marcus chaired the meeting due to the absence of Farah.

Previous Minutes

The last quarterly board meeting was held on the 2nd May 2017. The identified Actions have been completed during the quarter with the exception of the following outstanding action:

- North America's Board member selection process.

Budget Approval 2017-2018

Jo discussed the work plan and summary of the budget for approval. The finance committee met in July and as per the minutes of its meeting on 17th July recommended the budget to the Global Board for formal approval. The main concern being that GNDR ensures there are sufficient resources in place to deliver the planned activities, particularly as key staff were not replaced when they left over during the previous 12 months, due to funding constraints. Jo listed some key activities within the workplan such as the Global Platform, the inception of the RAG groups and their initial meetings, the re-categorisation of membership and upcoming workshops for knowledge exchange and gathering of case studies. Also the CBDRM Evaluation Framework.

Marcus asked the Board for approval. Difficulties with connectivity to the meeting caused some disruption. The budget was approved during the meeting by Jose, Emad, Rod, and Peter. Graciela requested more time for the Board to review the budget.

ACTION:

- **Any Board member not able to connect or approve the budget on the call to email any questions and/or approval to Jo by close of business Thurs 10th Aug 2017.**

Financial Update

- Jo talked through the issued finance headlines document. At 30th June 2017, GNDR had 500k in the bank and all activities on track.
- Jo invited additional board members to join the finance committee. Oenone supported this request and encouraged a board member from the southern hemisphere.

ACTION:

- **Any member of the Board wishing to join the finance committee to let the Secretariat know by email asap and ideally before the next finance committee meeting expected to be September 14th at 3 pm.**

GNDR Secretariat Structure

- Marcus discussed the new organisational structure, pointing out it is costed in the budget and is within new funding for 2017/18. Regional recruiting taking place as well as additional secretariat staff. Currently, 3 positions being advertised; Fundraising Coordinator, Network Development Manager and VFL Coordinator. Soon to be advertised is the Advocacy and Learning Coordinator role. Regional Assistants for the RDC's are also being advertised and shortly additional post to support Finance and HR.
- Potential further expansion next year such as an assistant for the Communications Coordinator. Marcus also discussed his hope to be able to support Southern Africa more and Central Asia.
- Marcus asked for feedback from the Board. He answered Graciela's question regarding the Network Development Manager role and pointed out it is not a new position as such but a replacement of previous staff like Terry and Stu to strengthen Secretariat capacity. The regional jobs are new positions.
- Jose trusts the Secretariat to make the right decisions on the structure using new funds as it is answering the needs of the Global Network. He also asked how GNDR will manage the regional work and pointed out the LAC region could do with additional support. Marcus responded that investment in the regions to strengthen capacity like establishing RAG will also help strengthen regional relationships. Marcus highlighted that Act Alliance in LAC are exchanging TOR's is an example of supporting regional relationships.

ACTION:

- **Any comments from Board members on the structure to be emailed to Secretariat by Thurs 10 Aug 2017.**

VFL Update

- VFL Design Workshop in Geneva hosted by Swiss NGO Platform was successful. 30 different organisations present were all interested in working with GNDR.
- Australian Government's grant is to support the development of the methodology in Tonga and the Philippines.
- The process is to take on a local consultant (Janine), supported by an advisory group put together in August 2017 to oversee VFL methodology and subsequent piloting. Marcus asked that any Board member interested in being part of the advisory group should inform the Secretariat.
- Scale out of VFL to take place in summer 2018 to 48 countries. This is expected to be funded by the European Commission with a 4 million Euro grant.
- Countries to participating were identified by UNDP as most vulnerable to disaster and/or affected by climate change and have engaging governments.
- Zenaida is happy with the South-South aspect of getting CV's for VFL job. Marcus said he will put an interview team together to ensure GNDR gets the right person.

ACTION:

- **Any Board members wishing to get involved in the advisory group for VFL to email Secretariat by Thurs 10 Aug 2017.**

Membership Re-categorisation

- Jesus presented a summary report. He gave some explanation for some results such as members' desire for a more flexible vetting approach. GNDR will find ways to incorporate organisations who, for justifiable reasons, are not legally registered in their country.

- If risk analysis is positive GNDR will go ahead with re-categorisation.
- If it shows negative result GNDR will re-approach the board.
- Jesus mentioned that losing 25% of GNDR's members in the process would not be a problem. However, anything beyond that amount should merit a discussion by the board on the implications.
- If re-categorisation goes ahead it will be a slow and thorough process so not to rush the members.
- All methods of communication have been incorporated into the report including open forums and individual contact via email etc.

AOB

- Marcus provided a brief update on dates of the RAG meetings and the discussions in Bonn.

Next Global Board Meeting: Thursday 2nd November 2017 14:00 UK time.