

GNDR Global Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday 7 June 2018 - 14:00 BST UK Time.

Board Participants

Rod, Zenaida, Kheswar, Oenone, Peter A, Emad, Rumana, Peter C, Emma H, Nicole, Ali, Farah, Loreine

Apologies/Absent

Nigel, Papiloa, Graciela, Jose Ramon

Also attending

Jonathan Potter, Nick Roberts (Financial update), Esther Fletcher (Minutes), Emma Kerr (Membership Working Group update); Lucy Pearson (Resources update). Farah and Oenone split chairing the meeting due to intermittent technical issues.

Welcome

Farah welcomed all and thanked everyone for being present at the meeting and at the summit.

Previous Minutes

The last quarterly board meeting was held on the 1st March 2018. The identified Actions have been completed during the quarter.

Re-nomination Process

Farah re-confirmed the process: no objections had been received to inviting the elected Board Members to extend their term. Nicole recommended staggering, suggesting some Board Members resign after 1.5 years. Jonathan advised that this was not in the governance manual and a staggered departure would need to be voluntary. Farah asked if it could be added to the manual in appropriate wording.

ACTION 1 on attached list.

Emma gave an update on Board application. Caribbean had only one applicant so has been sent to the members for approval. North America had 3 applications that Rod feels are all strong candidates. East Africa had 4 applications. In this situation it is required that Governance Working Group shortlist this to 3 applicants, then circulate the 3 to the members for selection.

ACTION 2 on attached list.

Secretariat Update

Jonathan announced that the update had been sent to the board and was happy to take any questions. Peter A asked if GNDR will be taking on any more staff next year. Jonathan replied that no general staff were expected and if any new staff come on board they will be project specific. Emad asked if there had any consideration for an RDC in North Africa/East Asia. He feels there is a need. Farah asked Emad if the cost for this would come from general funding or a project. Jonathan suggested that a paper on regional development could be drawn up by the secretariat for the board to discuss at the next face to face Board meeting. Farah agreed this is good step.

ACTION 3 on attached list.

Working Group Activities

Finance: Emma H welcomed Nick to the team and gave an update. Funding stream is currently healthy. Cash flow is monitored closely. A 'Plan b' to bridge the gap scenario is not currently needed. Recruitment for finance positions has been difficult and is ongoing. Nick has produced some management accounts to ensure GNDR is on track, and Emma H feels this is a welcome development. Peter C asked about the matched grant for DEVCO. Lucy responded that 300K Euros can be included, leaving 120K Euros still to be sourced over next 3 years. Potential core funding is being sought from Swedes and DEVCO FPA agreement.

Governance: Jonathan gave an update in Graciela's absence. The Governance Working Group is currently revising the draft manual, and once complete it will be sent to the Board for discussion at the face to face meeting. Ali felt a key issue was the brexit situation. Jonathan informed him that brexit was on the agenda for the next Trustees' meeting.

Membership: Emma gave an update on membership stating that the current membership guidelines had been circulated to the board for comment. The Board approved the membership guidelines. Next priority is the membership strategy including re-categorisation. A Membership working group meeting will be set soon to decide if regular or as-required meetings will be needed. ACTION 4 on attached list.

Oenone asked if the strategy will have a version control/formal review date? Jonathan replied that yes all GNDR policy and procedures will have version control and review dates.

Resources: Lucy gave an update. The Resources Working Group meet on the 22nd March, they discussed their objective and agreed ToR. They will meet monthly or bi-monthly. The main activity is developing a fundraising strategy that includes the following 4 parts: Secretariat and regional funding separate; follows industry standards; focussed on members' capacity support; learning from other networks. A draft Fundraising Strategy will be developed with comments included by end of June 2018.

Working Group ToRs: Jonathan informed the board that all ToRs for Working Groups have been put into a standard format, and all groups have seen the updated objectives. All Working Group ToRs were approved by the Board.

Code of Conduct for Board Members

Ali offered to review the content to eliminate some redundancies. There were no comments on the content and it was agreed the CoC would be signed by all after Ali's work. ACTION 5 on attached list.

Next meeting

A date and a place have not yet been agreed; August was not suitable. A new doodle poll will be sent out to board for Sep/Oct dates. Weekdays of preference will go into consideration. ACTION 7 on attached list.

Two agenda items for the next meeting were agreed; approval of the revised governance manual and KPIs for the organisation and for the board. There were no disagreements with the other agenda items listed but Farah would like to add an item: GNDR work with links to SDG's. ACTION 8 on attached list.

Feedback on the Summit

Emma announced the feedback from the evaluation forms filled in at the summit by participants was very positive overall. Some examples were: 79/85 gave a positive response to collaborating with others in future; 73/80 had a better understanding of approaches to collaboration. A summary of all responses will be available to the board very soon. ACTION 9 on attached list.

Board member feedback was as follows: Zen – Very good to be together and learned a lot, Loreine – Will obtain feedback from members in an upcoming meeting, Ali – had feedback that a member wants to do collaboration activities, perhaps with help from an RDC, Rumana – Now has full understanding of GNDR and would like to see more regional desks next time, Farah – found it interesting, values coming together and feels next board meeting is crucial.

AOB

It was confirmed that the next scheduled board meeting (6th Sep) will be cancelled and replaced with the face to face meeting, date to be decided.

ACTION 10 on attached list.

Oenone announced that GNDR has appointed a new Executive Director. The name cannot yet be divulged as that person still needs to hand in notice at current employment. Update to board will be made as soon as possible.

Next Global Board Meeting: date and location to be advised.