

Global Board Meeting Minutes – Online

Thursday 12 September 2024 12:00 - 15:00 UK time

Board Participants: Graciela Salaberri (Chair of the Global Board), Peter Curran (Chair of Trustees), Lorenzo Mota King, Tania Triminio, Tolekan Ismailova, Zenaida Willison, Ghada Ahmadein, Eena Geslaine Barrun, Tasneen Siddiqui, Usha Menon, Rod Snider, Emmanuel Seck, Baimba Sisay.

Apologies: Heleen van der Beek (Chair of Stichting GNDR), Claire Tiffen, Mario Flores, Khurram Malik

In attendance from the Secretariat: Marco Concepcion Raba, Ipsita Sircar, Shivangi Chavda, Becky Murphy, Adessou Kossivi, Kathryn McDonagh, Orla Cunnane, Florencia Pasquale (TPA)

External Support: Brenda Bibiloni Kreisher (Interpreter)

Key:

Resolutions in red text

Links to documents are highlighted

1. Welcome from the Chair

Graciela welcomed everyone to the meeting

2. Recording Apologies

Apologies were received in writing from Claire Tiffen and Khurram Malik

3. Agenda

The Chair presented the agenda for approval.

Resolution: The agenda was approved

4. Global Board May 2024 meeting minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed.

Resolution: The minutes were approved

5. An update on the NFP election process and the new task force on NFP roles and responsibilities

Marcos updated on the NFP election process, which ran in 75 countries. NFPs were elected in 61 countries, 54 male representatives and 32 women representatives.

Marcos noted that we had a lower representation of female candidates, and a lack of two elected candidates in 14 countries. For this reason, we are running a second round of elections in these 14 countries to ensure there are two NFPs for each eligible country. This second round of elections opened on 9th September and the nominations process will run until 20th September. Shortlisting to ensure compliance will then run until 30th September and voting will run until 11th October. We will then have NFPs for each eligible region.

Marcos also flagged that we had some problems with contact information being out of date for member organisations. In many cases, the members had not updated their contact information, but we were able to correct this and make sure that every member organisation could vote. Steps are being taken for the future to ensure that members keep their contact information up to date.

Graciela noted that there was a request for clarification among the NFPs in the LAC region on eligibility to run. Marcos apologised for any confusion in the communication which was partly caused by the Regional Lead for LAC resigning from her role. Marcos clarified that all eligible NFPs in the LAC region are able to stand in the second round of voting currently being undertaken.

6. Election of the new Chair and Vice Chair of the Board

Emmanuel Seck was elected as the new Chair of the Global Board. Baimba Sisay and Tolekan Ismailova were elected as the two Vice Chairs of the Global Board.

Emmanuel received 8 votes, Tolekan 2 votes and Baimba 1 vote.

Graciela pointed out that in previous Global Board elections a candidate was not able to vote for themselves. Marcos noted that the Governance Manual does not currently have any specific language on this point. It was agreed on the call that candidates can vote for themselves, and that as this question would not have changed the outcome, it was agreed by all attendees that Emmanuel's election as Chair of the Global Board was approved.

Graciela congratulated Emmanuel on his election and stressed the importance of collaborative leadership going forward. She raised the idea of a "Board of Elders" for GNDR to ensure that institutional knowledge remains within the network.

7. A discussion of the election of new Independent Global Board Members

Marcos introduced a paper on the election of two new Independent Global Board members. He noted that the Governance Manual is not specific on the process for these elections. The

language in the Governance Manual is as follows: *“where deemed appropriate, GNDR may appoint independent board members who may also serve as patrons or goodwill ambassadors for GNDR. Independent board members can be nominated by existing global board members or trustees or secretariat and approved by two thirds of the global board. They should contribute additional skills, technical and constituency expertise to the global board...after serving three years on the global board, all board members (including independent members) must stand down, and may stand again for election (or, for independents, be re-appointed) for a final second term of three years.”*

It was noted that the language *“a final second term of three years”* denotes that no one can serve beyond 6 years on the Global Board.

Marcos introduced a proposal from the Secretariat on a process for the election of the Independent Board Members.

[Independent Board members process - Google Docs](#)

Zenaida Willison noted that the Governance Working Group is making the recommendation to the Global Board that the Governance Manual be updated. She asked that if this proposal is adopted that it also be reflected in the updated Governance Manual.

Graciela queried the eligibility criteria for Independent Board Members, given the 6 year term limit outlined above. She reiterated the idea of a group of elders to be formed to advise the Board.

Tania seconded Graciela’s query about the eligibility criteria for Independent Board Members, and supported the proposal that the Global Board should suggest the candidates for these roles.

Zenaida proposed that the election of the Independent Board Members be put on hold until after the revision of the Governance Manual to bring clarity to these processes.

Lorenzo seconded the idea the Governance Working Group should continue its work to establish clarity on processes using the Governance Manual.

Lorenzo also asked for clarity on which Vice Chair is the direct deputy to the Chair of the Global Board.

Peter proposed that the Governance Working Group should take a look at the process for how we elect Independent Members to the Global Board and provide a proposal to clarify this process. This proposal was seconded by Zenaida Willison

8. Update from the Secretariat

Time did not allow for the Update from the Secretariat to be presented in the meeting, but Marcos confirmed that all attendees have received the Update by email in the meeting

papers. It was confirmed that Global Board members were welcome to submit any questions on the Secretariat Update to the Secretariat by email.

Graciela asked for more information about the strategy question asked of members in the Policy Survey. Marcos confirmed that the survey allows us to identify our members key strategic priorities at the national and regional level and to adapt our policy positions accordingly. We then present these policy positions at two key spaces: the DRR, SDGs and the UNFCCC spaces.

Graciela also asked for more information about GNDR's attendance at the High Level Political Forum in New York. Marcos also confirmed that he and the Head of Policy, Rebecca Murphy, attended the HLPF in New York, along with GNDR member from Honduras, Jose Ramon Avila.

Sophie Rigg represented GNDR at the Summit of the Future in New York, as an Observer, and she also spoke at side events.

9. Update from the Trustees

We successfully recruited two new Trustees, Redempta Njeru based in Kenya and Marianna Leite based in Brussels. [Valeria Polazzi](#) did an excellent job in supporting the recruitment process.

Ian Farrer stepped down as Treasurer in July and Trustee Ewout van den Blink stepped into the role of Treasurer.

10. RAGs feeding into the Board meeting

Graciela Salaberri, [Lorenzo Mota King](#) and [Tania Triminio Quintanilla](#) presented updates from the LAC region. Baimba presented updates from South Africa and Eena on South East Asia & East Asia.

11. Recommendations from the Finance and Audit Working group

Ewout presented an update from the Finance and Audit Group

[2024.08.26 Recommendations from FAWG.docx - Google Docs](#)

12. Recommendations from the Governance Working Group

Zenaida presented an update from the Governance Working Group

[2024.08.22 Recommendations from GWG.docx - Google Docs](#)

13. Recommendations from the Membership Working Group

Peter presented an update from the Membership Working Group

[2024.08.15 Recommendations from MWG.docx - Google Docs](#)

14. Recommendations from the Resources Working Group

Marcos presented an update from the Resources Working Group

[2024.08.16 Recommendations from RWG RS.docx - Google Docs](#)

15. Conclusion and Thanks

Graciela concluded the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting concluded at 15.00 UK time.