



Board 2019-2022 Meeting Minutes

30 Sept 2021, 5 pm Central European Time (CET), ZOOM

Attendees: Terry Oudraad (TO), President; Veena Bathe (VB), VP Legal and Governance; Glenda Hecksher (GH), VP Marketing; Basak Ovacik (BO), VP Fundraising; Katharina Strub (KS), Treasurer and Stacy Dry Lara (SDL), Executive Director

Apologies: Louise McLeod (LM); VP Advocacy and Education

Welcome: TO welcomed all and called the meeting to order at 5:01PM CET

Agenda : Adopted

Minutes of Board Meeting 19 Aug 2021 & 21 Sept 2021: Adopted

Conflict of Interest: None

Update of Commission on the Dues Structure (CDS)

In light of Eileen Focke-Bakker's (EFB) resignation as member of the Board, KS is the Convener of CDS and will lead the committee.

Last September, the recommendations of the CDS on GWI dues structure were circulated to the NFAs along with a questionnaire based on these recommendations. The feedback received was not enough to arrive at any conclusions (14 out of 48 NFAs responded to the survey), CDS needed Board's advice to move forward.

Board requested CDS to research on the current Voting Structure (VS) in connection with the proposed Dues Structure 2023-25.

The members of the committee will send their thoughts and proposals on the VS to the convener for the next meeting's discussions, a concept note will then be prepared and finalised for the submission to the Board.

The recommendations of the CDS on Dues Structure along with the research on the Voting Structure, will be incorporated in to the OD process for discussions on GWI's organisational structure.

Finances

NFA 2022 Membership Dues: A circular to the NFAs will be sent next month requiring them to send their membership numbers latest by Nov 2021 for the office to raise 2022 membership dues invoice. NFAs will also be informed that they have to be fully paid up from 2020 to 2022 to be eligible to vote at 2022 General Assembly.

Proposed Membership Dues 2023-25: The proposed Dues Structure based on GDP (PPP) 2023-25 recommends correction to the dues per capita rate for Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Nigeria and Turkey, who have been receiving concessional rates on their dues.

If the proposed Dues Structure gets accepted by the 2022 GA, it would be advisable to now start consultations with these NFAs for their transition to the proposed per capita rates. And Fincom to prepare a plan for gradual increase in their current dues rate to the proposed new rates, which is acceptable to both GWI and the NFAs.

Membership :

EFB's Resignation from the GWI Board:

At 21 Sept 2021 urgent Board meeting, it was decided that as the term of the current Board ends in a year's time, the Board will not fill the vacancy of VP Membership left vacant due to EFB's resignation. The membership tasks will be shared amongst the Board members, GH will work with the MemCom and BO will be the Board liaison for the Young Members Group.

Accordingly GH has sent an email to EFB to inform her about the Board's decision and to update her with the status of the ongoing membership tasks. GH has also requested EFB for the list of key NFA contacts especially of the potential NFA's for future communications. She is awaiting EFB's reply to her email.

In the meantime GH has got in touch with the membership Convener, Meera Bondre, for the updates on 2021 Membership Campaign and Action Plan.

Upcoming programs and activities: Second session of GWI Global North-South Dialogue between UWE (Europe) & FUWA (Africa) titled 'Connectivity and Partnerships to Empower Women as Agents of Change', will be held on 31 Oct 2021.

Young Member Network (YMN) update: OD orientation meeting for YMN will be held on 7 Oct 2021 6pm CEST

It is suggested to keep the GWI membership updated about the developments of the OD process on quarterly basis through the GWI Update.

Fellowship & Grants Committee update:

The next round of GWI Fellowship 2022 applications will open from 1 Oct 2021 with 15 Dec 2021 deadline for receiving applications.

The committee has updated the Guidelines for Fellowships and the Guidelines for References which will be uploaded on the GWI website along with application form.

There are 3 additions to the list of the fellowship award this year-

- Winifred Clara Cullis Fellowship of CHF 5'000
- Cynthia Burek Recognition Award of £ 1'000

- Women Graduate, USA's Fay Weber Recognition Award of USD 1'000

Winifred Clara Cullis Fellowship is a specific award in memory of pioneering women of GWI. It is a fundraiser; donations towards this award will open from 15 Oct – 31 Oct 2021.

Teachers for rural future update:

SDL has submitted report of Global Giving for Teachers for Rural Futures program to Geneva City, this is a three year funding grant given to GWI in 2020. The report has been accepted and approved and the office is awaiting next instalment of the grant from the Geneva City.

Board appreciated SDL's effort in completing the training of one student during the pandemic, as it is difficult to get students on board from Uganda in COVID times.

Hegg Hoffet:

The committee has received application of a refugee from South Sudan, studying at the University in Kenya. She is in the last year of her course and is eligible to get the Hegg Hoffet grant.

Further, the committee will be promoting information about the Hegg Hoffet grants in the organisations working for Afghan Refugee women, who have been compelled to abandon their country due to the current political crisis.

Advocacy

Update ResCom TORs: VB had sent to the Board, two suggestions in the ToR to reflect the connection between ResCom's ToR and the job description of VP Advocacy & Education.

The references have been inserted in the ResCom ToR's clause on 'Purpose' and 'Membership'. VP Advocacy & Education will be the GWI Board's representative, hence will liaison with the ResCom and shall place all necessary findings for Board's attention & decision.

Also as decided at the 19 Aug Board Meeting that the Call for Resolutions henceforth will state request for Resolutions in English language to avoid interpretation issues, has been inserted under Clause 2-Mandate

The above mentioned additions to ResCom ToR approved by the Board members present and by LM via email.

UN Women & CSW66:

Letter of congratulations sent to Sima Sami Bahous on her appointment as the Executive Director of UN Women. GWI with a large network of graduate women worldwide is keen to help Ms. Bahous in her efforts in making advancement in women and girls education.

CSW66 written statement:

SDL reported that submission of written statements for CSW66 is open for NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC from 24 September to 15 October 2021.

She has drafted GWI statement on the CSW66's priority theme, emphasizing on the need to take concrete action to protect against the consequences of climate change and to include women's perspectives in policy and decision-making.

Presently she is seeking cosponsors for the statement, once that is done it will be submitted and then uploaded on GWI website.

Next zoom Board meeting : It was decided to hold Board meetings on last Thursday of every month.

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:08 PM CET