

Draft Minutes of the GWI Board 2023-25 Meeting held on 22 June 2023, 6pm Central Summer European Time (CEST), Zoom

Seventh Board Meeting

Attendees: President Patrice Wellesley Cole (PWC); VP Fundraising, Nneka Chiedozi-Udeh (NCU)VP Advocacy, Shaila Rao Mistry (SRM); VP Marketing, Shruti Sonthalia(SS); VP Legal & Governance, Ujwala Shinde(US); VP Membership, Meera Bondre (MB); VP Projects, Mildred Asmah(MA); Treasurer, Sudha Srivastava (Sudha), GWI Executive Director, Stacy Dry Lara (SDL)
Apologies: VP Education, Shirley Gillett(SG)

Meeting called to order at 6:04pm CEST.

1. Welcome: PWC welcomed all to the Seventh Board Meeting; US requested that the Board meetings be held one hour earlier due to the late hour in India; SRM requested that the recurring Zoom link be added to the Board WhatsApp Description field and/or sent each time with the agenda.
2. Conflict of Interest: None
3. Adoption of Agenda: Agenda adopted.
4. Adoption of Minutes of 22 May 2023: Minutes adopted no further revisions.
5. Treasurer's report: Sudha explained that she has sent reminders to NFAs who have not paid their 2023 dues in full yet; three have paid half; she confirmed that the constitution requires at least half dues payment by 31 March; second half is due by 30 June; nine NFAs have not paid 2023 dues yet; three have partially paid (Israel, Slovenia, Paraguay)NFA who have not paid have dues less than CHF 100; Turkey largest who have not paid.

It was requested that the Board be kept up to date on all revenue and sources whether dues or other; Sudha referred all to the quarterly reports that present all current financial detail and indicated the 2nd quarter 2023 report will be released in July; 1st quarter report is heavy on revenue reporting because annual dues are due by 1 January. Concessional rates for Nepal, Turkey, Nigeria and India were discussed and Sudha reminded that these NFA rates will return to normally calculated rates for 2024; they will need to be notified ahead of time; issue is sensitive and will be properly managed.

6. Policy Paper on hate speech and genocide for the UN – SDL indicated that the Policy Paper on Hate Speech is complete, that Matthew Gillett's suggestions were valuable and that



those suggestions have been incorporated into the Policy Paper; timing is perfect because World Day to Combat Hate Speech was 18 June and she included quote from the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for the Day in the Policy Paper; Policy Paper reads well and covers the issue thoroughly. She will send the final Policy Paper to PWC for distribution to the UN Under-Secretary-General Alice as next steps to this joint Policy Paper. Round of thanks expressed for the Policy Paper project.

7. Future Events and Updates

- a) Topic and tentative dates for MSF/ Doctors Without Borders talk - see Stacy's 13/6/23 email- All VPs

PWC confirmed that MSF will offer a speaker (s) for a joint webinar. Topics for the MSF webinar were reviewed. Previously proposed topics by SDL that can be mutually beneficial for MSF are addressing menstrual hygiene management/menstrual health, the role of community engagement in promoting education and health, and girls' education in humanitarian settings. Other topics suggested by the Board were period poverty, mental health, and ageing. Action: SDL assigned lead on the project and will schedule meeting with MSF to explore further.

- b) Projects, Fundraising and Advocacy Mildred, Nneka and Shaila.

Mildred Projects:

Detailed discussion ensued about projects. SDL asked for clarification is needed for where the six project topics currently being discussed fall under. They are not BRPID projects and it needs to be clarified whether these projects fall under the MOU and seed money granted by Dr. Mehta. PWC mentioned that these 6 projects fall under SDG4 and renew and rebuilt. SRM mentioned that projects means we talk about spending and renew and rebuilt are the fund raising points. Sudha reminded that Vinaybala Mehta fund is the seed fund and that needs growing so fund raising needs to be done for that fund also. For the projects mentioned budgeting is necessary and time is to be fixed. NCU asked that how we going to partner with NFAs. She further added that maximum NFAs should be involved in this. SDL mentioned that we need the guideline to go with the seed fund or Beena Roy Fund. SRM presented her Advocacy Roadmap for - Transformation, Growth and Advancement that includes: Building Leadership - Advocacy Influencers; Build Collaborations and Partnerships; High level Presence and Participation; Advocacy to build Sponsorship and Funding; GWI Resolutions/Communication and Strategy; Lobby Governments and Policymakers; Data Collection and Monitoring; Education and Training. She further mentioned that the



Communication with NFAs is very important. She asked the names of some NFAs leaders who would be interested and that can attract to get it started. The project regarding Climate could have been included in projects o attract influencers. Round of appreciation for SRM work on the advocacy roadmap.

8. AOB to include office matters to include the 500+ challenge- Stacy

SDL gave update on 500+Challenge logo; no clear winner so she will circulate top few and Board members need to select just one. Thereafter she will circulate the final. SRM asked about Renew and Rebuilt programme to be initiated by Geeta Desai as it was asked by her NFA and Resolution Committee. And also to have notification about participation in GWI event. It was determined to continue the discussion at a later time.

Rotary Award Discussion:

PWC and SDL insisted SRM to be the candidate for Rotary Award.

SDL explained the office update to the Board.

AOB Office Update 22 May to 22 June 2023:

Advocacy

Completed Hate Speech Policy Paper as previously mentioned; Submitted written statement on women and entrepreneurship to the 53rd session of the Human Rights Council. Participated in an ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment 2023: Nurturing digital safe spaces in humanitarian settings – great contacts made for GWI and collaboration. Cosponsors UNICEF, USAID, Generation Equality. Participated in Working Group on Discrimination against Women side event. Participated in launch of Legal Guidebook on State Obligations for Conflict-Related Sexual Violence. Participated in side event on Education and Child Marriage sponsored by Girls Not Brides, Save the Children, UNICEF, Netherlands.

Coordinated four international days social media campaigns, Menstrual Hygiene Day (28 May), International Day to Combat Hate Speech (18 June), International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict 919 June), and World Refugee Day (20 June). Produced two infographics that were published on WUNRN Menstrual Hygiene Day and World Refugee Day.

Currently working on infographic for World Youth Skills Day (15 July), World Day against Trafficking in Persons (30 July) and Pan African Day (31 July)

Paid annual dues for Vienna committees: NGO Committee on Ageing, NGO Committee on Peace, NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Vienna, NGO Committee on Sustainable Development.



Participated in the launch of the UN System-wide Knowledge Hub on Addressing Sexual Harassment, on 14 June. The Hub is the first of its kind to bring together UN system-wide resources, tools and best practices on addressing sexual harassment.

Regarding programmes: SDL with Mildred and Aisha regarding the Project Development Committee steps forward regarding Bina Roy Partners in Development projects. It was determined that it's too late this year to issue a new call for projects, but they are preparing for a call for October for new projects. In the meantime, we plan to hold a few webinars about current BRPID projects and include beneficiaries.

Teachers for Rural Futures – paid 2023/2024 Makerere University invoices. Helped current students prepare for summer student practice that starts last week of June. Uploaded international wire transfers for accommodations for summer practice.

Communications

Produced 2 Update newsletters.

Release press release on 12 June for World Day Against Child Labour. Headline: Graduate Women International Issues Urgent Call to End Child Labor: A Global Education Crisis that Demands Immediate Action.

Work in progress to reorganize by United Nations campus the international advocacy pages of website.

Membership

Managed e-vote for 2022 voting delegates to adopt 34th triennial General Assembly minutes. Minutes were adopted unanimously. 45 voting delegates voted: In Favour 45 (100.0%) Opposed 0 (0.0%)

Participated in South Asia Association Regional Cooperation SAARC GWI meeting to relaunch the group. Uploaded webinar video to GWI Vimeo channel.

Philippines Ambassador assistant wrote back that he will look at schedule to set meeting to discuss GWI NFA opportunity.

Attended program to support Comfort Onifade at her university. Very good!

Coordinated with CFUW Nepean Club to produce webinar on single use plastics. Big success with about 58 participants.

Participated in ResCom meeting.



Office Matters

Held weekly team meetings.

Kept up office day to day operations.

Attended CAGI session on understanding VAT in Switzerland.

Said goodbye to two interns – Paloma and Lexi; currently on boarding new intern Salome who will stay until 31 August.

Meeting wrap up with thanks from PWC.

Next Board Meeting is fixed on Monday, 24 July 2023 at 5pm CEST.

Meeting adjourned: 7:49pm CEST

Minutes drafted by SDL+US