



Minutes of the GWI Board 2022-25 Meeting held on 29 September 2023, 6pm Central European Summer Time (CEST), zoom

Tenth Board Meeting

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

Meeting called to order at **6pm CET**.

1. Welcome: PWC welcomed all to the Tenth Board Meeting
2. Conflict of Interest: NONE
3. Adoption of Agenda: SG moved agenda and seconded by SRM.
4. Adoption of Minutes of 30th August 2023 GWI Board meeting: US moved the proposal and MB seconded it. Minutes with changes for the month of August were adopted by the board by passing motion. August minutes were approved by proposal made by Sudha and seconded by SG.
5. Treasurer's report: Sudha informed regarding the finishing of the thirdquarter that is July, August, September. After meeting with Fincom report will be submitted to the Board. Sudha has been reminding everyone about the SDG grants of 23000 Swiss Francs in the budget which is to be paid attention, otherwise deficit will increase. Nigeria paid their dues. From October process of invoicing next year will start. In November, invoices will be prepared which will be sent in December. MB said that the NFAs such as Ireland, Bolivia, Zimbabwe have not paid their dues, it can be communicated to the concerned board members by Sudha. Sudha mentioned that she has sent several reminders and this is a matter of membership to establish communication. Sudha had no communication from Iceland to any of her emails.

With Turkey significant amount has been left. She said that GWI must not be dependent upon the dues only, some other source of revenue should also be found. GWI must grab the opportunity to apply for the grants. SDL commented that, the Girls Education for Brighter Futures is a program with Global Giving that collects donations for GWI, for Bina Roy project or for everything which is not a restricted fund. Sudha asked that how much



funds have been collected through the little by little campaign, whether it is a successful campaign. SDL told that it would be 2000 USD in total.

6. Membership and Legal and Governance

PWC asked Mb to comment upon the portfolio membership. MB told that some ladies from different countries want to be the member of Young Network, she also asked that whether in becoming independent member, she will have to pay more fees? SDL said that we don't have an idea that how much NFAs charge for their membership, so it is impossible to answer the same. She also informed that GWI has 23 independent members. MB asked about the student membership status in GWI. SRM opined that we should consider students membership. Sudha also said that there is a lot of potential in young people, but GWI must think of dues if it is made free. There should be a separate discussion on this issue. PWC said that we can have a discussion on this issue next month. MB said that there are two types of students category, University students and School students. PWC mentioned that this issue is important and we must have a separate meeting on this point. MB informed that there is a letter from Sahara that they want a group of independent members like YMN, and also the group of professionals as well as language experts and her suggestion was to encourage these groups. SRM said that GWI should change the mind set to say yes for this encouragement. Sudha said that we should welcome members coming forward. SG opined that GWI should allow new independent members and remain positive. PWC suggested to MB that each option can be put in writing and can be discussed in the next meeting. MB agreed to communicate it on mail to the interested people.

7. Education and Projects, APs / Committees and deadlines - Shirley and Mildred

SG asked that to celebrate World Teachers Day whether she should write a paper or should there be a discussion with members around what does the teacher mean in different cultures? SRM welcomed the idea of a program on education and for that technology can be used. SG said that she is looking for some small program, like a discussion on the value and role of a teacher. It was agreed with SDL's help to set up a members discussion. MA informed about Hegg Hoffet Fund that there were 6 applications sent to the members and there were two meetings, three of them were selected and they have scheduled interviews for them. PDC will consider the proposals and award the grants in January. She also prepared an action plan which she will be sending to PWC and SDL. Sudha asked to send information to her also, Fincom is very keen about the Hegg Hoffet Fund.

8. Advocacy, APs, Committee and deadlines- Shaila Advocacy VP Shaila's report on leadership building, Expert papers and CSW 68

SRM informed that she is building Advocacy Influencers Global whose purpose is to engage NFA Leadership in Collaboration and advancement of Advocacy both specific to



their regions and cultural needs. Alongside, engage in partnerships to advocate on common issues which impact gender equity, education, health leadership and economic security. She is developing advocacy training modules to strengthen our regional leadership to advance their skills. SRM emphasized the need for active Fund-raising and Marketing and the need for reports of updates from both areas. She has authored an expert policy paper on the exclusion of women from financial and economic advancement and the role in impacting growing poverty. Both papers will be presented as part of the CSW 68 planning and at upcoming CSW 68 in NY. SRM requested presentation of side event-parallel event at CSW 68

9. Any other business: SDL informed about the working of the office.
- Wrote Guidelines, Terms and Conditions and Circular for the 16 Days of Activism against GBV poster campaign. Launched campaign on 21 September. Deadline to submit posters is 31 October. Please promote.
 - Organized meetings for Patrice Wellesley-Cole visit to Geneva 25-27 September. During visit met with Ambassadors from Israel, Spain, and Sierra Leone. Lunch with GWI Geneva section – 2 people.
 - Hegg Hoffet – revised online application as per Committee meeting outcomes. Made “Do you have a university degree (yes/no)” first qualifying question. If no, then applicant is taken to How to Become a Member webpage and cannot continue with application. This reduces the number of ineligible applications received. On 30 September the committee will interview three candidates between 3-6pm CEST.
 - Scheduled webinar with PDC for 25 October to launch 2024 to 2025 round of BRPID projects. Webinar will include reports from previous project benefactors.
 - Worked with Pat Reavy, CFUW and MemCom member who is handling the Membership Marketplace Peer to Peer stream. We are starting Japanese culture and language classes on 25 October. Please spread the word. We need participants or Mako will not continue the course.
 - Designed and managed Little by Little fundraising campaign that ran 18-22 September. Campaign highlights raised about \$1400 in donation and about \$500 in matching for total of about \$1900 but SDL is still reviewing results. It takes several weeks for GlobalGiving to sort out the matching. About 30 donors in total. Six recurring for Girls Education for Brighter Futures; two for Teachers for Rural Futures.
 - Produced two Update newsletters.
 - Released International Day of Peace press release under headline, “Education has the power to inspire women and girls and pave the way for a future of enduring peace.”
 - Design and layout board 2023-2025 strategic plan ahead of 13 September Town Hall



- Processed seven new independent members. Brings total to 23 and new revenue of CHF 450.
- Participated in 6 September ResCom meeting.
- Held weekly team meetings.
- Kept up office day to day operations.

Sudha mentioned about YMN that there is a meet and greet next month in October. GWI is growing in diversity and numbers. Board members appreciated Sudha's contribution.

Wrap Up: PWC thanked to all the Board members.

Next Board Meeting: Monday 30th October 2023. 6pm CET

Meeting adjourned: 7.41.42. pm CET

Minutes drafted by US with SDL office contribution