



Minutes of the GWI Board 2022-25 Meeting held on 2nd October 2024, 7pm Central European Time (CEST), zoom

Twenty Second Board Meeting

Attendees: President Patrice Wellesley Cole (PWC); VP Advocacy Shaila Rao Mistry (SRM); VP Education, Shirley Gillett (SG); VP Membership, Meera Bondre (MB); Treasurer, Karoline Dorsh (KD); GWI Executive Director, Stacy Dry Lara (SDL); VP Projects, Mildred Asmah(MA); VP Fund Raising Maria Fernanda (MF); Apologies: VP Legal & Governance, Ujwala Shinde(US).

Meeting called to order at **7pm CEST**.

Welcome: PWC welcomed all to the twenty second Board Meeting. She welcomed Caroline for her first Board Meeting.

1. Conflict of Interest: NONE
2. Adoption of Agenda: agenda was adopted unanimously.
3. Adoption of minutes: Minutes of 29th July 2024 adopted. Proposed by SG and seconded by SRM.
4. Treasurer's update and Fincom recommendation- Karoline : KD updated the FinCom recommendation, about the alleviation of dues for the Nigerian Federation in 2024. Because their currency went down by 54% compared to the Swiss Franc. So the exchange rate got really bad for them. And it's the same has continued since 23. FinCom had a meeting on 21st of August and they decided to give them a huge alleviation of 20%, which means that instead of 11 francs per person, they only pay 8.8 francs per capita. And this was voted on by the Fincom members present and they all agreed with it.
5. Projects and Legal and Governance updates - Mildred and Ujwala:
Projects: MA updated that Dr. Mehta Seed Fund application details have been advertised. Hegg Hoffet had a meeting on the 18th of September, they interviewed five applicants earlier. There are new 7 applications, which are yet to be interviewed. They have a meeting on 7th October.
6. Advocacy and Education updates - Shaila and Shirley .
Advocacy: SRM mentioned that AWB proclamation was just a statement of intent to strengthen the work that we do. It was not to deflect, misdirect or replace any past efforts. She further mentioned that advocacy should have a



committee and she recommended this to the governance as well for them to look into it. PWC mentioned that Advocacy has ResCom. SRM mentioned that though ResCom comes under her portfolio but it is not an Advocacy Committee. SDL mentioned that there was a Vice President of Education and Advocacy. Just for this trineal, they were separated into two positions. So there has not been an advocacy committee because there was not been a VP of advocacy. AWB can be summarised as NFA needs to be engaged. They want to know what the launch is about. We/GWI Board need to do a little more work on it. SRM VP Advocacy wants Board's support. Board needs to work on this.

SRM made two announcements one was Beijing plus 30 review, which is taking place in Geneva with the UNEC. She will attend. She will be representing GWI over there. Another announcement was that the CSW 69 parallel events is open now. And as a advocacy of GWI, she will be submitting something.

Education: SG updated on Education and contributions to website bricks wall. She mentioned that they are working on Child Bride. that is going to be a form of advocacy because they're going to look at how education can contribute to it, but completely differently in a way from the advocacy. they're looking the fact that every culture is different. And so they're being very careful to include the cultural background of why and what contributes to the early child bride. It's different in every place. And so they're going to include material on cultural difference cultural variations. she mentioned that she is interested to collaborate with UNICEF like organisation. SG shared screen/website wall showing the developments in contribution towards bricks. SDL mentioned that GWI is offering an idea for international day of the girl, which is girls to each SDG. SDG one and how that relates to and affects girls and two and three and so on. So that content is mostly written, but if you have projects that you know of that you would like to talk about, just relate them to an SDG and send it to GWI/SDL, explaining the project and this is the SDG. She further mentioned that she can help in the layout.

7. Membership and Fundraising updates - Meera and Fernanda : Membership Updates: MB referred the mail sent by SDL, which had the questionnaire and the analysis of the minutes, analysis of the form, the results that received and also the minutes of the meeting, which were discussed as a Action plan for MemCom.. Next memcom meeting scheduled on October 12. She informed that one representative from the YMN group network and one from independent



members network will be invited to memcom meetings to have the connections. Joy has attended the U.N. Summit for future in New York. And sitting beside Dr. Prema Arora, who's the managing director of the Asian Road Safety Academy from India. MB mentioned that she would be of help in membership development in the two new regions of Asian regions, which have been initiated.

Fund Raising: Fernanda updated on fund raising that she is communicating with corporate responsibility office at L'Oreal foundation. She is also in contacts with Chloe brand, which is a French brand. She is also trying get contact of top CEOs of the Carcier Foundation. Regarding the Melinda Gates letter she updated that she hasn't received any answer yet. She asked the Board's approval to attend an event in Paris. She informed that it's the UNESCO prize for girls and women's education. It's going to be on the 16th of October at the UNESCO headquarters. She can register herself and can attend. In the base station she can attend representing the organization and probably try to get some context also for there. For Shirley's email to work with UNICEF, MF mentioned that she can drop a word with a high ranking official of UNICEF with her contact. PWC mentioned that MF can use GWI to go to the UNESCO meetings. SG informed that Patricia Galliana has purchased a brick.

8. Trianium Bid and AOB

Trianium Bid: MA agreed to find out whether Trianium can be held in Africa by asking concerned NFAs.

SDL presented the following information under AOB:

In terms of membership, she participated in the Swiss NFA centenary weekend on 31 August in Bern. The event was excellent, members were in such a celebratory mood, and she was pleased to give remarks of commemoration to them.

Last weekend she participated in the Women Graduates-USA annual conference under the theme Strengthening Our Voices in Bethesda, Maryland. The program was exceptional. There were about 50 members present and some with guests; speakers included Dr. Jody Olsen, author of A Million Miles: My Journey with the Peace Corps and former Director of the Peace Corp, Brad Fitch, Congressional



Management Foundation that gave advocacy training with a spin on advocacy with government officials and media.

Produced with ResCom the Advocacy Training webinar on 4 September. We produced the webinar twice and was well attended.

Submitted compulsory Global Giving report for the Teachers for Rural Futures project

SDL explained that she launched with Aisha Convenor of the Project Development Committee the Dr, Mehta Seed Fund SDG 4 project. The applications will be accepted until 27 December, Dr Mehta birthday. The project will be awarded during an award ceremony on International Day of Education, on 24 January 2025 and at the webinar the new round of projects will be launched. The criteria are based on BRPID process that has been successful within GWI for many years, however, the MSF but significantly different in that a critical criteria is that MSF applying NFAs must be working with external stakeholders as per the MOU goal to increase GWI partners.

She has successfully on boarded two new students to the Teachers for Rural Futures program; they have received their laptops, and first stipends and are extremely grateful to GWI. She has a meeting with the students tomorrow, 3 October to review responses to questions about SDG 4 as related to International Day of the Girl. She is working on a toolkit for IDOG that relates each SDG to the girls and education. It will be released on 11 October.

For World Teachers' Day to be held 5 October she is releasing a video compilation from the Teachers for Rural Futures students. She put the link in the chat.
<https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/1004446846>

She is circulating the CSW69 statement for cosponsors.

Gained GWI sponsorship of an International Day of Older Persons Human Rights Council side event; she gave remarks yesterday. There is a movement to draft a convention or pact to address rights of older persons and GWI. I pressed on



Met with Legal and Governance committee where we discussed their support of the 2025 GA and the Advocacy Without Borders proclamation; minutes of the meeting were circulated to the board.

Processed eight new independent members; now up to 34 IMs for 2024. Has had further contact with Samoa and has sent them information to reestablish the NFA; got per capita rate from Treasurer

Met with new and former Treasurer to handover the position.

She explained she has been working a lot with the Hegg Hoffet committee and had been contacting universities of the potential awardees to inquire how to pay directly since GWI does not transfer funds directly to the candidates. The committee is working to provide grants for driving lessons, English language lessons, recertifications for a dentist and a doctor to name a few.

Since the last Board meeting, she has released several Update newsletters.

Concerned about the fellowships. The fellowships are supposed to launch in October and have not met yet. I emailed the committee today to inquire.

Wrap Up: PWC thanked to all the Board members

Next 23rd Board Meeting is fixed on Wednesday 6th November 2024 @ 6pm CET

Meeting adjourned: 08:52:17pm CEST

Minutes drafted by US