



Minutes of the GWI Board 2022-25 Meeting held on 6th November 2024, 6pm Central European Time (CEST), zoom

Twenty Third 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 Dorsch (KD) ; GWI Executive Director, Stacy Dry Lara (SDL); VP Fund Raising Maria Fernanda (MF);

Apologies: VP Legal & Governance, Ujwala Shinde(US). VP Projects, Mildred Asmah(MA);

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

1. Welcome: PWC welcomed all to the twenty third Board Meeting.
2. Conflict of Interest: NONE
3. Adoption of Agenda: SRM moved agenda and seconded by SG
4. Adoption of minutes: Minutes of 2nd October proposed by SG and adopted by SRM.
5. Fund Raising updates : MF updated about fundraising opportunity from L'Oréal. She told that to get funding through L'Oreal Fund for two years the funding agency L'Oréal asked for the detailed budget for the money to be received i.e. where the amount would be utilised. As the applications are closed for this year, GWI can apply in March and can get up to 30% of organization's budget. It can be an application for two years. She further mentioned that Chloe are interested in collaborating with GWI and funding the organization but they need detail in terms of financial reports. SDL mentioned that the Teachers for Rural Futures program could be suggested for L'Oreal funding. Because it is a proven successful program for GWI and we were previously funded by the Swiss government and that would help L'Oreal to understand that it's a fundable project that's been running for since 2015.
6. Membership updates: MB mentioned that they would be coming out with the membership letter, sometimes there have been complaints that we do not get all the information and the important documents so the translation works Memcom is doing and the analysis that has been done after receiving the forms filled by



the CIRs and the president should also be included in this newsletter. SDL mentioned that if any body wants to contribute in news letters it should not be more than 100 words. SRM mentioned that she would like to connect with the independent members and invite them to be part of the AWB.

MB put forth her views regarding to have separate Young Members Committee or it should be a part of membership committee . MB mentioned that she discussed with VP Governance, there can be a Young Members Network and not the Young Members Committee. Young Members Network was formed by the Membership Vice President then she further informed that the independent members also willing to form Independent Members Network. SDL mentioned that to form any new committee is a constitutional change if they are going to absolutely have a convener or a president because some of our committees are standing committees and those can work. Conveners have to be elected by the General Assembly and the members are appointed by the Board.

7. Treasurer's update and FinCom recommendation- Karoline: KD submitted third quarterly report to the Board and the Financial Statements as per 30 September 2024. She submitted Recommendation 25 by the Finance Committee Date: November 04, 2024., for acceptance of the 3rd financial report 2024. SRM mentioned that many of us may wish to leave money for GWI, and there should be a seminar or webinar on it at the triennial. It would make easy for people to give money and fund raising opportunity.
8. Projects and Education Updates - Mildred and Shirley : SG mentioned that they can ask celebrities like Angelina Jolie to be the patron of GWI. All Board members appreciated the idea.

Advocacy Updates: SRM mentioned that GWI participated in Beijing plus 30 review in conjunction with the UNEC in Geneva on October 19th and 20th. She mentioned that she would like AWB, to be part of the project for the L'Oreal. SRM mentioned about the request for Advocacy committee. She mentioned that she has written for call for resolution, she would be providing final version to the Board. SDL mentioned that, SRM is mentioning about policy resolution. SDL further mentioned that, Board is going to call for constitutional resolutions and then there would be internal resolutions, SRM is referring to GWI's policy resolution that drives



advocacy work. SG asked, who is the 'we' in AWB. SRM mentioned that, 'we as in GWI advocacy is a we education is a we all of us are a we. and to bring interest because I'm not acting as Shaila I'm acting as VP of advocacy who is VP of advocacy who's VP of education who's VP of membership that's the we part of GWI so we should not be isolating any VP to be on their own'. SRM mentioned that RESCOM is not an Advocacy Committee. SRM asked about the suggestions for CSW submission. SDL mentioned the budget is 125\$ for each event. She further mentioned that when it is in person it becomes too expensive like 400 to 500\$ per event. SRM mentioned that for the parallel events three would be 375 and GWI should stand for.

9. Any Other Business: SDL updated that she could not attend the Beijing plus 30 but she did write press releases. She was the one chasing registrations that hadn't paid and she did some other back-end work. For International Day of the Girl on October 11th, the comprehensive toolkit has been released. She widely shared it. And prior to that she had met with teachers for rural future students so got to include their comments and she is looping this back to L'Oreal because this is a perfect location that can be shared with L'Oreal. She took a break from the heritage fundraising wall just to avoid some kind of donor fatigue. She will put it back and she will keep it up for the next July. She has been working with the fellowship committee and the fellowships are open now for until January 15th. They decided to call the the main GWI fellowship the Rose Sedgwick fellowship. One of our founders she suggested the Catherine Horvat. It wasn't accepted. 16 days of gender activism against gender-based violence is going to be started. She has part-time interns right now that are helping to put together a program that is done every year and this one she decided to do it on where women can go and seek help if they are victims of violence. So every NFA is going to have a post. It is a very nice graphic and it says where they can go to get to seek help where they can report domestic violence in their country as much as we can find the information. It won't be local but it is something and more than that it's just encouraging women to not take it but actually report it if it's happening. It will start on the 23rd or 24th of November and will be continued for those 16 days. She further mentioned that nine new independent members since the last meeting are included. They want to apply for the fellowship so it's going to be a good year for independent members. Also Karoline knows that we're collecting the number of members per NFA so that Karoline can distribute the 2025 invoices by December 1st. She informed about CSW 69 that, GWI's statement was



uploaded , getting of 16 co-sponsors. She further mentioned about GWI Young Members Netherlands misconception, that being young members of GWI from the Netherlands they missed the path of what education is about. It is about health and disaster relief and they should add before GWI could consider sponsoring this event because they're wanting to split the cost which would be 200 dollars for an in-person event. She was working with some of the Canadians and they were starting the Dues Consideration Fund and that was the fund where they were going to start a group that would collect monies that would be put into a special fund that they would pay for the dues that of our interface that couldn't pay. But there was a very rigorous application process so there is another version of that proposal where they wanted to make it very clear that the fund is to sustain GWI financially it is not for supporting in a phase that aren't paying their dues. It is strictly to pay to help sustain GWI and keep GWI's budget flow. She would be sending out version three of that she mentioned about the deadlines in that proposal that would start their special committee in January , when invoices are due they can start to receive applications from NFA, that aren't able to pay or need alleviation and that can be considered by this committee.

10.2025 Bid for Triennial GA and Conference: SDL mentioned to write a letter asking for holding triennial conference bid in different manner. SRM asked the information about next Board Nomination and Nomination Committee. The due procedure was explained by SDL. The date for the next Board Meeting is fixed on Monday 9th December 2024 at 4pm CEST.

Wrap Up: PWC thanked to all the Board members

Next 23rd Board Meeting is fixed on Monday 9th December 2024 @ 4pm CEST

Meeting adjourned: 7:58:01pm CEST

Minutes drafted by US



Graduate Women International

Empowering women & girls through lifelong education