Global Council call - 2021 PWYP Secretariat Programme of Work
7 December 2020

MINUTES

Attendees

Global Council Members
Adnan Bahiya, Iraq (MENA) AB
Athayde Motta, Brazil (Latin America) AM
Gloria Majiga, Malawi (Anglophone Africa) GM
Joe Williams, UK (Global Reach) JW
Mariatou Amadou, Niger (Francophone Africa) MA
Miles Litvinoff, UK (Europe and North America) ML
Olena Pavlenko, Ukraine (Eurasia) (Chair) OP

Secretariat
Elisa Peter, Executive Director EP
Stephanie Rochford, Director of Member Engagement SR
Joe Bardwell, Strategic Communications and Campaigns Manager JB
Sandrine Levy, Executive Administrator SL

Apologies
Chadwick Llanos, Philippines (Asia Pacific)
Dupleix Kuenzob, Cameroon (ASC representative)
Isabel Munilla, USA (Global Reach) - stepping down

Actions

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<th>Action</th>
<th>By</th>
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<tr>
<td>Organise on-line election for global reach seat</td>
<td>Secretariat</td>
<td>Next meeting</td>
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<td>Convene call to discuss statement by GC on principles of civil society participation in EITI and on government intimidation of CSOs, in relation to Iraq and Kazakhstan respectively</td>
<td>Olena with Miles, Gloria, Adnan</td>
<td>Before end of year</td>
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Welcome & Introductions
The Chair welcomed participants and reviewed the agenda. She noted that IM had recently stepped down from the Global Council after having left her role at Oxfam America. The Secretariat will facilitate an on-line election process to find a replacement for the vacant global reach seat in the next few weeks.

Discussion on the crisis issue of the Iraqi CSO’s in the MSG
AB provided an overview of the situation facing the MSG in Iraq, following the government’s reshuffling of the composition of the MSG without any meaningful consultation with civil society. AB recalled the requirements of the EITI Standard for civil society to be meaningfully and substantively engaged in the EITI implementation process. The PWYP coalition in Iraq has alerted the EITI international Board’s Rapid Response Committee (RRC) but has not yet received a response from them. EP noted that the civil society international board members are aware of this situation and agree that the actions taken in Iraq constitute a bad precedent. The civil society board representatives are ready and willing to escalate this issue to the RRC if the EITI Secretariat does not do so. GC members expressed their solidarity with colleagues in Iraq, noting other instances of where similar challenges have been observed in other EITI implementing countries. EP noted that there are a number of current issues relating to threats to civil society participation in the EITI process, mentioning Kazakhstan, and encouraged reflection by the GC on when and how to make public statements on these issues. OP proposed convening a working group of GC members (AB, ML and GM) to develop a potential statement, including with reference to the EITI civil society board members who sit on the RRC.

Feedback on Stress-Testing Vision2025
EP presented a summary of what came out of the scenario planning webinars in order to provide an opportunity for the GC to reflect on the implications for the movement. EP noted the key finding that the Covid-19 pandemic is accelerating existing trends, including closing civic space; less responsive governments; increasing power of investors and companies; decreasing funding for our work; and a focus on advancing the energy transition away from fossil fuels. EP noted that the question of PWYP’s position on the energy transition is still
pending finalisation and that the Secretariat will table this in early 2021 for further discussion with the GC.

ML and GM noted the imperative to put pressure on historically high emitting countries (e.g. UK, US) to move quicker on the energy transition than those in the global South while ensuring that developing countries are protected from the economic shocks. JW noted the references to government debt in the 2021 work plan narrative, and recommended a stronger focus on how to link with other campaigns focussed on debt and debt relief, along with NRGI’s work on resource-backed loans. The GC expressed a desire to re-convene a global strategic conversation of this kind at some stage next year.

**Secretariat’s 2021 Programme of Work**

SR presented the Secretariat’s 2021 Programme of Work, which outlines 17 programmatic milestones and 9 institutional milestones that the Secretariat will be aiming to achieve in order to deliver on its two broad objectives of 1) building an effective, inclusive and diverse movement and, 2) coordinating effective regional advocacy efforts and global campaigns.

Each milestone should be seen as an outcome. The milestones were developed and agreed through a collaborative process in the team, and foster cross-departmental cooperation to increase our effectiveness as a growing team. The Secretariat responded to the GC’s feedback by including milestones on joint fundraising, campaigning and scoping opportunities on energy transition and ensuring direct financial support to national coalitions. There is a particular emphasis on mineral/oil rich countries and those in which there are threats to civic space as priority recipients for the Secretariat’s subgrants.

JW endorsed and noted important collaboration opportunities with NRGI on a number of advocacy and campaign milestones (e.g. 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3).

AB emphasized that environmental and socio-economic challenges were prominent across MENA and expressed a wish for the Secretariat to highlight these issues. SR explained that the milestones are quite generic and that there is scope for coalitions to receive dedicated funding to address these types of issues at national level, also underlying that the focus of the Secretariat’s work plan is around opportunities where we can drive a trans-national agenda.

ML responded to the question of which milestones GC members were especially keen to support by indicating his particular interest, in line with current PWYP UK work, in milestones 3.3 and 6.1.
AM expressed a strong interest in the contract disclosure campaign, which would resonate with groups in Latin America. He also asked whether and how the Secretariat was planning for home-based work in the short and medium term. The Secretariat is now a fully virtual office, with some staff in Africa and MENA able to work from offices.

GM noted interest across all milestones, and in particular for outcome 2. She noted the importance of engaging more with OGP as a complementary tool to the EITI to promote good, open governance.

MA will consult with the coalitions before commenting further on the programme of work.

OP noted that the Ukrainian coalition would work on open contracting, gender and energy transition and that she stands ready to assist the Secretariat and the movement on these issues.

EP noted that the PWYP Board was expected to approve the 2021 Programme of Work and budget at its meeting next week.

**Update on contract disclosure campaign launch**

JB presented plans for the launch of the global PWYP campaign on contract disclosure, which would take place later in the week. He reviewed the three initial aims of the campaign, as well as the priority activities of the campaign for the coming few months, including establishing a campaign working group early in 2021. He urged the GC members to share the campaign materials in their respective networks.

**Opening GC meeting to observers**

ML updated the participants on possible modalities for opening GC meetings to observers from within the PWYP membership. The GC decided initially that GC meetings should be open to observers from the next meeting onwards, since agreement in principle had been reached as long ago as July. However, in light of concerns expressed by the Secretariat regarding resourcing implications, the GC then agreed to aim to open its next-but-one meeting to observers, i.e. its second meeting in 2021. It was pointed out that regional GC representatives and not the Secretariat would be responsible for vetting PWYP members seeking to observe meetings, so the administrative burden on the Secretariat should not be excessive. OP asked to add to the ToR for GC observers the note that GC meetings will be open to observers, but support will be provided in case resources will allow (in case of
offline meetings/if additional translation will be needed) and asked all GC members to provide their final comments to the ToR.

**AOB and Closing**
The GC agreed to continue meeting virtually in 2021 once every two months. It is anticipated that an in-person meeting may be possible in Q3 of 2021.