

2. Stepping down of Advisory Board members

Dr Mensah-Kutin and Dr Graham were congratulated for their enormous achievements and contributions during their 2-year mandate.

3. Governance structure review

The Chairman, Prof. Akilagpa Sawyerr, highlighted that the significant outcome of the governance review was the swapping of roles between the FC and the Board, with the Board broadly becoming the decision making body. It was stated that the outcome of the governance review is to reduce the pressure on the donors and to promote national ownership.

The Funders Committee has endorsed the proposed new structure. From the FC perspective, the Board should take a firm decision on the Governance Structure Review discussion during the meeting. It was a general view that the current governance structure was too bureaucratic, and that the review was aimed at reducing the level of bureaucracy in the G-rap structure. Michael Hammond further mentioned that CIDA would want an early endorsement of the proposals on the Governance Structure.

The Advisory Board consented with the proposed revisions and thereby transformed itself from Advisory Board into Programme Board. Prof. Sawyerr suggested the details of legal matters of the Governance Review be worked out later.

4. Positions in the new Programme Board

The MPs agree with the provision that they as Committee Chairs nominate one permanent member each of their respective Parliamentary Committees to represent the Committees at the meetings. The current Chairs will serve on the Board until the end of the elections in December 2008; this in order to guarantee continuity.

Regarding the number of Eminent Ghanaians (EGs) required it was generally agreed that the Board should have an even number of members. Therefore a number of four EGs was recommended and agreed. It was suggested that at least two of the EGs, one of whom should chair the meeting, must be present in each meeting.

The RAOs presented a number of candidates for nomination as EGs:

Kwesi Jonah	Dorcas Appiah
Takyiwaa Manu	Kwame Ninsim
Akoto Ampaw	Joe Abbey
Ama Atta Aidoo	Robert Adjaye (brought forward during the meeting)

However, it was indicated that some might be (too) connected with the beneficiary group. It was then agreed that the roles for such individuals as EGs should be clearly defined and their roles seriously watched as suggested respectively by Prof. Sawyerr and by Mr. Hammond, who added that he would expect that the status of eminency should guarantee the required level of neutrality. Mr. Kojo Asante suggested avoiding selection of EGs who are directly linked to RAOs. Prof. Sawyerr reiterated this suggestion. RAO reps will come with additional candidates and contact potential candidates for their availability.

The composition of the Programme Board was agreed as follows:

- ◆ 4 EGs (including the Chair of the Programme Board)
- ◆ 2 MPs (nominated by Chairs from among the Public Accounts and Finance Committees)
- ◆ 1 DP (acting Chair of the Funders Committee)
- ◆ 2 RAO representatives (biennially elected at RAO Convention)

The issue of the selection process of the Chair of the Board was raised by Prof. Sawyerr, but no definite line of action was taken on this.

Composition of the Selection Sub-Committee (SSC)

RAOs have agreed that they should have no representation on the Board's Selection Sub-Committee (SSC). It was accepted that RAOs could make recommendations, but the Board can overrule them.

The criteria for the selection of three Programme Board members to the Selection Sub-Committee as suggested by Prof. Sawyerr and Kojo Asante included:

- ◆ Experience and interest in the RAO work, and
- ◆ Expertise and ability to make good assessment of presentations
- ◆ Representing one of the stakeholder groups on the PB except RAOs

It was agreed to have 1 MP, 1 DP and 1 Eminent Ghanaian on the Committee, with a quorum of 2 out of 3 to be present at the selection session. It was also agreed that the 3-member SSC can draw on the expertise of external national consultants to advise them.

Hon Sallas Mensah was nominated to serve on, and chair the sub-committee. For the Eminent position he suggested to look for a partner from Ernst & Young. Dr Robert Adjaye, partner of E&Y who retired in 2007, will be approached for the position of Eminent Ghanaian and as a potential candidate for the sub-committee. Dr Audrey Gadzekpo was also mentioned as a possible nominee. Third member will be the Chair of the Funders Committee. As suggested in the MTR report, positions of the SSC can change per session.

5. Strategic Issues Meetings (SIM)

The purpose of the inter-stakeholder SIM was clarified and adopted. All agreed that the timing of such meetings was critical. The RAO Convention does provide adequate time and space to discuss strategic issues. Therefore, it was generally agreed that the best setting for the SIM meeting would be in conjunction with the RAO Convention. All G-rap stakeholder groups have to be involved in the SIM discussions.

However, in order to timely inform the G-rap Fund annual call for expressions of interest, the Convention should be organized early in September (the Grant cycle aligning with the calendar year).

6. Special Initiatives Facility (SIF)

The purpose of the SIF was clarified and adopted. Details of the SIF need to be further determined at an interim SIM, preferably to be held before the end of March 2008. The two new RAO reps on the Board will prepare the meeting.

Suggestion by Programme Management is to have the SIF included in the upcoming Call for Expressions of Interest in March 2008, with disbursement from July 2008 onwards. Process and procedural matters for the SIF would need to be outlined before this next Call.

7. Re-tendering of G-rap management

Mike Hammond could not yet share any information, as negotiations are currently ongoing.

8. AOB

The information gap currently existing between Board and FC is to be resolved by the new arrangement whereby the Chair of the Funders Committee represents the donors on the Programme Board and its Sub-Committee.

The meeting came to a close at 12:45 pm

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Listing of Action Points

Action Point	Responsible	Timeline / status
Old Action Points (outstanding)		
RAOs write a proposal for a structured CS access point for consultations (e.g. for government and donors, how to approach and engage civil society for consultations)	RAO reps	Not yet concluded Currently the NGO National Consultative Group network (NCG) is being further developed (dynamics around CSO legislation issue)
RAOs prepare sketched outline of systems and modalities for the proper functioning of the SIF	RAO reps	Not yet done See below
New Action Points		
New governance structure to be captured in legal texts (candidate: Charles Zwennes)	Hans	Asap; pro-forma requested on 28/01
Additional candidates will be proposed; all nominees will be approached for their availability	Kojo and Angela	Asap
An interim SIM will be called together, also to determine modalities for new SIF funding line	Kojo and Angela	Before end of March
Logical Framework to be amended, reflecting MTR changes in G-rap programme	PMT and then Board	In progress; draft has been produced; will be presented in 2005-2008 M&E report.