

Governance and Leadership Subcommittee
Monthly

30 July 2019 | 09:00 - 10:30 EST

Attendees

- Government of Canada: Benoit Frenette, Natalia Little, Darine Benkalha
- Government of Argentina: Carolina Cornejo
- Nathaniel Heller, R4D
- Robin Hodess, The B Team
- OGP Support Unit

Call Summary

1. New incoming co-chairs and actions to support them develop strong early visions for their new role (2019-2021)

The deadline for applications for SC members to serve as incoming co-chairs for the 2019-2021 term was July 15. The GL reviewed and discussed the two candidacies received: Maria Baron and the government of Korea.

To further provide support to the incoming co-chairs and help develop their early vision, a strategic GL meeting in September was suggested, in addition to a procedural handover from Canada and Nathaniel and bilateral talks between the chairs. Dates are to be coordinated with help from the SU.

Action item(s):

- *GL unanimously endorsed the candidacies of Maria Baron and government of South Korea to serve as the new incoming co-chairs and the new subcommittee composition for 2019-2020. [See GL resolution](#) (embargoed until September 6 to provide new incoming chairs opportunity to organize public communication efforts).*
- *In a "Troika" capacity, Canada and Nathaniel Heller will provide advice and support to the GL Subcommittee through the remainder of 2019, and will join the Thematic Leadership Subcommittee beginning on January 2020.*
- *Nathaniel Heller, on behalf of GL, will inform the SC of their decision. The Support Unit will send bilateral communications to the new co-chairs (on behalf of GL) and to the SC members rotating subcommittees.*
- *The SU will coordinate "orientation" calls for new subcommittee members in August and September, and the new incoming co-chairs will be invited to join the September and October GL call.*

2. 2019-2020 subcommittee composition

The SU presented a proposed new composition for all subcommittees (2019-2020) taking into consideration regional presence, expertise, and thematic focus areas to form robust and well-balanced subcommittees.

The SU is to provide notice to SC members rotating subcommittees before the GL resolution is made public. New SC members being assigned to subcommittees for the first time will be offered orientation calls before they begin their SC terms in October in order to present the work of each subcommittee. Indonesia is the only new proposed subcommittee co-chair (for TLS), and have been approached in advance.

GL also recommended reviewing the existing subcommittees and mandates to ensure that the needs of OGP and partners are met now and in the future, and that subcommittees play a strategic and oversight role on different areas.

Action item(s):

- *The proposal was approved by GL together with the [respective resolution](#).*
- *The SU will include the review of subcommittees and mandates in future GL calls over the next six months.*

3. Co-chair handover plans and next SC meetings

Dates for a co-chair handover in mid-September to early October are to be reviewed and agreed on as soon as possible, given the upcoming elections in Canada and Argentina.

A working-level GL retreat was suggested to take place in parallel to the handover ceremony to discuss key programs such as OGP Local, IRM refresh, and the strategic direction of the SC. In addition, the GL retreat would serve as an opportunity to discuss the priorities of the next co-chairs and strive to ensure continuity on partnership-wide priorities. This would also provide the opportunity for the outgoing chairs, Canada and Nathaniel Heller, to debrief on their chair priorities and experience. The new incoming chairs, South Korea and Maria Baron, would be invited to this GL retreat.

GL discussed possible dates for the next working-level SC meeting to take place in February 2020. The location for the meeting is to be confirmed, with Berlin being the first option. A “virtual SC meeting” was suggested to be organized when GL convenes in September as a way to keep the SC engaged between now and the February 2020 meeting.

Lastly, it was suggested to organize a ministerial-level SC meeting in 2020 in combination with a thematic event, ideally aligned to the co-chair priorities. The possible locations are Argentina, or in the sidelines of UNGA in New York.

Action item(s):

- *The SU will coordinate with the government of Argentina and Robin Hodess on possible dates for the handover and GL retreat.*

- *Argentina and Robin Hodess will coordinate the date for the next working-level meeting in February 2020.*
- *The GL will discuss further the possibilities for other SC convenings in 2019-2020.*

4. Debrief on recent strategic events and upcoming key opportunities (EITI, HLPF, Media Freedom, UNGA, OAS General Assembly)

The Support Unit and GL agreed on a more strategic approach to upcoming key events where Support Unit and Steering Committee are participating, so opportunities to leverage existing roles and connections can be fully exploited.

Action item(s):

- *GL agreed to have a standing item in future GL calls to discuss strategic events and upcoming key opportunities.*
- *Debriefs on recent events, and opportunities for engagement in future events will continue to be shared with the SC in upcoming monthly and quarterly updates.*

5. AOB

The Support Unit informed members that moving forward GL calls will be the last Thursday of every month.