
Attending (Virtually): Henry Asor (Nigeria, GB Chair); Thea Schepers (Netherlands, GB Vice-Chair); Joseph Barnes (UNICEF); Winnie Kamau (Association of Freelance Journalists); Innocent Mugabe (Government of Rwanda); Charlie Ngounou (AfroLeadership); Mohamed Gele (Somalia, Technical Chair); Faiza Effendi (UNDP, Head of Effectiveness Group, BPPS); Annelise Parr (UNDP / IATI Policy and Technology Manager); Cody Wallace (UNDP / IATI Policy and Governance Specialist); Dan Bodunescu (UNOPS / IATI Secretariat); Steven Flower (ODS / IATI Secretariat); Jack Lord (ODS / IATI Secretariat)

Implementation Update (Q3 2023) / Work Plan and Budget for Q1 2024 (For Approval)

1. Chaired by Henry Asor (Nigeria), Chair of the IATI Governing Board, the agenda for the quarterly meeting included an assessment of the financial health and trajectory for the initiative while taking stock of the progress during the first 6 months of the new hosting arrangement for IATI. A financial report was provided by UNOPS and was acknowledged, with thanks. UNDP shared implementation highlights, and the Board noted this reminder of the good work IATI is delivering, with appreciation. With a project board meeting following soon after the quarterly meeting, the Board agreed to defer review of the risk register for discussion as part of the project board meeting.

2. Secretariat gave a tour of a new streamlined work plan format and explained that it draws from existing approved documentation (SP> Hosting ToRs >Service catalogue > activities > budget), and the 2022 Strategic Plan monitoring. The Board was reminded that the budget covered only Q1, with the note that this is the most costly quarter as it includes the costs of the MA and agreed payment to PWYF (if not concluded in 2023, as seems unlikely). Income projections for 2024 remain stable with no reduction currently foreseeable, but rather an increase due to new high-value memberships.

Action points:

- *Include risk register review and discussion in project board meeting.*
- *The Board to review the live work plan and budget and provide feedback if any on the new format, and to approve the budget.*

Planning for the 2024 Members Assembly (progress update)

3. The Board was updated on the incoming request just received from APC Colombia to delay the MA due to conflict of timing and availability of key stakeholders to support the process and take

part in the events. Secretariat advised that without a collaborative partnership, it's becoming too late for the Secretariat itself to launch procurement processes for key activities such as to identify a venue, where these activities were agreed as out of scope for the UNDP/UNOPS teams.

Action points:

- *Seek a call for the Board with APC Colombia team urgently on options for new dates; Pause registration, and prepare a joint message on the reason for the decision to be posted on Connect; Contact those already registered to ensure they hold off with any flight/hotel bookings; In preparation for the call with APC, undertake a thorough scan of external events to avoid any conflict with new proposed dates.*

Routes to Publication (Discussion paper)

4. Small and mid-sized publishers face challenges using existing tools, processes, with knock-on effects on support provision and quality of data published. The Secretariat presented a paper setting out some of these challenges and making proposals for addressing them in the short and medium term. Further discussion was needed on the points raised through the paper, and whether / to what extent it can be taken up by the Publishing Working Group (PWG). There was brief discussion on the need for strategic decisions on IATI's core products and its stance towards products available in the market. There also was a brief discussion on the original issue which led to this agenda item, namely: which role should the tool 'Publisher' play in the broader landscape of publishing tools, created by our members? Do we want it to compete? Do we want it to be a fallback option? This is unclear, has not been decided on before going live, and is therefore a pressing issue.

Action points:

- *The Board considered tasking the PWG to look into this issue under its Board-mandated scope, but did not conclude to do so. It will, however, share the challenges presented in the meeting with the PWG.*
- *Secretariat to schedule a meeting to discuss the paper and the Publisher tool further with relevant members of the Board and the Secretariat.*
- *Secretariat to produce the short outline paper on core and external tools and products.*

AOB:

The following items were not discussed due to the urgent discussion on the risks and consequences of delaying the MA, and were held over for a subsequent meeting in January.

- **View to 2030 (discussion)** – A discussion about the Secretariat's draft roadmap towards a new Strategic Plan 2026 – 2030 (incorporating a delayed mid-term review) did not take place. Nevertheless, the Board Institutional focal point gave the opinion that a MTR should at this point be undertaken as part of the process of development of the

next Strategic Plan. Without sufficient time to discuss this point the Board VC asked to add some time to the next scheduled Governing Board meeting (17 January).

- **2024 Governing Board election timing (discussion):** Members should take advantage of the Members Assembly to meet in-person before the election; however, in the context of rescheduling the Members Assembly, the Secretariat will develop a new timeline/roadmap in the event the MA is rescheduled later than the date for establishment of a new Board (1 April).
- **2024 Events Calendar:** The Secretariat provided a 2024 Calendar for internal and external events (including Board schedule) – The Board requested additional time to review.

Action points:

- *Secretariat to prepare a new timeline/roadmap for the 2024 Governing Board Elections in view of the change of date for the MA; announce upcoming election and encourage members to consider running.*