

DECISIONS

ED.09.15/DEC.01: The Board approves the Report of the Board Meeting via Conference Call (28 July 2015) attached as Annex 1 to ED.09.15/DOC.01 and requests the Secretariat to post it on the GCERF website.

ED.09.15/DEC.02: The Board approves the replacement of paragraph 12.3 of the Human Resources Policy approved at the meeting via conference call on 26 February 2015 with the following:

12.3 Once an express or implied final administrative decision is taken by the Executive Director regarding an alleged non-observance of the employee's terms and conditions of employment, the employee shall be entitled to file a judicial appeal with the Administrative Tribunal of the International Labour Organization.

(signed)

Carol Bellamy
Chair

ANNEX 1: REPORT OF THE BOARD MEETING VIA CONFERENCE CALL (28 JULY 2015)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Chair welcomed participants to the meeting and conducted a roll call in order to determine whether a quorum was present. Having confirmed that a quorum was established, the Chair opened the meeting and welcomed Dr Lisa Schirch from the Independent Review Panel (“IRP”) and Secretariat members who were participating in the meeting. A list of participants is included as Attachment 1.

1.2 The Chair welcomed the following new members of the Board:

- **Tim Docking**, Leader, Global Post and Emerging Markets Funding (EMF) Group at IBM, as Board member for the Private Sector constituency; and
- **Charlotte Keenan**, Executive Director at Goldman Sachs where she heads the Office of Corporate Engagement for Europe, Middle East and Asia, as Alternate Board member for the Private Sector constituency.

1.3 The Chair advised that the representative of Mali would be speaking in French and that the Secretariat would take notes and reflect his comments in the meeting report.

1.4 The agenda for the call was to consider: (i) approval of allocations to Bangladesh, Mali and Nigeria; and (ii) one short item dealing with expansion of signing authority on behalf of GCERF. The Chair indicated that the update from the Executive Director would be discussed should time permit.

2. CORE FUNDING MECHANISM: COUNTRY FUND ALLOCATION 2015

2.1 The Chair advised that a decision on the allocation of funds to countries was critical at this juncture. The Secretariat had worked extremely hard since the 2nd Board Meeting in Marrakech to arrive at this step, which is necessary to allow funds to be disbursed by the end of the year. She requested the Executive Director to make a few short opening remarks and to answer any questions from Board members. Dr Schirch was also available on the telephone to answer questions.

2.2 The Executive Director advised that this meeting was taking place now to try to fulfil the ambition to start making grants by the end of 2015. This ambitious timeline is justifiable for at least three reasons. First, the issue of violent extremism is an urgent one. Second, in order to assist in GCERF’s fundraising efforts, it must be disbursing funds efficiently as well as effectively. Third, GCERF’s credibility was premised on being an action-oriented organisation.

2.3 The Executive Director thanked the Country Support Mechanisms (“CSMs”) for delivering the needs assessments, the IRP for reviewing the needs assessments and providing its recommendations, and the Secretariat team for its hard work.

2.4 The Executive Director noted that there were two small changes to the recommended decision language in the document (CC.07.15/DOC.01). First, the amount to allocate was increasing from USD 14.442 to 14.54 million due to a confirmation from Switzerland of their contribution, and a new contribution from New Zealand.

2.5 Board members supported the proposed decision to divide the amount equally between the three pilot countries.

2.6 A Board member asked if funds earmarked for the Accelerated Funding Mechanism (“AFM”) were included in the amount recommended for allocation. The Executive Director advised that they were not.

2.7 Some Board members from donor constituencies and civil society expressed a desire to have access to the needs assessments. A Board member from a beneficiary country constituency stated that the needs assessments contain sensitive information and should not be shared with the Board; moreover, the summaries of them contained in the meeting document should not be made publicly available by posting on the GCERF website. It was emphasised that donors, civil society and other stakeholders should be involved in the CSM’s development of needs assessments at the country level. One donor requested more support from the Secretariat to enable participation in the CSMs.

2.8 Some Board members made comments on the country analyses, including: possible confusion between political violence and violent extremism; the need for governments to ensure and not hinder support to civil society organisations; avoiding reinforcing traditional and potentially harmful practices; and the geographical areas in which to start. The Chair noted that these comments will be helpful once the actual proposals are submitted for Board approval. The IRP member noted that the IRP is open to further refinement to its recommendations over the next three years as new research and analyses emerge.

2.9 Board members commented that they anticipated that the target populations and geographical areas recommended by the IRP were not “set in stone” for three years, as the situation is fluid and new priorities were constantly emerging. It was emphasised that new funding could be directed towards new priorities and that progress will need to be reviewed on a regular basis. The Chair agreed and indicated that regular reviews would occur.

2.10 The Board made the following decision:

CC.07.15/DEC.01: The Board:

- a. welcomes the work of the Country Support Mechanisms (“CSMs”) in Bangladesh, Mali and Nigeria, and notes the commitment of each of them to proceed with the process of the Core Funding Mechanism;
- b. recognises the strategic imperatives detailed in Section 4 of CC.07.15/DOC.01, and supports making an ambitious initial funding commitment to pilot countries, while recognising the importance of robust financial management;

- c. thanks the Independent Review Panel for their recommendations and guidance on the allocation of funds to Bangladesh, Mali and Nigeria;
- d. approves in principle the allocation of up to USD 14.54 million, to be divided equally between each Bangladesh, Mali and Nigeria for grant-making purposes under the Core Funding Mechanism for a three year period commencing in 2016;
- e. requests the Secretariat to execute the decision of the Board in line with the processes of the Core Funding Model as laid out in BM.01/DOC.05 and with the following demographic, geographical, and thematic focus of funding in each country:
 - i. Bangladesh: (i) youth, women and Rohingya communities; (ii) the border districts of Satkhira, Chapai Nawabganj, and Cox's Bazar; and (iii) curbing the spread of new forms of radicalisation to violent extremism;
 - ii. Mali: (i) Songhai Arab communities and the Tamachek of Goundam, and youth and other populations vulnerable to violent extremist recruiting based on both socio-economic insecurity and on religion; (ii) the regions of Kayes, Koulikoro, Mopti, and Ségou; and as a secondary priority, Timbuktu; and (iii) prevention of radicalisation to violent extremism; and
 - iii. Nigeria: (i) young men between the ages of 15 and 35, and women; (ii) the North Central states of Kogi, Benue, Plateau, and Nasarawa; and (iii) prevention of radicalisation to violent extremism; and
- f. requests and encourages the CSMs of Bangladesh, Mali and Nigeria and the IRP to collaborate to ensure that that the applications of prospective Principal Recipients are clearly defined, and reflect the highest priorities and most critical gaps in countering violent extremism.

2.11 The Chair emphasised that the decision was made taking full account of specific comments from the discussion. She stated that it was a very crucial step, because it allows GCERF to move forward with the Core Funding Mechanism.

2.12 The Executive Director thanked the Board for making the decision. The next step is the issuance by each of the CSMs of an expression of interest to become a Principal Recipient. A meeting is being held in Geneva on 1-2 September 2015, where the Secretariat will be bringing together representatives of the CSMs and the IRP to pre-select Principal Recipients and share lessons learned.

3. EXPANSION OF SIGNING AUTHORITY

3.1 A paper had been provided on this issue (CC.07.15/DOC.02). The Executive Director advised that that the Secretariat was changing its request for approval of signing authority of the Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer on a co-signatory basis rather than on an individual basis.

3.2 Board members noted that expansion of signing authority allows for greater efficiency and is necessary as the Secretariat grows. The Chair asked if there were any objections to the proposed decision, to which there were none.

3.3 The Board made the following decision:

CC.07.15/DEC.02: The Board:

- a. notes its previous approval of the signatory authority on an individual basis of each of the Chair and the Executive Director (BM.01/DEC.15);
- b. approves the additional signatory authority on a co-signatory basis of the Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer; and
- c. authorizes the Executive Director to delegate to appropriate staff the authority to execute instruments committing GCERF in accordance with the Financial Management Policy and as necessary and appropriate for the fulfilment of the Executive Director's responsibilities for the day-to-day management of the operations of GCERF.

4. UPDATE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

4.1 The Executive Director had issued an update (CC.07.15/DOC.03), and the Chair enquired whether there were any other comments from the Board.

4.2 Board members requested an update on potential new pilot countries and the Accelerated Funding Mechanism.

4.3 The Executive Director stated that his first priority was to ensure that progress is made on the Core Funding Mechanism and that grant funds could begin to be disbursed by the end of 2015. In addition, he (and the Chair) will be continuing to raise funds, and this will be assisted by the recruitment of a Senior Resource Mobilisation Officer and developing a resource mobilization strategy. The Chair reminded the Board members of the need for their help with fund raising.

4.4 Regarding potential new pilot countries, letters had been received from Myanmar and Kosovo; letters from Kenya and Indonesia are forthcoming. There was also interest from Kyrgyzstan and Tunisia. Going forward, the Board would need to discuss how to expand judiciously.

4.5 Regarding the AFM, earmarked contributions/pledges had been made by Norway and the United States, and so it was gaining traction, but more funds are required to launch it.

4.6 The Chair thanked the Executive Director and noted the progress made. She noted that GCERF needs to be nimble and be prepared to review and make course corrections as it moves forward. The Board will be meeting face-to-face closer to the end of 2015, but a further meeting via teleconference may be necessary prior to that.

4.7 A Board member congratulated the Executive Director on the progress made to date, and noted that while monitoring will be necessary, it is important to remember that this is a pilot phase, with lessons being learned. The Board should not forget the “bigger picture” and its strategic directives.

4.8 The Chair thanked all Board members and the Secretariat and adjourned the meeting.

Attachment 1

List of Participants

Chair: Ms Carol Bellamy¹

Voting Board Members:

Constituency	Participant(s)
Australia	Board Member: Mr James Nachipo, Director, Counter-Terrorism: Asia Pacific & Multilateral, Counter-Terrorism Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia <u>on behalf</u> Ambassador Miles Armitage, Ambassador for Counter-Terrorism and Assistant Secretary, Counter-Terrorism Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia
Bangladesh	Alternate Board Member: Ambassador M. Shameem Ahsan, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations and other International Organisations in Geneva
Canada/UK	Board Member: Ms Sue Breeze, Head of Equalities and Non-Discrimination Team, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, United Kingdom Alternate Board Member: Mr Graeme Hamilton, Chief, Counter-Terrorism Capacity Building Program, Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development, Canada <u>on behalf of</u> Ms Nell Stewart, Director, Capacity Building Program Division, Non-Proliferation and Security Threat Reduction Bureau, Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development, Canada
Civil Society	Board Member: Mr Fulco van Deventer, Vice-Director, Human Security Collective
European Union	Board Member: Mr Adriaan van der Meer, Head of Unit, Instrument Contributing to Stability and Peace – Global and Transregional Threats, European Commission
Foundations	Board Member (Acting): Mr Matthew Lawrence, Director of Programmes, Tony Blair Faith Foundation Alternate Board Member: Mr Alistair Millar, Executive Director, Global Center on Cooperative Security
Mali	Alternate Board Member: Mr Amadou Opa Thiam, Minister Counsellor Permanent Mission of Mali to the United Nations in Geneva
Nigeria	Regrets
Policy, Think and	Board Member: Mr Maqsood Kruse, Executive Director, Hedayah

Constituency	Participant(s)
Do Tanks	Alternate Board Member: Marco de Swart, Senior Portfolio Manager, International Centre for Counter-Terrorism <u>on behalf of</u> Mark Singleton, Director, International Centre for Counter-Terrorism
Private Sector	Board Member: Mr Timothy Docking, Leader, Global Post and Emerging Markets Funding (EMF) Group, IBM Alternate Board Member: Ms Charlotte Keenan, Executive Director, Office of Corporate Engagement for Europe, Middle East and Asia, Goldman Sachs
Qatar	Board Member: Ms Noor Alsada, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations in Geneva <u>on behalf of</u> Ambassador Mutlaq Al-Qahtani, Director of International Organizations Department, Qatar Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Switzerland	Alternate Board Member: Mr Daniel Frank, Deputy Coordinator for International Counter-Terrorism, Switzerland Federal Department of Foreign Affairs
USA	Alternate Board Member: Ms Shawna Wilson, Foreign Policy Officer, Bureau of Counterterrorism, U.S. Department of State, <u>on behalf of</u> Dr Raffi Gregorian, Director, Multilateral Affairs, Bureau of Counterterrorism, U.S. Department of State

International Review Panel: Dr Lisa Schirch, Founding Director, Alliance for Peacebuilding Program on Human Security

Observer: Mr Anton du Plessis, Managing Director, Institute for Security Studies, Constituent, Policy, Think and Do Tanks

Secretariat:

Dr Khalid Koser, Executive Director¹
 Ms Brigitte Laude, Chief Financial Officer
 Ms Tal Sagorsky, Legal Counsel
 Mr Jonathan Wood, Chief Operating Officer

¹Non-voting Board Member