



GRI Independent Appointments Committee (IAC)

Annual Report 2017

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List of abbreviations

DPOC	Due Process Oversight Committee	IAC	Independent Appointments Committee
EGNC	Extended GRI Nominating Committee	ILO	International Labour Organization
GRI	Global Reporting Initiative	UN	United Nations
GSSB	Global Sustainability Standards Board		

Introduction

The Independent Appointments Committee (IAC) was created as an independent committee under the auspices of GRI. This cohesive group of committed people leveraging the principle of “collective wisdom” has primary responsibility for appointing qualified, competent, disinterested persons of independent mind, to the GRI Global Sustainability Standards Board (GSSB) and the GRI Due Process Oversight Committee (DPOC).

Following appointment by the Extended GRI Nominating Committee¹ (EGNC), the inaugural IAC was established by 1 September 2015. The current members of the IAC are:

- Denise Esdon, Chair of the IAC
- Åse Bäckström, Executive Director at Hallvarsson & Halvarsson
- Prof. Mahendra Chouhan, Author, board advisor and management educator
- Mr. Victor Hugo Ricco, UN Official, Senior Specialist Workers' Activities at the Bureau of Workers' Activities of the ILO

More information about the IAC can be found on the [GRI website](#).

Meeting activities

The nature and timing of the IAC’s meetings are summarized in the enclosed Appendix I.

Summary of IAC’s activities

GSSB Appointments

Established as an independent operating entity under the auspices of GRI, the GSSB is formed of members with a broad range of expertise and experience, and who have the sole responsibility of setting globally accepted standards for sustainability reporting. The GSSB works in the public interest and according to the vision and mission of GRI.

The IAC held an open call for nominations to the GSSB from 1 May until 30 June 2017 for membership positions on the GSSB for a three-year term commencing 1 January 2018. From early-July to mid-September 2017 the IAC reviewed the received nominations and conducted interviews.

The open call for nominations focused on candidates from Business Enterprises and Civil Society Organizations, as the GSSB needed additional members from these constituencies to meet the membership representation balance under the GSSB’s Terms of Reference.

The appointment process takes into account the candidates’ experience, the constituency they represent, as well as gender and geographic diversity. Balanced representation may not always be

¹ The Extended GRI Nomination Committee consist of three GRI Board members (including the Board Chair), three Stakeholder Council members (including the Chair of the Stakeholder Council), and two external individuals.

achieved over one appointment cycle and the IAC is committed to address this in future appointments, to the best of its ability.

In September 2017, the IAC appointed the following members to the GSSB for a three-year term:

- Kirsten Hovi (Business Enterprise Constituency - reappointment), Norway
- Vincent Kong (Business Enterprise Constituency), Hong Kong
- Tung-Li (Tony) Mo (Civil Society Constituency), Taiwan

Those appointments brought the GSSB membership to full complement (15 members).

A full list of current GSSB members can be found [here](#).

IAC Chair Appointment

In line with the [IAC Terms of Reference](#) section 4, the IAC appoints the IAC Chair from among the members.

An election was carried out in December 2017, and Helena Barton, newly appointed to the IAC by the EGNC from 1 January 2018, has been elected Chair and will commence her three-year term on 1 January 2018. She will follow the outgoing Chair, Denise Esdon, who has chaired the IAC since it was established 1 September 2015.

IAC agenda 2018

In 2018, the IAC's activities will mainly be focused on appointments to the GSSB and DPOC with start date 2019.

Published on behalf of the IAC,



Denise Esdon, IAC Chair

Appendix I: IAC meetings and interview sessions

Date	Type	GSSB appointment process	GSSB Interviews	DPOC appointment process	DPOC Interviews	Administrative matters
5-Jan-17	Virtual		*			
9-Jan-17	Virtual		*			
11-Jan-17	Virtual		*			
16-Jan-17	Virtual	*				*
24-April-17	Virtual	*				*
14-Aug-17	Virtual	*				*
22-Aug-17	Virtual		*			
30-Aug-17	Virtual		*			
31-Aug-17	Virtual		*			
6-Sep-17	Virtual		*			
7-Sep-17	Virtual		*			
8-Sep-17	Virtual		*			
8-Sep-17	Virtual	*				*
23 Nov-17	Virtual	*		*		*