



# GRI Stakeholder Council Election Booklet

*SC Election 2016*

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## List of Abbreviations

CSR	-	Corporate Social Responsibility	GRI	-	Global Reporting Initiative
CSO	-	Civil Society Organization	SC	-	Stakeholder Council
GNC	-	GRI Nominating Committee			

# Introduction

This booklet contains essential information for all nominees for the GRI Stakeholder Council Election 2016. Elected candidates will join GRI's Stakeholder Council (SC) on 1 January 2017.

It covers:

- Background information on GRI's Stakeholder Council
- The nomination and election process for 2016
- How to apply

## GRI Stakeholder Council

### *Who are the Stakeholder Council?*

The SC is the formal stakeholder forum within GRI's governance structure. The SC consists of around 50 global experts possessing:

- deep knowledge of and a distinguished track record in their field
- an interest in the evolution and impact of sustainability reporting on society, the environment and the economy
- an interest in the evolution and impact of sustainability reporting on the reporting organizations

The SC is the formal stakeholder policy forum within the GRI governance structure, and advises the Board on strategic issues.

For an overview of the current SC members, please see the [GRI website](#).

### *Stakeholder Council Constituency Balance*

In keeping with GRI's multi-stakeholder approach, the SC is composed of a balance of constituencies. The table below gives an overview of the different constituencies on the SC, the defined ideal balance between these constituencies and their definitions:

Constituency	Percentage within SC	No. of Seats	Definition
Business Enterprises	40 % (of which at least 60% must belong to category 'a')	20 seats	a) An enterprise (other than a Mediating or Investment Institution) that has been established in order to generate a profit for the benefit of its investors or owners or,  b) An organization representing the collective interests of those falling into category 'a'.
Investment Institutions	15 %	7.5 seats	An enterprise that is primarily concerned with the direct or indirect, long-term investment of funds in business - including but not limited to asset owners, asset managers, development banks, exchanges, ratings agencies and market information brokers.
Labor Organizations	10 %	5 seats	An organization established in order to represent the interests of those who are employed.

Mediating Institutions	20 %	10 seats	An individual or organization that provides goods and/ or services associated with the reporting process and derives benefit from doing so.
Civil Society Organizations	15 %	7.5 seats	An organization established in order to promote or secure a public good relating to sustainability (environmental, social and governance) and that does not fall into any of the categories defined above.

## The 2016 SC Nomination and Election Process

GRI Stakeholder Council has 22 seats to be filled during this 2016 election process from the following constituencies<sup>1</sup>:

Constituency	Total Available Seats	GOLD VOTE (60%)	SC VOTE (40%)
Business Enterprises	11	7	4
Civil Society Organizations	0	0	0
Investment Institutions	5	3	2
Labor Organizations*	(2)		
Mediating Institutions	6	4	2

\*Labor seats have not been included in the count. These seats will be appointed by the Global Labor Movement – not through the Open call for nominations

The SC Election process 2016 is described below. Successful candidates will join the Stakeholder Council on 1 January 2017.

### *SC members are chosen for their:*

- Individual credentials. At no time do they represent their employer or any other organization or group in a formal sense
- Ability to act and speak for the constituency and region they represent
- Background experience and expertise, their broad understanding and knowledge of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), environment, human rights, social matters and other relevant fields. This may include, for example, their education, other membership and the type of organization they are from

Highly recommended is proficiency in English. The Stakeholder Council conducts all its business in the English language.

The Stakeholder Council meets online and via teleconference on a 6-weekly basis.

SC Membership is for three years. SC members in the final year of their first term may stand for re-election for a second three year term

<sup>1</sup> Refer to the table under the heading Stakeholder Council Constituency Balance for the definitions.

## Timeline

Date	Process
9 June 2016	Open call for nominations starts
8 August 2016	Nominations deadline (24:00 midnight, CEST)
29 August 2016	GOLD Community voting period starts on online voting platform
12 September 2016	GOLD Community votes deadline (24:00 midnight, CEST).
26 September – 3 October 2016	Voting of the Stakeholder Council
November – December 2016	Secretariat announces the results of the elections in the GRI Newsletter
1 January 2017	Full SC membership begins / second term of re-elected SC members starts

### Open Call for Nominations

The open call for nominations starts on 9 June 2016 and ends on 8 August 2016.

Candidates may be nominated by a third party or self-nominate. All candidates are required to complete and return the *Nomination Form* and *Employer's Statement* (if applicable) to GRI.

These documents are available to download on [GRI's website](#). All nominations will be reviewed by GRI's Nominating Committee who subsequently will highlight recommended candidates.

### GOLD Community Voting

GOLD Community members are GRI's core supporters. They are at the heart of the community shaping the future of sustainability and reporting, and empowering decision making towards a more sustainable economy and world. More information about GRI's GOLD Community can be found [here](#).

The GOLD Community voting will begin on 29 August 2016 and end on 12 September 2016.

The full list of candidates will be announced to the GOLD Community members on 29 August 2016. Candidates recommended by the GRI Nominating committee will be distinguished from the remaining pool.

The GOLD Community is asked to vote on 60 % of the total number of available seats. Each GOLD Community member has one vote and may only vote for candidates from the same constituency as the GOLD Community member in question.

### SC Voting

The SC voting will begin on 26 September 2016 and end on 3 October 2016.

The GOLD Community phase of the voting process does not always guarantee a balanced representation of the Stakeholder Council. Therefore, the election process is completed in a second round of voting by the sitting SC members to ensure the optimal balance of constituencies, gender and geographic regions.

All candidates not elected by GOLD Community are eligible for election by the SC.

The SC will be presented with all remaining candidates, whereby the GNC will make recommendations for individual candidates. Clarification of any tied votes will be undertaken by the GNC on request from the SC Chair.

## *Announcements*

The names of all newly elected SC members will be in the GRI Newsletter in November or December 2016.

## *How to Apply*

The open call for nominations starts on 9 June 2016 and ends on 8 August 2016.

Candidates may be nominated by a third party or self-nominate. All candidates are required to complete and return the *Nomination Form* and *Employer's Statement* (if applicable) to GRI. These documents are available to download from the [Stakeholder Council webpage](#).

- A completed Nomination Form provides essential information to GRI about the candidate and their suitability to be a SC member. It forms the basis for highlighting recommended candidates, and the content is included to support the candidate during the voting periods. No contact details are published.
- A signed Employer's Statement is required for candidates who are not self-employed. It provides evidence that the candidate's employer is willing to support the applicant during their term as an SC member, including allowing for travel, meeting preparation and meeting attendance.

Return all completed forms to Pamela Carpio, Senior Coordinator – Governance Relations at GRI ([carpio@globalreporting.org](mailto:carpio@globalreporting.org)). Please indicate "SC Nomination 2016" as the subject title.

Faxed or mailed communications are not accepted.

Nominations are due on 8 August 2016 24:00 midnight (CEST). Nominations received after this time **cannot** be considered.

## *Stay in touch*

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