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# **GSSB summary of the virtual meeting held on 16 June 2022**

**Approved by the GSSB on 7 July 2022**

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### 3 **Participants**

4 Present:

Name	Constituency
<b>Judy Kuszewski</b>	Chair
<b>Robyn Leeson</b>	Vice-Chair
<b>Peter Colley</b>	Labor
<b>Giulia Genuardi</b>	Business enterprise
<b>Evan Harvey</b>	Investment institution
<b>Anna Nefedova</b> (joined at 13.30)	Mediating institution
<b>Jennifer Princing</b>	Business enterprise
<b>Gangaa Charan Sharma</b>	Business enterprise
<b>Kim Schumacher</b>	Civil society organization
<b>Michel Washer</b>	Business enterprise

5 Apologies:

Name	Constituency
<b>Loredana Carta</b>	Labor
<b>Vincent Kong</b>	Business enterprise
<b>Joseph Martin</b>	Business enterprise
<b>Corli le Roux</b>	Mediating institution
<b>Kenton Swift</b>	Civil society organization

6 In attendance from GRI:

Name	Position
Bastian Buck	Chief of Standards
Harold Pauwels	Director Standards
Gillian Balaban	Sr. Coordinator Governance Relations

### 7 **List of abbreviations**

GRI	Global Reporting Initiative
GSSB	Global Sustainability Standards Board
SD	Standards Division
TC	Technical committee
DPP	Due Process Protocol
DPAR	Due Process Adherence report
DPOC	Due Process Oversight Committee

## 8 Decisions and action items

### 9 Decisions

10 No quorum was achieved. The approval of the previous GSSB meeting summary is postponed to the  
11 next meeting.

## 12 Session 1: Welcome

13 The Global Sustainability Standards Board (GSSB) Chair Judy Kuszewski (henceforth the Chair)  
14 welcomed the GSSB. The Chair presented an overview of the meeting agenda.

## 15 Session 2: Standards Division update

16 Chief of Standards Bastian Buck presented the following updates on projects and staff recruitment:

- 17 • The biodiversity project had its fourth TC meeting on 14 June 2022, with the next meeting  
18 scheduled for September. A final TC meeting (fatal flaw check) will occur in October 2022, before  
19 the public consultation. The aim is to approve the exposure draft in the November GSSB meeting  
20 and commence public exposure in December 2022. There is a slight delay, as previously advised,  
21 owing to the rich discussion with the expert group to ensure that a comprehensive proposal is  
22 ready for exposure. Two more meetings are required to arrive at an exposure draft for GSSB  
23 approval.
- 24 • Background discussions with the ILO, unions, and employers have been completed for the Labor  
25 Standard revision program. A draft proposal will be ready for GSSB discussion and approval in  
26 July 2022. Several layers of engagement are proposed with experts comprising a core group of  
27 the ILO, employer, and union representation, augmented by stakeholder perspectives to derive an  
28 exposure draft for this project.
- 29 • Since May, the project for the mining sector has advanced substantially with five sub-group  
30 meetings held with the Mining Working Group (WG) to define the list of likely material topics and  
31 the impacts that will be described for those topics. A half-day full WG meeting will take place at  
32 the end of June. The project is on schedule, and in the September and October GSSB meetings,  
33 more detailed projections can be made on when the exposure draft will be ready for GSSB  
34 approval.
- 35 • The important news for the agriculture, aquaculture, and fishing project is that the DPOC has  
36 approved the Standard. The Standard, to be known as *GRI 13: Agriculture, Aquaculture and*  
37 *Fishing Sectors*, will be released on 28 June 2022. The launch will be marked by a virtual event  
38 on 30 June, with speakers from the OECD, WBA, and FAO on the panel.

- 39 • Recruitment efforts have yielded significant capacity. With the budget allocation, more than 10  
40 new colleagues will be recruited. The aim is to build resources around all functions of the  
41 Standards Division.
- 42 • The recruitment process has been slow due to the constrained labor market. The recruitment will  
43 be completed by the end of Q3 to have 28 colleagues in the Standards Division. GSSB members  
44 are encouraged to promote these positions.

## 45 **Session 3: Australian Red Cross**

### 46 **presentation on the possibility of**

### 47 **integrating International**

### 48 **Humanitarian Law (IHL) into GRI**

### 49 **Standards and guidance**

50 Ms. Fauve Kurnadi, Legal Adviser on International Humanitarian Law (IHL), Australian Red Cross,  
51 and Dr. Jonathan Kolieb, Senior Lecturer in Law at RMIT University, presented the possibility of  
52 integrating International Humanitarian Law into GRI standards and guidance:

- 53 • A recommendation is to develop a topic-specific IHL standard as a natural continuation of GRI's  
54 commitment to strengthening human rights-related standards to reflect the increased attention  
55 given to conflict settings.
- 56 • In the interim, the following actions are for consideration: a commitment to research into the  
57 relevance of IHL to responsible business practices; a gap analysis of existing GRI Standards to  
58 identify potential areas for IHL inclusion; the development of practical guidance on IHL for the  
59 current reporting season; the inclusion of IHL into education and training for businesses, including  
60 in relevant GRI Academy courses; and strengthening of other relevant GRI Standards' conflict-  
61 sensitivity.
- 62

## 63 **Session 4: Any other business and**

### 64 **close of the meeting**

65 No other business was raised, and the Chair closed the public meeting at 13.07 Central European  
66 Time (CET).