



# Item 02 – GRI Topic Standard Project for Biodiversity – Proposed member for Technical Committee

## For GSSB Approval

<b>Date</b>	10 March 2023
<b>Meeting</b>	28-29 March 2023
<b>Project</b>	Topic Standard Project for Biodiversity
<b>Description</b>	<p>In accordance with the approved <a href="#">project proposal</a>, the GSSB established a technical committee in November 2021 and appointed independent experts with relevant knowledge and expertise to support and advise in the content development process.</p> <p>This document presents a revised membership for the GRI Biodiversity Technical Committee for approval by the GSSB.</p>

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# 1 Contents

Contents .....	2
Background .....	3
Selection criteria.....	3
Proposed technical committee expert.....	4

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## 2 **Background**

3 The GSSB approved the [GRI Topic Standard Project for Biodiversity - Final project proposal](#) on 23  
4 September 2021. In addition, the GSSB confirmed its intention to form a technical committee (TC) to  
5 develop the revised *GRI 304: Biodiversity 2016*.

6 The technical committee provides biodiversity-specific technical expertise to ensure a comprehensive  
7 revision of *GRI 304*. The members represent diverse, multi-stakeholder backgrounds and bring an  
8 excellent combination of relevant knowledge and experience in biodiversity.

9 The GSSB approved the membership of the GRI Biodiversity Technical Committee in November 2021  
10 after the presentation of the proposed members at their meeting in October 2021. The GSSB  
11 approved one additional technical committee member from the business enterprise constituency  
12 during its November 2021 meeting.

13 Since the approval of the membership in November 2021, one business enterprise representative,  
14 Jonty Knox, has taken on a new role within Rio Tinto and is no longer in a position to participate in the  
15 technical committee. He has therefore withdrawn his membership to the Biodiversity Technical  
16 Committee. An alternative business enterprise candidate has been identified to ensure continuity in  
17 perspective and maintain business representation within the technical committee.

## 18 **Selection criteria**

19 The principal criterion for selecting the experts for the technical committee was relevant knowledge  
20 and experience relating to business and biodiversity, including ecosystems. This includes familiarity  
21 with the goals and targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity and experience in identifying and  
22 measuring the impacts of businesses on biodiversity. When selecting suitable candidates, the  
23 following was considered:

- 24 • relevant knowledge of sustainability reporting on biodiversity;
- 25 • familiarity with the needs of users of sustainability reports;
- 26 • related experience with multi-stakeholder initiatives;
- 27 • understanding and willingness to work in a consensus-based, multi-stakeholder working  
28 group;
- 29 • working level of English.

30 **Proposed technical committee**  
31 **expert**

32 Below presents the background and experience of the proposed expert for membership to the  
33 Biodiversity Technical Committee for GSSB approval. Personal information has been excluded.

<b>Constituency:</b>	Business Enterprise
<b>Title:</b>	Principal Advisor Biodiversity, Environment Area of Expertise
<b>Organization:</b>	Rio Tinto
<b>Region of Work:</b>	Global
<b>Extract of background and experience:</b>	
<p>As an environmental professional, they have worked for 13 years in consulting, research, oil and gas, and mining sectors with experience in Australia, Senegal, Myanmar, New Zealand, and Cambodia.</p> <p>This work has spanned approvals and operational roles in mining and offshore oil and gas; marine ecology and fauna research; oil spill response execution; marine fisheries spatial planning and protected area assessment; environmental assurance; carbon abatement; terrestrial field monitoring and development of ESIA's and EMPs. Their technical experience lies in ecology, marine science, spatial science, and environmental management.</p> <p>Currently, their role involves the administration of the Rio Tinto biodiversity standard and implementation of external biodiversity and reporting standards. In addition, they provide technical biodiversity, environmental management, and strategic support for activities across a range of geographies, mining lifecycle stages, and within Iron Ore, Copper, Minerals, and Aluminium.</p>	