Summary 29 June 2017 meeting
Meeting summary: Approved on 19 July

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Participants

Present:

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<tbody>
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<td>Atilla Yerlikaya</td>
<td>Business Enterprise</td>
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<td>Daniel Taillant</td>
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<td>Evan Harvey</td>
<td>Investment Institution</td>
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<td>Judy Kuszewski</td>
<td>Chair</td>
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<td>Jürgen Buxbaum</td>
<td>Labor</td>
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<td>Kent Swift</td>
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<td>Kirsten Margrethe Hovi</td>
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<td>Michel Washer</td>
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<td>Robyn Leeson</td>
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<td>Stiaan Wandrag</td>
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<td>Vadakepatth Nandkumar</td>
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Apologies:

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<td>Daniel Ingram</td>
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<td>Dwight Justice</td>
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<td>Sulema Pioli</td>
<td>Mediating Institution</td>
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In attendance:

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<tr>
<td>Bastian Buck</td>
<td>Director, Standards Division</td>
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<td>Chelsea Reinhardt</td>
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List of abbreviations

AOB          Any other business
GRI          Global Reporting Initiative
GSSB         Global Sustainability Standards Board
OHS          Occupational health and safety
PWG          Project working group
SDG          Sustainable Development Goals
Meeting summary

Please see a list of action and decision items deriving from the meeting on p. 5.

Session 1: Welcome and approval of meeting summaries

The GSSB and attending GRI Secretariat staff were welcomed to the meeting and presented with an overview of the meeting agenda. The GSSB unanimously approved the meeting summaries from the 24 May virtual meeting with no changes.

Session 2: Discuss rough draft of revised GRI 303: Water and Effluents

The GSSB was presented with the most recent changes of the draft GRI 303: Water and Effluents based on the latest PWG calls as well as GSSB comments received prior to the meeting. The GSSB was invited to raise any fundamental content issues before the submission of the final draft, which will go out to the GSSB on 5th July for approval before the public comment period. The GSSB discussed:

- The definition of water consumption, and specifically whether consumption should include water returned to another source (but not the original source)
- The importance of including a specific requirement around agricultural runoff and related impacts
- The importance of reporting on impacts in water-stressed areas
- The importance of water recycling/reuse
- Including a more prominent reference to the UN resolution on human right to water

The Standards Division acknowledged the discussion points and agreed to pass on all points to the PWG for consideration. The GSSB members were asked to provide any additional input or concerns with the draft by 30 June 2017.
Session 3: Discuss rough draft of revised GRI 403: Occupational Health and Safety

The GSSB was presented with the most recent changes of the draft **GRI 403: Occupational Health and Safety** based on the latest PWG calls as well as GSSB comments received.

The GSSB was then invited to raise any fundamental content issues before the submission of the final draft, which will go out to the GSSB on 5th July for approval before the public comment period.

The GSSB raised the following points:

- A definition of “formal committees” should be developed, to clarify the meaning of the reporting requirement. The Standards Division will work with the PWG to develop this definition.
- The importance of stressing the right to privacy, in the context of workers’ health promotion programs. The Standards Division clarified that the draft includes a reference to the right to privacy (lines 173-176), and two reporting recommendations (lines 473-476) on how the organization ensures the confidentiality of personal information related to workers’ health and that this information is not used for discriminatory purposes. This will be stressed even more in the next iteration of the draft, which will also include a reference to the ILO Code of practice on Protection of workers’ personal data.
- Either the number or the rate of work-related injuries should be requested, but not both. The Standards Division clarified that new guidance has been developed explaining the value of reporting both the absolute data and the rate.
- The number of work-related illnesses for workers who are not employees should not be required, since this information is too difficult to obtain. The Standards Division clarified that organizations are required to explain whether any workers have been excluded, and why, if this information is not available for workers who are not employees.
- Cross-referencing the draft disclosures with the SDGs, in particular SDG 3.

The Standards Division acknowledged the comments and will share the input with the PWG. The GSSB members were asked to provide additional comments offline by 30 June 2017, after which the Standards Division will proceed to consolidate the feedback.

Session 4: Update on second set of review projects: Tax, Economic Topics, and Human Rights Standards

The GSSB was presented with an update on planning and processes of project introduced during the last call on 24 May 2017. There were no comments or questions from the GSSB.
Session 5: AOB

The GSSB was presented with Item 04 – Summary of technical questions on the GRI Standards. No concerns were raised at this moment. Item 04 was recognized as a standing working item and the GSSB would come back to the summary during its working process.

An enquiry was received from the Taiwanese stock exchange on whether there are any reservations on postponing the required adoption of the GRI G4 in Taiwan to beginning of 2019. The Standards Division anticipates that enquiries from regulators will be received more frequently going forward.

The Standards Division together with the Chair recommends to draft individual responses to these enquiries, recognizing that regulatory schedules are often different to the effective date of the Standard itself determined by the GSSB. The responding letter would thereby be reflective of this reality and propose regulators to determine themselves the schedule by when the Standards become effective. The Standards Division will provide a draft responding letter to the Chair for review and sign-off. The letter will be shared with the GSSB for reference. The GSSB was supportive of this approach.

The GSSB was reminded of the date change of the GSSB in-person meeting from the 19-20 September to 20-21 September.

Session 6: Private session – update on GRI activities and administrative issues

The Chair led the closed GSSB session. No resolutions were made during this session which required recorded minutes.

Decisions and Action Items

DECISIONS

Session 1:

GSSB Decision 2017.16 The GSSB approved the summary of the in-person meeting held 24 May 2017

ACTIONS

Standards Division:

Session 2 and 3:

• The Standards Division to pass on comments and discussion points from the GSSB to the respective PWGs for consideration

Session 5:
- Consider for future Standards releases to proactively correspond with regulators on effective dates and invite their feedback
- Share draft responding letter with Chair for review and sign-off
- Share final letter with GSSB for reference

GSSB members:

Session 2:
- GSSB members were asked to provide additional comments to the Standards Division by 30 June 2017

Session 3:
- GSSB members were asked to provide additional comments to the Standards Division by 30 June 2017