



**Summary 21-22 March 2017 in-person meeting**  
**Meeting summary – Draft\_v3: pending GSSB approval**

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# Participants

Present:

Name	Constituency
<b>Atilla Yerlikaya</b>	Business Enterprise
<b>Daniel Ingram</b>	Investment Institution
<b>Dwight Justice</b>	Labor
<b>Evan Harvey</b>	Investment Institution
<b>Judy Kuszewski</b>	Chair
<b>Julia Wilson</b>	Business Enterprise
<b>Jürgen Buxbaum</b>	Labor
<b>Kent Swift</b>	Civil Society Organization
<b>Kirsten Margrethe Hovi</b>	Business Enterprise
<b>Michel Washer</b>	Business Enterprise
<b>Robyn Leeson</b>	Vice-Chair
<b>Stiaan Wandrag</b>	Business Enterprise
<b>Sulema Pioli</b>	Mediating Institution
<b>Vadakepatth Nandkumar</b>	Mediating Institution

Apologies:

Name	Designation
<b>Daniel Taillant</b>	Civil Society Organization

In attendance:

Name	Designation
<b>Anna Krotova</b>	Manager, Standards Division
<b>Bastian Buck</b>	Director, Standards Division
<b>Chelsea Reinhardt</b>	Deputy Director, Standards Division
<b>Laura Espinach</b>	Manager, Standards Division
<b>Pamela Carpio</b>	Senior Coordinator, Governance Relations
<b>Sabine Content</b>	Deputy Director, Corporate & Stakeholder Relations
<b>Tamara Bergkamp</b>	Manager, Standards Division
<b>Teresa Fogelberg</b>	Deputy Chief Executive
<b>Tim Mohin</b>	Chief Executive
<b>Tina Nybo Jensen</b>	Senior Coordinator, Governance Relations

## List of abbreviations

AOB	Any other business	IIRC	International Integrated Reporting Council
BEPS	Base erosion and profit shifting	MAG	Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Group
CAG	Corporate Action Group	OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
CE	Chief Executive	OHS	Occupational health and safety
COP	Communication on Progress	PWG	Project working group
DPOC	Due Process Oversight Committee	SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
DPP	GSSB Due Process Protocol	SMEs	Small and medium-sized enterprises
ETUI	European Trade Union Institute	TCFD	Task Force for Climate-related Financial Disclosures
FAQ	Frequently Asked Questions	UN	United Nations
FTEs	Full-time Employees	UNGC	United Nations Global Compact
FY	Financial Year	UNGP	United Nations Guiding Principles
GRI	Global Reporting Initiative		
GSSB	Global Sustainability Standards Board		

## 1 Meeting summary

2 Please see a list of decision and action items deriving from the meeting on pp. 13-15.

### 3 Session 1.1: Welcome

4 Judy Kuszewski, the GSSB Chair (henceforth, “the Chair”) welcomed everyone to the meeting and  
5 presented an overview of the [meeting agenda](#).

6 The Chair moved for approval of [Item 01 – Summary 23 February GSSB meeting](#) and [Item 02 –](#)  
7 [Summary 07 March GSSB meeting](#).

8 The GSSB unanimously approved the meeting summaries with no further changes.

9 The Chair further moved for appointment of the remaining labor candidate, a senior researcher  
10 from European Trade Union Institute (ETUI), for the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Pro-  
11 ject Working Group (PWG). The GSSB unanimously approved the appointment.

### 12 Session 1.2: Update on activities GRI Standards Divi- 13 sion

14 Bastian Buck, Director Standards Division, presented an overview of the progress against the ten  
15 priority work areas outlined in the [GSSB Work Program 2017-2019](#) and the related activities of  
16 the GRI Standards Division.

17 The GSSB discussed:

- 18 • The benefit of local language versions of the GRI Standards versus the related short and  
19 longer term cost implications.
- 20 • The importance of reducing the reporting burden and increasing the uptake of the GRI  
21 Standards e.g. through linkage documents and collaboration with other organizations
- 22 • That the development of the sector-specific content should be based on the program ap-  
23 proved by GSSB and build on existing GRI content as well as other frameworks and es-  
24 tablished practice in the reporting landscape.
- 25 • The interest from the market in having GRI develop additional guidance on assurance to  
26 ensure more credible and high-quality reporting.

### 27 Session 1.3: Discuss technical enquiries and GRI's 28 monitoring approach

29 Chelsea Reinhardt, Deputy Director Standards Division, presented an overview of recent tech-  
30 nical enquires. Ms. Reinhardt sought the GSSB’s advice on whether the ‘published materials’ in  
31 Section 3 of *GRI 101: Foundation*, implies that a claim statement is required in all published materi-  
32 als or only those that would constitute the ‘primary’ sustainability report.

33 The GSSB discussed the intention of the requirement and agreed that no additional clarification  
34 was required at this point. The GSSB advised that the Standards application claim should be in-  
35 cluded where deemed most relevant by the reporter. The GSSB agreed that the Standards Divi-  
36 sion should continue to refer any enquiries to the relevant text in *GRI 101* and confirm that it is  
37 up to the reporters' interpretation how to apply these requirements.

38 The GSSB members agreed that all members should receive materials on guidance that might be  
39 considered controversial; while a standing GSSB Sub-committee is dedicated to review and pro-  
40 vide feedback on a timely basis. It was further agreed that any 'non-controversial' text on the  
41 FAQ website can be updated when needed and brought to GSSB as a standing item during meet-  
42 ings.

### 43 **Monitoring Program**

44 Tamara Bergkamp, Manager Standards Division, presented on the GRI Standards monitoring pro-  
45 gram Ms. Bergkamp informed the GSSB about the key research areas identified by the Standards  
46 Division and sought the GSSB's advice on identifying specific research questions that should be  
47 explored as part of the 2017 monitoring process.

48 The GSSB suggested the Standards Division could consider the following points:

- 49 • Investigate the opportunities for engagement and collaboration with the academic com-  
50 munity on the research topics.
- 51 • Expand the research to cover reporters that do not adopt the GRI Standards.
- 52 • Explore linkage to other sustainability initiatives and map the application of these in prac-  
53 tice.
- 54 • Investigate how the sustainability context principle is applied.
- 55 • Assess the extent to which the materiality principle clarification has been embraced and  
56 how is it affecting the materiality assessments.
- 57 • Conversions of scope: Are companies reporting on the same or different scopes for fi-  
58 nancial and non-financial reporting?
- 59 • Evaluate whether the GRI Standards are driving the change referred to in the vision  
60 statement "*Enable credible, consistent, and high quality sustainability reporting*" E.g. through  
61 measuring whether Boards of companies are now reflecting on sustainability

62 Ms. Bergkamp presented an overview of the sources of information for feeding the monitoring  
63 process that the Standards Division are currently utilizing and welcomed additional suggestions  
64 from the GSSB. GSSB members proposed to supplement those with focused interviews with re-  
65 porters, sustainability rankings, and academic networks.

66 The Standards Division confirmed that they will share back a more detailed monitoring plan with  
67 the GSSB in the second quarter of 2017 and will reach out to individual GSSB members to fur-  
68 ther explore third party research opportunities.

## 69 **Session 1.4: Discuss scope of *GRI 201: Economic Per-*** 70 ***formance review***

71 Ms. Reinhardt presented this session on whether the scope of the review of *GRI 201: Economic*  
72 *Performance* should be expanded to include the disclosures *GRI 202: Market Presence* and *GRI 203:*  
73 *Indirect Economic Impacts*.

74 The GSSB members were asked for their view on expanding the scope of the review of *GRI 201: Economic Performance* as outlined above as well as the proposed next steps as outlined in [Item 05 - Background on review of GRI 201: Economic Performance](#) p. 5 lines 74-95.

77 The GSSB discussed:

- 78 • A need to review and possibly clarify the conceptual distinction between economic performance and economic impact.
- 79
- 80 • That inconsistent or incomplete reporting does not necessarily warrant a review; this
- 81 could also be an indication that the reporters are reluctant to report the requested in-
- 82 formation.
- 83 • A potential mismatch in expectations based on the topic of the standards and the actual
- 84 disclosure requirements.

85 The GSSB unanimously agreed to expand the scope of the review of *GRI 201: Economic Performance* to include the disclosures *GRI 202: Market Presence* and *GRI 203: Indirect Economic Impacts*.

87 The GSSB discussed and agreed that forming a small Technical Committee is probably the best

88 approach for conducting the initial research and scoping the project. However, the outputs of

89 this phase will also need to have sufficient input from other stakeholder groups to ensure it is

90 practical for reporters.

91 The GSSB agreed that the Standards Division should move ahead with developing a project proposal reflecting the expanded scope of the review project, to be discussed by the GSSB during its

92 virtual meeting in April.

93

#### 94 **Development of new content related to tax**

95 Ms. Reinhardt informed that tax transparency is an increasingly important issue within sustainable

96 development, and is of increasing importance to both civil society and the investor community.

97 Ms. Reinhardt briefed the GSSB members on the possible implications of GRI working on tax disclosures and presented potential options for including the tax-related content in the GRI Standards.

98

99

100 The Chair requested input on whether the Standards Division should proceed research into development of new disclosures related to Tax and Payment to Governments, and whether the

101 GSSB agrees with the next steps outlined in [Item 05 - Background on review of GRI 201: Economic Performance](#) p. 8 lines 179-194.

102

103

104 The GSSB members discussed:

- 105 • The importance of this topic, including the increasing public pressure for greater tax
- 106 transparency, the benefits in GRI taking a proactive role, and the close linkages with the
- 107 SDG agenda.
- 108 • The potential implications for GRI in developing disclosures on tax, including the risk that
- 109 GRI could be perceived as moving into the 'advocacy' space or overstepping the role of
- 110 sustainability reporting.
- 111 • To be mindful of the fact that the legislation on reporting related to Taxes and Payments
- 112 to Governments varies by region.
- 113 • The importance of alignment with existing initiatives.
- 114 • A need to clearly identify what elements of taxes that will be covered. Existing research
- 115 can inform this decision.

- 116 • Increasing market expectations for GRI to be proactive in accommodating ‘emerging’ is-  
117 sues such as tax reporting.

118 The GSSB asked the Standards Division to prepare a project proposal setting the possible objec-  
119 tives, scope, and recommended next steps, for discussion by the GSSB during its April meeting.

## 120 **Session 1.5: Close of public meeting Day I**

121 The Chair thanked the GSSB members, the Standards Division, and the GRI Secretariat and  
122 closed Day I of the public meeting at 12.40 to be reconvened at 9.00 on Wednesday 22 February  
123 2017.

## 124 **Session 1.6: Update GRI Secretariat on SDG Collabo- 125 ration with UNGC**

126 Teresa Fogelberg, GRI Deputy Chief Executive (CE), and Sabine Content, GRI Deputy Director  
127 Corporate and Stakeholder Relations, presented an update on GRI’s collaboration with the  
128 United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) on the SDGs in a unique two-year partnership (2017-  
129 18) to co-create mechanisms for global business transparency and reporting on the SDGs.

130 Bastian Buck, Director Standards Division, will attend relevant meetings of the project as an ob-  
131 server on behalf of the GSSB and will be reporting back to the GSSB during the May meeting.

## 132 **Session 1.7: Update GRI Secretariat on Corporate 133 Leadership Group Integrated Reporting**

134 Ms. Content continued to present an update on the Corporate Leadership Group on Integrated  
135 Reporting developed and facilitated in collaboration with the International Integrated Reporting  
136 Council (IIRC)

## 137 **Session 1.8: Update from GRI Chief Executive - Tim 138 Mohin**

139 Tim Mohin, GRI’s CE, introduced himself to the GSSB and provided an update on GRI’s current  
140 activities and priorities.

141 Mr. Mohin briefed the GSSB on the ongoing refresh of the GRI Strategy around four focus areas:  
142 Standards and Guidelines, Harmonization, Efficient and effective reporting, and Effective use of  
143 reported information.

## 144 Session 1.9: GSSB Discussion on GRI Secretariat Up- 145 dates

146 Following the Secretariat updates, the GSSB discussed how the outcome of the GRI/UNGC part-  
147 nership might have significant implications for the GSSB Work Program and how that can be  
148 managed. Mr. Buck suggested that the GSSB discuss the outcomes of the GRI/UNGC collabora-  
149 tion during their regular meetings, including the findings at a target level. This will also provide  
150 the GSSB with the opportunity to provide feedback into the process.

## 151 Session 1.10: Close of meeting Day 1

152 The Chair thanked the GSSB members and the attending GRI staff and closed the meeting at  
153 17.00.

## 154 Session 2.1: Welcome and review of agenda of Day 2

155 The Chair welcomed everyone back to the meeting and extended a special welcome to the  
156 members of the GRI Due Process Oversight Committee (DPOC), who attended the second day  
157 of the meeting as observers.

158 The Chair proceeded to present an overview of the Day 2 [meeting agenda](#).

## 159 Session 2.2: Discuss review of Human Rights-related 160 Standards

161 Laura Espinach, Manager Standards Division, presented this session. Ms. Espinach started with an  
162 overview of key developments since the last review of the GRI Human Rights disclosures in  
163 2011.

164 Three key areas for improvement have been identified via expert interviews and literature re-  
165 view, namely: ensuring further alignment with the UN Guiding Principles, reviewing the scope of  
166 human rights covered, and reviewing the topic-specific disclosures. Ms. Espinach proceeded to  
167 update the GSSB on a gap analysis between the GRI Standards and the UN Guiding Principles  
168 (UNGP) on Business and Human Rights.

169 The Chair asked the GSSB whether they agree with the identified objectives and key areas for  
170 improvements for the review of the human rights-related contents.

171 The GSSB discussed the following points:

- 172 • Some key concepts introduced with the UNGP (e.g due diligence, saliency, and business  
173 relationships) have implications that go beyond human rights. These concepts should thus  
174 be considered in a broader context beyond the Human Rights-related Standards.
- 175 • The expectation that organizations should still have a due diligence process in place even  
176 if they have not identified human-rights topics as material.

- 177 • The benefits in carrying out consultation with reporters to understand their current reporting practices on human rights. For example, low reporting levels of the GRI human rights disclosures may be due to the fact that companies do not know how to identify and report on human rights-related impacts, rather than a problem with the disclosures.
- 178
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- 180
- 181 • The possibility of developing a matrix showing which human rights are covered in each GRI Standard.
- 182
- 183 • The benefits of considering additional frameworks as input for this work, including the SDGs and the Dow Jones Sustainability Index questionnaire.
- 184

185 The GSSB agreed to move ahead with the proposed review project outlined in [Item 09](#), however with an expanded scope that will explore the feasibility of applying key concepts of the UNGP to other areas of the Standards beyond just human rights. In addition, the GSSB agreed for the Standards Division to carry out consultation with reporting organizations to better understand current reporting practices related to Human Rights impacts.

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191 Ms. Reinhardt confirmed that the Standards Division will develop a project proposal that reflects the scope and approach, as agreed by the GSSB during this discussion. The Standards Division will share this with the GSSB for comment during the April virtual meeting. Further, the Standards Division will consult with reporters regarding their human rights reporting practices as advised.

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## 196 Session 2.3: Discuss TCFD draft recommendations 197 and implications for GRI Standards

198 Mr. Buck presented an overview of GRI's submission to the TCFD draft recommendation as well as a gap analysis indicating that 8 out of the 11 recommended areas from the TCFD are at least partially covered by the GRI Standards.

199

200

201 The GSSB discussed:

- 202 • That this is an important development to follow and specific references to GRI are desired.
- 203
- 204 • This is the first time that the financial community addresses climate change and other sustainability issues. It is a practical document and includes positive elements such as a clear division between climate change transition risks and physical risks, scenario planning, and strong emphasis on governance.
- 205
- 206
- 207
- 208 • It is positive that the recommendations from the TCFD expand the definition of risk and includes it in a business context/language.
- 209
- 210 • It may be useful to consider universal concepts related to climate change.

211 The GSSB recommended the Standards Division to follow the developments as well as the uptake by regulators closely. The GSSB and Standards Division should await the final document but take preparatory steps to publish a linkage guidance shortly thereafter.

212

213

214 Mr. Buck confirmed that the Standards Division will monitor the TCFD developments and will provide an update for discussion later in the year, including any proposed actions such as developing a guidance or linkage document.

215

216

217 **Session 2.4: Discuss prioritization of standard setting**  
218 **projects**

219 Mr. Buck shared that the initial GSSB work portfolio was mostly composed of projects committed to in earlier years like the Transition to Standards. To identify and prioritize projects going  
220 forward, it is necessary to develop a clear process that is responsive to the expectations set out  
221 in the [GSSB Due Process Protocol](#) (DPP) Section 4 and 5 pp. 2-3.  
222

223 The Chair sought the GSSB members initial view on a possible process and summarized the feedback into four areas to be further explored:  
224

- 225 • Organizational monitoring.
- 226 • Developing a set of a few design principles to help frame the GSSB debate.
- 227 • Having regular open exchange among GSSB members to understand and exchange views  
228 on external developments as a part of strategic planning.
- 229 • Invite external speakers to present during GSSB meeting.

230 Mr. Buck agreed that the process for identifying and prioritizing projects going forward would  
231 benefit from organizational monitoring and the development of specific criteria. This process  
232 could include a Public Comment element as well as the identification and engagement of specific  
233 strategic partners interested in the GRI Standards development.

234 The Standards Division will research the scope for consideration of national/international developments and bring it to the GSSB for discussion during the September in-person meeting.  
235

236 **Session 2.5: Update on current GRI Standard Reviews: *GRI 303: Water* and *GRI 403: Occupational Health and Safety***  
237  
238

239 Ms. Reinhardt presented this session and provided an overview of the project schedules and  
240 timelines for the Water and OHS Working Groups.

241 The Standards Division proposed a feedback process to keep the GSSB informed of the PWG  
242 developments including a “PWG Update” scheduled as a standing item during the upcoming  
243 GSSB meetings. Additionally, GSSB sponsors will observe the PWG meetings and reflect back to  
244 the GSSB on the PWGs developments and trends.

245 The GSSB agreed with the proposed feedback process to the GSSB.

246 **Human Rights Element of *GRI 303: Water Review***

247 Following the 7 March GSSB virtual meeting, the Standards Division has reviewed the human  
248 rights elements in *GRI 303: Water* and confirmed that this issue is adequately covered by existing  
249 language in the project proposal around major developments and international instruments.

250 The Standards Division recommended to keep the Project Proposal wording as is while committed to ensure that right to water is captured as a key theme for review during the first PWG  
251 meeting.  
252

253 The GSSB unanimously agreed with the process as proposed by the Standards Division.

254 **Expert review webinars for GRI 303: Water and GRI 403: OHS Projects**

255 Candidates for PWGs that were not selected for the working groups have indicated to the  
256 Standards Division that they are happy to participate in alternate consultation/ feedback opportu-  
257 nities.

258 The Standards Division proposes to host a dedicated ‘expert’ webinar for each of the current re-  
259 view projects (Water and OHS) in advance of the Public Comment Period. The feedback re-  
260 ceived during this webinar would then feed into the PWG process and would not have any spe-  
261 cial status.

262 The GSSB agreed with the proposed feedback process to the GSSB.

263 The GSSB further advised to engage with individuals that were approached to apply for the  
264 PWGs but did not have the capacity to apply.

265 The GSSB also restated the need to get contributions from the regions underrepresented on the  
266 PWG during the Public Comment Period.

267 **Session 2.6: Review GSSB Workplan**

268 Mr. Buck introduced this session to review whether anything emerging from the last two-days  
269 discussions fundamentally changes the GSSB Work Program, and thus, results in a reprioritiza-  
270 tion of the ongoing and planned projects.

271 Both related to *GRI 201: Economic Performance* review and the review of the Human Rights re-  
272 lated Standards, the GSSB requested additional research as well as a broadening of the scopes,  
273 and this needs to be accounted for in the resource allocation plan for the next Financial Year  
274 (FY). However, this will not effectively change the Work Program at this point.

275 **Session 2.7: AOB**

276 The Chair presented this session to follow up on items deriving from the meeting and cover any  
277 other business.

278 **Assurance and credibility mechanisms**

279 The GSSB revisited the discussion on GRI/GSSB’s role in relation to assurance and credibility  
280 mechanisms.

281 The GSSB agreed that further clarification is needed and asked the Standards Division to develop  
282 a proposal and conduct further research including consultation of external experts to inform the  
283 GSSB’s decisions. The GSSB agreed that the focus of future activities should include but have a  
284 wider scope than assurance/verification activities by accountants.

285 Mr. Buck informed that due to the limited resources available, the Standards Division cannot  
286 carry out active research on the assurance issue over the next few months, but will bring this is-  
287 sue back to the GSSB for further discussion at the September meeting.

288 **Collaboration with third parties on research**

289 Mr. Buck informed that additional research is needed to inform the work of the GSSB within the  
290 existing Work Program. The Standards Division has seen growing interest from universities and  
291 independent researchers to contribute.

292 The GSSB suggested as a starting point, that the Standards Division identifies two specific re-  
293 search questions to be published as general requests for research with a clear indication of the  
294 recognition offered in exchange.

295 **AOB**

296 The Chair informed that a Doodle poll will be circulated to the GSSB members with the aim of  
297 scheduling an additional GSSB virtual meeting in July to potentially discuss/approve exposure  
298 draft(s) for public exposure deriving from the PWGs.

299 Further, the Chair confirmed that the location of the GSSB in-person meeting in September 2017  
300 is to be determined but Amsterdam is the default choice considering costs and the technical set-  
301 up required to livestream the meetings. The Chair invited proposals from the GSSB members.

302 The Chair formally thanked the former GSSB members who departed by 31 December 2016.

303 **Session 2.8: Close of Public Meeting Day 2**

304 The Chair thanked the GSSB members, the members of the DPOC, the Standards Division, and  
305 the GRI Secretariat and closed Day 2 of the public meeting at 15.10 CET.

306 **Session 2.9: GSSB Reflection Session**

307 The Chair thanked the Standards Division for their hard and diligent work and invited the GSSB  
308 members to present any reflections following the meeting.

309 The GSSB discussed possibilities for increasing the level of technical expertise within the Stand-  
310 ards Division and recommended that it would be beneficial if Standards team-members could  
311 participate in secondments to get hands-on experience in the reporting process. The Standards  
312 Division encouraged the GSSB members to get in touch with any specific ideas or proposals.

313 The GSSB further recommended to develop a communication plan in parallel to the GSSB Work  
314 Program to increase the communication around the work of the GSSB.

315 **Session 2.10: Close of Meeting Day 2**

316 The Chair thanked the GSSB members and the attending GRI staff and closed the meeting at  
317 16.10.

## 318 Decisions and Action Items

### 319 DECISIONS

#### 320 Session 1.1:

321 **GSSB Decision 2017.05** The GSSB approved the summary of the meeting held 23 February  
322 2017 with no further changes.

323 **GSSB Decision 2017.06** The GSSB approved the summary of the meeting held 7 March 2017  
324 with no further changes.

325 **GSSB Decision 2017.07** The GSSB approved the appointment of the remaining labor candidate  
326 for the OHS PWG

327 *The GSSB supported the decisions by consensus.*

#### 328 Session 1.4:

329 **GSSB Decision 2017.08** The GSSB agreed to expand the scope of the review of *GRI 201: Eco-*  
330 *nomic Performance* to include the disclosures *GRI 202: Market Presence* and *GRI 203: Indirect Eco-*  
331 *nomic Impacts*.

332 *The GSSB supported the decision by consensus.*

#### 333 Session 2.5:

334 **GSSB Decision 2017.09** The GSSB agree with the proposal keep the *GRI 303: Water Project*  
335 Proposal wording as is, provided that the Standards Division ensures that right to water is captured  
336 as a key theme for review during the first PWG meeting.

337 *The GSSB supported the decision by consensus.*

### 338 Actions

#### 339 Governance:

##### 340 Session 1.6:

- 341 • Table an update on the GRI/UNGC partnerships and possible implications for the GSSB  
342 during the May GSSB virtual meeting.
- 343 • Table a discussion on GRI alignment with other reporting frameworks and engagement  
344 with Stock Exchanges during a GSSB meeting in the second quarter of 2017.

##### 345 Session 2.7:

- 346 • Circulate a Doodle poll to the GSSB members to schedule an additional GSSB virtual  
347 meeting in July.

#### 348 Standards Division:

##### 349 Session 1.2:

- 350 • Present a tool proposal related to SMEs GRI referenced reporting during the September  
351 GSSB in-person meeting.

- 352 • Schedule periodic updates from Tim Mohin on the ongoing conversation in Corporate  
353 Reporting Dialogue.

354 Session 1.3:

- 355 • Develop and share back with the GSSB, for information, a more detailed GRI Standards  
356 monitoring program within the next few months.  
357 • Reach out to individual GSSB members to further explore third party research collabora-  
358 tion opportunities.

359 Session 1.4:

- 360 • Develop a project proposal for the review of *GRI 201: Economic Performance*, *GRI 202:*  
361 *Market Presence*, and *GRI 203: Indirect Economic Impacts* to clarify the expanded scope and  
362 recommend next steps, for discussion during the GSSB meeting on 26 April.  
363 • Prepare a project proposal related to the development of new disclosures on tax and  
364 payment to government, for discussion during the GSSB meeting on 26 April.

365 Session 2.2:

- 366 • Develop a project proposal for the review of the human rights-related Standards that in-  
367 corporates the additional objectives discussed at the meeting, for review by the GSSB  
368 during the virtual meeting on 26 April.  
369 • Carry out consultation with reporters on their human rights reporting practices.

370 Session 2.3:

- 371 • Follow the development of the TCFD as well as the uptake by regulators closely and re-  
372 port back to the GSSB later in the year with any proposed actions, such as a proposal to  
373 develop a linkage document or related guidance.

374 Session 2.4:

- 375 • Research the scope for consideration of national/international developments and bring it  
376 to the GSSB for discussion during the September in-person meeting.

377 Session 2.5:

- 378 • Keep the GSSB informed on the developments in the PWGs on *GRI 303: Water* and *GRI*  
379 *403: OHS* in line with the proposed feedback process.  
380 • Ensure that right to water is captured as a key theme for review during the first PWG  
381 meeting.  
382 • Host a dedicated webinar in advance of the Public Comment Period for the PWG candi-  
383 dates that were not selected or those who were approached but did not apply.  
384 • Investigate alternate options to get contributions from the regions underrepresented on  
385 the PWG during the Public Comment Period.

386 Session 2.7:

- 387 • Carry out initial scoping work on the assurance/ credibility issue to present back to the  
388 GSSB for further discussion in September 2017.  
389 • Investigate the potential for involving third parties in research; identify two specific re-  
390 search questions to be published as general requests for research with a clear indication  
391 of the recognition offered in exchange.

392 **GSSB:**

393 Session 1.4:

- 394 • Contact the Standards Division, if they have any relevant organizations to propose for a  
395 Technical Committee or PWG for the review of *GRI 201: Economic Performance*, *GRI 202:*  
396 *Market Presence*, and *GRI 203: Indirect Economic Impacts*.

397 Session 2.7:

- 398 • If applicable, provide proposals for the location of the September GSSB in-person meet-  
399 ing considering the related cost implications and the technical requirements for  
400 livestreaming.

401 Session 2.9:

- 402 • Get in touch with any specific ideas or proposals for Standards Division team members  
403 hands-on experience in the reporting process.