Summary 4 August 2016 meeting
Meeting summary – Draft: Pending GSSB Approval

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Participants

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In attendance:

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<td>Bastian Buck</td>
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List of abbreviations

GRI  Global Reporting Initiative  OH&S  Occupational Health and Safety
GSSB  Global Sustainability Standards Board
Meeting summary

Please see a list of decision and action items deriving from the meeting on pp. 4-5.

Session 1: Welcome and approval of previous meeting summary

The GSSB Vice-Chair (henceforth, “the Vice-Chair”) welcomed everyone to the meeting. An overview of the meeting was presented and the Vice-Chair moved for the approval of Item 01 — Summary 23 June 2016 virtual meeting.

The GSSB provided following comments

- Revise the text in line 10 “The GSSB moved and unanimously and supported this decision”
- Update “circulated” in line 17 to “circulate”
- Amend lines 39-40 to: “The timeline for the upcoming activities related to the Transition to Standards Project was noted by the GSSB”
- Amend lines 47 and 58 to: “The GSSB supported the decision by consensus”

The GSSB approved the meeting summary by consensus with the amendments noted in this meeting summary.

Session 2: Follow-up Discussion on Public Consultation Feedback

Based on the consultation feedback and the comments provided by the GSSB members, the GSSB was presented with an update on: recommendations from the Employee/Worker Technical Committee, definition of “Impacts”, merging the universal Standards and mock-up of combined GRI 101 and 201, and guidance text around Core and Comprehensive claims.

The GSSB discussed:

- Reverting to the G4 definition of ‘young worker’. The GSSB discussed comments received during the public comment period suggesting to revert back to the G4 definition of young worker as a worker under the age of 18 years.
- The suggested use of the generic term ‘worker’ in OH&S-related terms in the Glossary
- Options to simplify the phrase: workers performing work that is controlled by the organization or that is being performed in workplaces that the organization controls in GRI 603: Occupational Health and Safety. The GSSB was requested to provide specific feedback through the A.nnotate platform.
- The suggested revised definition of ‘impacts’ in the Glossary and the Foundation Standard. The GSSB agreed that the primary focus should be on impacts on the economy, environment, or society; however, this should acknowledge the relationship with consequences for the organization. The GSSB felt the proposed definition from the Standards Division is moving in the right direction and suggested that further comments from GSSB members can be made via the A.nnotate platform.
• After reviewing the mock-up version of GRI 101 and 201 combined into one Standard, the GSSB agreed to maintain the three universal Standards as separate documents. The Standards Division agreed to explore options for renumbering them into one series (e.g. the “GRI 100 series”) and to send a follow-up email to the GSSB with further considerations of what this would entail.

• The format and content of the “Basis for conclusions” document. The Standards Division will develop an updated version of Agenda Item 2 – Draft Summary of Consultation Feedback, taking into account comments from GSSB members. This document will eventually form the foundation for the published “Basis for Conclusions” document.

Session 3: Latest Version of Topic Boundary Disclosure and Guidance

The GSSB was presented with Agenda Item 3 – Revised Topic Boundary in order to continue the discussion on this subject from the 21 July GSSB virtual meeting. The GSSB was briefed on the main findings from the Public Consultation Feedback and the internal research findings.

The GSSB discussed:

• Whether it is necessary to keep the term ‘topic Boundary’ to describe this disclosure
• The inclusion of the ‘value chain’ concept in the topic Boundary disclosures
• How best to clarify that this disclosure covers impacts the organization contributes to or is directly linked to, in addition to those it causes
• Alternative terms for the word ‘entity’ in the disclosure and guidance

The GSSB was asked to provide feedback on whether the examples on how to report on topic boundary and the explanation of how to group entities together by their attributes in the guidance, Agenda Item 3 – Revised Topic Boundary line 7-41, are fit for purpose. Any language specific suggestions are welcomed.

Session 4: Next Steps and AOB

The Standards Division and the Vice-Chair encouraged the GSSB to provide comments on the Draft Standards via the online Annotate platform at their earliest convenient and no later than 10 August 2016.

Decisions and Action Items

DECISIONS

Session 1

GSSB Decision 2016.022 The GSSB approved the summary of the meeting held 21 July 2016 with the amendments noted in this summary.

Session 2
GSSB Decision 2016.023 The GSSB agreed to keep the Foundation Standard, General Disclosures, and Management Approach as separate Standards, while investigating the option to renumber them into one series.

GSSB Decision 2016.024 The GSSB agreed to revert to the G4 definition of young worker.

GSSB Decision 2016.025 The GSSB agreed to keep the term “Topic boundary”, while continuing to work on simplifying the disclosure and guidance.

The GSSB supported the decisions by consensus.

**ACTIONS**

**Secretariat**

- Update the 21 July meeting summary based on the comments noted in this meeting summary.

**Standards Division**

- Send out a follow-up email to the GSSB with further considerations for re-numbering the Foundation Standard, General Disclosures, and Management Approach as all part of the same series
- Revise the definition of ‘Impacts’ based on the comments received during this meeting and the feedback received through the A.nnotate platform.
- Revise Agenda Item 2 – Draft Summary of Consultation Feedback with input from individual GSSB members where this has been provided
- Revise topic Boundary disclosure and guidance based on GSSB comments during this meeting and on the A.nnotate platform.

**GSSB members**

- Review their assigned draft Standards, and give any additional comments on the issues discussed in the 4 August meeting via the A.nnotate platform by 10 August 2016