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Global Council call - 2022 Global Assembly

9 February 2021

MINUTES

Attendees

Global Council Members

Adnan Bahiya, Iraq (MENA) AB
Athayde Motta, Brazil (Latin America) AM
Chadwick Llanos, Philippines (Asia Pacific) CL
Dupleix Kuenzob, Cameroon (ASC representative) DK
Gloria Majiga, (Anglophone Africa) GM
Joe Williams, UK (Global Reach) JW
Mariatou Amadou, Niger (Francophone Africa) MA
Miles Litvinoff, UK (Europe and North America) ML
Olena Pavlenko, Ukraine (Eurasia) (Chair) OP

Secretariat

Elisa Peter, Executive Director EP
Joe Bardwell, Strategic Communications and Campaigns Manager JB
Nyree Woolston, Operations Manager NW
Sandrine Levy, Executive Administrator SL

Apologies

Stephanie Rochford, Director of Member Engagement SR

Actions

Action	By who	By when
Circulate a call for proposals for coalitions to host the Global Assembly in Q3 (Sept/Oct) 2022	Secretariat	By next GC meeting
Develop risk mitigation strategies in light of the evolving COVID-19 pandemic and contingency planning	Secretariat with host coalition	on-going
Circulate ToRs for the GA advisory panel and Gender Policy working groups	Secretariat	By next GC meeting
Circulate a call for PWYP Global Council candidates - global reach seat	Secretariat	By mid February



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Welcome

The Chair welcomed participants and reviewed the agenda. The meeting tabled a conversation on the 5th PWYP Global Assembly, a round of civic space updates and plans to fill the GC Global Reach seat vacancy.

Global Assembly 2022

EP gave a presentation on the 5th PWYP Global Assembly, which is due to take place in 2022 and will mark PWYP's 20th anniversary. Additionally, 2022 will represent the mid-point in the implementation of Vision 2025. This, combined with the fact that we will be emerging from a particularly challenging time for the movement as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, provides a critical opportunity for the movement to both reflect and look ahead.

The GC was asked to input on the potential strategic focus of the GA, preferred dates and location, as well as the scope of the usual governance review.

The GC agreed that a review of the implementation of Vision 2025 to date, as well as lessons learnt that could inform the remainder of the implementation period would be important and timely.

In regards to dates, there was consensus that the Global Assembly should take place later rather than earlier in the year 2022 with the aim to reduce risks related to potential on-going COVID-19 related travel restrictions and contagion. We should aim for September-October 2022 - if not later (although it was noted that the end of the year tends to be a very busy planning period for the Secretariat).

Consideration should be given to access and equity - recognizing that not all countries will have the same level of access to COVID-19 vaccination - which may be required for international travel. Given that the PWYP Africa Conference will take place virtually in 2021, learnings from this event can inform the format of the GA (in person/virtual/hybrid) and the Secretariat will monitor the proceedings and format of 2021 global events with a view to integrating lessons learnt from those into the planning of the GA.

The Global Council also discussed possible locations. It agreed that regions that have not yet hosted a PWYP GA should be encouraged to express interest in hosting the 2022 event - that includes Eurasia, MENA and Asia-Pacific. A call for proposals will be circulated shortly by the Secretariat.



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ML commented that as an organisation tackling social justice and environmental issues, PWYP should be mindful of the environmental footprint of global events like the GA. While others noted the important benefits of in-person meetings for PWYP members (connection, solidarity, relationship and trust building, etc.), the GC agreed that plans for the 2022 GA should consider PWYP's carbon footprint and mitigation measures. These include potentially smaller national delegations, a hybrid event (virtual/in-person), regional gatherings preceding the GA to allow for in-person consultations and hosting the GA back to back with the 2022 EITI conference (which date/location/format will be decided by the EITI Board at its June 2021 meeting). Carbon offset schemes and tools should also be considered.

In regards to the review of the governance manual, it was noted that some small updates may be needed but that the review would probably be less extensive than the 2018-2019 one. Potential points of review for the Governance Manual include a provision to extend term of office of the GC up to a limited period (especially if the 2022 GA takes place later in the year), a review of Global Reach seats (criteria for the seat as well as the process by which they are elected) and the development of a gender policy (a commitment made at the 2019 Global Assembly).

It is proposed that an advisory panel be established, consisting of a total of seven representatives from the Global Council, Board, Africa Steering Committee and regional partners who have both the resources and the ability to engage in regular email and Zoom exchanges to inform and guide the preparatory work for the GA.

The Global Council was requested to volunteer to join either the advisory panel or gender policy working group, and ToR's will be circulated for review. The following Global Council members volunteered to join the working group:

- Dupleix Kuenzob
- Miles Litvinoff
- Mariatou Amadou
- Adnan Bahiya

The following Global Council members volunteered to join the advisory panel:

- Athayde Motta
- Olena Pavlenko

Civic Space Update

Niger

MA reported that the Covid-19 pandemic continues to create challenges for CSOs working within this context of shrinking civic space in Niger. Security-related restrictions remain significant and a number of legislative proposals designed to tighten regulations have been introduced ahead of the second round of Presidential elections. Personal communication



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platforms are closely monitored, reducing freedom of speech. However there have been no recent incidents reported of arrests or threats against PWYP members.

Kazakhstan

OP expressed her gratitude and shared that the Kazakh authorities have dropped charges against CSOs for tax improprieties and that fines and further accusations have ceased.

Iraq

AB shared an update on the civic space situation in Iraq including concerns around the composition of the EITI MSG as a result of the Diwani order.

EP shared that the EITI secretariat and EITI Board are aware of the issue and are seeking clarification from both the government and civil society organisations.

The selection of a new Global Reach representative

Isabel Munilla has stepped down from her role on the PWYP Global Council where she represented a PWYP member organisation with global reach. Isabel has been a phenomenal advocate in the PWYP movement for more than a decade and her contribution on the Global Council was highly valued and will be missed.

In line with the principles set out in the Governance Manual, a public call for candidates to apply for Global Reach seats will be circulated shortly by the Secretariat.

AOB and Closing

The next Global Council meeting will focus on the energy transition positions. JB and EP will reach out to consult with the Global Council on these ahead of the next meeting. There is also an energy transition session within the Africa Conference agenda, where the positions will be discussed and shared.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.