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Africa Steering Committee meeting

Date: 9 March 2022

Time: 9:00 - 11:00 GMT

Participants:

ASC members

1. Fatima MIMBIRE (FM), Vice-Chair and representative for East and Southern Africa
2. Christian MOUNZEO (CM), Chair and representative for Central Africa
3. James KORYOR (JK), representative for Anglophone West Africa
4. Brice Mackosso (BM), EITI international board member

Secretariat

1. Eric BISIL (EB), Regional Coordinator, Central Africa
2. Nelly Busingye (NB), Member Engagement Manager, Africa
3. Demba SEYDI (DS), Senior Regional Coordinator, Francophone West Africa
4. Stephanie ROCHFORD (SR), Director of Member Engagement
5. Elisa Peter (EP), Executive Director

Apologies

1. Fatima DIALLO (FD), representative for Francophone West Africa and GC liaison

Actions

Action	Responsible	Deadline
Share the recruitment announcement for the role of PWYP Executive Director with potential candidates	ASC members	25 March
Share with the campaign team the idea of the ASC to develop a position paper that could be circulated during COP 27. This ASC position paper would include PWYP's global position while focusing on regional specificities.	EB	ASAP



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Meeting Notes

Welcome and opening remarks

CM welcomed members to the meeting. It is the first meeting of the year, taking place in difficult circumstances especially with the war in Ukraine. CM expressed solidarity with PWYP members and the people in Ukraine. He noted that other contextual factors for this meeting include the upcoming departure of the PWYP Executive Director; the importance of the energy transition and preparations for COP 27; the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic which has become less visible in the media but continues to affect members throughout Africa; as well as that we are gearing up for the Global Assembly and the 20th anniversary celebrations.

EP shared some opening remarks at this final meeting that she will be attending, following the announcement of her departure from the Secretariat. She highlighted three important issues:

- the energy transition and the relevance of this for the PWYP movement to engage with, including during the upcoming COP 27 meeting in Egypt in November;
- The ongoing mid-strategy review which has been commissioned by the Secretariat to assess progress towards the implementation of Vision 2025 and the realisation of the four global goals to be informed, influential, heard and connected;
- The #disclosethedeal campaign which will accelerate this year, and as part of which we are working with NRGi and Oxfam to produce research on the progress in implementing the contract disclosure requirement in the EITI Standard.

Elisa reflected that she had great confidence in both the moment and the secretariat team at this time of leadership change, and invited the ASC members to suggest potential candidates for the role of Executive Director. The recruitment for this role is ongoing and expected to be concluded by early May.

Regional Updates

Central Africa

Eric presented the updates from Central Africa.

Four projects that started in 2021 are still being implemented in 2022. These include PWYP Madagascar, Cameroon, Congo and PWYP Gabon. These projects focus respectively on contract transparency, gender, institutional capacity building and EITI.

In 2022 grants will be awarded to PWYP DRC, PWYP Chad, and PWYP Cameroon respectively. These grants will focus on contract transparency and institutional capacity building respectively. The development of the PWYP DRC project proposal is actually done with the support of the NRGi office.



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On contract transparency, EB mentioned the ongoing PWYP funded project in Madagascar. Due to unforeseen issues, the coalition has requested a no-cost extension of the grant.

In terms of movement building, Cameroon is preparing for an AGM; while members in CAR are identifying strategies to revitalise the coalition.

Francophone West Africa

DS joined the ASC meeting from Guinea Bissau where he's facilitating a capacity-building meeting for members to develop a strategic plan; understand the fundamentals of advocacy and campaigning; and develop a proposal to submit to the IS for a sub-grant.

In terms of advocacy and campaigning, DS presented ongoing initiatives including on gender work, and contract disclosure. Coalitions from FWA are coordinating their efforts to influence the revision of the EITI standard. They are preparing a digital campaign to amplify the messages from the CSOs letter to the EITI Board on the potential changes they want to see to foster a more feminist natural resource governance through the EITI standard. In continuation of the gender work, DS updated the ASC on the progress of the development of the PWYP global gender policy.

On contract transparency, coalitions from Niger, Mali, Guinea and Senegal will be engaging actively in the #disclosetheddeal campaign. They will receive sub-grants from the International Secretariat.

Movement building efforts are part of the priorities of PWYP in FWA. Coalitions from Mauritania, Guinea Bissau and Cote d'Ivoire will receive substantial support and funding to re-engage properly with the global movement.

Three coalitions or organisations from FWA will benefit from the "social bonds" grant. Senegal is part of them as a priority country for the donor, the Ford Foundation; and two other ones from the region. The call for concept notes was launched in February with a clear plan of the process.

There are potential opportunities for collaboration with external partners including Oxfam on their upcoming campaign requesting governments from West Africa to allocate 30% of their mining revenues to pro-women projects; NRG1 and IDEP for the training opportunities they will be providing to CSOs in the coming months.



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East and Southern Africa

NB shared key advocacy opportunities for the ESA region. She noted that the main areas of advocacy include Energy Transition, and a few collaborations with relevant stakeholders like NRGi, Oxfam and Tax Justice Network Africa (TJNA) are being explored. She also informed the steering committee that; PWYP and TJNA have set up a tax and extractives working group. The group will be co-convened by both organisations and will be used to advance tax and extractives work at the regional and global level, building on other initiatives like the tax and transparency project. On sub-grants; currently, Zimbabwe and Zambia are receiving support on the Disclose the deal campaign and Institutional Strengthening respectively. On coalition governance, NB also informed the members all national coalitions are functional with active national coordinations except South Africa which is undergoing a re-engagement process and a search for a new host is underway.

NB informed the steering committee about a new vacancy for the Regional Coordinator for Anglophone West Africa. The job advert will be launched on 14th March 2022 with the expectation that a new Regional coordinator will be recruited by the end of May 2022. NB also informed the committee of upcoming opportunities for regional collaborations and convenings on Energy Transition (Between April and September) and the Alternative Mining Indaba (May).

Feedback on discussion

BM: Inquired why Mtwalo Msoni, the CSO representative on the EITI board does not attend the ASC meetings. He noted that we are not moving extensively on tax issues in Africa.

BM is also concerned about the fact that donors choose their focus countries on behalf of the movement. The consequence is that some coalitions will never be able to work as they won't receive funding.

JK: Anglophone West Africa has had challenges as a result of no regional coordinator. He welcomes the recruitment process of the coordinator which will help to rebuild the region to become more active.

FM: Commended the presentations and happy to see a lot of the work that is happening in the different regions. FM was keen to see how the different collaborative efforts can be sustained. It is critical to get information regarding the energy transition. There is a need to understand our position to see how we move forward.

DS: highlighted that a priority for the Secretariat and a number of PWYP coalitions is to reinforce the gender provisions in the EITI Standard in advance of the EITI global conference next year.



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NB: noted that the Secretariat has been able to provide a high number (more than 30) of sub-grants to national coalitions over the past two years. As part of this funding, the Secretariat has supported institutional costs (for example audits, finance manuals etc). But the funding landscape is now changing. For example, many foundations are now deciding not to fund international organisations, but rather fund organisations directly on the continent. This requires national coalitions to be in a position to apply directly for those funds, which needs a joint effort from the Secretariat staff (noting that it is a small team trying to support 29 coalitions), as well as the ASC and existing partners.

SR: confirmed that Mtwalo stepped down from the ASC when he left PWYP Zambia (Caritas) and took up a role with an organisation that is not part of PWYP. Appreciated JK for accepting to join the interview panel for the recruitment of the Anglophone West Africa Coordinator. At the GA, the elections for the global council will be taking place. The Anglophone Africa seat has been occupied by East and Southern Africa and it is important to support a representative from the Anglophone West Africa in our efforts to build the region.

EB: noted that the institutional development efforts undertaken last year are bearing fruit, enabling projects to be developed with PWYP coalitions in DRC, Gabon and Madagascar who are applying for funds directly from other donors, and who have previously benefited from institutional support from the Secretariat.

CM: calls for the ASC to reinforce the global positions of PWYP on the energy transition while also identifying the specifics on the continent of Africa, including issues in relation to governance and EITI.

Global Assembly and 20th Anniversary plans including mid term strategy review and regional meetings

SR: updated the ASC on the Global Assembly and 20th anniversary plans: a [web page](#) has been created that summarises what is happening at the GA. The Global Assembly will be held online. A film will be created showing the 20 year journey of the movement as well as looking ahead by featuring young voices from the movement. Regional meetings are being organised on governance and strategy. Small focus group discussions will be held to input into the strategy. A brief survey will be shared to provide input into the governance manual revisions. A global gender policy is also under development and will be shared for feedback with members. SR thanked FM for her contributions to the Global Assembly advisory group, which is composed of members from the ASC, Global Council and Board and with whom the Secretariat is regularly in touch about the Global Assembly plans.



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COP 27: How can the secretariat and members use COP 27 to advance its work on energy transition and climate change?

CM

Need to assess how far we have been able to make our points heard during COP26. Based on that we will be in position to identify activities to be implemented to be more effective during COP27. We need to establish more collaboration with other movements/organisations working on climate change issues. We should see how to include issues related to gender, indigenous communities in our work on ET. ASC needs to reaffirm PWYP's global position on ET (position paper to be used during COP27).

FM

Noted that some work started last year. We should amplify discussion on ET. We should have regional discussions to understand the concerns of members within each region. This will allow us to come up with key recommendations.

Next Steps

The ASC was informed that in the next few months, a lot of focus will be on the preparation for the Global Assembly, the secretariat will also be organising focus group discussions to contribute to the review of the mid-term strategy. Plans are also under way to organise an in-person ASC meeting on the sidelines of CoP27. The secretariat is planning to participate in CoP 27 in Egypt. PWYP members will also be mobilised to participate in CoP at different levels. NB thanked the steering committee for taking time to attend the meeting and asked for their support in keeping the coalitions and regions active.

Closing

CM

Congratulated the secretariat on the work done so far and praised the secretariat's efforts in raising funds for the national coalitions. He invited all CPA members to get involved in the preparation of the upcoming events that will be organised both for the World Assembly and for COP 27.