

TAP Network Steering Committee

Meeting Decisions

10 May 2019

Present:

- Ms. Coco Lammers, Namati
- Ms. Florence Syevuo, SDG Kenya Forum
- Ms. Jyotsna Singh, ADA
- Mr. Rukshana Nanayakkara, Transparency International
- Mr. Louis Busingye, HRFRA
- Mr. John Romano, TAP Secretariat
- Ms. Elle Sweeney, TAP Secretariat

Not Present: Mr. Zia Ur-Rehman, ADA

Next meeting: 7 June 2019

Chairing Meeting: Ms. Coco Lammers, Namati

DECISIONS TAKEN FROM CONFERENCE CALL IN GREEN; FOLLOW-UP ITEMS IN BLUE

Agenda Items:

1. **Review and approval of last Steering Committee call notes**

Decision: Approval of Decisions and Notes from TAP Network in-person Steering Committee on 29 March 2019.

2. **Update on Saferworld and the TAP Steering Committee**

Discussion: The TAP Steering Committee Co-chair for the Global North provided an update regarding Saferworld and our request for their organization to nominate a new representative to serve on TAP's Steering Committee to replace Rukshana who is moving on from the organization at the end of this month. The Steering Committee Co-Chair from the Global North had previously drafted and sent an email to Saferworld making an official request, and the TAP

Coordinator has spoken with Jordan Street in-person as well next week while he is in town for work in New York.

Saferworld had since responded to request additional time to make their decision on joining the Steering Committee, asking for TAP to extend its previously agreed upon deadline until 22 May 2019. **The Steering Committee decided and agreed that it would request that Saferworld make a decision as soon as possible so as not to delay the onboarding of a new member.**

TI had also finally responded to the Steering Committee's previous emails regarding the Steering Committee vacancy. However, TI did not provide a nomination for a replacement but did note that their organization would be finding a new staff member to cover SDGs issues going forward. **The Steering Committee decided and agreed that it would respond to TI and let their organization know that TAP has moved forward with its plans to bring on another organization to fill the Steering Committee vacancy.**

Decisions:

- The Steering Committee decided and agreed that it would request that Saferworld make a decision as soon as possible so as not to delay the onboarding of a new member.
- The Steering Committee decided and agreed that it would respond to TI and let their organization know that TAP has moved forward with its plans to bring on another organization to fill the Steering Committee vacancy.

Follow-up:

- The Steering Committee Co-Chair from the Global North to draft and send an email to Saferworld notifying their organization of their request for a response as soon as possible.
- The Steering Committee Co-Chair from the Global North to follow-up with TI after speaking with Saferworld to let them know that TAP will be moving forward with pursuing another organization.

3. Partnerships updates (20 minutes)

- a. Launch of the SDG Accountability Handbook

Discussion: The TAP Coordinator provided an update on the launch of the SDG Accountability Handbook, noting that TAP has received an overwhelming positive response to both the online and printed versions.

Launch efforts will continue at the Partners for Review Meeting in Oaxaca next week, where the TAP Coordinator will present the Handbook at an official session for the conference. Unofficial outreach for the resource will also take place at the Rome Conference the week after. The TAP Secretariat hopes to potentially plan a UN event earlier in June, with the preference for this being an event co-hosted with an UN agency rather than a Member State. Finally, at the HLPF,

the Secretariat will host an exhibition space where the Handbook will be prominently featured, as well as potentially an official SDG Learning Session (pending UNDESA approval) and an unofficial parallel event on Monday 15 July at the Church Center.

b. Digital webinar launch of SDG Accountability Handbook

Discussion: The TAP Coordinator provided a brief overview of the digital webinar launch of the Handbook. This event will take place next week on Tuesday May 14 at 10 ET. Coco will be moderating the panel and Namati has offered up its webinar platform for hosting. The TAP Coordination will first provide a brief presentation to walk audience through handbook, and then the expert panel, which includes representatives of big CSO networks, will speak on how the resource can be used by civil society going forward.

c. Update on TAP Coordination Call

Discussion: The TAP Coordinator noted that the Secretariat hosted its most recent TAP Network Coordination Call on Wednesday of this week.

There was a long discussion on the Rome Conference in particular, as many TAP colleagues expressed frustration with UNDESA's invitation process and their lack of funding to support participation of civil society, especially those from the Global South. In response to these concerns, it was noted by the TAP Coordinator that the drafting of the "Rome Civil Society Declaration on SDG16+" will be an opportunity for CSOs to express concerns, such as these, related to the current lack of inclusivity of HLPF and other related fora/processes, and that the TAP Network could then use these and other documents for advocacy going forward.

It was decided and agreed that the TAP Network would release a strong statement expressing civil society's frustrations around the lack of inclusive opportunities to participate in the Rome conference, including the lack of funding available from UNDESA to bring civil society to attend the event in-person, and our recommendations for how to be more inclusive the future. In addition, it was decided and agreed that these criticisms and recommendations would also be included in the civil society recommendations. This letter and declaration could be used for later advocacy around the HLPF itself and HLPF Reform.

Given the large impact this process has had on civil society in the global south, Louis will take the lead on drafting the statement, in partnership with Florence and Zia. The TAP Coordinator and Coco will finalize the draft. Draft will be shared by Tuesday.

Decisions:

- It was decided and agreed that the TAP Network would release a strong statement expressing civil society's frustrations around the lack of inclusive opportunities to participate in the Rome conference, including the lack of funding available from UNDESA to bring civil society to attend the event in-person, and our recommendations for how to be more inclusive the future.
- In addition, it was decided and agreed that these criticisms and recommendations would also be included in the civil society recommendations. This letter and declaration could be used for later advocacy around the HLPF itself and HLPF Reform.

Follow-up:

- Given the large impact this process has had on civil society in the global south, Louis and Global South Steering Committee members to draft take the statement expressing civil society's frustrations around the lack of inclusive opportunities to participate in the Rome conference, including the lack of funding available from UNDESA to bring civil society to attend the event in-person, and our recommendations for how to be more inclusive the future.
- The TAP Coordinator and Coco to finalize the draft. Draft to be shared by Tuesday.

4. Update on HLPF Planning

a. Rome SDG16 Conference Updates

Discussion: The TAP Coordinator provided an overview of the events TAP will be leading in Rome, including the Civil Society Day on the Sunday prior, the national capacity development workshop on the third and final day of the conference, and the opportunity for CSOs to provide inputs online for the "Rome Civil Society Declaration on SDG16+".

TAP worked with WFUNA on behalf of 16+ Forum to the plan the agenda and speaker line-up for the national capacity development session during the conference. A proposal was sent to UNDESA for approval, however, UNDESA has made many changes to the programming. The TAP Coordinator expressed concerns about the disingenuous way this coordination has been handled by UNDESA so far, including the way that UNDESA co-opted the high-level ministers for another session that we had explicitly recruited for our session.

Logistics and planning for Civil Society Day is nearly completed. The event is set to take place on Sunday, May 26th at 1pm and will be co-hosted with IDLO and the Italian Government at the IDLO office in Rome.

Many inputs have been received for the Rome Declaration and will be included in the drafting process.

b. Updates on TAP preparation for HLPF

Discussion: The TAP Coordinator provided brief updates on TAP events for the HLPF. As of now, much of TAP's planning is still up in the air, as it has not received confirmation from UNDESA on official side events, learning sessions, or exhibitions. It was noted, however, that these delays happen every year and it is likely that TAP's proposed events will be merged with other organizations.

It was decided and agreed by the Steering Committee that the TAP Secretariat would share a preliminary list of events (without the dates and schedules) to TAP Network Members and Partners so that the network has a sense of what we are planning for July, even if it changes later. The TAP Coordinator to send out this information in the notes from the last monthly coordination call meeting asap.

Decisions:

- It was decided and agreed by the Steering Committee that the TAP Secretariat would share a preliminary list of events (without the dates and schedules) to TAP Network Members and Partners so that the network has a sense of what we are planning for July, even if it changes later.

Follow-up:

- The TAP Coordinator to send out a preliminary list of TAP HLPF events in the notes from the last monthly coordination call meeting asap.

5. Review of TAP Network Partner Applications

Discussion: The TAP Coordinator reviewed the most recent partner applications.

Decisions: It was decided and agreed that both applications would be approved

6. Discussion on TAP Network code of conduct and review of mailing list privileges (10 minutes)

Discussion: The TAP Coordinator reviewed the Network's code of conduct and mailing list privileges with the Steering Committee.

7. AOB

