

TAP Network Steering Committee

Meeting Decisions

11 January 2019

Present: Mr. Rukshana Nanayakkara, Transparency International
Ms. Coco Lammers, Namati
Ms. Florence Syevuo, SDG Kenya Forum
Mr. Zia Ur-Rehman, ADA
Mr. Louis Busingye, HRFRA
Mr. John Romano, TAP Secretariat
Ms. Elle Sweeney, TAP Secretariat

Next meeting: 11 January 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 Steering Committee Call on 14 December 2018..

2. Discussion on transition to Steering Committee co-chairs for 2019

Discussion: It was noted that the Steering Committee members from the “global south” had a discussion regarding who will take up the role as co-chair in 2019. It was decided and agreed that Florence Syevuo of SDG Kenya Forum will serve as the next co-chair representative. The Secretariat will provide assistance in getting Florence up to speed in the role, as needed.

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Decisions:

It was decided and agreed that Florence Syevuo of SDG Kenya Forum will serve as the next co-chair representative for the Global South.

3. Update on SDG Accountability Handbook

Discussion: It was noted that the TAP Secretariat is currently working to finalize the content and design of SDG Accountability Handbook. The content for the Handbook is scheduled to be completed in 1-2 weeks' time. The design will then be completed by a hired consultant within a month. The first official launch of the Handbook is roughly scheduled for some time between mid to late March. Additional launch events will then be scheduled over the next three months leading up to and during the 2019 HLPFs.

It was discussed and agreed that the Steering Committee would provide final feedback on the Handbook content by the end of next week. The TAP Coordination noted that a Foreword from the Steering Committee still needs to be drafted. **The TAP Coordinator agreed to write the first draft of the Foreword and then send this to the Steering Committee by next week for final review.**

Decisions:

- It was discussed and agreed that the Steering Committee would provide final feedback on the Handbook content by the end of next week.
- The TAP Coordinator agreed to write the first draft of the Foreword and then send this to the Steering Committee by next week for final review.

Follow-Up:

- The Steering Committee to provide final feedback on the Handbook content by the end of next week.
- The TAP Coordinator to write the first draft of the Foreword and then send this to the Steering Committee by next week for final review.

4. Update on HLPF 2019 planning (10 minutes)

a. SDG16 Expert Group Meeting - 3-5 April, Rome

Discussion: The TAP Secretariat provided a brief update on 2019 HLPF planning. According to the Coordinator, there is now an official date and location of the SDG 16 Expert Group meeting. It will take place in Rome, Italy on April 3-5. The meeting will no longer be a small, expert group meeting but rather a larger conference including up to 200 participants. At the event, there will be space for three side events and/or round tables, in addition to the main conference events. The TAP Coordinator is scheduled to meet UN DESA and other colleagues leading the planning of this event today and next week and plans to request that TAP lead one of these side events during the conference. Possible topics for this TAP side event include 1) the role of civil society in work around Goal 16, and 2) a more specific event about civil society commitments to implement SDG 16.

It was noted the objective of the SDG Expert Group Conference will center around reviewing a draft of the input paper created by the Global Alliance for Reporting. This document will serve as the official SDG report for the UN. Being a part of the review process during the drafting of

such a report is a chance for TAP to provide significant input. A second objective of the conference will likely be to discuss contributions to the HLPF Chair's summary. According to the TAP Coordinator, there will not be a Ministerial Declaration Report this year, but rather just a Heads of State Declaration and the above noted. Finally, there will also likely be a discussion about commitments.

UN DESA will likely ask TAP for recommendations on who to invite to the event. It was suggested that all or most of the TAP Steering Committee should try attend in addition to other TAP Partners. **The TAP Coordinator will determine if there will be travel funding available for the event.**

It was suggested that the TAP Network develop key advocacy messages for the event. **It was decided and agreed that a 2-page advocacy paper be created with a few key messages, to be approved by the membership.** This will be separate from the advocacy paper on HLPF reform. **It was decided and agreed that the TAP Secretariat would add this advocacy paper the 2019 workplan, to be discussed at the next Steering Committee meeting.**

It was noted that UN DESA is putting together a best practices document and suggested that the TAP Coordinator discuss this document to see if TAP can provide any inputs into this document.

In addition, the TAP Coordinator noted that UN DESA is looking to host a Commitments Conference in September following the HLPFS. This is a great opportunity for TAP given its alignment with TAP's overall strategic vision and new partnership structure/civil society commitments push.

It was noted that the Network should start blocking off hotel rooms for the HLPFs asap. It was decided and agreed that this be discussed at the next Steering Committee call.

It was noted that Coco and Florence should be added to the invite for all future Global Alliance Steering Committee meetings.

It was noted that Louis and Coco would connect offline to discuss involvement in the work being led by the justice sector.

Decisions:

- It was decided and agreed that a 2-page advocacy paper be created with a few key messages, to be approved by the membership, and that the TAP Secretariat would add this advocacy paper the 2019 workplan, to be discussed at the next Steering Committee meeting.
- It was noted that the Network should start blocking off hotel rooms for the HLPFs asap. It was decided and agreed that this be discussed at the next Steering Committee call.

Follow-Up:

- The TAP Coordinator to determine if there will be travel funding available for the SDG Expert Group event.
- Coco and Florence to be added to the invite for all future Global Alliance Steering Committee meetings.

5. Partnerships updates (10 minutes)

a. **Update on National Workshops and proposal to GIZ**

Discussion: The TAP Coordinator provided a brief update on the joint proposal with A4SD that was sent to GIZ before the holidays. The proposal is a request for funding to host national workshops on SDG16 and accountability around the 2030 Agenda. GIZ has provided positive feedback on the proposal. It was noted that it will not be a huge amount of funding. A decision on funding will likely be available around March.

b. **Update on fiscal sponsorship agreement and other Proteus-related updates**

Discussion: It was noted by the TAP Coordinator that the Secretariat and Fiscal Sponsor are finalizing their agreement to continue the relationship into 2019. The final step in this process is for Zia to sign the agreement.

It was also noted by the TAP Coordinator that Proteus has increased the Coordinator's salary according to cost-of-living adjustment standards. This is a 2.8% increase. **It was decided and agreed that the Steering Committee had no objections to this adjustment.**

Decisions:

It was decided and agreed that the Steering Committee had no objections to this adjustment.

Follow-up:

Zia to sign the 2019 Fiscal Sponsorship agreement for Proteus.

c. **Proposals for Global Festival of Action and ICSW 2019**

Discussion: It was noted that there are a number of categories for Global Festival Action where TAP can potentially get involved, including becoming a partner, which does not carry a financial requirement. It was noted in past years that SDG 16 was not high on the agenda at this event. **In addition, it was noted again that the creation of an advocacy paper would be useful for this event as well as others leading up to the HLPFs.** The TAP Coordinator noted that there are two opportunities for the Network at this event: 1) a launch of the SDG Accountability Handbook and 2) on SDG 16. **A proposal has already been created by the TAP Secretariat for the Handbook and an additional proposal will be put together before the January 15th deadline for TAP's work around SDG 16.** In addition, the Coordinator noted that there are opportunities

to put the Network forward for awards at the conference. **It was suggested that TAP submit an application for one of these awards, particularly as a mobilizer. It was also suggested that the Network promote this opportunity to our membership.**

It was noted by the TAP Coordinator, too, that the deadline for submitting an application to host an official event at the International Civil Society Week in Belgrade, Serbia. However, the Coordinator is in touch with Civicus and there may still be an opportunity at the event.

Follow-Up:

- TAP Secretariat to create an advocacy paper would be useful for this event as well as others leading up to the HLPFs.
- TAP Secretariat to draft an additional proposal will be put together before the January 15th deadline for TAP's work around SDG 16.
- TAP Secretariat to submit an application for one of these awards, particularly as a mobilizer and to promote this opportunity to our wider membership.

d. Update on TAP graphic/web design intern and next steps

Discussion: It was noted by the TAP Coordinator that the Secretariat has reopened the position posting for the internship and hope to have an individual hired by the end of the month.

6. Discussion on soliciting voluntary funding commitments from TAP Members (10 minutes)

Discussion: It was decided and agreed that this point be deferred to the next call.

Decisions:

It was decided and agreed that this point be deferred to the next call.

7. Discussion on TAP Regional Focal Points for 2019 and next steps (10 minutes)

Discussion: The TAP Coordinator noted that a discussion is needed at the next call regarding how we want to continue with the RFP leading into the HLPF. It was noted that each RFP has submitted his workplan for 2019.

8. TAP Coordination Call (5 minutes)

Discussion: It was noted that this was discussed at the Bangkok meeting and the Coordinator noted that a call has not occurred since 2017. It was suggested that a monthly coordination call be scheduled going forward, beginning at the end of January and leading into the negotiations on the declaration and the HLPFs.

It was suggested by one member of the Steering Committee that a coordination call be scheduled quarterly, or instead of a call, a regular newsletter be sent out instead of scheduling regular calls. In addition, it was suggested that RFP lead the calls instead of the secretariat. It was suggested that we also have calls on thematic issues.

It was decided and agreed to have a call every other month and to also schedule regular regional focal point calls.

Decisions:

It was decided and agreed to have a call every other month and to also schedule regular regional focal point calls.

9. Review of TAP Network Partner applications (5 minutes)

Discussion: The TAP Coordinator noted that there has only been one application since the last Steering Committee. It was noted that more information is needed from this organization before it is approved.

10. AOB