

TAP Network Steering Committee

Meeting Decisions

7 September 2018

Present: Mr. Rukshana Nanayakkara, Transparency International
Ms. Coco Lammers, Namati
Ms. Jyotsna Singh, ADA
Mr. John Romano, TAP Secretariat
Ms. Elle Sweeney, TAP Secretariat

Not Present:
Mr. Louis Busingye, HRFRA
Mr. Zia Ur-Rehman, ADA

Next meeting: 16 November 2018

Chairing Meeting: Mr. John Romano

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 19 October 2018.

2. Review of ToR for SDG16 Data Initiative (10 minutes)

Discussion: The TAP Coordinator provided a brief update on the recent meeting of the SDG16 Data Initiative in Oslo this week and discussed the updated Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Initiative

Decisions: Approval of the revised ToR for the SDG16 Data Initiative.

Follow-Up: The TAP Coordinator to circle back with the other SDG16 Data Initiative members to let the group know that the revised ToR has been approved by the TAP Network Steering Committee.

3. Update on Meetings in Europe (10 minutes)

Discussion: The TAP Coordinator, Rukshana, and Coco (via phone) participated in the SDG16 Data Initiative in Oslo. According to these participants, the meeting went well and provided a good opportunity to strategize and plan concrete activities for the Initiative going forward, in particular, as the group works towards the 2019 HLPF.

According to the TAP Coordination, Alexandra from the UNDP Oslo Governance Center provided an outline at the retreat of UNDP's plans leading up to and during the 2019 HLPF. This update was concerning to the TAP Secretariat as the Network had never been consulted about these plans or activities prior to them being decided on by UNDP. This lack of consultation is particularly troublesome given that UNDP had ample opportunities to discuss this with TAP, as the Network sits on the Steering Committees of both the Global Alliance and the SDG16 Hub. There was no opportunity for TAP to voice its concerns with Alexandra in-person at this meeting, so **it was agreed by the Steering Committee during today's call that the TAP coordinator will follow-up with UNDP when he returns to New York.** At this meeting, the Coordinator will express the Network's concerns about UNDP's lack of transparency around the work for SDG16 and our desire to be consulted and engaged more closely with in the future. More specifically, one member from the TAP Steering Committee suggested that TAP partner with UNDP on the upcoming HLPF Reforms, given that this is one of the Network's priorities. It was further suggested that we encourage UNDP to advocate for broader civil society participation in the reform processes. Another TAP Steering Committee member suggested that TAP also work with UNDP to take leadership on the IAEG indicator process.

Finally, it was noted by the participants in the SDG16 Data Initiative retreat much of the conversation centered around objectives for the group but without firm discussions on outputs or deliverables. Funding is a major stumbling block for the Initiative and **it was agreed by the TAP Steering Committee that part of our own funding push over the next year could also incorporate asks on behalf of the Initiative.** The TAP Coordinator noted that other members of the Initiative also agreed to fundraise on behalf of the group as well. The TAP Coordinator noted that he encouraged the group to also increase its efforts around advocacy work, but the other members of the Data Initiative seemed to favor TAP leading these efforts. Notes from the retreat will be finalized in the coming weeks and **it was decided and agreed that these documents would be shared with the full TAP Steering Committee once available to be used for the Network's own strategizing.**

The TAP Coordinator is now in London and has thus far met with representatives of the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) to discuss fundraising opportunities for the Network. It was made clear from this conversation that DFID is re-strategizing how the organization works on SDG16. According to the Coordinator, it is unlikely that DFID will fund TAP's general operations at this point in time, but the representatives noted that they would be willing to connect TAP with DFID country offices for country-specific work, either via direct

financing (for national workshops and other national-level work) or via in-kind donations (such as use of venues and/or catering). In the long-term, there seems to be an opportunity for TAP to help DFID shape its priorities and strategy around SDG16 and **it was decided and agreed that the Network should continue to stay connected with DFID in the future, especially as an advocacy target. As the Network moves forward on country-specific work, the TAP Coordinator will follow-up with DFID in order to be connected with its country offices for support on these efforts.**

The TAP Coordinator also met with the Mott Foundation in London and confirmed TAP's grant for 2019. Proteus has since been sent over and signed the grant agreement and Mott is scheduled to disburse the funds to the Network on November 16. In the long-term, Mott made it clear that it hopes to continue funding TAP but will only do so if supplemental funds are secured by the Network from other sources.

The TAP Coordinator noted that he also discussed Mott's overall contribution to the SDG16 space and noted that Mott confidentially shared that it also funds Pathfinders (likely its justice task force work), Hill, and the World Justice Project (WJP).

Next week, the TAP Coordinator is scheduled to be in Berlin for the Partners for Review Meeting. He is scheduled to meet with the Steering Committee Co-Chairs, Rukshana and Zia, on Monday to strategize for its fundraising efforts at the meeting.

After Berlin, the TAP Coordinator will travel on to Stockholm for IEAG meeting, hosted at the Canadian International Development Assistance (CIDA). He plans to meet with CIDA colleagues to make a fundraising ask.

Decisions:

- TAP Steering Committee agreed that part of our own fundraising push over the next year should incorporate asks on behalf of the SDG16 Data Initiative
- The Network will continue to stay connected with DFID in the future, especially as an advocacy target.

Follow-Up:

- TAP coordinator to follow-up with UNDP when he returns to New York.
- TAP Coordinator to share the SDG16 Data Initiative retreat notes with the full TAP Steering Committee once available to be used for the Network's own strategizing during the next Steering Committee call and beyond
- As the Network moves forward on country-specific work, the TAP Coordinator to follow-up with DFID in order to be connected with its country offices for support on these efforts.

4. Partnerships updates (10 minutes)

- a. Update on Mott Foundation funding

Discussion: Discussion around this agenda item noted above.

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

Discussion: No new TAP Partner Applications recommended for approval since the last Steering Committee call on 10/19/18. The TAP Coordinator noted that only one new application was received in the interim, from a colleague who had previously submitted an application. However, further information still needs to be obtained from this organization before it can be recommended to the Steering Committee for approval.

6. AOB

Discussion: The TAP Coordinator provided a brief update on open TAP Steering Committee seat for the SDG Kenya Forum. It was noted that Rukshana has reached out to Florence about filling Helen's seat, but has yet to receive a response back. Florence should be in Berlin this next week for the Partners for Review meeting, so **it was decided and agreed that the TAP Coordinator, Zia and Rukshana will follow-up with her while they are in-town.**

The TAP Coordinator also provided a brief update on the open Asia Regional Focal Point seat and recent communications with NGO Federation Nepal (NFN). As Daya is set to leave the organization for another position, there is a need for a new representative offered up by NGO Federation Nepal. Both the Coordinator and Jyotsna have reached out to Gopal at the Federation but have received no response yet. According to Jyotsna, NGO Federation Nepal is undergoing a governance change in November and will thus have new leadership going forward. As Gopal, himself, will be replaced soon, it is unlikely that the Network will have an answer regarding a replacement for the Asia Regional Focal Point seat for at least another month, perhaps longer. As such, the Steering Committee discussed options for filling the seat in the interim.

If NFN is unable or unwilling to fill the seat soon, Jyotsna noted that she and Zia discussed the possibility of ADA serving as the Asia regional focal point until a suitable replacement is determined. The Steering Committee noted that this is a promising option, given the work ADA is already doing in the region, but there would be a conflict of interest if ADA were to receive financial compensation for this role while also serving as a representative of TAP's Steering

Committee meeting. Jyotsna noted that ADA was aware of this conflict of interest and would be willing to serve in the role without compensation.

It was discussed and agreed that there would be a need to follow-up with NFN one more time to determine the organization's willingness to continue to serve as the Asia regional focal point, especially as TAP would have to discontinue its funding to the organization if it relinquished the seat. Regardless, it was noted that TAP will need to talk with NFN about funding as the organization has yet to deliver on its agreed-upon outputs.

It was also suggested that the funding for the Asia regional focal point position could also be transferred to other budget lines, specifically for regional workshops, until a new representative is identified.

Follow-Up:

- The TAP Coordinator, Zia and Rukshana to follow-up with Florence while in Berlin regarding the open TAP Steering Committee seat.
- The TAP Coordinator and Jyotsna to follow-up with NFN one more time to determine the organization's willingness to continue to serve as the Asia regional focal point.