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Global Council call - Energy Transition

24 September 2020

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
Isabel Munilla, USA (Global Reach) IM
Joe Williams, UK (Global Reach) JW
Mariatou Amadou, Niger (Francophone Africa)
Miles Litvinoff, UK (Europe and North America) ML
Olena Pavlenko, Ukraine (Eurasia) (Chair) OP

Secretariat

Elisa Peter, Executive Director EP
Stephanie Rochford, Director of Member Engagement SR
Joe Bardwell, Strategic Communications and Campaigns Manager JB
Sandrine Levy, Executive Administrator SL

Guests

Kathleen Brophy, PWYP US KB
Clancy Moore, PWYP Australia

Actions

Action	By who	By when
Inform coalitions in India and Lebanon of their successful applications	CL and AB	End of September
Explore feasibility of inviting PWYP members to observe GC meetings	Secretariat	December



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Issue a GC statement to the EITI Board on the energy transition	Secretariat to draft, GC to input	EITI Board meeting (14-15 October)
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Decisions

- The GC welcomed two new PWYP coalitions, in India and in Lebanon
- The GC agreed to continue to hold consultations with a view to adopting a PWYP statement on climate change / the energy transition

Minutes

OP thanked her colleagues for supporting her nomination to become Chair of the Global Council and welcomed participants to the meeting, including two newcomers: JB, joining the Secretariat as the Strategic Communications and Campaigns Manager, and GM, joining the Global Council to represent Anglophone Africa; and KB, Director of PWYP US and joining this meeting as an invitee to present a set of draft positions on the energy transition for discussion and potentially adoption by the Global Council.

PWYP coalition applications

CL gave the floor to the Secretariat to present the application from India. SR noted that there had been a real momentum in India beyond the initial mandatory disclosure agenda. A charter on extractives transparency has been developed, to which new members sign-on when they join the coalition. The coalition includes both INGOs and grassroots organisations. Environics Trust is the host organisation of the coalition. It is a well-respected organisation, with solid funding, and they have already developed strong relationships with the PWYP Secretariat and with PWYP coalitions in Asia Pacific. IM offered support with fundraising efforts in India, as well as coordination with Oxfam India.

AB presented the application from Lebanon, currently made of eight member organisations. The coalition is hosted by LOGI, a well-respected organisation whose CEO sits on the EITI Board and has solid connections with civil society organisations and the Lebanese Petroleum Administration. A national coordinator is currently being employed on a full time basis for the next six months. OP shared her observations from her visit to Lebanon and meetings with civil society organisations in September 2019.

The GC welcomed and approved both applications and congratulated the new coalitions on their affiliation to the global movement.



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Presentation: Exploring opportunities for PWYP to support a fair and just transition (KB)

CM and KB introduced the main discussion points for the GC, including the origin of the work. KB noted that the energy transition was formally included in PWYP's Vision 2025 strategy, adopted in January 2019, although PWYP members across the network have been engaged in related work for a number of years.

KB noted that since early 2020, a number of PWYP coalitions and members (including in Brazil, India, Malawi, Zimbabwe, US, Canada, Australia) have been collaborating to develop positions related to the energy transition which could be considered for adoption by the global movement, and to consider what PWYP's role could be in supporting a just transition.

KB recalled some of the key research findings that underpin the urgency of working on the energy transition in order to mitigate the devastating impacts of climate change. KB also noted that other partners in our movement, particularly the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), are also actively engaging on this topic; and that the conversation has been accelerated by the global coronavirus health crisis and its associated economic impacts.

The positions and areas of work being presented to the GC are the result of extensive consultation with PWYP members and partners, sourcing inputs from more than 300 people via webinars and an online survey in six languages. The feedback indicated clear support for the five proposed positions, along with substantive comments and suggestions.

KB presented the five positions in detail, highlighting where positions have been crafted to capture and recognise the different economic and political realities across the countries where PWYP is working. KB noted that different approaches are required in relation to fossil fuels and mining, in the context of the energy transition. The positions cover the extractive sector broadly, while the proposed areas of work are (for now) focused on the fossil fuel sector, and include political capture and governance; financing and economic justice for an equitable transition; and transparency and public participation. A second proposed stream of work will focus on minerals (this is currently in development).

Plenary discussion

GC members thanked the PWYP coalitions who have driven this work forward. Reflections from the plenary discussion included:

- while political capture by the fossil fuel industry is a core issue in the US, that is not necessarily reflected more widely across the PWYP movement (e.g. in the UK and EU this is not an issue in the same way) (ML)
- the paper should make reference to 1.5 degree target (ML, IM)



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- there is a lack of political will in Iraq to recognise or address climate related impacts of fossil fuel consumption, and focus exclusively on the potential of those resources to generate revenues (AB)
- the positions could capture more explicitly the original objectives of the PWYP movement around fiscal transparency and accountability (JW, ML)
- concerns were expressed that some PWYP coalitions (including but not limited to those in fossil fuel dependent countries) may not be willing to adopt some of the positions including on the immediate end to all fossil fuels exploration
- a suggestion was made to include a clear statement about the obligation of historical large emitters of carbon, like the US, that they must wind down their fossil fuel production immediately
- Oxfam US and Canada can continue to provide in-kind financial support for this exercise, but would like clarity on what support will come from other organizations and the PWYP Secretariat, and how we could collaborate to secure funding for the work
- some further detailed proposals were made to specific language (to be clarified in writing after the meeting)

Overall, the GC supported the effort to define PWYP's position and role on the energy transition and expressed a desire to further refine the draft positions and to put them out to national coalitions for explicit endorsement.

KB noted issues of capacity among the coalition members who have been driving the work to date. KB noted that extensive consultation has already taken place in all PWYP languages and that if further consultation is recommended then more support is required to enable that to happen.

Opening up GC meetings - proposal

ML presented a paper outlining opportunities and risks for opening up GC meetings to observers from the wider PWYP membership. A proposal was made to trial this at the meeting in November or December, pending guidance from the Secretariat about their capacity to actually facilitate it from an administrative and governance perspective.

Secretariat update on civic space

EP noted that the Secretariat is engaging with the EITI board members on changes to the Validation model, to ensure that validation of the Civil Society Protocol is robust. The Secretariat is also facilitating a number of conversations with PWYP members to raise awareness about the civic space strategic framework, and how it can be applied in specific



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political contexts. In Francophone Africa a number of elections are ongoing or upcoming (including in Cote D'ivoire, Guinea, Niger, Senegal, Gabon, DRC, Congo Brazzaville, Mali). The Secretariat is supporting human rights based training for PWYP members in those countries. The Secretariat also has a number of initiatives to support PWYP members in high-risk countries that were identified earlier this year, including Equatorial Guinea and the Philippines.