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## Global Council (GC) Meeting

16 March 2023, Zoom Webinar

### Attendees

#### *Global Council*

Aida Gamboa, AG, Peru (Latin America)  
Carly Oboth, CO, USA, (Europe & North America)  
Georges Mpaga, GM, Gabon (Francophone Africa)  
Maria Ramos, MR, Oxfam America (Global Reach)  
Monday Osasah, MO, Nigeria (Anglophone Africa), Chair  
Nora Hasan, NH, Iraq (MENA)  
Saswati Swetlena, SS, India (Asia Pacific)

### Apologies

Fuad Hasanov, FH, Azerbaijan (Eurasia)  
Fatima Diallo, FD, (ASC representative)

### Secretariat

Edwin Ikhuoria, EI, Executive Director  
Joseph Bardwell, JB, Director of Communications and Campaigns  
Nyree Woolston, NW, Operations Manager  
Naila Sebbahi, NS, Executive Assistant & Team Administrator

### Other

Haley Rice, HR, EITI Civil Society Board Coordinator

## GC MEETING MINUTES

### Decisions

The Global Council duly elected Sihem Bouazza to the Board of Trustees.

Action	By who	By when
Communicate the decision of the elected member, Sihem Bouazza, to the PWYP Board	GC/Board Representative	24 March 2023
Create a one-pager to communicate regional updates ahead of each Global Council meeting	GC Members	2 weeks before the next meeting
Circulate potential meeting dates for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A virtual Q2 Global Council Meeting</li><li>• An in-person Global Council Meeting</li></ul>	Secretariat	31 March 2023

### Welcome and review of agenda

The meeting opened with a round of introductions. The Chair reviewed the agenda, highlighting the purpose of the meeting, to:



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- To select a candidate to join the PWYP board
- To reflect on PWYP objectives for the EITI Global Conference
- To share updates/key issues from the regions

The agenda was adopted by consensus.

### **Selection of PWYP board member**

PWYP currently has one vacancy on the Board to be elected by the Global Council. To address this, a call for applications was shared with PWYP membership. The applications received were duly reviewed by the Global Council and following unanimous consensus Sihem Bouazza will be invited to join the PWYP Board.

### **EITI: feedback from board meeting and reflection on objectives for Global Conference**

The most recent EITI Board meeting took place in Buenos Aires 1-2 March 2023.

HS provided an update and feedback from this meeting and shared that the EITI Board agreed in principle the proposed included some civil society priorities. The Board mandated the Working Group to further develop other proposed refinements to the EITI Standard, under the oversight of the Implementation Committee.

There were also broader discussions concerning the revision on the EITI mission statement to expand from extractives and to include energy.

The EITI's Global Conference will take place 13-14 June in Dakar, Senegal where stakeholders will gather to take stock of progress in publishing and using open data to inform decision-making, analysis and public debate on accountable natural resource management.

HS invited questions from the Global Council and asked members to share if they plan on attending the EITI conference and potential joint objectives.

The Global Council will liaise with their respective coalitions and revert back once they have had the opportunity to consolidate plans for the EITI conference and then agree joint objectives.

### **Regional roundtable: key updates & intelligence sharing from regional & ASC representatives**

Each of the Global Council shared updates from their respective regions:

- **AG provided a regional update for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)**  
AG shared concerns about shrinking civic space and that many countries in Latin America are experiencing political crises and oppression against human rights defenders. Within this backdrop, a group of over 40 organisations has been established to deliver on advocacy and campaign initiatives in the region. The focus of this group will be to monitor the mining and hydrocarbons issues and to promote energy transition proposals in the region. In April, the international conference of the parties of the Escazú agreement will take place. This is an environmental treaty that promotes information, participation, justice, environmental matters and protection of environmental defenders. Many organisations in LAC will be participating to promote a national plan for human right defenders.
- **SS provided a regional update for the Asia-Pacific**  
SS shared key challenges in the region in respect to shrinking civic space as well as gender inclusion at local level with respect to decision making. Following a recent PWYP Asia Pacific regional meeting, three main advocacy opportunities were identified:



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1. Transition minerals: PWYP Philippines have established an Asia-Pacific working group to focus on transition minerals, including: impacts on communities, transition minerals supply chains, due-diligence in the supply chain, and to demand the protection of ecosystems.
2. Deep-sea mining: Work is underway to devise a collective Asia-Pacific status report on deep-sea mining.
3. EITI-implementation: PWYP Indonesia, PWYP Philippines, PWYP Papua New Guinea and PWYP Australia have shared plans to strengthen their work on EITI engagements as well as an Intent to join the EITI conference in June.

The coalitions have also committed to the global gender action plan, and are working to identify champions by the end of the year.

- **GM provided a regional update for Francophone Africa**

GM advised that plans are underway for the PWYP Africa Conference that will take place in Senegal in June 2023, ahead of the Global EITI conference. GM is part of the advisory panel for the PWYP Africa Conference which has been established and convened for the first time this month. The role of the advisory panel is to provide oversight and strategic guidance on the conference programme and objectives; to keep PWYP members updated on key developments throughout the preparation of the conference as well as to advise on governance related issues among others. As part of this work, the panel is encouraging participation and mobilisation of resources at national level as well as identifying opportunities for collaboration.

- **CO provided a regional update for North America and the EU**

CO shared that PWYP US members continue to advocate for important refinements to the EITI standard and are awaiting the release of the SEC's (Securities and Exchange Commission) final rule on climate risk-related financial disclosures. The coalition is also working on a handbook on climate risk disclosures. CO asked for the Global Council's support to promote this resource within their regional networks.

In PWYP Canada, work continues on advocating for beneficial ownership and transparency; legislation for a publicly accessible beneficial ownership registry will be forthcoming and work is underway to develop a new advocacy campaign focused on energy transition.

- **NH provided a regional update for Middle East and North Africa (MENA)**

NH shared that a regional meeting of coalitions will take place this month and will focus on identifying a gender champion, the development of a TOR to implement against PWYP's gender policy as well as support ongoing discussions regarding the energy transition and renewables in MENA. There is also the opportunity to expand regional membership, following new applications that have been received in Libya and Kuwait.

- **MO provided a regional update for Anglophone Africa**

As part of the advisory panel, MO is working with GM and others to advance preparations for the PWYP Africa Conference. MO has also been working to prepare for the development of PWYP's next strategy. In conjunction with national coordinators, external environmental scanning is underway to ensure each country within anglophone Africa are able to feed into these preparations effectively. As a practitioner in the sector MO is also undertaking research into community benefits.

- **MR provided a global update**

There are some upcoming opportunities to highlight civic space issues related to mining and get new company commitments. Furthermore, CIVICUS has recently released their latest report which assesses the state of civic freedoms globally. 15 countries have been downgraded while 10 countries have been upgraded, reaffirming regional reports.



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EI thanked everyone for their updates and reiterated the importance of keeping abreast of regional issues. It is the coordination of these activities that supports the collective power and impact of the PWYP global movement. The Africa Conference and EITI Conference provide a strategic opportunity to leverage and amplify PWYP's work and EI encouraged GC members to coordinate their plans with JB.

**AOB**

MO asked for the Global Council to review the objectives document so that it can be finalised and requested any updates in relation to PWYP's gender policy be shared with FD, the Global Council gender champion.

**Next steps and close**

Following a survey of availability, it was proposed that dates for an in person meeting be moved to secure higher attendance. Revised dates will be circulated in due course.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.