



CORE GROUP MEETING
October 5 2016
Minutes - Public

Facilitator: Philipp Schönrock

Participants: Arellys Bellorini, Marggie Simo (World Vision), Andrew Griffiths (Sightsavers), Busani Sibindi (Save Matabeleland), Gomer Padong (PhilSen), John Patrick Ngoyi (JDPC), Philipp Schönrock (Cepei), Naiara Costa (Together 2030 Secretariat).

Guest: Sally Nicholson (WWF Europe)

1. Guest Participant: Sally Nicholson, WWF, European Policy Office – Agenda 2030 follow up in Europe, participation of civil society and how Together 2030 could engage.

Sally updated the Group on the main aspects related to the follow up of the 2030 Agenda in Europe. She expressed her concerns about losing the “momentum” about the 2030 Agenda in the regions and of how the concept of universality has not been recognized yet. Europe seems to remain on the “north-south” approach to the Agenda. There are advances in some countries but not as a “group” and this will impact on the implementation as some actions and legislation demands the engagement with the European Union.

Civil society has been engaged, pushing and mobilizing for action. A “communication” is expected to be released soon by the EU on how the current policy and strategies at the EU delivers on the SDGs. The European Statistics office is planning to choose 100 of the global indicators to track at the EU level.

Sally informed that Concorde is coordinating the work of NGOs and will be launching a publication soon. A new platform “SDG Watch Europe” was going to be launched on October 13. So far, more than 70 civil society organizations working across Europe (domestically and internationally) have joined. She mentioned that Together 2030 could support by adding its power and voice to challenge the EU on its commitments towards universality.

During the discussions, the Core Group highlighted the importance of coordinating the work of Together 2030 with those of other platforms. They proposed to support in promoting the publication being drafted by Concorde. The Group suggested a WebEx call with Together 2030 members in Europe to discuss how Together 2030 can support and facilitate their efforts at the European level. There were concerns regarding the “cherry picking” of indicators by the European Union which may influence how others (especially developing countries) will track the Agenda.

2. Governance

A. Follow up on governance options paper – Process and Actions – Busani presented the proposals regarding process and action points as a follow up to the governance options paper. The Core Group agreed to have a clear proposal for the governance structure by the end of the year.

The Group discussed the need to set up criteria for the responsibilities and role of the Co-Chairs and also to focus on expanding the Core Group in order to better engage with the Membership. The Group agreed to appoint one Co-Chair from the founding members and for the second one to be nominated



after the Core Group is expanded. Appointed Co-Chair will be responsible to lead the expansion of the Core Group. Co-Chair will also support with expedite decision-making, directly consulting with the Secretariat for more agile decisions. The Group agreed to set up a call for nominations among the current members of the Core Group. Nominees should demonstrate the commitment and agreement of their organizations. Decision about Co-Chair expected to be taken by October 12.

The Group requested for a concrete proposal on how to follow up on the options presented at the governance paper. Sub-Group (Busani, Gomer and Naiara) to elaborate.

B. *Follow up on survey responses and communication to membership*

The Core Group agreed to send a message and outcomes of the governance survey to the membership, informing them that an action plan is being prepared and will be communicated by the beginning of December.

Action Points:

- Naiara to draft proposal for roles/responsibilities of Co-Chair and call for nominations. (by Oct 7)
- Naiara to set up meeting on October 12 to discuss Co-Chairs.
- Core Group to discuss election process on October 12.
- Naiara to draft message regarding the outcomes of the Survey.
- Busani/Gomer/Naiara to work on concrete proposal to follow up on recommendations presented at governance options paper.
- Busani/Gomer to set up a separate call to discuss the pending issues regarding the Secretariat.

2. Expanded Face-to-Face meeting

Arelis informed that she would circulate a revised concept note to proceed with the organization of the Face-to-Face meeting, including a proposal for participants and date.

Action Points:

- Arelis to share revised concept note and follow up proposal for face-to-face meeting.

3. Next Webinars and 1st Anniversary of Together 2030

- Review proposal for next webinars* – The Group agreed to organize two additional webinars until the end of the year – one on data and the other on national implementation. Naiara to follow up.
- Discuss activities to celebrate Together 2030 1st Anniversary (December 8)* – The Group agreed on organizing a series of activities to celebrate the 1st Anniversary of Together 2030. Naiara to draft a proposal.
- Revamped Website:* Andrew informed the Group that the Sightsavers web team has proposed a revised structure for the Together 2030 Website to be presented by the end of the month.

Action Points:

- Naiara to follow up on the organization of the webinars.



- Naiara to draft a proposal for activities to celebrate the 1st Anniversary of Together 2030.
- Andrew to update the group on next steps regarding the Together 2030 website.

5. Issues postponed for next meeting or email discussions:

- Update on UNGA activities: September 20 meeting on civil society space (follow up pending); UNGA statements report (ongoing) and twitter mobilization (report shared)
- Forward proposal for DATA for SDGs – No clarity about action points proposed here. Naiara to follow up with Marggie for details.
- Follow up with WV colleagues on fundraising mapping and share updates with CG- Arelys informed that she is waiting for a 3-pager summarizing potential donors for Together 2030 and a suggested roadmap to be explored. She will keep the CG updated
- Partnership with Transform Together
- SDG Action Forum (Bonn, Germany, 2017) – Contact organizers