

Recourse Board Meeting

27 January 2021, 2:00 - 5:00pm (CET) virtual meeting

Participants

Board

Kris Genovese (chair), Susanne Breitkopf (acting Treasurer), Joe Athialy, Chad Dobson

Staff

Nezir Sinani, Kate Geary, Petra Kjell, Wunna Htun, Sargon Nissan

NOTES

Welcome and agreement on agenda

Introduction of Sargon Nissan, new IMF programme manager – background including Bretton Woods Project, tax network coordination.

Agenda approved.

Revisiting action items from June 2020 Board meeting

Nezir led a report back on the actions from the June 2020 Board meeting and identified outstanding actions. Adding to Board membership on hold until later in the year.

ACTIONS: Co-Directors to further investigate insurance options and keep the Board informed.
Nezir to provide proposal for Board regarding his pension fund.

Approval of revised Salary Agreement

Kate presented the revised document. Attempt to capture input from various agreements through email conversations since June 2020 to update original agreement.

No changes to principles, these remain the same. Proposal to add additional levels to Director, Management and Admin on scale, to allow more flexibility and better reflect experience. Also to introduce option for entry level positions. 'Sector' experience and language on fixed term contract vs consultancy clarified. Proposal to use HICP for all countries we can and supplement with WB where there is no other option.

The Board supported and approved the changes.

DECISION: Revised Salary Agreement approved.

Annual impact reporting

Petra presented on Recourse 2020 Annual Review, including the name change from BIC Europe to Recourse, the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, overall highlights and more detailed updates on the different strands of work.

The Board congratulated the staff on the motivation and productivity of the team, and an impressive body of work and impact, despite the difficult year.

Recourse strategy update & discussion

Kate presented on Recourse campaigns strategies with questions on adequacy, gaps, coherence and achievement of vision and mission. Recourse has identified seven campaigns strategies through this, including holding IFIs to account, influencing at country level, AIIB's role and impact, influencing private finance through IFIs' use of public finance, climate change – a major strand, including our new work on IMF and ADB. SOGIE work is to enhance LGBT protections at IFIs and counting the costs of exclusion, and capacity building for country & IFI-level, Country-level strategy relevant to work in Myanmar.

Kris noted that seven strategies is a lot, but civil society development is missing. Kate clarified that civil society development is reflected in Recourse's overall strategy which includes the multiplier way of working, but could be strengthened. Chad observed that the strategies contain a mixture of institutions and issues, some perhaps reflect pressure to deliver to a funder and suggested to rationalise and reduce complexity.

Board members proposed the introduction of an advisory group, which was effective in the past at BIC, with a particular focus on drawing on knowledge and experience of Southern leaders.

Staff agreed with the advisory board proposal and confirmed that the strategies would be reviewed at the February staff retreat.

Safeguarding

Nezir provided an update on the Safeguarding Policy, approved last year and informed the Board on guidance received. Next step is to develop a complaints flowchart to clarify process of implementing Safeguarding Policy.

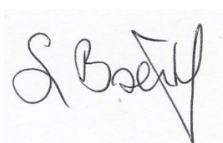
AOB & closing remarks

Nezir raised the reserves policy, which still lacks threshold. He will re-send to Board to see if there is coherence and agreement.

ACTION: Nezir to resend draft reserves policy for input from the Board on the threshold and for final agreement.



Kris Genovese
Board Chair



Susanne Breitkopf
Acting Treasurer