

Recourse Board meeting

5 July 2022 (mixed in person and remote)

Present:

Board: Susanne Breitkopf, Ryan Brightwell, Joe Athialy

Staff: Kate Geary, Nezir Sinani, Fran Witt, Petra Kjell Wright, Mark Moreno Pascual, Crystal Chow, Sargon Nissan, Daniel Lakey

Apologies: Makoma Lekalakala, Theodoros Chronopoulos

Agenda:

Agenda (all times CET):

2:00 - 2:05pm: Welcome by the Chair and Agenda approval (Susanne)

2:05 - 2:15pm: Last Board Meeting action items (Nezir presenting Attachment no. 1) **for discussion**

2:15 - 3:00pm: **Recourse at a glance** (All team members present for 3-4 mins on their work). Nezir presenting Ecological Justice Strategy (Attachment no. 2) & Kate presenting Rights & Accountability strategy (Attachment no. 3) - **for discussion and input**

3:00 - 3:30pm: 2021 budget review **for discussion** (Daniel, Attachment no. 4)

3:30 - 3:45pm: Advisory Committee proposal **for approval** (Kate, Attachment no. 5a and 5b)

3:45 - 4:00pm: AOB

4:00pm: Closing remarks (Susanne)

Notes:

Introduction

Due to Nezir and Daniel being delayed from a meeting with Recourse's auditors, the Board agreed to start with introductions to those present. This is the first meeting for Ryan, Mark and Crystal. Fran, Mark, Petra, Crystal and Sargon gave brief overviews of their work. Sargon announced that this is his last meeting, as he will be leaving Recourse in July.

Susanne thanked Sargon for his work and dedication for Recourse.

Welcome by the chair

Susanne officially opened the meeting by thanking the staff and asked for any further amendments to the agenda.

DECISION: Agenda approved

Recourse at a glance

Kate introduced the two new strategy documents on Ecological Justice and Rights and Accountability. These build on the big picture Recourse strategy 2020-25 and campaign strategies, as presented to the Board.

ACTION: Recourse strategy 2020-25 to be stored in Board folder (Kate)

ACTION: Board to feed back on R&A and EJ programmes by 5 August if any comments. Then Recourse to share with the Advisory Committee for input once established.

Agenda item 1: Last board meeting action items (Nezir, Attachment 1)

Risk register updated

Kate shared further info to safeguarding leads

Board approved ToR for Advisory Committee

Staff shared prospective AC members with Board as well as skills matrix: proposal for decision prepared for this Board meeting

Appointed Ryan as new member of Board

Performance evaluation for Nezir and Kate planned now

2022 budget review for discussion (Daniel, Attachment no. 4)

Daniel explains that the budget report is updated on a monthly basis.

The report provides a good guide in terms of available funds and expenditures.

Provides info on the budgetary control discussion during the retreat session. Quarterly meeting on budget management with grant officers now planned.

ACTION: Daniel to change terminology and explain it more for future reports.

An overhead tab also is provided with the budget file that breaks down the overhead costs and provides an overview on expenses. Overhead is low for Recourse given its virtual nature.

Cash flow tab created - provides data on money available and reserves available.

Susanne and Joe thank Daniel - budget looks reassuring and Recourse is well-managed with increased trust put in place by funders.

ACTION: Nezir to share Reserves policy with Ryan.

Susanne thanks everyone for the solid and reassuring budget.

Advisory Committee (Nezir, Attachments 5a and 5b)

- List of prospective AC members - 10 names (also list of backup names). Board has been involved and informed.
- Skills matrix - qualities and skills we wanted, including regions and expertise. Tried to be very strategic in coming up with needs and suggestions.

All of Recourse directors and staff involved and contributed; agreed on a list to propose.

ACTION: Nezir to share ToR with Ryan.

Susanne: move to approve:
Joe & Ryan aye.

DECISION: A/C list approved.

AOB:

Kate brings up the issue of inflation rates and the implications this will have in the 2023 budget. We expect an increase that is significant in 2023 compared to 2022. Just flagging this for now and to be dealt with later in the year.

Susanne: good to be aware of it and foresee ways of dealing with it in advance.

Signed as a true record of discussions:

Susanne Breitkopf (Chair)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Breitkopf', is written on a light blue rectangular background.

Date: 24.08.22

Ryan Brightwell (in place of Theodoros Chronopoulos)

R. Bryhant

Date: 17.08.22