

TAP Network Steering Committee

Meeting Decisions

11 August 2017

Present:

- Ms. Arelys Bellorini, World Vision
- Mr. Louis Busingye, HRFRA
- Ms. Jyotsna Singh, ADA
- Mr. Zia Ur-Rehman, ADA
- Mr. John Romano, TAP Secretariat
- Ms. Bonian Golmohammadi, WFUNA
- Ms. Susan Goldman, ABA ROLI

Next meetings: Doodle: <https://doodle.com/poll/6m84unpd4pv9547u>

Chairing Meeting: Ms. Arelys Bellorini

DECISIONS TAKEN FROM CONFERENCE CALL IN GREEN; FOLLOW-UP ITEMS IN BLUE

Agenda Items:

1. Approval of last Steering Committee Call Decisions

Decision: Approval of Steering Committee Decisions from 21 July 2017.

2. Update from Co-chairs on call with OSF

Discussion: As decided on the previous Steering Committee call, the co-chairs were tasked with hosting a call with TAP's donors to discuss the timelines for hosting/governance review and on timelines for TAP's next grants. Due to time constraints, the co-chairs had a call with OSF, and indicated that they will have a call with Hewlett Foundation the following week. On the call with OSF, the co-chairs updated OSF on the governance and hosting review, and around TAP's HLPF activities. OSF confirmed the timelines for them to provide funding for this year, with TAP needing to be hosted within a new fiscal sponsor by first week of October at the latest. If this was delayed, TAP would have to wait until January 2019 for this funding, which would mean that the TAP Secretariat and activities would be unfunded for 4 months. OSF also connected the co-chairs with Secretariat of the Transparency and Accountability Initiative, who also went through a similar review of institutional arrangements and hosting last year, and the co-chairs will also have a discussion with TAI, particularly regarding their new fiscal sponsor: Proteus Fund.

3. Next steps and timeline for TAP Governance and Hosting Review

Discussion: Richard Bennett, consultant for the hosting/governance review, has updated his report based on comments/edits from TAP Steering Committee members over the past week, and a revised version of the report was circulated to the Steering Committee for review on this TAP Steering Committee call. Appreciation was expressed for Richard for the work he has done with this review and report. Based on the timelines from the donors discussed in the previous agenda item, the urgency of taking decisions regarding TAP hosting arrangements was stressed by Steering Committee members. Looking to take decisions on the way forward, the options presented in the report were discussed by the Steering Committee, with the merits of all options considered through this discussion. A consensus decision was eventually reached regarding the preferred option to pursue a specialist fiscal sponsor organization – specifically Proteus Fund – which was determined to meet the needs of the TAP Network best. Given this decision, it was highlighted that there was a need to examine and discuss the oversight role and terms of reference (including anticipated time commitments) for the Steering Committee and the co-chairs for management of the TAP Secretariat and the TAP Network more broadly. It was noted that the Secretariat would include the co-chairs on all correspondences regarding the next steps in the application, due diligence and transition process to Proteus Fund.

Decision: Selection of Proteus Fund to pursue as the TAP Network's fiscal sponsor going forward.

Next Steps:

- Secretariat to facilitate an application and due diligence process for fiscal sponsorship by Proteus Fund
- Secretariat to facilitate "financial health assessment" to be undertaken for Proteus Fund

4. Review of budget through September 2017

Discussion: It was discussed that additional funding remaining through the end of September 2017 could be put towards national or regional workshops, with many workshop proposals from TAP Members still outstanding.

Decision: Allocating remaining funding under current grant through end of September for national or regional workshops

Follow-up: Co-chairs to review grant and next steps for TAP hosting and governance review with TAP Secretariat

Follow-up: TAP Secretariat to outline potential for national or regional workshops for Steering Committee to consider for funding going forward

5. AOB

Discussion: ADA proposed a potential partnership for TAP to join in hosting ADA's annual GALAA training. To facilitate a decision by the Steering Committee, ADA agreed to send more information about GALAA to the Steering Committee to review going forward. Potential for TAP activities around the UN General Assembly was briefly discussed, with a proposal to possibly bring together TAP members attending the UNGA together for a meeting to discuss TAP governance. The Secretariat will send a google doc to the TAP Network to identify members who will be in New York for the UNGA, to scope out potential interest for such a meeting.

