

TAP Network Steering Committee 2022 - 2023

29 September 2023

Present:

- Mr. Peter van Sluijs, CSPPS**
- Ms. Cheri-Leigh Erasmus, Accountability Lab**
- Ms. Olabisi Mekwuye, Civil Society Coalition on Sustainable Development**
- Ms. Bridged Faida, Consolation East Africa**
- Mr. Mandeep Tiwana, CIVICUS**
- Ms. Arellys Bellorini, World Vision**
- Mr. John Romano, TAP Secretariat**
- Ms. Debra Jones, TAP Secretariat**

Chairing Meeting **Ms. Cheri-Leigh Erasmus, Accountability Lab**

Next meeting **Mr. Peter van Sluijs, CSPPS**

[DECISIONS TAKEN FROM CONFERENCE CALL IN GREEN; FOLLOW UP ITEMS IN BLUE](#)

Agenda:

1. Review of notes and decisions from last Steering Committee call (5 minutes)
2. Debriefing from UNGA High-Level week and follow-up and next steps (20 minutes)
3. Next steps for hiring of new Communications and Engagement Officer (10 minutes)
4. Preparing for upcoming TAP Steering Committee elections (10 minutes)
5. Partnership Updates (5 minutes)
 - a. Update on NED proposal
 - b. Grant renewals and next steps
6. Review and approval of TAP Partner applications (10 minutes)
7. AOB (5 minutes)

1. Review of notes and decisions from last Steering Committee call

The notes from the 8 September Steering Committee call were not provided in advance of the meeting. The TAP Network Director will follow-up with the since-departed Communications officer to confirm notes, and share with the Steering Committee on the next call.

[FOLLOW UP: TAP Secretariat to present the notes in advance of the next Steering Committee Call.](#)

2. Debriefing from UNGA High-Level week and follow-up and next steps

The TAP Secretariat provided a breakdown of activities and engagements from the TAP Network and #SDG16Now Campaign during the UNGA High-Level week, noting that there was significant interest in the campaign from many civil society partners in New York for the week. The Steering Committee members in attendance also provided their own reflections on the UNGA High-Level week, and provided some suggestions and recommendations for following up from these engagements. This included specific examples on joint advocacy to open up spaces around UNGA in the future, with many reflecting that the space for civil society was still quite closed because of security restrictions.

The TAP Secretariat wrapped up discussions on this topic by presenting some initial plans for follow-up from UNGA, including a process for defining the #SDG16Now Campaign's strategy for 2024 in Q4 of 2023.

3. Next steps for hiring of new Communications and Engagement Officer

The TAP Secretariat provided an update on the hiring process for the new Communications and Engagement Officer, noting that the job listing and outreach to share this opening had begun just prior to the UNGA High-Level week. The TAP Secretariat requested the TAP Steering Committee members to disseminate with their own partners and networks to aid in finding the best candidates possible. The TAP Secretariat also noted that they were in the process of identifying and bringing on interns to potentially support in Q4 mobilization and advocacy.

4. Preparing for upcoming TAP Steering Committee elections

The TAP Secretariat noted that the the TAP Network will host a nomination and election process in the months ahead, to identify candidates for the 2024-2025 Steering Committee. The working structure and Terms of Reference of the Steering Committee

was briefly discussed, including around ensuring gender, thematic and geographic balance within the Steering Committee. Ultimately, the Steering Committee decided to review the Terms of Reference for the Steering Committee to see if any changes needed to be made in advance of launching this election process. The TAP Secretariat committed to provide a draft timeline for the nomination and election process to be presented on the next Steering Committee call.

5. Partnership Updates

- a. Update on NED proposal
- b. Grant renewals and next steps

The TAP Secretariat provided an update on the status of the proposal it submitted in June to the National Endowment for Democracy, noting that the proposal had been rejected.

The Secretariat also provided an update on the next steps and timeline for drafting of grant renewal proposals to its current donors, noting that work will be undertaken by the Secretariat over the upcoming weeks ahead. The Secretariat noted that they would provide drafts of project documents as they were produced, for review by the Steering Committee.

1. Review and Approval of TAP Partner Applications

No new TAP Partner Applications were received.