Tenth Meeting of the Global Executive Board (GEB) Summary Record

12 July 2018
DATE, TIME, VENUE

DATE: 12 July 2018
TIME: 15:00 – 16:20 (Rome time)
VENUE: Tele-videoconference

GEB MEMBERS WHO ATTENDED THE MEETING

AfDB: Fessou Lawson
FAO: José Rosero Moncayo
Philippines: Romeo Recide
Tanzania: Albina Chuwa – Chair
UNESCAP: Gemma van Halderen

OTHER PARTICIPANTS

AfDB: Vincent Ngendakumana
Global Office: Christophe Duhamel (GEB Secretary), Valerie Bizier, Weronika Forowicz and Diana Sotomayor
FAORAP: Anthony Burgard
PARIS21: Johannes Jutting

AGENDA

1. AGENDA ITEM 1 – for discussion: Progress of the work of the task team preparing the second Global Action Plan
2. AGENDA ITEM 2 – for endorsement: Update on the annual regional workplans

OUTCOMES

AGENDA ITEM 1 – for discussion: Progress of the work of the task team preparing the second Global Action Plan

Johannes Jutting, chair of the task team, provided an overview on the progress of the work of the task team including the findings and recommendations of its first meeting on 2 and 3 July 2018 in Rome. Regarding the scope of work, he pointed out that the second phase should primarily focus on technical assistance and training at country level, that research on new methodologies should take place as well as capacity development on analysis and use of data. He stated that all regions should be covered but participation of countries should be based on their own interest and that topics for research and technical assistance requested by partners and countries should be prioritized. Regarding the implementation model, the idea is to have a modular approach in the form of a multi-platform programme including flexible processes in terms of funding. This approach would entail using a more diverse group of partners with capacity to implement and respect commitments. In terms of Governance, Mr. Jutting explained that the task team members welcomed the idea of a Global Steering Committee (GSC) with a maximum of 20 members on a rotational system of membership and at regional level, advisory technical boards will support the work of the GSC.
The chair of the task team mentioned that a drafting team in charge of preparing a first draft of the proposed action plan for the second phase, was endorsed. A first draft will be presented on 12 September 2018 to the task team.

Discussion:
Jose Rosero (FAO) made some questions regarding current conversations with donors in terms of funding for the second phase. He also expressed his concern on how to involve all the regions.
In terms of funding, Christophe Duhamel (GS secretariat) explained that to have commitments from resource partners, a document to commit against has to be produced. He also mentioned that donors are more likely to fund at country or sub-regional level than at global level.

Mrs. Chuwa suggested that intensive lobbying with donors is necessary. She also asked the chair of the task team to reflect in the second global action plan the meaning of efficient coordination. Mr. Jutting confirmed that the task team will reflect on this point.

Mrs. Chuwa closed the first item by suggesting to fast track the process of developing and approving the second global action plan.

AGENDA ITEM 2 – for endorsement: Update on the annual regional workplans

Vincent Ngendakumana (Regional Office Africa) presented the 2018 updated workplan and budget for Africa approved by the Regional Steering Committee in June, 2018. It was pointed out that the plan was kept aligned to the logical framework of the Global Strategy and that the revision was related to the actual carry-forward figures. The main changes on the AfDB workplan were done to address the request from donors to ensure that RECs are included in technical assistance activities. The presentation concluded by opening the floor to discuss about the best way to use some available training funds: reallocate these funds to the scholarships initiative or use them to fill-in some positions.

Discussion:
Christophe Duhamel (Global Office) stated that it is too late to recruit new staff and this was supported by the chair, Mrs. Chuwa. She also asked AfDB to accelerate the delivery of the Technical Assistance component and to communicate and disseminate results before December, 2018.
AfDB pointed out that they have difficulties regarding the communications plan because of legal issues with the bank but they are recruiting a communications specialist to overcome this problem.

Anthony Burgard, Regional Office (RO), provided an overview of the 2018 updated workplan and budget for Asia-Pacific approved by the Regional Steering Committee (RSTC) in June, 2018. He pointed out that the workplan will focus on scaling up the delivery of Technical Assistance (TA) and training activities during the remaining months of the programme. He also mentioned that the region will make efforts to provide all reports of TA missions. UNESCAP will focus on disseminating training materials and on training assessments. In terms of budget, the RSTC approved the reallocation of USD 142,515 from FAORAP to UNESCAP to give more support to training activities.

Discussion:
Mrs. Chuwa reminded that all the activities have to be completed before December, 2018. Mr. Burgard confirmed that all activities are being unwrapped and will be completed in due time.

DECISION 1: The GEB endorsed the 2018 workplan for Africa
DECISION 2: The GEB endorsed the 2018 workplan for Asia&Pacific