Fifteenth Meeting of the Global Steering Committee (GSC)

14 December 2017

Draft Summary Record
DATE, TIME, VENUE

DATE: 14 December 2017  
TIME: 16:30-18:10 hrs (Rome Time)  
VENUE: Video -Teleconference

GSC MEMBERS REPRESENTATIVES

AfDB: Fessou Lawson  
DFID: Carol Ann Munn  
Eurostat: James Whitworth  
FAO: José Rosero Moncayo  
INEGI Mexico: José Hernandez  
OECD-Paris21: François Fonteneau  
Philippines: Romeo Recide, Chair  
Tanzania: Dr. Albina Chuwa  
UNECA: Ibrahim Mamma  
UNESCWA: Juraj Riecan  
UNSIAP: Ashish Kumar  
World Bank: Alberto Zezza

OTHER PARTICIPANTS

AfDB: Vincent Ngendakumana, Estelle Addiko  
Eurostat: Veronika Radermacher  
INEGI Mexico: Mauricio Rebolledo, Eduardo Vasquez  
UNECA: Ibrahim Mamma  
UNSIAP: Ian Smith

FAO: David Mc Sherry (Fund Administrator), Velda Nylander

Global Office: Christophe Duhamel (GSC Secretary), Valérie Bizier, Norah de Falco, Weronika Forowicz

EXCUSED

Bhutan: Chencho Dukpa  
Lao PDR: Savanh Hanephom
AGENDA

- AGENDA ITEM 1 – Decisions taken by the 9th GEB on behalf of the GSC
- AGENDA ITEM 2 – Global Office workplan for 2018
- AGENDA ITEM 3 – Proposed allocation of funds for 2018
- AGENDA ITEM 4 – Organization of the work of the Task Team for preparing the second global action plan
- AGENDA ITEM 5 – Process to review the workplans 2018 by mid-2018
- AGENDA ITEM 6 – Process and schedules for the organization of the final evaluation and conference

OUTCOMES

1. AGENDA ITEM 1 – for information: Decisions taken by the 9th GEB on behalf of the GSC

Dr Albina Chuwa (Tanzania) reported on the decisions taken by the 9th GEB on behalf of the GSC: the endorsement of the 2018 workplan and budget for Asia-Pacific and Africa.

2. AGENDA ITEM 2 – for endorsement: Global Office workplan for 2018

Valérie Bizier (Global Office) presented the 2018 workplan of the Global Office. The presentation started with an overview of the Global Office’s achievements and challenges in 2017 and was followed by the presentation of its priorities and budget for 2018.

Discussion: Members welcomed the presentation and congratulated the Global Office on its achievements.

Alberto Zezza (World Bank) recommended rearranging the schedule to prioritize the preparation of the second global action plan and the final evaluation in order to secure funding for the second phase before the end of 2018. By doing so, the GO could better mitigate the risk of losing key staff needed for carrying out the 2018 activities and during the transition between the first phase and the second one.

José Rosero (FAO) suggested speeding up the preparation process of the second action plan and requested some clarifications on the process, raising the issue of the risk of losing key members of the team.

Christophe Duhamel (Global Office) explained that the schedule for organizing the work of the Task Team is very tight. Therefore, it is suggested to organize the work of the Task Team so that a proposal for the second action plan is ready for the GSC meeting in October. The
donors will be involved in the preparation process of the action plan from the beginning, as the second phase will be structured in a different way to reflect their requirements. The transition between the end of the first phase and the second phase will, however, be a challenge.

José Hernandez (INEGI Mexico) requested the Global Office to translate some of the guidelines and methodology documents in Spanish. In this regard, Dr Albina Chuwa also pointed out that not only French and Spanish but all six UN languages should be taken into account. The Global Office clarified that it is not possible to translate all the documents that are being produced in six languages, as this would require a very large amount of resources and specialized staff. Upon José Rosero’s (FAO) suggestion, it was decided that INEGI and the Global Office will organize a written consultation to agree upon a selection of key documents to be translated in 2018.

**DECISION 1:** The GSC endorsed the Global Office workplan for 2018.

3. **AGENDA ITEM 3 – for endorsement:** Proposed allocation of funds for 2018

   The Chair gave the floor to David Mc Sherry (Fund Administrator), who ran the participants through the document presenting the allocation of funds for 2018 and the associated disbursement process.

   **DECISION 2:** The GSC endorsed the proposed allocation of funds for 2018.

4. **AGENDA ITEM 4 – for endorsement:** Organization of the work of the Task Team for preparing the second global action plan

   Christophe Duhamel (Global Office) briefly presented the organization of the work of the Task Team explaining that the Global Office will prepare some draft Terms of Reference to be submitted to the GSC by end of January through a written consultation. Upon approval of the GSC, the first meeting of the Task Team will be organized and a detailed plan and budget will be prepared. It was proposed that the Task Team would report regularly to the GEB and that a final report would be submitted to the GSC in October 2018.

   **Discussion:**
   Following Dr Albina Chuwa’s (Tanzania) request, Christophe Duhamel (Global Office) confirmed that it was proposed that the GEB would regularly review the work of the Task Team and that a draft of the 2nd global action plan would be submitted to the GSC in July 2018.
Alberto Zezza (World Bank) pointed out again that it would be important to speed up the process, particularly on certain aspects such as the budget, to make sure that a draft proposal is ready to be submitted to the final conference in October. Christophe Duhamel (Global Office) confirmed that the Global Office, in its role as Secretary of the Task Team, will ensure that the process runs as smoothly as possible.

**DECISION 3**: The GSC endorsed the organization of the work of the Task Team for preparing the second global action plan.

5. **AGENDA ITEM 5 – Process to review the workplans 2018 by mid-2018**

Christophe Duhamel (Global Office) briefly explained that the workplans submitted are provisional and therefore strongly encouraged the GSC to review them in order guarantee that activities are implemented in a timely manner. He also recommended that all partners provide the Global Office with reports on the implementation of activities, as these reports, in addition to the consolidated financial report, will lay the foundations for preparing the updated workplans. A GEB and GSC meeting will be organized in July 2018 to endorse the final workplans.

**Discussion:**
Julianna Drinan (Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation) thanked all partners for the extra work being carried out and for agreeing to review the workplans in 2018.

**DECISION 4**: The GSC endorsed the process to review the workplans 2018 by mid-2018.

6. **AGENDA ITEM 6 – Process and schedules for the organization of the final evaluation and conference**

Christophe Duhamel (Global Office) briefly went through the proposed schedule for the organization of the final evaluation and conference. He explained that it was proposed to use the same arrangements of the Mid-Term Evaluation, requesting that the FAO Office of Evaluation (OED) supervise the process. The ToRs for the evaluation will be prepared by OED with the support of the Global Office and the contributions of stakeholders and will be submitted to the GSC in March 2018. The final conference, scheduled in October 2018, will provide an opportunity to discuss the second global action plan.

**Discussion:**
Julianna Drinan (Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation) expressed her concerns regarding the timing of the evaluation, as the results of the evaluation would be an essential input for the work of the Task Team. Christophe Duhamel (Global Office) shared her concerns and clarified
that although it is not possible to wait for the results of the final evaluation, the evaluators will work together with the Task Team and try to submit a first report by June 2018.

Alberto Zezza (World Bank) observed that carrying out an evaluation is a lengthy process and suggested to start looking for candidates well in advance so as to have a pool of experts available by March 2018. Christophe Duhamel (Global Office) clarified that work is currently underway to ensure that experts are identified by the time the ToRs are finalized.

Dr Albina Chuwa (Tanzania) suggested to consult users and producers of statistics to measure the impact of the project.

José Rosero (FAO) recommended using the final conference as an opportunity to showcase the impact of the project. He appreciated Dr Chuwa’s idea of giving users the opportunity to speak at the conference and concluded by suggesting to think of innovative ideas for reporting on activities during the conference.

**DECISION 5:** The GSC endorsed the process and schedules for the organization of the final evaluation and conference.

**Next GSC meetings:**
The Global Office will propose dates and venue for the next GSC meeting (16th meeting), planned tentatively in March 2018. The 17th meeting will be organised in July 2018 and the 18th meeting in October 2018.