

Minutes of CoST Board Meeting No.15

14 July 2015

Participants			
Board: Chrik Poortman (Chair) George Ofori (GO) Petter Matthews (PM)		In Attendance: John Hawkins (JH) Bernadine Fernz (BF) Lily Ryan-Collins (LRC) (<i>Items 1-3</i>) Andri van Mens (AvM) Marcela Roso (MR) (<i>Items 3-7</i>) Mark Harvey (MH) (<i>Items 2-3</i>) Apologies: Per Nielsen Vincent Lazatin	
	Discussion& Decisions	Responsible	Deadline
Item 1. Chairman's Welcome and Opening Remarks			
1.1	The Chair welcomed all those present, including AvM and MH (who was to join later) as it was the first meeting they had attended. He said that the meeting would focus on a few key decisions.	N/A	N/A
Item 2. Two Year Plan			
2.1	The Plan is considered necessary in the light of DFID support and the new commitments that it entails. It is not a comprehensive plan, but it captures the main areas of priority activity. Sections 4 (p. 3) and 10 (p. 5) form part of the agreement between CoST and DFID and cannot easily be changed.	N/A	N/A
2.2	In addition to dealing with those national programmes that are performing less well, it would be useful to include programmes that are performing well and identify the factors that typically contribute to success. It was explained that this has happened in the final report to the DGF from the International Secretariat. The report can be circulated. The findings will inform future knowledge products.	PM	End July 2015
2.3	An effort should be made to identify more examples of positive impacts resulting from CoST. It was explained that this is happening now in association with the MSGs and that the results would go into an updated 'Impact Stories' briefing note for publication.	PM/JH	Before end of 2015.
2.4	It would be helpful to know more about the countries that are performing less well, possibly in the next Board Meeting.	PM	Next meeting

2.5	It would be helpful to have more detail about the 'knowledge products' mentioned in Objective 6c (p. 4).	PM	Next meeting
2.6	It was questioned if the 'review of the CoST Board' (item 7 p. 4) would not duplicate aspects of the Strategic Review. It was explained that it might be necessary given that we will not convene a General Assembly in the next two years, to ensure that the Board has the correct membership/composition to ensure it is fit-for-purpose during the period of the plan. The Board's current mandate expires at the end of this year. It will thus be necessary to renew this on a no objection basis with the participating countries.	N/A	N/A
2.7	It was asked if 'fundraising' should not form part of the human resources discussed in section 9 (p. 4). It was agreed that the issue was to do with a fundraising strategy, rather than specific personnel employed to raise funds. The next meeting will discuss an updated fundraising strategy and explain how fundraising efforts in the period of the plan will be aligned with the fundraising/financing component of the Strategic Review.	PM	Next meeting
2.8	Section 10 on 'Strategic Development' should be brought to the front of the document and help 'frame' the rest of its content.		Before next meeting
2.9	It was questioned if the research into the potential value-added of CoST in OECD countries was necessary. The Board feels that as a 'global programme' CoST should not be confined to low and middle income countries, although it was acknowledged that that is where the interests of our current financial supporters lie. It was agreed that further discussion on this point would be useful.	PM	Next meeting
2.10	The IS will update the Plan to incorporate the main points of the discussion. It will also provide a short note to provide summary answers to those points that are not reflected as changes in the Plan.	PM	Before the next meeting
Item 3. Botswana Application			
3.1	The Board expressed its appreciation to the PPADB for all the hard work that had gone into the application.	N/A	N/A
3.2	The Board agreed to approve the application in-principle, but subject to the following issues being addressed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It will be necessary to strengthen civil society participation in the working group and ultimately, to achieve more balanced representation on the MSG; • It will be necessary to ensure that the programme is adequately staffed; • It is very welcome that the PPADB will put some of its own financial resources into the programme, but the Board agrees that it will need augmenting and 	N/A	N/A

	PPADB's commitment to supporting the long-term financial needs of the programme must be realised.		
3.3	The IS was asked to write to the PPADB to inform them of the decision of the Board.	PM	Before end of July.
Item 4. CoST Ukraine			
4.1	The Ministry of Infrastructure is attempting to reinvigorate the CoST Ukraine programme and the letter (Paper C) outlines how it envisages that being achieved. This includes importantly identifying at least one domestically funded project to be included in the early stages and that responsibility for CoST shift from the State Road Agency the Ministry of Infrastructure.	N/A	N/A
4.2	The Board expressed its gratitude to First Deputy Minister of Infrastructure Volodymyr Shulmeister for his intervention and for putting the weight of the Ministry behind CoST Ukraine.	N/A	N/A
4.3	The letter from the Ministry was approved and the IS was asked to communicate this decision to Minister Shulmeister.	PM	Before end of July.
Item 5. Other Business			
5.1	It was agreed that the revised independent evaluation report be circulated for approval on a no-objection basis. The IS will attach a note that explains how and where in the report the concerns of the Board have been addressed.	PM	Before next meeting.
5.2	It was agreed that the 'performance monitoring' policy paper will be circulated and comments invited.	PM	Before next meeting.
5.3	The MoU between DFID and CoST will be signed this week. It was reviewed by the Chair, PM and a legal adviser.	PM & LRC	By 17/07/15
5.4	The list of candidates for the 'Advisory Panel' that will support the Strategic Review process have been identified and they will be approached soon.	IS supported by financial supporters.	Before next meeting.
5.5	GO welcomed the Briefing Note #1 on 'CoST & FfD3'. He said it was helpful and informative and encouraged the IS, subject to time and resources, to produce similar publications, and especially in relation to other important international meetings.	N/A	N/A
5.6	The Chair recently presented CoST to a meeting of the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group. MR helped to secure the opportunity. The IS will circulate the paper and PP presentation that was prepared for it.	PM	Before next meeting.
5.7	LRC will go on maternity leave from 24 July and MH will become the principal point of contact for CoST in her absence.		

Item 6. Next Meeting			
6.1	It is still our intention to convene the next Board meeting in Hanoi. However, our request to the Ministry of Construction to support the meeting has not been approved yet. It was agreed that we should seek confirmation by the end of July, as we will need at least 6 weeks to relocate the meeting to London.	PM	By the end of July.
Item 7. Chair's Closing Remarks			
7.1	The Chair thanked the IS for preparing the meeting so well. He also thanks GO for meeting late in the evening in Singapore. Finally, he thanked LRC for all her help in recent months and wished her well in the next few months.	N/A	N/A

These minutes were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.



14th September 2015

 Christiaan J. Poortman
 Chair

 Date