

# Minutes of CoST Board Meeting No.22

## 27 June 2017 (virtual meeting via WebEx)

Participants			
<b>Board:</b> Chrik Poortman (Chair) George Ofori (GO) Alfredo Cantero (AC) Petter Matthews (PM)		<b>In Attendance:</b> Marcelo Rozo (MR) World Bank John Hawkins (JH) International Secretariat Bernadine Fernz (BF) International Secretariat Mia Jeannot (MJ) International Secretariat Soren Jensen (SJ) International Secretariat Jan Meijer (JM) MinBuZa Frank Kehlenbach (FK) European International Contractors <b>Apologies:</b> Mark Harvey, DFID Vincent Lazatin, Board	
	Discussion & Decisions	Responsible	Deadline
Item 1. Chairman's Welcome and Opening Remarks			
1.1	The Chair welcomed those present and highlighted two important aspects of the meeting including reports on recent progress and preparations for the meeting in September. He also welcomed FK to his first meeting and expressed gratitude to European International Contractors (EIC) for nominating him to the Board as a private sector representative.	N/A	N/A
Item 2. Approval of Meeting 21 Minutes			
2.1	The minutes from meeting 21 were approved as an accurate record.	N/A	N/A
2.2	Paper A was presented, outlining all actions from meeting 21 and updating the board on progress to date. The Board was satisfied with progress.	N/A	N/A
Item 3. Business Plan and DFID Update			
3.1	The CoST Business Plan has been published following DFID approval. The International Secretariat is waiting to sign a new MoU with DFID that will release the £5m in funding for the next 3 years.	PM/JH	July
3.3	The Board was informed that a court date has been set for July concerning the recovery of funds allegedly stolen by an individual in Uganda. JH will travel to Uganda to testify in the case.	JH / SH	N/A

	EAP's insurance company has agreed that it will consider a claim application for the original payment in error.		
3.4	The added value of CoST in high income countries has commenced with work started in two case study countries, Argentina and Scotland. Lithuania and Denmark have also been identified as case studies.	SJ	Before end 2017
<b>Item 4.</b>	<b>Applications to join CoST</b>		
4.1	Applications to join CoST from Indonesia and Nuevo Leon, Mexico had been expected but neither was ready for consideration in this meeting. If the International Secretariat (IS) receives an application from either government in the next few weeks the Board will be asked to consider them by email.	BF	Sep 2017
<b>Item 5.</b>	<b>Potential New Programmes</b>		
5.1	The City of <b>Buenos Aires</b> and the Ministry of Transport in <b>Argentina</b> separately approached CoST expressing an interest in joining. An IS visit to Buenos Aires has identified strong interest in the city government and national ministries. Argentina is also a case study country for the high-income study (see 5.1) the findings of which will help to support either a single or more likely multiple applications from both to join CoST. It seems likely that both will join CoST in time for Argentinian Presidency of the G20 in 2018.	BF / SJ	Dec 2017
5.2	MR encouraged CoST to work with OCP on planning around Argentina and the G20 meetings	PM / JH	Ongoing
5.3	An opportunity for CoST in <b>India</b> has been identified by the UK High Commission India. The India-UK Strategic Partnership is, amongst other things, helping to mobilise UK investment in India's infrastructure. There is an interest to explore if CoST could potentially help safeguard those investments and protect them against losses through corruption, mismanagement and inefficiency. A Scoping Study will be commissioned to explore this question and make recommendations.	PM	Sep 2017
<b>Item 6.</b>	<b>Fundraising Update</b>		
6.1	Per Nielsen has introduced the IS to the <b>Danish</b> Minister for Foreign Affairs Anders Samuelson. PM to approach the Minister with a view to an August meeting.	PM, Chair	Aug 2017
6.2	The Chair, BF, and two country representatives will participate in meetings with <b>IADB</b> later this week. The meetings are an opportunity to mobilise support for the CoST programme and leverage funds from IADB's Procurement and Infrastructure Fund.	BF, Chair	June 2017
6.3	The <b>AfDB</b> manages an 'African Integrity Fund' that potentially aligns with CoST. The International Secretariat will contact AfDB to identify the process and timeline for applying for support.	JH	Sep 2017

6.4	A conference call with the <b>Open Society Foundation</b> was held in May to identify if CoST aligned with their new Fiscal Governance Strategy. The IS will follow to find out if CoST will be part of the new strategy.	JH	Sep 2017
6.5	A concept note is being developed to explore if the <b>Partnerships Transparency Fund</b> can leverage funding to pay for the implementation of SISOCs in Malawi which would include training support for staff from procuring entities and civil society.	JH	Sep 2017
6.6	PM will approach the <b>Canadian Department for Foreign Affairs</b> with the new business plan to see if it aligns with their priorities.	PM	Sep 2017
<b>Item 7.</b>	<b>AOB</b>		
7.1	SH was appointed as Company Secretary replacing MJ.	SH	N/A
7.2	AC reported on a positive process of conducting assurance on PPP's in Honduras and offered to share lessons and outcomes in the future.	AC	N/A
7.3	Funding from the UK Prosperity Fund has been secured to build capacity in Latin America with the focus on a regional event in Honduras in September.	BF	Sep 2017
7.4	Vinay Sharma has started working for the World Bank. MR to brief him.	MR	When opportunity arises
7.5	JM is leaving MinBuZa in August. Continued support is offered till then and an introduction to the new point of contract will be made when appointed. Gratitude was expressed to JM for the tremendous support that he had provided to CoST.	JM	Aug 2017
7.6	The IS will email the Board a position paper on how the Board should be constituted for comments ahead of a final paper being submitted for the September Board meeting.	JH, PM	Aug 2017
7.7	PM to write to the MSGs proposing that FK is appointed to the Board as the private sector representative on a no-objection basis.	PM	July 2017
<b>Item 8</b>	<b>Chair's Closing Remarks</b>		
8.1	The Chair thanked everyone for their participation. He noted that new and exciting opportunities are arising. The countries/sub-national entities that have expressed interest in CoST would be valuable additions to the programme and the collective efforts of all involved are becoming more widely acknowledged.	N/A	N/A

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



25 September 2017

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Christiaan J. Poortman  
Chair

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Date