

Minutes of CoST Board Meeting No.43

15 June 2022 (virtual meeting via Teams)

Participants			
Board: Chrik Poortman (CP) (Chair) Gavin English (GE) Natalie Forsyuk (NF) Vincent Lazatin (VL) George Ofori (GO) Petter Matthews (PM) Claire Schouten (CS)		Observers: Ian Hawkesworth (IH), World Bank Simon Stevens (SS), FCDO Secretariat: John Hawkins (JH) Sean Henderson (SH) Evelyn Hernandez (EH) Lauren Pemberton-Nelson (LPN) Apologies: Undala Alam (UA), FCDO	
	Discussion & Decisions	Responsible	Deadline
Item 1. Chairman's Welcome and Opening Remarks			
1.1	The Chair welcomed Board members and observers to the call and thanked everyone for their time and availability for the online meeting.	N/A	N/A
Item 2. Approval of the minutes & matters arising			
2.1	The minutes from the 42 nd meeting were approved as accurate with date of the next meeting in minute 5.1 corrected to 15 June 2022.	N/A	N/A
2.2	A letter informing the Province of Buenos Aries that its affiliate status has been revoked has been sent. A short statement to be posted on the CoST website.	LPN	Aug 2022
2.3	PM to contact Integrity Watch Afghanistan informing them that the Board intends to revoke Afghanistan's CoST status and give them a reasonable time to respond.	PM	July 2022
Item 3. Financial report & fundraising			
3.1	The financial report for Q1 2022 was approved by the Board.	N/A	N/A
3.2	The CoST IS confirmed that funding from the UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office of £1m per year has been approved for 2022 to 2025.	N/A	N/A
3.3	CoST IS to convene a meeting on developing a post-war Ukraine strategy.	CoST IS	July 2022
Item 4. Political risk			
4.1	The Board agreed that the CoST IS broadly manages political risk well. It was acknowledged that societies where corruption is high are likely to be where CoST is more likely	N/A	N/A

	to be needed. High level political support is important, but face change quickly and a formal Champion can be a risk. NF said that it was a challenge to obtain support from the state energy company when the Champion did not have responsibility for that sector and CoST Ukraine was associated with the roads sector. A broader group of informal champions may be preferable.		
4.2	CP highlighted the difference between pre-membership engagement and when we start implementation. Additional risk assessment may be required during the initial engagement to ensure the risks are understood and that the programme is likely to be impactful. A previous discussion by the Board on Myanmar was a very challenging and our initial engagement with stakeholders in the country demonstrated the potential risks and the difficulties in achieving impact.	N/A	N/A
4.3	It was agreed that a blog on the role of the Champion may be helpful setting out the pros and cons and the potential for a broader group of champions from different sectors and stakeholder groups. This could cover how CoST more broadly engages with governments and elected officials.	CoST IS	TBC
Item 5.	Any other business		
5.1	The next Board meeting and AGM will be on Tuesday 27 and Wednesday 28 September 2022 and will be held in London.	Board Members	Sept 2022
5.2	No conflicts of interest were reported by Board members	N/A	N/A
5.3	There were no safeguarding incidents reported since the last Board meeting	N/A	N/A
Item 6.	Chair's closing remarks		
6.1	The Chair thanked everyone for joining the call and the Secretariat for preparing the presentation and documents for this meeting and for the team joining in the very early or very late hours.	N/A	N/A

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



27 September 2022

Christiaan J. Poortman
Chair

Date