

# Minutes of CoST Board Meeting No.45

## 24 January 2023 (*virtual meeting via Teams*)

Participants			
<b>Board:</b> Chrik Poortman (CP) (Chair) Gavin English (GE) Vincent Lazatin (VL) George Ofori (GO) Petter Matthews (PM) Claire Schouten (CS) <b>Apologies:</b> Natalie Forsyuk (NF) Simon Stevens (SS), FCDO Zlatina Loudjeva, Strategic Advisor		<b>Observers:</b> Majed El-Bayya (MEB), World Bank Snezana Mitrovic (SN), World Bank Undala Alam (UA), FCDO <b>Secretariat:</b> John Hawkins (JH) Sean Henderson (SH) Evelyn Hernandez (EH) <b>CoST Thailand :</b> Chanon Chamnankit (CC)	
	Discussion & Decisions	Responsible	Deadline
Item 1. Chairman's Welcome and Opening Remarks			
1.1	The Chair welcomed members and observers and thanked everyone for their time and availability for the meeting.	N/A	N/A
Item 2. Approval of the minutes & matters arising			
2.1	The minutes from the 44 <sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as accurate.	N/A	N/A
Item 3. CoST Thailand			
3.1	The Board thanked CC for his presentation that demonstrated the impressive results from the CoST Thailand. The Board asked for a paragraph clarifying the methodology behind the cost saving.	CC	Feb 2023
Item 4. Board membership			
4.1	Current proposed timeline is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Africa to elect a new CSO member to replace VL in Q2 2023.</li> <li>LatAm to elect a new government representative for the vacant position in Q3/4 2023.</li> <li>GE and GO due to rotate off in late 2023 and CP in 2024</li> </ul> However, NF will step down from the Board as she no longer works for the Ukraine Government and will shortly be engaged by the CoST International Secretariat. Thus, the CoST IS is concerned about the rapid turnover of members in a short period of time.	SH	N/A

4.2	CoST IS to propose a revised timeline for the rotation of members.	PM	April 2023
<b>Item 5.</b>	<b>Financial report</b>		
5.1	The Board approved the financial report up to 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2022.	N/A	N/A
5.2	The CoST IS to share a forecast budget for 2023 with the Board in early February.	JH & SH	N/A
<b>Item 6.</b>	<b>Member consultation</b>		
6.1	The Board approved a consultation with CoST members looking at how the membership model can be improved and made to be more robust. The consultation will address issues including funding, reporting and accountability, membership requirements, alternative models, performance and resourcing.	CoST IS	N/A
6.2	The results from the consultation will be shared with the Board at the next meeting.	CoST IS	May 2023
<b>Item 7.</b>	<b>Ukraine reconstruction</b>		
7.1	The Board thanked the CoST IS for the update on CoST Ukraine and CoST IS's engagement with stakeholders in Ukraine.	N/A	N/A
7.2	The Board was pleased to hear that NF has agreed to join the CoST IS to help engage stakeholders in Ukraine.	N/A	N/A
7.3	The Board agreed that if CoST Ukraine was to be revived it is very unlikely to look like a typical CoST model in a post-war environment. It was agreed that engaging and supporting the Ministry of Infrastructure, Ministry of Economy and RISE Ukraine was the priority.	N/A	N/A
7.4	It was agreed that the CoST IS should consider capturing lessons from reconstruction in other post-conflict zones. There was also a discussion on engaging the private sector to understand how they may engage with the reconstruction.	CoST IS	Feb 2023
<b>Item 8.</b>	<b>Member update</b>		
8.1	Paper E includes a response from the Ethiopia MSG Chair to the Board letter indicating that if progress is not made then CoST Ethiopia would be considered inactive. Most milestones set by the Board have been substantially met. The outstanding issue is Government commitment and which agency will be the new host. Further conversations are required before a decision is reached. It is recommended to the Board that CoST Ethiopia continues as a member for the time being. EH to inform the MSG.	EH	Feb 2023
8.2	The CoST Honduras MSG has not been responding to messages nor submitting progress reports. Government officials are questioning why the former President inadvertently collected the OGP Award in 2016 and a photo of a representative from a procuring entity collecting a certificate from the publication of the ITI who is now under	EH	Feb 2023

	investigation for corruption. The officials will not engage with CoST IS to allow an opportunity to explain our approach. The Board to write to the MSG and the Government.		
<b>Item 9.</b>	<b>Any other business</b>		
9.1	The next Board meeting will be held for two days over 16, 17 and 18 May 2023 in London.	CoST Board	May 2023
9.2	No conflicts of interest were reported by Board members.	N/A	N/A
9.3	There were no safeguarding incidents reported since the last Board meeting.	N/A	N/A
<b>Item 10.</b>	<b>Chair’s closing remarks</b>		
10.1	The Chair thanked everyone for joining the meeting and the Secretariat for preparing the presentations and documents for this meeting and for the team joining in the very early or very late hours. He asked that members make themselves available for the next meeting.	N/A	N/A

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

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 Christiaan J. Poortman  
 Chair

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 Date