

SRP Board Meeting 7/19

2 September 2019 15:00-17:00 SE Asia Standard Time

Venue: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/941885965>

Participants

Matthias Bickel	GIZ (Chair)	Mark Radka	UN Environment (Co-Chair)
Jackie Hughes	IRRI (Co-Chair)	Charlie Butcher	Syngenta
Adrian Sym	Alliance for Water Stewardship	Diederik Pretorius	Ebro Foods
Jai Sheel Oberoi	LT Foods	Louke Koopmans	Mars Food
Paul Nicholson	Olam International	Sanjay Sethi	Phoenix Group
Christ Vansteenkiste	Rikolto		

Secretariat (Agenda items 1-8 only)

Lea Las Piñas	SRP Secretariat	Peter Sprang	SRP Secretariat
---------------	-----------------	--------------	-----------------

Invited

James Lomax	UN Environment	Keith Jones	CropLife
Win Min	IBC Asia (item 8 only)		

Regrets

Ladda Viriyangkura	Rice Department, Thailand	Huynh Van Thon	Loc Troi Group
Peter Colligan	Westmill		

SUMMARY

Resolutions

1. Agenda Item 3/4: Secretariat was authorized to continue coordination on legal incorporation and documentation (i.e. Articles of Association and Bylaws).
2. Agenda Item 9: The Board approved the process for recruitment and secondment of the SRP Executive Director through IRRI via the GIZ-CIM modality.
3. Agenda Item 9: The Board voted by majority in support of Wyn Ellis to be seconded as Executive Director from IRRI to SRP (ED to be recruited by IRRI through the aforementioned CIM arrangement).

Action points

Action 1: Board meeting reports to include a summary of resolutions and action points

Action 2: Secretariat to further coordinate SRP legal incorporation process

Action 3: Secretariat to circulate outline of SRP Business Plan to the Board

Action 4: Discussions with GLOBALG.A.P. on fee model to continue through current communication lines

Action 5: Secretariat to arrange a side-meeting with GLOBALG.A.P. and interested members in Bangkok during the SRP Conference 1-2 October. Interested members should coordinate via the Secretariat.

Action 6: Chair to send message to all members to boost participation for the SRP 9th Plenary Meeting and General Assembly

Draft Meeting Report

1. Chairperson's remarks

- The SRP Board meeting 7-19 was called to order at 15:01 SE Asia time.
- MB (Chair) conveyed WE's regrets for being unable to join due to sickness. He highlighted recent progress including the successful conduct of the SRP Auditors Training facilitated by GLOBALG.A.P., as well as Peter Sprang's mission to Nigeria on behalf of IRRI and GIZ.

2. Approval of report of last meeting and adoption of agenda (Annex 1)

- To facilitate easier reading, AS proposed to modify the report format. MR agreed and requested that future reports include a summary of actions and Board decisions.
- To ensure clarity and full transparency for the Board's decision process for Agenda item 9 (SRP Executive Director position), PN proposed 2 voting steps: 1) approval of the secondment of the Executive Director via the CIM position; and 2) selection of candidate 'A' or Candidate 'B'. PN's suggested process was seconded by SS and was adopted by the Board with no objections.
- With no additional comments, the SRP Board Meeting report 6/19 and the SRP Board Meeting Agenda 7/19 (as amended for Agenda Item 9) were adopted unanimously.

[Action 1: Board meeting reports to include a summary of resolutions and action points]

3. SRP Draft Articles of Association and Bylaws

- PN (representing the Governance Task Force) led the discussion on Agenda items 3 and 4, undertaken by the Governance Task Force and supported by the Secretariat.
- Updated draft Articles of Association and Bylaws have been shared with the Board (Annexes 2 and 3, respectively).
- MR reaffirmed UNEP's commitment to supporting the process and maintaining current hosting arrangements as long as this is required by the Board.
- JH expressed doubt over SRP's capacity to self-govern in the future, while AS raised the possibility of assessing Board composition using skills-based criteria to ensure to maximize the Board's effectiveness in key duties e.g. legal, governance, resource mobilization, partnerships.
- MB stressed that outcomes will be presented to the members at the SRP 9th Plenary Meeting and General Assembly. Before then, an approval was sought from the Board to enable the Secretariat to continue its coordinating role on the SRP's legal incorporation and documentation with support from the Governance Task Force. Receiving no objection, the Governance Task Force, supported by the Secretariat, were mandated to continue with preparations for the establishment process.

[Action 2: Secretariat to further coordinate on SRP legal incorporation and documentation]

4. SRP Legal Incorporation

(Covered under Agenda Item 3 above)

5. SRP Draft Business Plan

- MB informed the Board that a draft business plan will be ready for review by the Board ahead of next meeting, with a primary focus on the financial flow and growth strategy. SS suggested to consider financial flows and a broader revenue base to strengthen support for the Secretariat.
- An agreed timeframe of five years will be adopted. JS inquired whether the original timeline for reaching 1 million farmers by 2021 remains effective. MB responded that based on registrations received from member-led outreach projects, a total of 440,856 farmers have already been registered.

[Action 3: Secretariat to circulate Outline/Draft Business Plan to the Board]

6. Assurance / GLOBALG.A.P. Fee Model

- LK and DP gave updates on the proposed fee model based on continuing discussions with GLOBALG.A.P.
- JH inquired on the timeline in consideration of the forthcoming cropping season. Responding, MB estimated a package should be ready by year-end.
- SS expressed interest to further discuss with GLOBALG.A.P. However, with ongoing consultations, MB suggested to maintain the current communication lines to strengthen SRP's position. A side meeting may be arranged in Bangkok, which could be coordinated by the Secretariat.
- PN expressed concern over the readiness of the supply chain to ensure viability of the model. Having the retailer engagement in motion will be crucial to build confidence.

[Action 4: Discussions with GLOBALG.A.P. on fee model to continue through current communication lines]

[Action 5: Secretariat to coordinate a side meeting with GLOBALG.A.P. and interested members in Bangkok during the SRP Conference 1-2 October]

7. SRP 9th Plenary Meeting and General Assembly

- The updated preliminary agenda covering the two segments was presented to the Board. It is important to note that Part 1: Plenary Meeting aims to facilitate updates and discussions to inform the General Assembly and support organizational decisions/resolutions to be made during the afternoon in Part 2: General Assembly.
- Key points raised were as follows:

- AS noted that the Plenary agenda shows the Assurance Scheme and Retailer Engagement combined in Agenda item 3 with the same presenter. He proposed that these two initiatives be presented separately by their respective lead implementers.
- MB briefed the meeting on Agenda item 5 of the General Assembly Meeting. This is a "Founding Meeting" required as the first step for establishment of a legal entity under German law. This requires election of a Board and Office Bearers. Several members sought clarification and a decision on the election, which will be provided under the guidance of the Governance Task Force which will meet ahead of the final Board meeting before the full General Assembly.
- MR and LK requested the status of current registrations for the Plenary / General Assembly. As of report writing, the Secretariat had received confirmation from 43 individuals representing 28 organizations. To boost participation, MR proposed the Chair send a message to all members. [Update: current registrations stand at 45 individuals]

[Action 6: Chair to send message to all members to boost participation for the SRP 9th Plenary Meeting and General Assembly]

8. 2nd Global Sustainable Rice Conference and Exhibition

- IBC representative, Win Min, presented updates on conference organization, as follows:
 - A total of 75 speakers have been confirmed for the 2-day programme across 2 plenary panel sessions and 6 conference tracks;
 - Sponsorships and exhibition bookings are currently valued at US \$60,000, with an expected US \$20,000 in the pipeline; to reach US \$72,900
 - As of the date of the meeting delegate registration was below target with only 40 paid registrations, compared to 90 at the same point in 2017. *[Update: As of writing this report, the number of paying delegates has increased to 87, and expected to reach 130 in the next 2 weeks]*. The original target was to reach 110 paying delegates. However, with a potential shortfall from sponsorship income, the target has been raised to 130 paying delegates. SRP and IBC are working closely to meet these targets and requests full support from all Board members to boost participation.

9. SRP Executive Director position (Closed session)

- Secretariat staff were excluded from the meeting for this agenda item, and the discussion among Board members was not minuted. Following the closed discussion, the Board voted on two resolutions:
 1. To approve the process of recruiting the SRP Director under the proposed CIM-GIZ co-funding via IRRI, with secondment of the Executive Director to SRP;
 2. To approve the preferred candidate for secondment to SRP.
- The Board voted unanimously to approve recruitment and secondment process for the SRP Executive Director.

- The Board voted by majority in support of Wyn Ellis to be seconded as Executive Director from IRRI to SRP (ED to be recruited by IRRI through the aforementioned CIM arrangement)

10. AOB

- Next Meeting: it was agreed to schedule an additional meeting ahead of the General Assembly.

[Action 7: Secretariat to schedule a final Board meeting before 30 September]

ANNEXES

Annex 1	Meeting Report – SRP Board meeting 6-19 24 July 2019 (approved)
Annex 2	Draft Articles of Association
Annex 3	Draft Bylaws
Annex 4	GLOBALG.A.P. Draft Fee Model
Annex 5	Preliminary Agenda – SRP 9 th Plenary Meeting and General Assembly
Annex 6	SRP Conference Brochure
Annex 7	Sustainable Rice Week