



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**Monday, November 18, 2019**

**9:00 am - 2:00 pm**

Bank Information Center  
1023 15th Street NW, 10th Floor  
Washington, DC 20005

**Board Members Present:** (none)

**By Phone:** Joshua Lichtenstein (Chair), Cesar Gamboa (Vice-Chair), Stewart Ross (Treasurer), Marti Flacks, Jonathan Fox, Judy Gearhart, Alberto Vasquez (joined at 10:20 am)

**Absent:** Imad Sabi

**Staff Members Present:** Elana Berger, Stefan Dinn, Jolie Schwarz, Elizabeth Summers, Rachel Burton, Katelyn Gallagher, Claudia Bach

**By Phone:** Carolina Juaneda, Dahmata Koffi

The meeting was called to order at 9:28 am.

Ms. Berger noted plans for hiring new staff in 2020, including a full-time office assistant, a Communications Coordinator, and a Child Rights Manager.

The Board reviewed the 2020 budget and its component grants. Environment and climate work was noted as the least-funded area, and the Board planned to review options for increasing that funding. All existing staff positions are fully funded in the 2020 budget. The budget for 2020 shows an increase in core support funding, providing BIC with significantly more flexible resources than in the past. The Board expressed a desire to see BIC increase the funds subgranted to local partners.

Ms. Gearhart moved to approve the proposed 2020 budget, and Mr. Ross seconded. The Board unanimously approved the 2020 budget.

Ms. Berger then turned to the strategic plan. BIC is continuing to move forward with the programmatic objectives discussed in the June meeting. Team meetings have been implemented to check progress against those objectives and how BIC's work aligns with them.

Ms. Berger then turned to the Geography section of the agenda and shared the presentation from the materials. In sum, the geographic breakdown of BIC's active work is as follows:

- The Social Inclusion program is working in four of five regions
- The Environment program is working in Africa and LAC
- The Policy program is working in Africa and ECA
- Africa is the only region in which all three programs work

Approximately half of our sub-granting funds are dedicated to partners in Africa, followed by LAC and Asia, and with significantly fewer funds to MENA and ECA. Our reduction in resources dedicated to the MENA region is due to the creation of Arab Watch Coalition, a network doing parallel work that BIC incubated through 2018 and which is now wholly independent.

Much of the last year has focused on working with partners, including planning and holding capacity building workshops in Tanzania and Georgia. BIC has also brought on a West African Regional Coordinator, and brought its LAC consultant from part-time to full-time.

At 10:44 am, a 10-minute break was taken, and the meeting reconvened at 10:55 am.

Ms. Berger then presented the 2019 financials. The 2018 audit was completed and has been shared online. The 990 has been filed, and Mr. Ross was thanked for his help.

Mr. Lichtenstein notified the Board that David Kaimowitz has asked to step down this year, though expressed a willingness to join the Advisory Committee. A call will still be scheduled with him to discuss funding for the environment program. There is now a vacant Board position such that the Board should consider Board development and fundraising capacity, as well as the need to prioritize a woman for the open position.

Mr. Fox left at 11:52 am.

The Board went into Executive Session at 11:54 am and adjourned thereafter.