



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**Thursday, February 16, 2017**

**10:00 am - 6:00 pm**

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

**Board Members Present:** Amy Shannon, David Kaimowitz, David Hunter, Jonathan Fox, and Marcus Colchester

**Absent:** Cesar Gamboa, Susanne Breilkopf, Vicki Tauli-Corpuz

**Staff Members Present:** Jeff Hall, Elana Berger, Nezir Sinani, Maggie Federici, Katelyn Gallagher, and Debbie Pierce

The meeting was focused on Board Development and a discussion of candidates for board member recruitment. Additionally, the Board reviewed: Uganda sexual exploitation issues, DPL investigative report on fossil fuels finance, safeguards reflection, strategy process update, and diversification/potential funders of BIC.

**Safeguards Reflection**

Mr. Colchester suggested looking more into the political economy of government positions and why Southern governments pushed back on safeguards, as well as exploring how we can have future influence on them through the mobilization of Southern partners.

**BIC Strategy Update**

The Board provided feedback on BIC's Vision statement. Mr. Colchester suggested an alternative option and will coordinate with staff on the development.

**Finances and Fundraising**

Staff continue to actively engage in seeking out additional funding streams. They will present the Board with an update at the next meeting. Ms. Shannon will similarly provide a report on her efforts as well.

**Board Development**

Jeff made clear that there was an urgent need to recruit new board members and presented a spreadsheet with proposed board members names, and the gaps they could fill on the board.

Ms. Shannon emphasized balance between making sure we get someone based in the countries in which we work vs needing to bring people on quickly. Ms. Breitkopf followed on with a comment concerning depth of international experience among candidates being considered.

At 12:30 pm the Board broke for a 10-minute break and began the lunch session.

Mr. Colchester left shortly following the break.

### **Lunch Session**

Elana provided an update to the Board regarding ongoing sexual exploitation of children in Uganda as a result of a World Bank financed project. Phiona is working with Joy for Children (JfC) a CSO working in the region which uncovered the exploitation cases. BIC stepped in to help facilitate communication between the Bank and JfC. When the project was elevated to the Inspection Panel, the Bank admitted to its failures on this project. However, it took a year to reach this point. Elana is waiting to hear recommendations from gender-based violence (GBV) task force organized by the Bank in response to this project. Elana informed the Board the GBV issue is likely widespread. Mr. Kaimowitz asked how we can connect this to extractives. Elana responded that they are currently working with partners in 3 countries specifically on extractives and also shared that a project portfolio review was conducted in Uganda that resulted in the suspension of several projects. Mr. Hunter asked if Elana was satisfied with the Inspection Panel process for the Uganda project and she expressed general satisfaction. Ms. Shannon inquired about Uganda's ongoing relationship with the Bank. Elana indicated Uganda continues to work with the Bank and several country-level changes have been instituted. Staff also shared a communication plan for advocacy around gender-based violence and safeguard concerns at the Bank.

Nezir presented results for a Development Policy Loan report determining that the Bank was contributing to fossil fuel incentives in developing countries. The report analyzes 4 countries (Peru, Mozambique, Indonesia, Egypt). The research discovered the Bank was not creating the right incentives for low-carbon development and instead fostering fossil fuel development. The report made specific recommendations aimed at ending these subsidies and BIC will be moving forward with advocacy around these asks. Mr. Hunter inquired whether we can make a move around Global Climate Institute (GCI) to support advocacy efforts at the Bank aimed at addressing decarbonization of WBG portfolio. Ms. Breitkopf suggested a broader discussion on how to maximize the messaging around this issue.

At 2:00 pm the Board ended the lunch session.

### **The Board made the following decisions by consensus:**

- Appointed Amy Shannon to lead the Board Development effort
- Agreed to continue brainstorming board candidate suggestions
- Agreed on moving forward with preliminary board candidate interviews
- Agreed to follow-on phone discussion in March to provide updates on responses from initial candidates
- Agreed that Susanne and Nezir will meet to continue work on DPLs

- Agreed that Nezir/Staff should explore incorporating DPLs into GCI advocacy and report back
- Agreed to revisit BIC's Vision Statement following Mr. Colchester's review with Staff