**MINUTES draft 09/03/2023**

In attendance: Yulia Gracheva Hiroyuki Kobayashi, Guy Ladvocat, KS (Giri) Venkatagiri, Fallight Xu, Svetlana Perminova (joined 10.45), Katherine Larocque, Tao Yan and Kate Harris (Secretariat)

**Apology:**
nil

Meeting was called to order at 10:33 GMT

*Decisions are in italic*

**Actions are marked in bold**

1. **Administrative issues**
	1. Quorum present

Welcomed by the Chair. The Chair called for all Director’s to participate in the sub committees including connection with members. It is an exciting time for the Board and the organization.

* 1. *The agenda was approved.*
	2. *Minutes of the 2022 #5 October Post AGM Board meeting were approved.*
	3. *Actions were reviewed and updated.*
1. **Board planning 2023**
	1. **Strategic planning decisions**

It was agreed that the core priorities were common core criteria, GENICES recommendation and sustainable public procurement (spp). The Green Crane to progress the common core criteria initiative in alignment with the Board priorities and the opportunity for the B20 value add.

The Board also supported the B20 initiative as a key priority.

It was agreed that more prioritization on SPP was required. The green deal is a part of the solution and important to understand other regulatory an voluntary requirements.

Usual calendar events to continue as scheduled.

Items to be paused included:

* Look closer campaign
* White paper event

**Action:**

**Secretariat to schedule an additional strategy meeting in order to progress key priorities. Board members to be sent an updated work plan prior to the strategy session.**

**Secretariat to request proposal for SPP and GENICES.**

**Secretariat to create grant proposals for B20 funding opportunities in preparation for end of August event (scope of 100-200k). Grant proposal to include common core criteria and ecolabelling training.**

**Secretariat to complete German Ministry grant application also.**

**2.2 Secretariat report- noted with nil changes**

**3.1 Communications – World Ecolabel Day (WED) review**

The presentation on WED statistics and the sustainability hero stories were presented.

Directors emphasized the importance of mainstream media in balance with social media.

It was requested that majority / all members are represented in WED wherever possible.

Nil further changes.

**3.2 Themes for calendar**

The calendar was noted

*The themes of SPP and B20 were supported as key themes for 2023.*

**4.1 GENICES planning and associated schedule**

The Secretariat presented the list of GENICES audits due for 2023. The availability of former Board Directors with audit expertise was also outlined. It was noted that Nira is leaving after approximately 10 years. Her service is to be acknowledged in the next GENews.

**Action: Secretariat to finalise list of audit dates.**

**CII available for their audit in Quarter 2 of 2023.**

**Secretariat to issue Hong Kong Green label scheme with certificate**

**4.2 GENICES review recommendations**

The Board were supportive of progressing the GENICES review. *It was agreed that the GENICES scheme should be presented at the AGM for a member decision.*

**Action: Secretariat to prepare proposals for actioning the next steps of review.**

**5.0 Finance**

**5.1 GAO update and membership fees.**

The Treasurer outlined outstanding fees and discussed with the Secretariat which ones required further communication.

The situation of CSC and Delaware filing were also briefly discussed.

It was noted that the fees are increasing. Previous conversations of alternative opportunities for corporate registration were also discussed.

**6.0 Sub Committee next steps**

**The Secretariat is to contact Board Directors in order to progress the inaugural 2023 sub-committee meetings and the regional gatherings (Americas/ Asia/ Oceania and Europe/ Africa)**

**7.0 General Business**

The Board agreed to host an additional strategy meeting in order to progress key priorities.

It was agreed to host a 1.5 hour conversation on the 21st February.

Future Board meetings and travels were also discussed.

The face-to-face meeting of May in Paris was suggested but there were concerns about the cost of travel.

Meeting adjourned at 11:57