

SUMMARY OF MAJOR DECISIONS

Forty Eighth Meeting, Colombo, Sri Lanka

30-31 October 2010

Chair: John Skerritt

Board Matters:

The Board considered and agreed on the following amendments proposed to the IWMI Board Charter.

Recommendation

To revise Article 3 'Responsibilities of the Board' of the IWMI Board Charter to specifically include the Board's role in serving as ambassadors and advocates for the Center.

Recommendation

Article 4.1 of the Board Charter to indicate 'The Board shall consist of 7-11 members.....'

Recommendation

Replace reference to the Nominating Committee by Nominating and Human Resources Committee.

Recommendation

The term 'Alliance Board' should be changed to the 'Consortium Board'.

The Board discussed the continuation (or not) of the Board's Executive Committee and agreed to continue having an Executive Committee and to revise its terms of reference so that this Committee could be used in between Board meetings to deal with issues specifically delegated by the full Board.

Recommendation

The Board endorsed the continuation of the Executive Committee with the ToR amended as follows:

- The scope to be reduced to 'advise the Board on urgent issues that require consideration before scheduled Board meetings and undertake other tasks as delegated by the Board'.
- The Committee membership to do away with having any at-large members nominated on an annual basis, and to comprise of the Board Chair, the Vice Chair, the Chairs of the Audit and the Nominating & Human Resources Committees, and the Director General.
- The Board Secretary to serve as the Committee's secretary.

Report of the Audit Committee

The Audit Committee Chair briefly reported on the Audit Committee proceedings and presented the following recommendations for Board approval.

Recommendation

The Audit Committee recommends the adoption of the report from the CGIAR internal Audit and the approval of the medium term internal audit plan as presented. The Committee further recommends that the management works with CGIAR and identifies high priority audit areas associated with risk in terms of CPWF and CGIAR Change Management process for 2011.

Recommendation

The Audit Committee discussed the timing of approval of Board statement on risk management and noted that the same should be approved in conjunction with the approval of annual audit financial statements.

Report of the Nominating and Human Resources Committee

The Nominating and Human Resources Committee (NHRC) Chair briefly summarized the NHRC deliberations and presented the following recommendations for Board approval.

Recommendation

The NHRC recommends the reappointment of Pietro Veglio and Getachew Engida for a second term of three years commencing 1 January 2011.

Recommendation

The NHRC recommends the following appointments for 2011:

- Asger Kej - Vice Chair of the Board
- Pietro Veglio - Program Committee Chair
- Getachew Engida - Audit Committee Chair
- Fatma Attia - Nominating & HR Committee Chair
- And reconfirmed appointment of John Skerritt as Chair of the Board.

Recommendation

The NHRC recommends the approval of the revised Personnel Policy Manual subject to the incorporation of the proposed changes/suggestions for further improvement.

Recommendation

The Committee endorsed the proposed directions of the capacity-building policy and recommends the re-writing of the guidelines structured along the following lines.

- Support for PhD students to be based on open competition and include:
 - Current IWMI staff (developing country nationals)
 - Full scholarships for developing country nationals supervised by IWMI staff and working on IWMI related projects. At least 50% of awards will be made to female applicants each year.
 - Students contributing to project field work, including students from developed countries.
- In addition, the Capacity-Building policy should have provision for Masters level student support.

Recommendation

The Board noted the preliminary staff survey findings and endorsed Management plans for action.

Financial Matters:

The Board reviewed and discussed the 2011 proposed budget based on a 'business as usual (BAU)' scenario and the associated funding uncertainties. The Board also discussed the process to receive regular updates on 2011 funding developments,

Recommendation

- a) **The Board approved the 2011 budget under BAU scenario but asked that the DG in his six weekly reports to keep the Board informed of any developments regarding the CRPs and center funding decisions by the Consortium;**
- b) **The Board Executive Committee, if needed, to have a teleconference in Feb 2011 following the Consortium Board meeting on February 14-15 and report to the full Board in April 2011.**

Center Commissioned External Reviews

The Board considered Management request to await the outcomes of at least the initial review of CRP5, before finalizing the ToR for the CCER on administration and governance. The main reason is that Management wants to commission a review that will help IWMI redesign administration and finance to deal with the significantly greater interaction that the Institute will be involved with other centers and partners via performance contracting rather than make changes mid-stream.

Recommendation

The Board agreed with Management request to wait for the outcomes of at least the initial review of CRP5, due by end of November 2010, before finalizing the ToR for commissioning a CCER on administration and governance and endorsed this approach.

Pension Fund - Nationally Recruited Staff Sri Lanka

In regard to this agenda item, the Board indicated that they would like to have the details of the current Pension Board members and the 2011 pension expenditures along with the proposed recommendations before proceeding further.

Recommendation

The Board to receive by 30 November 2010, information on the current Pension Board members and the proposed budget for 2011, for the Board's consideration out of session.

ALL RECOMMENDATIONS WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD