gFSC STRATEGIC ADVISORY GROUP (SAG) FACE-TO-FACE MEETING

Minutes of Meeting

The second Face-to-Face meeting was held on 28 November 2016 in WFP at 11:00 hours. The following SAG members attended the meeting.

a) Daniele Donati – FAO
b) Olivia Hantz – WFP
c) Cyril Lekiefs – ACF
d) Priya Behrens-Shah – WHH
e) Samantha Chattaraj – Cluster Coordinator, Whole of Syria (WoS)
f) Cyril Ferrand – global coordinator gFSC

The meeting was facilitated by Rajendra Aryal, gFSC Secretariat.

Proceedings:

1. Governance

   a) Election/nomination of candidate replacing IFRC as SAG member
IFRC fielded the candidacy for SAG during the election held in June 2016 and got elected with Ms Hilary Motsiri representing the organization. However, since the election her participation in the works of SAG has been extremely limited. Neither did she participate in the first telephone conference nor in the first Face-to-Face meeting held in October 2016. gFSC Secretariat sent several emails to her, however she never responded. A final email was sent on 22 November asking her interest in and commitment to SAG also reminding her the upcoming SAG meeting on 28 November 2016. She however did not respond.

SAG discussed whether IFRC could be replaced by ACTED, which had equal number of votes during election (and had lost to IFRC by tossing a coin) or should the matter be handled in a different way.

A decision was made that gFSC Secretariat would officially inform IFRC the matter, seek their opinion and make a decision accordingly. The matter would be meanwhile also brought to the attention of gFSC global partners during the meeting on 29-30 November.

   b) Nomination of SAG Chair and Co-chair
As per the SAG ToR, a Chair and a Co-chair are to be nominated. Discussion was held and the SAG decided to nominate Cyril Ferrand (gFSC) as the Chair and Cyril Lekiefs (ACF) as Co-chair. Rajendra Aryal (gFSC) will continue holding the SAG Secretariat.

2. gFSC Global Partners’ Meeting: 29-30 November 2016

   a) Review of the WG self-assessments
The six different technical Working Groups were advised to do their self-assessment during the Face-to-Face meetings on 28 November and make a brief presentation on 29 November with a caveat that the SAG would be reviewing their self-assessment presentation. SAG discussed whether any decision on the continuation or relevance of any of the WG should be made by SAG after their presentations.
After having a brief discussion, it was decided that SAG would listen to their presentations and discuss later without making any on-the-spot decision.

b) Presentation of gFSC draft Strategic Work Plan Results 1, 2 and 3

gFSC prepared a result summary with four (4) Results for the gFSC Strategic Work Plan 2017-19 as discussed and agreed upon during the first SAG Face-to-Face meeting on 12 October and was shared with the SAG members few weeks back. SAG members provided their inputs, and a new version was recently circulated. SAG members were expected to make the presentation to the global partners on 30 November as well.

After a brief discussion, SAG agreed to present the Results 1, 2 and 3 as follows:

- Samantha Chattaraj – Result 1
- Priya Behrens-Shah - Result 2
- Cyril Lekiefs – Result 3

c) Facilitation of three group works for Result 4

Since Result 4 of the gFSC Strategic Plan 2017-19 would be focussing mainly on fostered programmatic approach to cluster coordination with specific emphasis on the outcome of the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) and the Grand Bargain, gFSC expects the partners to discuss gFSC’s comparative advantages to lead the change and translate some of the commitments to action on the ground through country clusters. It is thus extremely important to facilitate this group discussion by SAG members.

It was agreed upon that few key themes following the presentation on WHS and Grand Bargain during Session 5 on 30 November will be picked up and gFSC develops three key questions for the discussions. SAG members will divided themselves into the three groups and facilitate the discussions accordingly.

3. Implementation of gFSC Work Plan 2017-19 and SAG’s role/involvement

a) Overall guidance/advice on the implementation of the Work Plan

As per the ToR SAG will have advisory role on the development and implementation of the gFSC Strategic Work Plan 2017-19. SAG will also develop its work plan with reference to the gFSC Strategic Plan.

b) Face-to-Face and virtual meetings in 2017 (frequency and tentative dates)

As per the ToR, there will be four SAG meetings. The next one will be virtual during the first quarter of 2017. The next Face-to-Face meeting will be during the next gFSC global partners meeting in May/June 2017. Ad Hoc teleconference can be conducted however as necessary. The second virtual meeting will be during the third quarter of 2017 followed by the Face-to-Face meeting during the global partners’ meeting in November/December 2017.

c) Performance review of SAG functions by the next gFSC partners’ meeting

Since the SAG was formed in June 2016 and got a full shape by September 2016, it might be a bit early to review its performance by mid-2017. SAG thus discussed and agreed upon that the performance review of SAG functions will be done by the end of 2017. Next SAG election will be held in mid-2018 during the global partners meeting. SAG will devise baseline and process indicators to
monitor its own performance, and also devise a way to review the performance by partners (e.g., SurveyMonkey).

4. AoB
  • gFSC will be finalizing the annual report for 2016. SAG can provide necessary advice while finalizing it.
  • Since the Cluster Coordinator elected in the SAG is representing the field cluster coordinators, she can coordinate with them to get their views before SAG meetings, especially on issues that need attention from the SAG.