Fast Track Initiative
A global partnership to achieve Education For All

Annex 2

Terms of Reference

Working Group on the Composition of the EFA/FTI Board of Directors

1. Background

At the EFA/FTI Board of Directors meeting in Paris in February 2010, the Board Chair announced that she would convene a small Working Group to examine if Board membership as currently constituted is the most equitable for the partnership as a whole and, if not, to provide suggestions as to how to reconstitute the Board to be more reflective of its constituencies within the partnership. The Working Group will be chaired by Sweden/David Wiking. It will complete its work for presentation and discussion at the EFA/FTI Board of Directors meeting in Washington, DC May 5-6, 2010.

The members of the Working Group are:

Sweden (WG Chair): David Wiking: david.wiking@sida.se
USA: David Barth: dbarth@usaid.gov
Global Campaign for Education: Lucia Fry: lucia@campaignforeducation.org
Rwanda: Sharon Haba: sharon.haba@yahoo.com
FTI Secretariat: Michelle Mesen: mmesen@educationfasttrack.org
United Kingdom: Phil Rose: p-rose@dfid.gov.uk
World Economic Forum: Alex Wong: alex.wong@weforum.org

2. Tasks of the Working Group

The objective of the Working Group is to examine thoroughly how equitable the current rules governing the composition of the EFA/FTI Board are in the context of the overall reform of the EFA/FTI partnership. If the Group finds that the Board could be more representative of its various constituencies to the benefit of the entire partnership, then the Group will present 2 to 4 concrete models as alternatives to the current composition of the Board. It will be up to the full Board to decide which recommendations of the Working Group are most suitable for the governance of the EFA/FTI Board.

The work of the Working Group should be informed by observations from the mid-term evaluation of the FTI and related ongoing EFA/FTI reforms including:

1. The current composition of the EFA/FTI Board may not give adequate representation to partners from developing countries.
2. There has been considerable advocacy for an EFA/FTI Board constituted along the lines of the global health funds, which are viewed as more representative of their various constituencies.
3. The reform process is redefining the role of Board membership, as all future financial decisions will be made by the Board itself (with technical guidance). Therefore, the decisions made by Board members will have a wider impact than previously, which underscores the need for all constituencies to have a voice on the Board.

The main tasks for the Working Group will be to:

1. Examine how the EFA/FTI Board is currently constituted to determine what – if any – changes are needed.
2. If the Group determines that the composition of the Board should be changed, they should examine how other boards – particularly those of the global health funds – are constituted.
3. Look at pros and cons of these approaches or models and determine what elements would be most adaptable for the EFA/FTI Board and most advantageous for the partnership as a whole.
4. Based on their work, present 2-4 models on determining the composition of the EFA/FTI Board for discussion at the May Board meeting.

Although the Working Group will strive for a consensus, the Group may come up with numerous models and options. Or, they may conclude that the current governance rules are adequate and do not need to be altered. The main idea is to present its conclusions to the Board for consideration. If the Group concludes that the EFA/FTI partnership would be better served by altering the current governance rules, it should be prepared to present 2-4 models to the Board, which will decide on the model or combinations of models or elements of a model to adopt.

In responding to the tasks mentioned above, the Working Group will have to look into a number of different issues, including the following:

Q1: Are certain EFA/FTI constituencies underrepresented? If so, which? Which are overrepresented?
Q2: If certain constituencies are underrepresented, what does this mean for future decision-making by the Board and for the partnership as a whole, particularly in light of the abolition of the Catalytic Fund and EPDF committees?
Q3: How are the boards of other global initiatives such as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria and GAVI constituted?
Q4: Are the boards of other global initiatives more representative? If so, how?
Q5: Which model is most applicable to the EFA/FTI Board?
Q6: How can the composition of the Board improve the quality and efficiency of decisions made by the board?
Q7: Are there elements from several models that could be combined and adapted for the EFA/FTI Board?
Q8: What are the potential outcomes of adapting each of the models proposed?

3. The Process and Ways of Working

These Terms of Reference should be discussed within the Working Group so that the group agrees on what is to be accomplished. However, no formal decision has to be made by anyone outside the Working Group. It is up to the Working Group to decide if and how to consult with other members of the FTI partnership.

The Working Group Chair will convene a telephone conference of the Working Group on March 30. The Working Group will have at least one more telephone conference. The bulk of the communication is expected to be by e-mail and telephone. The Chair of the Board of

Directors will liaise with the Working Group. The Chair of the Working Group shall report to the Chair of the Board of Directors.

Suggested time table:

a) March 22: Circulate Terms of Reference to the Working Group

b) March 26: Last day for written comments on these ToRs

c) March 30: Telephone conference on the ToRs and the way ahead (agenda to follow)

d) March 31-April 1-15: Consultations (the Chair of the Working Group collects input from the members of the Working Group)

e) April 19: Telephone conference to discuss draft report

f) April 22-28: Circulate draft report for comments

g) May 5: Present findings and recommendations to the EFA/FTI Board.