



## **CONSTITUENCY COMPOSITION ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **For Input and Decision**

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#### **1. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this note is to provide some options regarding possible re-distribution of the constituencies represented on the Board of Directors. *This note is for information purposes only in order to facilitate discussion among Board members and constituencies; the Secretariat and Chair express no position or opinion on the options presented.*

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

##### ***Composition of the Constituencies***

2.1 The process of reorganization of the Board of Directors into its current structure began with a meeting of the Board of Directors in May 2010 in Washington, DC. During this meeting, and prior to the subsequent amendments to the Charter, the Board of Directors made a series of decisions as follows:

**BOD/2010/05-11 – Board Composition:** The principle of equity is approved. The number of developing country partner seats and votes will be equal to that of bilateral donors.

**BOD/2010/05-12 – Board Composition:** A governance model based on Model 2 from the Working Group on Board Composition (see Annex) including more developing country partners, a division of stakeholders into constituencies, and a technical/finance committee will be adopted. An expanded Working Group, including the current members + UNESCO + member of the CF Committee, will prepare a proposal for final decision by the Board at its next meeting.

**BOD/2010/05-13 – Board Composition:** A constituency-based Board structure will be introduced, replacing the current approach.

**BOD/2010/05-15 – Board Composition:** Working groups will be tasked to develop proposals for constituency groupings comprising respectively: developing country partners, donors, multilaterals and regional banks, UN agencies, CSOs and the private sector.

2.2 At the next meeting of the Board of Directors in November 2010 in Madrid, Spain, the Working Group on Board Composition presented its proposal which resulted in amendments to the Charter<sup>1</sup> which now states that there are 19 Board members representing Board constituencies, divided as follows:

- a) *Six representatives from developing country partners* with an endorsed education sector plan divided on a geographical basis, including at least three from Africa;
- b) *Six representatives from donor countries* contributing financial and other support to the Global Partnership for Education;
- c) *Three representatives from multilateral agencies:* a representative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, a representative of the United Nations Children’s Fund, and a representative of multilateral and regional development banks;
- d) *Three representatives from CSOs:* one representing international/northern CSOs; one representing CSOs from developing country partners; and one representing members of the teaching profession; and
- e) *One representative from the private sector/foundations.*

2.3 The composition of each of the: (i) six developing country partner constituencies; (ii) six donor country constituencies; and (iii) three civil society organization constituencies was negotiated among each of the groups prior to the Madrid

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<sup>1</sup>At the time, the Charter was known as the “Governance of the Partnership” document. The Board decision states: **BOD/2010/11-1– Governance of the Partnership:** The FTI Board of Directors approves the revisions to the “Governance of the Partnership” document, as presented in Annex 1 to the paper prepared by the Working Group on Composition of the FTI Board of Directors, as amended at the November 2010 meeting of the FTI Board of Directors, which reflects the FTI Board of Directors’ new composition and operating principles. The FTI Board of Directors requests the FTI Secretariat to disseminate the new version of this document widely, including posting it on the EFA FTI Web site.

The Charter was amended at the May 2011 meeting of the Board of Directors in Kigali, Rwanda, in August 2011 to incorporate the new name of the Global Partnership. The current version of the Charter is found on the GPE website at:

[http://www.globalpartnership.org/media/docs/publications/Charter\\_of\\_GPE\\_English.pdf](http://www.globalpartnership.org/media/docs/publications/Charter_of_GPE_English.pdf).

meeting. The reservation of seats for the multilateral agencies was suggested by the Working Group. The current composition of each of the constituencies is set out in **Annex 1**.

### ***Process for Changes to the Board Seats***

2.4 Any proposals on constituency composition that change:

- the number of constituencies for each category; or
- the basis of constituency division as described in the Charter

must be approved by the Board of Directors, as an amendment to the Charter. Other “movements” of countries or organizations between constituencies that do not change the basis for division only require the consensus of the constituency category.

## **3. RECENT DISCUSSIONS AMONG THE BOARD CONSITUTENCIES**

### ***Possible Changes to Constituency Composition***

3.1 To date, the Chair and the Secretariat are aware of the following proposals from constituencies:

- The three African constituencies propose adding a seventh developing country seat for Africa. This is being proposed to accommodate the Africa 2 constituency which currently has 16 members (and is slated to increase to 18 members as new developing countries join the partnership over the next two years). The large number of countries that are included in this constituency has made consultations very difficult to manage and developing country voices are not being heard. The proposed distribution of seats among the African constituencies is included in **Annex 2**. The distribution does not need Board approval, but the addition of an extra seat does.
- The private sector and private foundations constituency proposes a division of their combined seat into two: one for private sector companies and one for private foundations

3.2 While the principle of “equity” decided by the Board of Directors in May 2010 would potentially mean adding another donor partner seat to counter-balance an additional developing country partner seat, initial discussions indicate that there is not a lot of support for creating a new seat from existing donors. Some donors support adding the additional seat for Africa without necessarily adding another donor seat for balance.

3.3 Other Board members have suggested looking at the issue of representation in the partnership as a broader issue. There are many stakeholders’ voices that need to be heard, but who are not currently on the Board of Directors. Establishing additional Board seats for these stakeholders may not be the right or only approach.

3.4 It was also noted that approaches for providing support to the developing country constituencies should be considered other than establishing additional Board seats. The current policy for financial support is limited to providing for funding of attendance of the Board member or Alternate Board member at face-to-face meetings. The same policy applies for the Financial Advisory Committee.

3.5 There is some concern about increasing the size of the Board of Directors in general. More analysis may need to be conducted regarding its optimal size, given the additional work and costs involved in adding new seats.

3.6 Some members suggested including other UN agencies in the constituencies and dividing the World Bank seat from the regional development banks. Others suggested giving the European Commission its own seat.

#### **4. OPTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**

4.1 The Secretariat, along with the Chair, has developed a few options for consideration by the Board of Directors. A decision will need to be made at the November 2012 meeting to enable the Board member selection process for the 2013/ 2014 term to proceed based on the approved, potentially revised, structure.

4.2 **Option 1** is to make no changes until further analysis is developed. This does not immediately address the requests noted above. The Board member selection process would proceed based on the current constituency divisions.

4.3 **Option 2** immediately addresses the request for adding an additional developing country partner seat but makes no changes to other seats until further analysis is developed. This does not address the equity between developing country partner seats and the bilateral donor partner seats.

<b>Current</b>	<b>New</b>
6 donor seats (including the European Commission)	Unchanged
6 developing country seats	Add one seat=7
3 CSO seats (northern/international, developing country, teaching profession)	Unchanged
1 private sector/private foundations seat	Unchanged
3 multilateral seats (UNESCO, UNICEF and multilateral and regional banks)	Unchanged
<b>TOTAL=19</b>	<b>TOTAL=20</b>

4.4 **Option 3** addresses the requests made above for adding an additional developing country seat and dividing the private sector and private foundation seats as shown below. This does not address the equity between developing country seats and the bilateral donor seats.

<b>Current</b>	<b>New</b>
6 donor seats (including European Commission)	Unchanged
6 developing country seats	Add one seat=7
3 CSO seats (northern/international, developing country, teaching profession)	Unchanged
1 private sector/private foundations seat	Divide into 2 seats
3 multilateral seats (UNESCO, UNICEF and multilateral and regional banks)	Unchanged
<b>TOTAL=19</b>	<b>TOTAL=21</b>

4.5 **Option 4** addresses the request for an additional developing country partner seat. It also separates the European Commission from the donor country seats and designates it as a separate donor seat. This addresses the equity between developing country partner seats and the bilateral donor country partner seats.

<b>Current</b>	<b>New</b>
6 donor seats (including the European Commission in one of the seats)	Add one seat, giving European Commission its own seat =7
6 developing country seats	Add one seat=7
3 CSO seats (northern/ international, developing country, teaching profession)	Unchanged
1 private sector/ private foundations seat	Unchanged
3 multilateral seats (UNESCO, UNICEF and multilateral and regional banks)	Unchanged
<b>TOTAL=19</b>	<b>TOTAL=21</b>

4.6 **Option 5** addresses the requests for adding an additional developing country partner seat and dividing the private sector and private foundation seats. It separates the European Commission from the donor country seats and designates them as a multilateral seat.

This option could have some sub-options, as shown below, including combining the European Commission with the regional banks only (and giving the World Bank its own seat), or adding the European Commission to the multilateral and regional banks seat. In addition, the UNESCO and UNICEF seats could be combined into one UN seat, which could accommodate other interested UN agencies.

<b>Current</b>	<b>New</b>
6 donor seats (including European	Still 6 seats, but move European Commission to multilateral seat

Commission)			
6 developing country seats	Add one seat=7		
3 CSO seats (northern/international, developing country, teaching profession)	Unchanged		
1 private sector/private foundations seat	Divide into 2 seats		
3 multilateral seats (multilateral and regional banks, UNICEF and UNESCO)	3 seats: 1. EC + Regional Banks + World Bank 2. UNICEF 3. UNESCO	4 seats: 1. World Bank 2. EC + Regional Banks 3. UNICEF 4. UNESCO	3 seats: 1. World Bank 2. EC + Regional Banks 3. UN Seat
<b>TOTAL = 19</b>	<b>TOTAL= 21 or 22 (depending on multilateral seats option)</b>		

## 5. NOTE ON THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Membership on the FAC is also on the basis of constituency representation. The terms of FAC members are two years. The terms commenced in November 2011 and will expire at the end of 2013. Should the constituencies be re-distributed or additions made, the Board of Directors may need to re-consider FAC membership to ensure that representation continues to reflect the constituencies of the Board of Directors.

## 6. NEXT STEPS

Based on the option agreed by the Board of Directors, a decision will be drafted to amend the Charter, which will be presented for decision during the November 2012 meeting. The Board member and Alternate Board member selection process for the 2013/2014 term will then proceed on the basis of the decision made. It should be noted that the addition of a developing country partner seat will result in higher expenditures from the Secretariat budget, from which travel for developing country partner Board members

and Alternate members to face-to-face Board meetings are funded. If further analysis is requested by the Board of Directors, a paper could be developed in time for the next face-to-face meeting of the Board of Directors or earlier, if requested. Further consultation with Board members will be needed to enable development of the analysis and a working group of the Board of Directors may be formed for this purpose.



## **ANNEX 1: CURRENT CONSTITUENCIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **Developing Country Partners:**

**Africa 1:** Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Somalia, Uganda, Zambia

**Africa 2:** Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Togo

**Africa 3:** The Gambia, Ghana, Ethiopia, Liberia, São Tomé et Príncipe, Sierra Leone, South Sudan

**Asia and the Pacific:** Bhutan, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Timor Leste, Vietnam

**Eastern Europe, Middle East and Central Asia:** Afghanistan, Albania, Georgia, Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, Sudan, Tajikistan, Yemen

**Latin America and the Caribbean:** Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua

### **Donor Country Partners:**

**Donor 1:** Belgium, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Switzerland

**Donor 2:** Australia, Spain

**Donor 3:** Canada, United Kingdom

**Donor 4:** Denmark, Ireland, Norway, Sweden

**Donor 5:** European Commission, France, Germany, Italy

**Donor 6:** Japan, Russia, United States

**Civil Society Organizations:**

**CSO 1:** International/northern

**CSO 2:** Developing Country

**CSO 3:** Teaching Profession

**Multilateral Agencies:**

UNESCO

UNICEF

Multilateral and Regional Banks (World Bank and Asian Development Bank)

## ANNEX 2: PROPOSED AFRICAN CONSTITUENCIES

Africa 1		Africa 2	Africa 3		Africa 4	
Current Partners (8)	Anticipated New partners (2)	Current Partners (10)	Current Partners (6)	Anticipated New Partners (1)	Current Partners (8)	Anticipated New Partners (3)
Kenya	Tanzania	Benin	Ethiopia	Nigeria	Burundi (from Africa 2)	Angola
Lesotho	Zimbabwe	Burkina Faso	The Gambia		Cameroon (from Africa 2)	Comoros
Malawi		Cote d'Ivoire	Ghana		Central African Republic (from Africa 2)	Congo (Republic)
Mozambique		Guinea	Liberia		Chad (from Africa 2)	
Rwanda		Guinea Bissau	Sierra Leone		DRC (from Africa 2)	
Somalia		Mali	South Sudan		Djibouti (from Africa 2)	
Uganda		Mauritania			Madagascar (from Africa 1)	
Zambia		Niger			Sao Tome & Principe (from Africa 3)	
		Senegal				
		Togo				