(Governing Board) Stephen Potter (Canada, Chair of the IATI Board), Yohanna Loucheur (Canada); Rupert Simons (Publish What You Fund); Timothy Takona and Sanjana Gaddam (UNICEF); John Adams (DfID, TAG Chair).

 (IATI Secretariat) Joni Hillman (Development Initiatives); Annelise Parr, Frances Wood, Kristina M. Leuchowius (UNDP); Argira Belegu-Shuku (UNOPS).

(Apologies): Bangladesh, Madagascar, Bond (comments from Bond received via email)

Minutes

1. Meeting opens
Agenda for today's meeting, and minutes from the 16th November meeting were approved provided no comments received from Madagascar and Bangladesh via Yammer.

2. Information and updates
1. **Highlighted items:**
    - IATI attendance at HLM2/Nairobi was very successful. Following bilateral meetings France and Italy have announced they are joining IATI. Formalities have been concluded for both.
    - Participation by the new DAC Chair as a speaker at the IATI side event alongside UNDP Administrator, plus a subsequent side meeting with the Executive Director of DI, has brought a positive shift in the relationship with OECD DAC.Some challenges remain in establishing a consultative working relationship with the JST, as seen during the process of finalising the GPEDC Global Monitoring Report. The Secretariat is following up on the possibility of conducting a joint workshop with DCD to continue to improve cooperation at the operational level. As a further initiative, Canada has joined the Steering Committee for GPEDC and will explore the possibility of engaging and further improving the relationship with GPEDC and specifically the JST. There might also be opportunities for collaboration in 2017 on data-driven development cooperation, particularly as the DAC is hoping to focus the 2017 GPEDC report on data.
    - IATI now has over 500 publishers.
    - The new d-portal search facility is now active.

2.   **Financial status**
IATI's financial situation has significantly improved since the last board meeting with income for FY4 now over US$1.5m. Development banks are in the process of signing their agreements and the EIB has paid six months of the annual fee. The Chair will continue to work informally through Canada's relationships with

the development banks to address their challenges securing approval for payment of the full annual fee. The Global Fund has paid the full fee but GAVI has not, and the Board has asked to be updated if there is no progress there. IFC has requested to join IATI as a member distinct from the World Bank and the process will be taken forward by the Secretariat.

Actions:
- Secretariat to keep Board informed regularly on financial situation, with particular attention to progress with the Banks.
- UNDP and UNOPS to conclude formalities with IFC to become full members.

3. Strategic Direction

Theory of Change
Responses received from the Board and members have been compiled into a single document for reference, and have been used for updating the assumptions table and TOC diagram. Responses to each item of feedback will be shared directly with those who provided comments.

No additional comments were received from the Board on the revised documents. With regard to two specific queries, Board feedback was as follows:
- Comment 22: regarding incentives for using IATI data - Board members may propose language via Yammer.
- Comment 24: proposing that donors make IATI reporting obligatory - the Board agrees that if it can be captured in a neutral way (a positive driver of change) then it could be a useful addition. Assumption themes around 'membership' and 'data use' might be able to incorporate language to cover these two comments.

Actions:
- UNDP to prepare and share an evidence table to complete the assumptions document, and a simplified visual of the ToC, to be used for communication alongside the final detailed one.
- UNDP will update the information note to reflect the process that has been concluded and next steps agreed for validating and finalizing the ToC.

4. Promoting data use
1. Discussion paper on data use. The Board was happy to receive the paper and start this important conversation. Comments received from Bond by email were noted. The Board noted that the paper currently focuses primarily on government usage; this is the core agenda for IATI but members recommended broadening it to also include other users, particularly CSOs. UNICEF mentioned a joint pilot project between UNICEF and UNDP that is carried out in three countries (Senegal, Madagascar and Nigeria), which aims to examine how governments can extend their usage of IATI data sets, and the findings will be shared to complement the paper. Other feedback was to ensure that the thinking about data use and how to respond to needs should take into consideration work that has already been done (studies financed by USAID, Development Gateway in Africa- on non-Anglophone users ,

Young Innovations' analysis of data in Tanzania for example). The paper should include developing clear guidance on how to use d-portal and the IATI datasets in concrete ways. Canada has offered to support DI working on this. Other aspects should be included in this work: a) Technical piece regarding how to fit aid into budgets, people in the community might be able to help add information on this, b) data use by civil society should be included (as mentioned in the ToC). UNDP is currently undertaking research which will help contribute to point a). In terms of methodology, the team is encouraged to reach out via social media to data users to get their feedback. Good to hone the paper by asking users questions such as "What are you trying to achieve by using the data" not just "what are you using the data for". The value of using the data is enhanced when it is used alongside other datasets and this should be kept in mind.

Action: Secretariat to continue to update the paper and use it as a basis for crowdsourcing of ideas at the TAG. Keep Board updated on progress with the paper and the initiatives mentioned.

2. <u>TAG planning update</u>: 156 applications, including those from 25 partner countries have been received, which is the largest amount ever, and DI is working with the TAG Chair to start the programme planning. It will be important to make sure that the 'community day' has good representation of civil society/community members/local government officials, and DFID and UNDP in Tanzania have been working their local contacts in this regard.

Action: Secretariat to keep Board informed via Yammer and share agenda as soon as possible.

5. **Institutional review of IATI**. The call for proposals will go out by this week, hopefully a consultant will be in place in early February. The timeline needs to be revised due to the delayed process, and can be finalized once a contract has been signed. Tentative timeline: first deliverable in March. The report outlined will be shared with the Board and potentially discussed through a video conference (March 8). The draft report is due at the beginning of April. The Board will get then a chance to review and discuss via a video conference. Final report to be delivered by April 21. Board members are asked to note the very short timelines for providing feedback and for preparing Board recommendations on future institutional arrangements in time for the MA in June.

6. **Any Other Business:**
   - A date needs to be set for the next MA meeting. With some board members unavailable in mid-June and the longest time needed for the preparation of the recommendations on the institutional review, 27-29th of June has been suggested and is tentatively reserved at UN City. Board members are asked to signal within the coming week any conflict on this date.
   - An election for the TAG chair will take place at the TAG. John Adams has signalled that he would be happy to be considered to continue in this role.
   - The Vice-Chair has retired from the Government of Bangladesh and his portfolio is assumed by Secretary Mr Kasi Shofiqul Azam, although Monowar will continue as focal point for the Board.
   Actions: Secretariat to confirm dates for next Board call and next MA via Yammer poll.

Next meeting date proposed coincides with the TAG and the Board agrees to delay it: Sec will canvass the Board with some possible dates via Yammer.