

Summary report of the eighth meeting of the Executive Board 7-8th June 2011 Bonn, Germany

The following Members of the Board were present:

Dr. Margaret Catley-Carlson
Prof. Sir Peter Crane
Amb. Walter Fust
Prof. Cary Fowler
Dr. Emile Frison (CGIAR)
Ms. Åslaug Haga
Prof. John Lovett
Dr. Modibo Traoré (FAO)
Dr. Daniele Manzella (ITPGRFA) Observer

The following Members and Observers sent their apologies:

Mr. Lew Coleman
Prof. Wangari Maathai
Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki
Prof. Roberto Rodrigues
Mr. Peter Waddell-Wood (Donors' Council) Observer

The following staff attended:

Anne Clyne	Director of Finance
Geoffrey Hawtin	Senior Advisor
Julian Laird	Director of Development & Communications
Gerald Moore	Legal Advisor
Mellissa Wood	Secretary to the Executive Board Director of Operations

The following delegates provided presentations to the Board:

- Dr. Francois Pythoud - Head, International Sustainable Agriculture Unit, Department for Economic Affairs, Federal Office of Agriculture
- Dr. Geert Kleijer - Chef de groupe de recherche Ressources genetiques, Station de Recherche Agroscope Changins-Wädenswil ACW
- Dr. Axel Heider - Head of Division "Biodiversity and Biopatents", Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection
- Dr. W. Otto Lampe - Ambassador, Coordinator for UN-Matters
- Dr. Dimitria Clayton - Policy Officer, Department of International Cooperation, State Chancellery of North Rhine-Westphalia
- Dr. Maria Hohn-Berghorn - Head of International Relations, City of Bonn
- Cons. Rita Mannella - Coordinator for the UN Rome based Agencies, Directorate General for Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy

1. Welcome and Adoption of Provisional Agenda

- The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed Members.
1. *Decision: The Board adopted the Provisional Agenda for the 8th meeting of the Executive Board (Attachment A).*

2. Minutes and actions arising from the 7th Executive Board meeting

- Members discussed the actions arising from EB7, noting actions 2,3 and 4 (strategic initiatives and developing principles for engagement with other entities) had previously been agreed to be postponed in March by the Board Chair. It was agreed these would be discussed in the October 2011 meeting. Other actions were noted as completed or covered in more detail in papers during the meeting.

2. *Decision: The Board approved the Minutes from the 7th Executive Board meeting.*

1. *Action: The Board agreed that outstanding actions arising 2,3 and 4 (strategic initiatives and developing principles for engagement with other entities) be postponed until the October 2011 meeting.*

3. Finance and Investment Report

- John Lovett introduced the Finance and Investment Committee (FIC) report and noted that the FIC was very pleased with the performance of the new independent financial advisors, Cambridge Associates.
- Cary Fowler presented the draft Investment Policy Statement, prepared by Cambridge Associates, to the Board.

3. *Decision: The Board approved the Investment Policy Statement.*

4. Ensuring institutional and programmatic stability

- This item was presented in three parts. Cary Fowler presented the first two parts discussing the endowment fund status, management and constraints, followed by an overview of the CGIAR genebank costing study and establishing a new endowment target.
- Endowment fund: Cary Fowler noted that the new business plan was more conservative, and provided details on the trend in market value of the fund over time against annual expenditure.
- CGIAR genebank costing study: Cary Fowler then presented the results of the CGIAR genebank costing study, which formed the basis of a proposal for 2011 genebank funding and was approved by the CGIAR Fund Council in April 2011. The study encompassed all traditional genebank activities including core regeneration and distribution costs. The Board agreed to accept the revised endowment target of USD 470 million, in 2010 dollars.
- Fundraising strategy: Julian Laird tabled a suite of future fundraising options suggesting the need to consider the likely return (and staffing implications) of each of the options.
- A number of creative fundraising options involving the private sector were identified and discussed by members. In addition, members noted the importance of maintaining a focus on public sector fundraising and public/private combination. Support for a high profile fundraising committee comprised of key private and public sector members was reiterated and agreed that this should be included in future strategy development.

4. *Decision: The Board endorsed the revised endowment target of USD 470 million in 2010 dollars.*

2. *Action: The Board gratefully accepted the offer of Walter Fust to provide guidance and suggestions on creative funding options and tasked the Trust Secretariat to develop a fundraising strategy to table, for consideration, at EB9.*

5. Presentation by Swiss Delegation

- A delegation from the Swiss government provided a presentation to the Board on their offer to provide a permanent headquarters to the Trust in Changins, Switzerland.

6. Presentation by German Delegation

- A delegation from the German Federal, state and city governments provided a presentation to the Board on their offer to provide a permanent headquarters to the Trust in Bonn, Germany.

7. Tour of proposed offices and of Bonn

- The Board undertook a tour of the proposed offices (former “Bundestag”) at Platz der Vereinten Nationen 2 Bonn.

Meeting adjourned for Day 1

Day 2, 8th June

8. Presentation by Italian Delegation

- A delegate from the Italian government provided a presentation to the Board on their offer to provide a permanent headquarters to the Trust in Rome, Italy.

12. Other business

Board member selection

- The Board discussed the implications of the decision by the Treaty Governing Body at GB4 not to approve the *Streamlined Procedures for the Selection of the Members of the Executive Board*. As the Governing Body will not be meeting again until 2013, it remains unclear how member selection should proceed in 2011 and 2012. The Board noted it was the prerogative of the Governing Body to resolve this issue and that the nomination of high-quality members to the Executive Board was important for the smooth functioning of the Trust.
 - The Board accepted the offer of the FAO member to convene a meeting between the Trust and Treaty Secretaries and the Chair of the Governing Body to discuss what possibilities existed.
3. *Action: The Board accepted the offer of the FAO member to convene a meeting between the Trust Secretary, Treaty Secretary and the Chair of the Governing Body to discuss and resolve the issue of the 2012 member selection or consider a term extension for the 2012 member.*

International Labour Organisation Administrative Tribunal jurisdiction

- Gerald Moore tabled a paper requesting the Board accept the jurisdiction of the Administrative Tribunal of the International Labour Organisation in the event it decides to accept either the Italian, Swiss or German offer regarding a permanent headquarters. This would apply only where the ILOAT would be an appropriate tribunal for the resolution of disputes arising out of employment of staff appointed directly by the Trust. In the case of the German offer being accepted where the

ILOAT may be not be an appropriate tribunal, a separate request for an alternative such as the United Nations Administrative Tribunal (UNAT) will be made to the Board.

5. *Decision: The Board agreed to accept the recommendation of falling under the jurisdiction of the ILOAT, where appropriate.*

9. Offers for a Headquarters location for the Trust

- The Chair introduced this item and provided an overview of outcomes the headquarters selection committee had achieved to date. Peter Crane, member of the headquarters selection committee, then presented detail on the selection criteria used and the results from the committee's comparative analysis using Tables 1 and 2 from the Paper 9 as a basis. A lengthy and considered discussion followed before a decision was reached.
- The Board discussed a communication strategy for communicating the headquarters decision over the following two days to key stakeholders. Key points were summarised as:
 - *The Board is confident that the German offer provides a truly exciting platform for dramatically advancing the mission of the Trust. It gives the Trust greatly expanded accommodation and significant long-term financial support for staff salaries and other operations. In particular, the Board was excited by the promise of high-level political support in assisting the Trust with fundraising and support for advancing crop diversity.*
 - *These new resources will permit an expansion in the work of the Trust and greater contributions to the implementation of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources. We are enthusiastic, as well, about the new networks that will open up to us through the other international organizations based in Bonn.*
 - *We are confident that finalizing the permanent headquarters location is a vital step in our long-term capacity to fulfill our mission, and that the decision made will significantly contribute to our ability to guarantee the conservation of crop diversity.*

6. *Decision: The Board agreed that it was in the best interest of the Trust to accept the offer of the German government as proposed and conditional on a satisfactory resolution of a Headquarters Agreement, based on the issues already raised and on the table. In making this decision, the Board recognises the importance of maintaining strong relationships with the Rome-based agencies, the Governing Body of the International Treaty and the Donors' Council.*

10. HR and logistics of becoming independent

- The Board identified the CGIAR and UN Human Resources (HR) policies as models for the Trust to use in developing its own policies. They agreed with the eight recommendations listed and requested the Secretariat work on addressing the items put forward in Paper 10 and put to the Board for decision when appropriate.

7. *Decision: The Board approved the eight HR recommendations tabled in the paper.*

4. *Action: The Board requested the Secretariat work on addressing the HR items put forward in Paper 10 and put these to the Board for decision when and as appropriate.*

The eighth Executive Board Meeting closed at 3.45 pm.

Summary of decisions and actions – EB8

No.	Decision
1	<i>The Board adopted the Provisional Agenda for the 8th meeting of the Executive Board.</i>
2	<i>The Board approved and adopted the Minutes from the 7th meeting of the Executive Board.</i>
3	<i>The Board approved the Investment Policy Statement.</i>
4	<i>The Board endorsed the revised endowment target of USD 470 million.</i>
5	<i>The Board agreed to accept the recommendation of falling under the jurisdiction of the ILOAT, where appropriate.</i>
6	<i>The Board agreed that it was in the best interest of the Trust to accept the offer of the German government as proposed and conditional on a satisfactory resolution of a Headquarters Agreement, based on the issues already raised and on the table. In making this decision, the Board recognises the importance of maintaining strong relationships with the Rome-based agencies, the Governing Body of the International Treaty and the Donors' Council.</i>
7	<i>The Board approved the eight HR recommendations tabled in paper 10.</i>

No	Actions arising	Responsibility	Due date
1	<i>The Board agreed that outstanding actions arising 2,3 and 4 (strategic initiatives and developing principles for engagement with other entities) be postponed until the October 2011 meeting.</i>	Secretariat	EB9
2	<i>The Board gratefully accepted the offer of Walter Fust to provide guidance and suggestions on creative funding options and tasked the Trust Secretariat to develop a fundraising strategy to table, for consideration, at EB9.</i>	Secretariat	EB9
3	<i>The Board accepted the offer of the FAO member to convene a meeting between the Trust Secretary, Treaty Secretary and the Chair of the Governing Body to discuss and resolve the issue of the 2012 member selection or consider a term extension for the 2012 member.</i>	FAO	EB9
4	<i>The Board requested the Secretariat work on addressing the HR items put forward in Paper 10 and put these to the Board for decision when and as appropriate.</i>	Secretariat	As required

Attachment A

Agenda, Executive Board Meeting 8 Zoologisches Forschungsmuseum Alexander König, Bonn

Time	No	Agenda Item	Item for Action/ Information
Monday 6 June			
Until 18.00		Arrival of Members at "Hilton Bonn Hotel", Berliner Freiheit 2, Bonn http://www.hilton.de/bonn	
19.00 - 22.30		Mayor of Bonn Reception at Casino of the Bundesrechnungshof (Federal Court of Auditors), Adenaueralle 81, Bonn	
DAY 1		Tuesday 7 June Zoologisches Forschungsmuseum Alexander König; Adenauerallee 160, Bonn (Meeting-Hall at 1st floor) http://www.museumkoenig.de	
08.30 30 mins	1	Welcome, introduction of new Members and adoption of Provisional Agenda	Action
09.00 30 mins	2	Minutes and actions arising from EB7	Action
09.30 30 mins	3	Finance and Investment Committee Report	Action
10.00 30 mins		COFFEE BREAK	
10.30 90 mins	4	Ensuring institutional and programmatic sustainability 1. Trust endowment and budget 2. New costings of key collections 3. Future fundraising	Action
12.00 60 mins		LUNCH (Museum König, Galerie 1st floor)	
13.00 30 mins	4	Ensuring institutional and programmatic sustainability (continued)	Action
13.30	5	Presentation by Swiss delegation	Information
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90 mins

15.00
15 mins

COFFEE BREAK

15.15
90 mins

6 Presentation by German delegation

Information

16.45
100 mins

7 Tour of proposed offices (former "Bundestag" –
Federal Parliament) and of Bonn

Information

18.30

CLOSE MEETING – DAY 1

20.00

DINNER

DAY 2

Wednesday 8 June

09.00
90 mins

8 Presentation by Italian delegation

Action

10.30
30 mins

COFFEE BREAK

11.00
120 mins

9 Offers for a Headquarters Location for the Trust

Action

13.00
60 mins

**LUNCH
(Museum König)**

14.00
30 mins

9 Offers for a Headquarters Location for the Trust
(continued)

Action

14.30
30 mins

10 HR and Logistics of becoming Independent

Action

15.00
30 mins

11 Members Report

Action

15.30
30 mins

12 Other Business
- ILO Registration
- Board Selection

Information/
Action

16.00

CLOSE MEETING