



GSSB summary of the virtual call held on 16 January 2024

Approved by the GSSB on 22 February 2024

Date	16 January 2024
Meeting	22 February 2024
Description	This document presents the summary of the GSSB virtual meeting held on 16 January 2024.

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1 Participants

2 Present:

Name	Constituency
Carol Adams	Chair
Jeff Robertson	Vice-Chair
Loredana Carta	Labor
Peter Colley	Labor
Rebecca Coriat	Investment association
Chulendra De Silva	Mediating institution
Corli le Roux	Mediating institution
Tomoo Machiba	Mediating institution
Anna Nefedova	Mediating institution
Deborah Ng	Investment Institution
Jennifer Princing	Business enterprise
Gangaa Charan Sharma	Business enterprise
Galya Tsonkova	Business enterprise

3 Apologies:

Name	Constituency
Giulia Genuardi	Business enterprise
Igazeuma Okoroba	Business enterprise

4 In attendance from GRI:

Name	Position
Bastian Buck	Chief of Standards
Harold Pauwels	Director, Standards
Matthew Dunn	Manager, Standards
Thamar Zijlstra	Sr. Manager, Standards
Gillian Balaban	Sr. Coordinator Governance Relations

5 List of abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full name
GRI	Global Reporting Initiative
GSSB	Global Sustainability Standards Board
SD	Standards Division
WG	Working group
TC	Technical committee

6 Decisions and action items

7 The GSSB resolved to approve the following:

GSSB Decision	Item number
2024.1	01 – GRI Topic Standard Project for Economic Impact – Proposed members for Working Group
2024.2	02 – GRI Topic Standard Project for Pollution – Draft project proposal

8 Session 1: Welcome to meeting /

9 Introduction to new members

10 The Global Sustainability Standards Board (GSSB) Chair Carol Adams (henceforth the Chair)
11 welcomed the GSSB. The Chair presented an overview of the meeting agenda. A quorum was
12 established, and the above item was presented to the GSSB for approval.

13 The Chair welcomed the new and reappointed members of the GSSB – Tomoo Machiba, Rebecca
14 Coriat, Igazeuma Okoroba and Giulia Genuardi.

15 Session 2: GRI Topic Standard 16 Project for Economic Impact – 17 Proposed members for Working 18 Group

19 Matthew Dunn, Manager Standards, provided an update on the GRI Topic Standard Project for
20 Economic Impact and presented the proposed members of its working group (WG) for GSSB
21 approval.

22 The SD clarified the following points about the project in response to GSSB questions and comments:

- 23 • The project categorized WG candidates according to GRI-predefined stakeholder categories.
- 24 • The submission of the candidate for the investment institution category was based on a
25 recommendation from the GRI Supervisory Board.
- 26 • Some organizations are not located in the Global South, but candidates from these
27 organizations are either based in or originate from the Global South.
- 28 • The SD said it will reevaluate descriptions of WG members categorized as civil society
29 organizations.

- 30 • GRI reaffirmed their commitment to appointing labor representatives to WGs or technical
31 committees based on nominations from the Council of Global Unions.
- 32 • If a need emerges, more WG members may be proposed during the project.
- 33 • Subgroup progress will be discussed at WG meetings, where any outstanding issues can be
34 addressed.
- 35 • The role of the GSSB sponsor was clarified as someone with relevant expertise acting as a
36 consistent link between the GSSB and the team developing a respective Standard.

37 The GSSB approves the following:

GSSB Decision	Item number
2024.01	01 – GRI Topic Standard Project for Economic Impact – Proposed members for Working Group

38 **Session 3: GRI Topic Standard**

39 **Project for Pollution**

40 Thamar Zijlstra, Senior Manager Standards, presented the draft project proposal for the GRI Topic
41 Standard Project for Pollution.

42 The GSSB had several questions about how the Standard will categorize different pollutants, and the
43 SD explained that this will become clearer following the scoping survey.

44 The GSSB also asked about the relevance of including critical incident management in a future Topic
45 Standard for Pollution. The SD explained that the project will examine pollution related issues from
46 critical incidents, such as a significant spill, following a recommendation from the GRI Sector
47 Standard for Oil and Gas. The GRI Topic Standard Project for Pollution will explore this further during
48 the scoping phase and then determine how best to integrate it into the Standard.

49 The GSSB approves the following:

GSSB Decision	Item number
2024.2	02 – GRI Topic Standard Project for Pollution – Draft project proposal

50 **Session 4: Any other business and**

51 **close of public sessions**

52 No other business was raised and the Chair closed the public meeting at 13.25 Central European
53 Time (CET).