



GSSB summary of the virtual call held on 19 March 2026

Approved by the GSSB on 23 April 2026

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1 Participants

2 Present:

Name	Constituency
Carol Adams	Chair
Jeff Robertson	Vice-Chair
Charles Cho	Civil society
Rebecca Coriat	Investment institution
Chulendra De Silva	Mediating institution
Yan Dong	Civil society
Zuzanna Muskat Gorska	Labor
Anne Lindsay	Labor
Tomoo Machiba	Mediating institution
Deborah Ng	Investment institution
Igazeuma Okoroba	Business enterprise
Felipe Martinez Rodriguez	Business enterprise
Galya Tsonkova	Business enterprise

3 Apologies:

Name	Constituency
Giulia Genuardi	Business enterprise
Anna Nefedova	Mediating institution

4 In attendance from GRI:

Name	Position
Bastian Buck	Chief Standards Officer
Thamar Zijlstra	Senior Manager Standards
Gillian Balaban	Governance & Board Liaison
Jessica Hardy	Chief of Staff & Governance Lead

5 List of abbreviations

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

6 Decisions and action items

7 The GSSB resolved to approve the following:

GSSB Decision	Item number
2026.02	Item 01 – Draft summary of the GSSB meeting held on 26 February 2026
2026.03	Item 04 – GRI Topic Standard Project for Pollution – Air Pollution exposure draft
2026.04	Item 05 – GRI Topic Standard Project for Pollution – Soil Pollution exposure draft
2026.05	Item 06 – GRI Topic Standard Project for Pollution – Critical Incidents exposure draft
2026.06	Scheduled resolution – Appreciation to outgoing Chair

8 Action items for consideration are as follows:

Action items	
Session 3	The Standards Team will identify high-priority comments (those GSSB felt strongly about or where multiple comments were received) and review the questionnaire to check if feedback will be captured.

9 Session 1: Welcome to meeting

10 The Global Sustainability Standards Board (GSSB) Chair, Carol Adams (henceforth the Chair),
11 welcomed the GSSB. The GSSB approved the draft summary for the meeting held on 26 February
12 2026. There were no new developments regarding the action register from the last meeting.

13 Bastian Buck, Chief Standards Officer, provided an update on the policy submissions.

14 The Chair presented an overview of the meeting agenda. A quorum was established.

15 Session 2: Update Implementation 16 Projects 2026 – Q1

17 Bastian Buck, Chief Standards Officer, noted that there were no significant developments in the past
18 month requiring discussion. As previously communicated, the team was adjusting to a significant
19 capacity change and required additional time to reconfigure the project schedule. He indicated that an
20 updated overview, including the project schedule, would be provided at the April meeting. The update
21 would focus on standards-setting projects.

22 It was noted that further updates, particularly in relation to feedback on the work program, including
23 potential guidance and research projects outside of due process, would be incorporated at a later
24 stage.

25 Regarding the GRI Sector Program, the proposals have been shared with the governance bodies.
26 Feedback was still pending, and finalization would follow discussions with the Management Board,
27 with updates to be made as needed based on their input.

28 **Session 3: Topic Standard Project for** 29 **Pollution – Approval of PCP exposure** 30 **drafts**

31 Tamar Zijlstra, Senior Manager Standards, summarized GSSB comments received on Filestage
32 (prior to 12 March) for the Air Pollution, Soil Pollution, and Critical Incidents exposure drafts, along
33 with responses from the Standards Team. An explanation was provided on how GSSB feedback
34 raised can be addressed later in the process and will be considered by the Pollution Working Group in
35 combination with the PCP comments received. The comments will not lead to fundamental change to
36 the drafts presented or any risk of re-exposure.

37 The key points discussed reflected further comments to those already submitted on Filestage:

- 38 • Air Pollution: linking carbon and global warming effects for clarity.
- 39 • Soil Pollution: consideration of additional comments for research while managing the risk of
40 potential re-exposure; prioritize feedback to focus on substantive issues.
- 41 • Critical Incidents:
 - 42 ○ Ensuring near misses are adequately reflected in the guidance.
 - 43 ○ Ensuring there is no potential overlap across exposure drafts.
 - 44 ○ A sentence was included to clarify how critical incidents are embedded within
45 enterprise risk management.
 - 46 ○ Additional comments will be considered for workplace-specific examples on
47 preventable measures and determining incidents as critical (guidance only, not
48 disclosures).

49 Bastian Buck, Chief Standards Officer, noted the importance of prioritizing feedback in the
50 questionnaire to avoid overcomplication and confirmed that most comments could be addressed
51 without changing the drafts. The Standards Team will identify high-priority comments (those GSSB
52 felt strongly about or where multiple comments were received) and review the questionnaire to ensure
53 feedback is captured.

54 The following items were presented for GSSB approval:

- 55 • Item 04 – [GRI Topic Standard Project for Pollution – Air Pollution exposure draft](#)
- 56 • Item 05 – [GRI Topic Standard Project for Pollution – Soil Pollution exposure draft](#)
- 57 • Item 06 – [GRI Topic Standard Project for Pollution – Critical Incidents exposure draft](#)

58 Members were invited to raise any additional comments or questions regarding the questionnaire
59 during the meeting.

60 **Session 4: Appreciation to outgoing** 61 **Chair Carol Adams**

62 Bastian Buck, Chief Standards Officer, highlighted the achievements of the outgoing Chair and the
63 contributions made to the GSSB during her term. Rebecca Coriat, GSSB member, expressed thanks
64 on behalf of current and past GSSB members. Jeff Robertson, GSSB Vice Chair, presented a formal
65 resolution of appreciation to the outgoing Chair on behalf of the GSSB.

66 The Chair expressed gratitude to the Standards Team, GSSB members, GRI staff, and other
67 stakeholders for their support and collaboration during her tenure.

68 **Session 5: Any other business and** 69 **close of public sessions**

70 No other business was raised, and the Chair closed the public meeting at 13.32 Central European
71 Time (CET).