



Summary 21-22 March 2017 in-person meeting
Meeting summary – Draft_v2: pending GSSB approval

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Participants

Present:

Name	Constituency
Atilla Yerlikaya	Business Enterprise
Daniel Ingram	Investment Institution
Dwight Justice	Labor
Evan Harvey	Investment Institution
Judy Kuszewski	Chair
Julia Wilson	Business Enterprise
Jürgen Buxbaum	Labor
Kent Swift	Civil Society Organization
Kirsten Margrethe Hovi	Business Enterprise
Michel Washer	Business Enterprise
Robyn Leeson	Vice-Chair
Stiaan Wandrag	Business Enterprise
Sulema Pioli	Mediating Institution
Vadakepatth Nandkumar	Mediating Institution

Apologies:

Name	Designation
Daniel Taillant	Civil Society Organization

In attendance:

Name	Designation
Anna Krotova	Manager, Standards Division
Bastian Buck	Director, Standards Division
Chelsea Reinhardt	Deputy Director, Standards Division
Laura Espinach	Manager, Standards Division
Pamela Carpio	Senior Coordinator, Governance Relations
Sabine Content	Deputy Director, Corporate & Stakeholder Relations
Tamara Bergkamp	Manager, Standards Division
Teresa Fogelberg	Deputy Chief Executive
Tim Mohin	Chief Executive
Tina Nybo Jensen	Senior Coordinator, Governance Relations

List of abbreviations

AOB	Any other business	IIRC	International Integrated Reporting Council
BEPS	Base erosion and profit shifting	MAG	Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Group
CAG	Corporate Action Group	OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
CE	Chief Executive	OHS	Occupational health and safety
COP	Communication on Progress	PWG	Project working group
DPOC	Due Process Oversight Committee	SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
DPP	GSSB Due Process Protocol	SMEs	Small and medium-sized enterprises
ETUI	European Trade Union Institute	TCFD	Task Force for Climate-related Financial Disclosures
FAQ	Frequently Asked Questions	UN	United Nations
FTEs	Full-time Employees	UNGC	United Nations Global Compact
FY	Financial Year		
GRI	Global Reporting Initiative		
GSSB	Global Sustainability Standards Board		

1 Meeting summary

2 Please see a list of decision and action items deriving from the meeting on pp. 14-16.

3 Session 1.1: Welcome

4 Judy Kuszewski, the GSSB Chair (henceforth, “the Chair”) welcomed everyone to the meeting and
5 presented an overview of the [meeting agenda](#).

6 The Chair moved for approval of [Item 01 – Summary 23 February GSSB meeting](#) and [Item 02 –](#)
7 [Summary 07 March GSSB meeting](#).

8 The GSSB unanimously approved the meeting summaries with no further changes.

9 The Chair further moved for appointment of the remaining labor candidate, a senior researcher
10 from European Trade Union Institute (ETUI), for the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Pro-
11 ject Working Group (PWG). The GSSB unanimously approved the appointment.

12 Session 1.2: Update on activities GRI Standards Divi- 13 sion

14 Bastian Buck, Director Standards Division, presented an overview of the progress against the ten
15 priority work areas outlined in the [GSSB Work Program 2017-2019](#) and the related activities of
16 the GRI Standards Division.

17 Mr. Buck further informed that the Standards Division has developed linkage documents with the
18 Hong Kong and Bombay stock exchanges to demonstrate how the GRI Standards can be used to
19 meet their ESG reporting expectations for listed companies. This is an area with great potential
20 but also significant resource implication for the team. A GSSB discussion on these activities will
21 be tabled for the second quarter of 2017.

22 The GSSB discussed:

- 23 • The benefit of local language versions of the GRI Standards versus the related short and
24 longer term cost implications.
- 25 • The importance of reducing the reporting burden and increasing the uptake of the GRI
26 Standards e.g. through linkage documents and collaboration with other organizations
- 27 • That the development of the sector-specific content should be based on the program ap-
28 proved by GSSB and build on existing GRI content as well as other frameworks and es-
29 tablished practice in the reporting landscape.

30 The GSSB also further discussed the interest from the market in having GRI develop additional
31 guidance on assurance to ensure more credible and high-quality reporting. The GSSB noted the
32 importance of credible and trustworthy reporting, but also the potential (or perceived) conflict
33 in having GRI/ GSSB play the role of both a standard-setter and the provider of assurance-related
34 services. GRI/GSSB could potentially engage on credibility in numerous ways, for example
35 through convening other organizations in the assurance field. The GSSB agreed to continue the
36 discussion during Session 2.7 on Wednesday 22 March.

37 Session 1.3: Discuss technical enquiries and GRI's 38 monitoring approach

39 Chelsea Reinhardt, Deputy Director Standards Division, presented an overview of recent technical enquires. Ms. Reinhardt sought the GSSB's advice on whether the 'published materials' in
40 Section 3 of *GRI 101: Foundation*, implies that a claim statement is required in all published materials
41 or only those that would constitute the 'primary' sustainability report.
42

43 The GSSB discussed the intention of the requirement and agreed that no additional clarification
44 was required at this point. The GSSB advised that the Standards application claim should be included
45 where deemed most relevant by the reporter. The GSSB agreed that the Standards Division
46 should continue to refer any enquiries to the relevant text in *GRI 101* and confirm that it is
47 up to the reporters' interpretation how to apply these requirements.

48 Ms. Reinhardt flagged the guidance text around G4-18 that was excerpted from the Standards
49 during the Transition to Standards Project with the intent to publish separate guidance as a follow
50 up item for GSSB consideration.

51 To develop guidance and FAQ text in a timely and responsive manner as well as managing the
52 workload of the GSSB, the Standards Division put forward the suggestion to form a GSSB Sub-
53 committee to review any guidance documents that might reasonably be considered controversial
54 to ensure alignment with the GSSB.

55 The GSSB members agreed to a process where all members receive materials on guidance that
56 might be considered controversial while a standing GSSB Sub-committee is dedicated to review
57 and provide feedback on a timely basis. It was further agreed that any 'non-controversial' text on
58 the FAQ website can be updated when needed and brought to GSSB as a standing item during
59 meetings.

60 **Monitoring Program**

61 Tamara Bergkamp, Manager Standards Division, presented on the GRI Standards monitoring program
62 aiming to inform the Standards Division and the GSSB on stakeholder perceptions, questions
63 and concerns as well as how the GRI Standards are being applied.

64 Ms. Bergkamp informed the GSSB about the key research areas identified by the Standards Division
65 and sought the GSSB's advice on identifying specific research questions that should be explored
66 as part of the 2017 monitoring process.

67 The GSSB suggested the Standards Division could consider the following points:

- 68 • Investigate the opportunities for engagement and collaboration with the academic community
69 on the research topics.
- 70 • Expand the research to cover reporters that do not adopt the GRI Standards.
- 71 • Explore linkage to other sustainability initiatives and map the application of these in practice.
72
- 73 • Investigate the sustainability context as a principle.
- 74 • Assess the extent to which the materiality principle clarification has been embraced and
75 how is it affecting the materiality assessments.
- 76 • Conversions of scope: Are companies reporting on the same or different scopes for financial
77 and non-financial reporting?

- 78 • Evaluate whether the GRI Standards are driving the change referred to in the vision
79 statement “*Enable credible, consistent, and high quality sustainability reporting*” E.g. through
80 measuring whether Boards of companies are now reflecting on sustainability

81 Ms. Bergkamp presented an overview of the sources of information for feeding the monitoring
82 process that the Standards Division are currently utilizing and welcomed additional suggestions
83 from the GSSB. GSSB members proposed to supplement those with focused interviews with re-
84 porters, sustainability rankings, and academic networks.

85 The Standards Division confirmed that they will share back a more detailed monitoring plan with
86 the GSSB in the second quarter of 2017 and will reach out to individual GSSB members to fur-
87 ther explore third party research opportunities.

88 **Session I.4: Discuss scope of GRI 201: Economic Per-** 89 **formance review**

90 Ms. Reinhardt presented this session on whether the scope of the review of *GRI 201: Economic*
91 *Performance* should be expanded to include the disclosures *GRI 202: Market Presence* and *GRI 203:*
92 *Indirect Economic Impacts*.

93 This suggestion was raised as the content of the three Standards are closely-related, the distinc-
94 tion between the topics are not clearly defined, and the review of the three Standards would re-
95 quire similar expertise on the PWG and/or Technical Committee.

96 Ms. Reinhardt informed that initial research conducted by the Standards Division indicates that
97 companies are not reporting consistently or fully on these disclosures. Furthermore, the Stand-
98 ards Division suggests that the disclosures across this set of Economic topics may not be the best
99 measures of an organization’s impacts on the economy, and therefore warrants a holistic review.

100 The GSSB members were asked for their view on expanding the scope of the review of *GRI 101:*
101 *Economic Performance* as outlined above as well as the proposed next steps as outlined in [Item 05](#)
102 [- Background on review of GRI 201: Economic Performance](#) p. 5 lines 74-95.

103 The GSSB discussed:

- 104 • A need to review and possibly clarify the conceptual distinction between economic per-
105 formance and economic impact.
106 • That inconsistent or incomplete reporting does not necessarily warrant a review; this
107 could also be an indication that the reporters are reluctant to report the requested in-
108 formation.
109 • A potential mismatch in expectations based on the topic of the standards and the actual
110 disclosure requirements.

111 The GSSB unanimously agreed to expand the scope of the review of *GRI 201: Economic Perfor-*
112 *mance* to include the disclosures *GRI 202: Market Presence* and *GRI 203: Indirect Economic Impacts*.

113 The GSSB discussed and agreed that forming a small Technical Committee is probably the best
114 approach for conducting the initial research and scoping the project. However, the outputs of
115 this phase will also need to have sufficient input from other stakeholder groups to ensure it is
116 practical for reporters.

117 The GSSB agreed that the Standards Division should move ahead with developing a project pro-
118 posal reflecting the expanded scope of the review project, to be discussed by the GSSB during its
119 virtual meeting in April.

120 **Development of new content related to tax**

121 Ms. Reinhardt informed that tax transparency is an increasing important issue within sustainable
122 development while the current reporting requirements are considered insufficient to drive
123 greater transparency on tax globally.

124 Greater transparency on tax is supported by a wide range of stakeholder including the investor
125 community, however, companies are hesitant to be 'first-movers' for voluntary reporting as it
126 could have repercussions for the company. Thus, despite possible development of new disclo-
127 sures the uptake of voluntary reporting will likely prove challenging.

128 Ms. Reinhardt briefed the GSSB members on the possible implications of GRI working on tax dis-
129 closures and presented three different options for including the tax-related content in the GRI
130 Standards.

131 The Chair requested input on whether the Standards Division should proceed research into de-
132 velopment of new disclosures related to Tax and Payment to Governments, and whether the
133 GSSB agrees with the next steps outlined in [Item 05 - Background on review of GRI 201: Economic
134 Performance](#) p. 8 lines 179-194.

135 The GSSB members discussed:

- 136 • The importance of this topic, including the increasing public pressure for greater tax
137 transparency, the benefits in GRI taking a proactive role, and the close linkages with the
138 SDG agenda.
- 139 • The potential implications for GRI in developing disclosures on tax, including the risk that
140 GRI could be perceived as moving into the 'advocacy' space or overstepping the role of
141 sustainability reporting.
- 142 • To be mindful of the fact that the legislation on reporting related to Taxes and Payments
143 to Governments varies by region.
- 144 • The importance of alignment with existing initiatives.
- 145 • A need to clearly identify what elements of taxes that will be covered. Existing research
146 can inform this decision.
- 147 • Increasing market expectations for GRI to be proactive in accommodating 'emerging' is-
148 sues such as tax reporting.

149 The GSSB asked the Standards Division to prepare a project proposal setting the possible objec-
150 tives, scope, and recommended next steps, for discussion by the GSSB during its April meeting.

151 **Session 1.5: Close of public meeting Day I**

152 The Chair thanked the GSSB members, the Standards Division, and the GRI Secretariat and
153 closed Day I of the public meeting at 12.40 to be reconvened at 9.00 on Wednesday 22 February
154 2017.

155 Session 2.1: Welcome and review of agenda of Day 2

156 The Chair welcomed everyone back to the meeting and extended a special welcome to the
157 members of the GRI Due Process Oversight Committee (DPOC), who attended the second day
158 of the meeting as observers.

159 The Chair proceeded to present an overview of the Day 2 [meeting agenda](#).

160 Session 2.2: Discuss review of Human Rights-related 161 Standards

162 Laura Espinach, Manager Standards Division, presented this session. Ms. Espinach started with an
163 overview of key developments since the last review of the GRI human rights disclosures in 2011.
164 Key developments included the launch and uptake of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and
165 Human Rights, new human rights reporting frameworks and tools, and new legislation regulating
166 human rights due diligence.

167 Three key areas for improvement have been identified via expert interviews and literature re-
168 view, namely: ensuring further alignment with the UN Guiding Principles, reviewing the scope of
169 human rights covered, and reviewing the topic-specific disclosures. Ms. Espinach proceeded to
170 update the GSSB on a gap analysis between the GRI Standards and the UN Guiding Principles
171 ([Item 09 – Discussion paper on the review of GRI's Human Rights-related Standards](#) pp. 14-21).

172 Ms. Reinhardt informed that the discussion on the 'universality' of human rights (regardless of
173 materiality) will also be discussed as related to climate change, during Session 2.3 on the Task
174 Force for Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD).

175 The Chair asked the GSSB whether they agree with the identified objectives and key areas for
176 improvements for the review of the human rights-related contents.

177 The GSSB discussed the following:

- 178 • The UN Guiding Principles have implications that go beyond just human rights. They
179 have provided clarity around the responsibility of businesses vis-à-vis the government,
180 introduced an expectation for businesses to conduct due diligence and extended this re-
181 sponsibility to business relationships. The key concepts in the Guiding Principles, such as
182 due diligence, business relationships and salience, are increasingly being applied to other
183 areas of responsible business conduct, beyond just human rights. For example, the
184 OECD expanded some of these concepts to the environment and other areas, in the lat-
185 est version of its Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises.
- 186 • Low reporting levels of the GRI human rights disclosures may be due to the fact that
187 companies do not know how to cope with human rights-related impacts.
- 188 • Even if an organization has not identified any human rights-related topics as material, it is
189 still expected to have a due diligence process in place to demonstrate that it has consid-
190 ered its human rights-related impacts. There's a shift from demonstrating why a topic is
191 material, to showing why certain topics are not material.
- 192 • It would be helpful to carry out consultation with reporters to understand current re-
193 porting practices and reasons why organizations do not report on their human rights-
194 related impacts.

- 195 • Rather than reviewing all Standards, the GSSB could develop a matrix showing key hu-
196 man rights that may be covered in each existing topic-specific Standard.
197 • Look into additional developments as input for this work, including the SDGs and the
198 Dow Jones Sustainability Index questionnaire.

199 The GSSB agreed to move ahead with the proposed review project outlined in Item 09, with the
200 following two additional objectives:

- 201 • expanding the scope of the project to explore the feasibility of applying key concepts of
202 the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights ('due diligence', 'business rela-
203 tionships' and 'saliency') to other areas of the Standards beyond just human rights.
204 • carrying out consultation with reporting organizations to understand current reporting
205 practices and reasons why organizations do not report on their human rights-related im-
206 pacts.

207 Ms. Reinhardt confirmed that the Standards Division will develop a project proposal that reflects
208 the scope and approach, as agreed by the GSSB during this discussion. The Standards Division
209 will share this with the GSSB for comment during the April virtual meeting. Further, the Stand-
210 ards Division will consult with reporters regarding their human rights reporting practices as ad-
211 vised.

212 Session 2.3: Discuss TCFD draft recommendations 213 and implications for GRI Standards

214 Mr. Buck presented an overview of GRI's submission to the TCFD draft recommendation as well
215 as a gap analysis indicating that 8 out of the 11 recommended areas from the TCFD are at least
216 partially covered by the GRI Standards.

217 Mr. Buck informed that the TCFD and GRI have distinct objectives while sharing common
218 ground: The TCFD is focused specifically on helping organizations to disclose the financial impact
219 related to climate change, while GRI Standards focuses on helping organizations communicate
220 their impacts on climate change related topics, along with how the impacts are managed.

221 The GSSB discussed:

- 222 • That this is an important development to follow and specific references to GRI are de-
223 sired.
224 • This is the first time that the financial community addresses climate change and other
225 sustainability issues. It is a practical document and includes positive elements such as a
226 clear division between climate change transition risks and physical risks, scenario plan-
227 ning, and strong emphasis on governance.
228 • It is positive that the recommendations from the TCFD expand the definition of risk and
229 includes it in a business context/language.
230 • It may be useful to consider universal concepts related to climate change.

231 The GSSB recommended the Standards Division to follow the developments as well as the up-
232 take by regulators closely. The GSSB and Standards Division should await the final document but
233 take preparatory steps to publish a linkage guidance shortly thereafter.

234 Mr. Buck confirmed that the Standards Division will monitor the TCFD developments and will
235 provide an update for discussion later in the year, including any proposed actions such as devel-
236 oping a guidance or linkage document.

237 **Session 2.4: Discuss prioritization of standard setting**
238 **projects**

239 Mr. Buck shared that the initial GSSB work portfolio was mostly composed of projects committed to in earlier years like the Transition to Standards. To identify and prioritize projects going
240 forward, it is necessary to develop a clear process that is responsive to the expectations set out
241 in the [GSSB Due Process Protocol](#) (DPP) Section 4 and 5 pp. 2-3.
242

243 The Chair sought the GSSB members initial view on a possible process and summarized the feed-
244 back into four areas to be further explored:

- 245 • Organizational monitoring.
- 246 • Developing a set of a few design principles to help frame the GSSB debate.
- 247 • Having regular open exchange among GSSB members to understand and exchange views
248 on external developments as a part of strategic planning.
- 249 • Invite external speakers to present during GSSB meeting.

250 Mr. Buck agreed that the process for identifying and prioritizing projects going forward would
251 benefit from organizational monitoring and the development of specific criteria. Further, Mr.
252 Buck suggested that the process could include a Public Comments element as well as the identifi-
253 cation and engagement of specific strategic partners with an interested in the GRI Standards de-
254 velopment.

255 The Standards Division will research the scope for consideration of national/international devel-
256 opments and bring it to the GSSB for discussion during the September in-person meeting.

257 **Session 2.5: Update on current GRI Standard Re-**
258 **views: *GRI 303:Water* and *GRI 403: Occupational Health***
259 ***and Safety***

260 Ms. Reinhardt presented this session and provided an overview of the project schedules and
261 timelines for the Water and OHS Working Groups.

262 The majority of the work will be done offline between (virtual) meetings and will take into ac-
263 count the lessons learned during the G4 and Transition to Standards processes. The PWGs will
264 provide input in form of recommendations to the GSSB.

265 The Standards Division proposed a feedback process to keep the GSSB informed of the PWG
266 developments including a “PWG Update” scheduled as a standing item during the upcoming
267 GSSB meetings. Additionally, GSSB sponsors will observe the PWG meetings and reflect back to
268 the GSSB on the PWGs developments and trends (without necessarily being a champion of the
269 working groups).

270 The GSSB agreed with the proposed feedback process to the GSSB.

271 **Human Rights Element of *GRI 303: Water Review***

272 Following the 7 March GSSB virtual meeting, the Standards Division has reviewed the human
273 rights elements in *GRI 303: Water* and confirmed that this issue is adequately covered by existing

274 language in the project proposal around major developments and international instruments. Fur-
275 ther, many of the experts in the PWG have substantial experience in human-rights related work
276 on water.

277 The Standards Division recommended to keep the Project Proposal wording as is while commit-
278 ted to ensure that right to water is captured as a key theme for review during the first PWG
279 meeting.

280 The GSSB unanimously agreed with the process as proposed by the Standards Division.

281 **Expert review webinars for GRI 303: Water and GRI 403: OHS Projects**

282 Candidates for PWGs that were not selected for the working groups have indicated to the
283 Standards Division that they are happy to participate in alternate consultation/ feedback opportu-
284 nities.

285 The Standards Division proposes to host a dedicated 'expert' webinar for each of the current re-
286 view projects (Water and OHS) in advance of the Public Comment Period. The feedback re-
287 ceived during this webinar would then feed into the PWG process. Ms. Reinhardt confirmed that
288 the webinar attendees will provide feedback to the PWG to consider, but this feedback will not
289 have a preferential status.

290 The GSSB agreed with the proposed feedback process to the GSSB.

291 The GSSB further advised to engage with individuals that were approached to apply for the
292 PWGs but did not have the capacity to apply.

293 The GSSB also restated the need to get contributions from the regions underrepresented on the
294 PWG during the Public Comment Period.

295 **Session 2.6: Review GSSB Workplan**

296 Mr. Buck introduced this session to review whether anything emerging from the last two-days
297 discussions fundamentally changes the GSSB Work Program, and thus, results in a reprioritiza-
298 tion of the ongoing and planned projects.

299 Both related to *GRI 201: Economic Performance* review and the review of the Human Rights re-
300 lated Standards, the GSSB requested additional research as well as a broadening of the scopes,
301 and this needs to be accounted for in the resource allocation plan for the next Financial Year
302 (FY). However, this will not effectively change the Work Program at this point.

303 **Session 2.7: AOB**

304 The Chair presented this session to follow up on items deriving from the meeting and cover any
305 other business.

306 **Assurance and credibility mechanisms**

307 The GSSB revisited the discussion on GRI/GSSB's role in relation to assurance and credibility
308 mechanisms.

309 The GSSB agreed that further clarification is needed and asked the Standards Division to develop
310 a proposal and conduct further research including consultation of external experts to inform the
311 GSSB's decisions. The GSSB agreed that the focus of future activities should include but have a
312 wider scope than assurance/verification activities by accountants.

313 Mr. Buck informed that due to the limited resources available, the Standards Division cannot
314 carry out active research on the assurance issue over the next few months, but will bring this is-
315 sue back to the GSSB for further discussion at the September meeting.

316 **Collaboration with third parties on research**

317 Mr. Buck that informed that additional research is needed to inform the work of the GSSB within
318 the existing Work Program. The Standards Division has seen growing interest from universities
319 and independent researchers to contribute.

320 The GSSB suggested as a starting point, that the Standards Division identifies two specific re-
321 search questions to be published as general requests for research with a clear indication of the
322 recognition offered in exchange.

323 **AOB**

324 The Chair informed that a Doodle poll will be circulated to the GSSB members with the aim of
325 scheduling an additional GSSB virtual meeting in July to potentially discuss/approve exposure
326 draft(s) for public exposure deriving from the PWGs.

327 Further, the Chair confirmed that the location of the GSSB in-person meeting in September 2017
328 is to be determined but Amsterdam is the default choice considering costs and the technical set-
329 up required to livestream the meetings. The Chair invited proposals from the GSSB members.

330 The Chair formally thanked the former GSSB members who departed by 31 December 2016.

331 **Session 2.8: Close of Public Meeting Day 2**

332 The Chair thanked the GSSB members, the members of the DPOC, the Standards Division, and
333 the GRI Secretariat and closed Day 2 of the public meeting at 15.10 CET.

334 **Decisions and Action Items**

335 **DECISIONS**

336 Session 1.1:

337 **GSSB Decision 2017.05** The GSSB approved the summary of the meeting held 23 February
338 2017 with no further changes.

339 **GSSB Decision 2017.06** The GSSB approved the summary of the meeting held 7 March 2017
340 with no further changes.

341 **GSSB Decision 2017.07** The GSSB approved the appointment of the remaining labor candidate
342 for the OHS PWG

343 *The GSSB supported the decisions by consensus.*

344 Session 1.4:

345 **GSSB Decision 2017.08** The GSSB agreed to expand the scope of the review of *GRI 201: Economic Performance* to include the disclosures *GRI 202: Market Presence* and *GRI 203: Indirect Economic Impacts*.

348 *The GSSB supported the decision by consensus.*

349 Session 2.5:

350 **GSSB Decision 2017.09** The GSSB agree with the proposal keep the *GRI 303: Water Project* Proposal wording as is, provided that the Standards Division ensures that right to water is captured as a key theme for review during the first PWG meeting.

353 *The GSSB supported the decision by consensus.*

354 **Actions**

355 **Governance:**

356 Session 2.7:

- 357 • Circulate a Doodle poll to the GSSB members to schedule an additional GSSB virtual meeting in July.

359 **Standards Division:**

360 Session 1.2:

- 361 • Present a tool proposal related to SMEs GRI referenced reporting during the September GSSB in-person meeting.
- 363 • Schedule periodic updates from Tim Mohin on the ongoing conversation in Corporate Reporting Dialogue.

365 Session 1.3:

- 366 • Develop and share back with the GSSB, for information, a more detailed GRI Standards monitoring program within the next few months.
- 368 • Reach out to individual GSSB members to further explore third party research collaboration opportunities.

370 Session 1.4:

- 371 • Develop a project proposal for the review of *GRI 201: Economic Performance*, *GRI 202: Market Presence*, and *GRI 203: Indirect Economic Impacts* to clarify the expanded scope and recommend next steps, for discussion during the GSSB meeting on 26 April.
- 374 • Prepare a project proposal related to the development of new disclosures on tax and payment to government, for discussion during the GSSB meeting on 26 April.

376 Session 2.2:

- 377 • Develop a project proposal for the review of the human rights-related Standards that incorporates the two additional objectives discussed at the meeting, for review by the GSSB during the virtual meeting on 26 April.

380 Session 2.3:

- 381 • Follow the development of the TCFD as well as the uptake by regulators closely and re-
382 port back to the GSSB later in the year with any proposed actions, such as a proposal to
383 develop a linkage document or related guidance.

384 Session 2.4:

- 385 • Research the scope for consideration of national/international developments and bring it
386 to the GSSB for discussion during the September in-person meeting.

387 Session 2.5:

- 388 • Keep the GSSB informed on the developments in the PWGs on *GRI 303: Water* and *GRI*
389 *403: OHS* in line the with the proposed feedback process.
390 • Ensure that right to water is captured as a key theme for review during the first PWG
391 meeting.
392 • Host a dedicated webinar in advance of the Public Comment Period for the PWG candi-
393 dates that were not selected or those who were approached but did not apply.
394 • Investigate alternate options to get contributions from the regions underrepresented on
395 the PWG during the Public Comment Period.

396 Session 2.7:

- 397 • Carry out initial scoping work on the assurance/ credibility issue to present back to the
398 GSSB for further discussion in September 2017.
399 • Investigate the potential for involving third parties in research; identify two specific re-
400 search questions to be published as general requests for research with a clear indication
401 of the recognition offered in exchange.

402 **GSSB:**

403 Session 1.4:

- 404 • Contact the Standards Division, if they have any relevant organizations to propose for a
405 Technical Committee or PWG for the review of *GRI 201: Economic Performance*, *GRI 202:*
406 *Market Presence*, and *GRI 203: Indirect Economic Impacts*.

407 Session 2.7:

- 408 • If applicable, provide proposals for the location of the September GSSB in-person meet-
409 ing considering the related cost implications and the technical requirements for
410 livestreaming.

411 List of private sessions

412 The following private session were held during the meeting. Private sessions are held for back-
413 ground briefing and administrative matters. No formal decisions are made during these sessions.

- 414 • Session 1.6 Background briefings:
415 - GRI-UNGC SDG Collaboration
416 - CLG on Integrated Reporting
417 - Update from GRI CE
418 • Session 2.9 Background briefing:
419 - GSSB Reflection Session