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# Item 03 – Proposed Membership for GRI Technical Committee on Human Rights Disclosure

## For GSSB discussion and approval

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>Date</b>        | 6 September 2017   |
| <b>Meeting</b>     | 20-21 September 2017   |
| <b>Project</b>     | Review of <i>GRI's human rights-related Standards</i>  |
| <b>Description</b> | <p>The Global Sustainability Standards Board (GSSB) has initiated a project to review the GRI human rights-related Standards. In line with the GSSB's Due Process Protocol, an ad hoc Technical Committee will be formed for Phase I of this project.</p> <p>This paper sets out a recommended membership for this Committee. The GSSB is requested to discuss and approve this proposed membership, or to suggest specific changes.</p> |

This document has been prepared by the GRI Standards Division. It is provided as a convenience to observers at meetings of the Global Sustainability Standards Board (GSSB), to assist them in following the Board's discussion. It does not represent an official position of the GSSB. Board positions are set out in the GRI Sustainability Reporting Standards. The GSSB is the independent standard-setting body of GRI. For more information visit [www.globalreporting.org](http://www.globalreporting.org).

# 1 I. Background

2 The Global Sustainability Standards Board (GSSB), GRI's independent standard setting body, has  
3 initiated a project to review the GRI human rights-related Standards.

4 In line with the GSSB's [Due Process Protocol](#), an ad hoc Technical Committee (TC) will be formed  
5 to develop draft recommendations for Phase I of this project. Phase I will be concerned with a  
6 conceptual review of the human rights contents in the GRI Standards, and overall alignment with the  
7 UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

8 This paper presents the proposed membership for the TC, for approval by the GSSB.

9 The proposed membership is consistent with the high-level viewpoints discussed and agreed to by  
10 the GSSB during its May 2017 virtual meeting. During this discussion, the GSSB agreed that it was  
11 important to have representation from Business, Civil Society, Labor, Mediating Institutions and  
12 Investors or other Information Users. The GSSB also emphasized the importance of ensuring that  
13 the majority of members are deeply familiar with the UN Guiding Principles and having at least two  
14 representatives from civil society organizations.

15 For more information about the project and the mandate of the TC, please see the [Project Proposal](#)  
16 and the Terms of Reference (See *Item 04* provided separately).

## 17 2. Selection criteria

18 In line with the GSSB's Due Process Protocol, Technical Committee (TC) members are appointed  
19 by the GSSB. The principal criterion for selecting TC members shall be relevant knowledge and  
20 experience relating to business and human rights. This includes deep familiarity with the UN Guiding  
21 Principles on Business and Human Rights.

22 The TC will aim to have at least one person drawn from each of the constituencies on which the  
23 membership of the GSSB is based: Business Enterprise (or reporters more generally), Civil Society,  
24 Investment Institutions (or other information users), Labor, and Mediating Institutions.

25 In addition, geographical, gender and cultural diversity will be considered, as well as the following  
26 criteria:

- 27 • Relevant knowledge of sustainability reporting
- 28 • Familiarity with the needs of users of sustainability reports
- 29 • Related experience with multi-stakeholder initiatives
- 30 • Understanding of and willingness to work in a consensus-based multi-stakeholder TC
- 31 • Ability to participate in TC meetings held in English and provide written English feedback  
32 when requested

### 33 3. Proposed Membership

34 The proposed TC membership in Table I on the next pages represents leading expertise in the  
35 business and human rights field globally.

36 The proposed group has strong expertise on the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human  
37 Rights. Three of the experts were directly involved in the development and drafting of the UN  
38 Guiding Principles. The group also includes experts directly involved in the development of the UN  
39 Guiding Principles Reporting Framework, the OECD's due diligence guidance, and the Corporate  
40 Human Rights Benchmark.

41 The proposed TC membership includes 10 members across the following constituencies:

- 42 • Business – 2 members
- 43 • Civil Society – 2 members
- 44 • Investment / Information Users – 1 members
- 45 • Labor – 1 member
- 46 • Mediating Institutions – 4 members

47 The group includes experts from Africa, Europe, Latin America, North America, and Oceania.

#### 48 Note on confirmed interest of candidates

49 All candidates have confirmed their interest and capacity to participate in the Technical Committee,  
50 except for Candidate 6 (from TUAC) and Candidate 7 (from OECD). Confirmation from these  
51 candidates of their capacity to participate was still pending at the time of submitting this paper to the  
52 GSSB. It is the intention to propose these candidates for membership, contingent on their confirmed  
53 ability to participate.

54 Table 1. Proposed Membership for GRI Technical Committee on Human Rights Disclosure

| Business  |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Candidate 1: Peter Hall</b>  |   |
| <b>Job title:</b> Adviser, Business & Human Rights/CSR                    | <p><u>Key viewpoints / experience:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Peter has extensive experience in business and human rights through his work at the UN Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the IOE and SHIFT</li> <li>He was involved in the development of the UN Guiding Principles Reporting Framework</li> </ul> <p><u>Extract of bio:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Before joining the IOE, Peter worked at the UN OHCHR, where he carried out fact-finding missions, delivered training on the Guiding Principles to governments, businesses and civil society organizations, organized global events, including the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights, and provided substantive advice and managed projects for the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights.</li> <li>Peter also worked for Shift on the development of the UN Guiding Principles Reporting Framework and represented the UK government at the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Organization:</b> International Organisation of Employers (IOE)        |   |
| <b>Region:</b> Europe (Switzerland)                                       |   |
| <b>Candidate 2: Vanessa Zimmerman</b>                                     |   |
| <b>Independent Expert</b>   | <p><u>Key viewpoints / experience:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vanessa was directly involved in the development and drafting of the UN Guiding Principles</li> <li>She now manages the implementation of the human rights strategy for a global mining group, working also on the human rights section of the company's report and its Modern Slavery Statement</li> </ul> <p><u>Extract of bio:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For the past 6 years Vanessa has managed the implementation of the human rights strategy at Rio Tinto. Vanessa holds various expert advisory roles including as Board Member of the Global Compact Network Australia and Chair of its Human Rights Leadership Group.</li> <li>Vanessa worked for 5 years as a Legal Advisor to the UN Special Representative on Business and Human Rights, Harvard Professor John Ruggie, including being part of the core team drafting the UN Guiding Principles.</li> <li>She was also recently appointed by the Foreign Minister to the Australian Government's Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Group on the Implementation of the UN Guiding Principles in Australia.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Region:</b> Oceania (Australia)  |   |
| <b>Civil Society</b>  |   |
| <b>Candidate 3: Tracey Davies</b>   |   |
| <b>Job title:</b> Programme Head: Corporate Accountability & Transparency | <p><u>Key viewpoints / experience:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tracey has extensive experience advocating for improved transparency and accountability around the detrimental impacts of polluting corporates on the environment and people</li> </ul> <p><u>Extract of bio:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tracey's work focuses on the role of the private sector in upholding and fulfilling environmental rights in South Africa.</li> <li>The CER's corporate accountability work is pioneering new methods to improve transparency and accountability around the detrimental impacts of polluting corporates on the environment and people, including through</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Organization:</b> Centre for Environmental Rights (CER)                |   |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Region:</b> Africa (South Africa)               | <p>analysis of company disclosures, criminal prosecution and shareholder activism.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tracey is admitted as an attorney in South Africa and a solicitor in England and Wales. After qualifying in South Africa, Tracey worked as a criminal and corporate litigator in London before joining the Centre in 2013.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Candidate 4: Juana Kweitel</b>                  |  |
| <b>Job title:</b> Executive Director               | <p><u>Key viewpoints / experience:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Juana has extensive experience working as a lawyer and human rights activist in Brazil and the Global South - Africa, Asia and Latin America</li> </ul> <p><u>Extract of bio:</u></p>  |
| <b>Organization:</b> Conectas Human Rights         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Juana has led the business and human rights program at Conectas, which aims to strengthen corporate accountability and liability mechanisms for human rights violations committed by the private sector, in particular by Brazilian companies operating in Brazil and abroad.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Region:</b> Latin America (Brazil)              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Juana serves on the Board of Trustees of Global Witness, the Brazil Human Rights Fund and on the Advisory Board of Open Global Rights.</li> <li>Juana has a Masters in International Human Rights Law from the University of Essex, United Kingdom, and in Political Science from the University of Sao Paulo. She holds a postgraduate degree in Human Rights and Democratic Transition from the University of Chile, and she graduated as a lawyer at the University of Buenos Aires (UBA).</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Investment Institutions / Information Users</b> |  |
| <b>Candidate 5: Margaret Wachenfeld</b>            |  |
| <b>Job title:</b> Managing Director                | <p><u>Key viewpoints / experience:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Margaret has extensive experience in the business and human rights field through her work at the Institute for Human Rights and Business and the Danish Institute for Human Rights, among others</li> <li>Margaret has been recently involved in the development of the Corporate Human Rights Benchmark</li> </ul> <p><u>Extract of bio:</u></p>  |
| <b>Organization:</b> Themis Research               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Margaret is an international lawyer and policy adviser with expertise and experience in applying and linking key international developments and standards related to human rights, human development, good governance, extractives, environment, and climate change to the work of international organizations and the private sector.</li> <li>She currently serves as a senior research fellow at the Institute for Human Rights and Business, where she is the focal point for IHRB's work in East Africa and the research lead for IHRB's work with the Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Region:</b> Europe (Belgium)                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Margaret started her career as legal counsel to the Danish Institute for Human Rights. After practicing law in a commercial firm, focusing on environmental and corporate responsibility issues, she joined the International Finance Corporation (IFC) (World Bank Group) to work on environmental and social dimensions of project finance transactions and later served as the principal human rights advisor at the IFC. More recently, Margaret was senior policy advisor to UNICEF, covering a wide range of child rights issues.</li> </ul>  |

| Labor  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Candidate 6: Kirstine Drew</b>  |   |
| <b>Job title:</b> Senior Policy Advisor  | <p><u>Key viewpoints / experience:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kirstine brings together relevant expertise in business and human rights and reporting with labor perspective</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Organization:</b> Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD (TUAC)                               | <p><u>Extract of bio:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kirstine is responsible for carrying out TUAC's work on the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises. This comprises coordinating trade union cases under the Guidelines, conducting training for trade unionists, and liaising with the OECD on the policy agenda.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Region:</b> Europe (France)   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kristine is member of GRI's Stakeholder Council.</li> </ul>  |
| Mediating Institutions   |   |
| <b>Candidate 7: Tyler Gillard</b>  |   |
| <b>Job title:</b> Manager of Sector Projects, Responsible Business Conduct Unit, Investment Division | <p><u>Key viewpoints / experience:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tyler has been involved in the development of due diligence guidance for different sectors at the OECD</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Organization:</b> Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)                   | <p><u>Extract of bio:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tyler manages the OECD's work on due diligence in the financial, textiles, mining &amp; metals, oil &amp; gas and agriculture sectors. Tyler joined the OECD in 2009 and led multi-stakeholder negotiation and agreement on the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict Affected and High-Risk Areas and its Supplement on Gold, and the adoption of the related OECD Council Recommendation on the Due Diligence Guidance.</li> <li>Before joining the OECD, Tyler was a fellow in international law at Columbia Law School, where he worked with the Human Rights Institute and the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment on responsible business conduct, international investment law and transparency in the extractive industry. Tyler has also worked with Human Rights Watch and for a number of years on local development and public-private dialogue throughout India.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Region:</b> Europe (France)   |   |
| <b>Candidate 8: Thomas Trier Hansen</b>  |   |
| <b>Job title:</b> Attorney   | <p><u>Key viewpoints / experience:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thomas has vast experience in the business and human rights field, including as a judge for the Court of Greenland</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Organization:</b> Nordic Law Group  | <p><u>Extract of bio:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thomas is specialized in corporate social responsibility, in particular human rights, labor rights and corruption issues, and advises companies on compliance and due diligence.</li> <li>Thomas has extensive experience from the Danish Judiciary. He was appointed as judge to the Court of Greenland and was the Head of the court from 2009 to 2011. He served as a temporary judge of the Eastern High Court of Denmark from 2008 to 2009. He has also been working for a number of years for the Danish Institute for Human Rights.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Region:</b> Europe (Denmark)  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thomas is member of GRI's Stakeholder Council.</li> </ul>  |

| <b>Candidate 9: Caroline Rees</b>  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Job title:</b> President and Co-Founder   | <p><u>Key viewpoints / experience:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Caroline was directly involved in the development and drafting of the UN Guiding Principles, and has led the development of the UN Guiding Principles Reporting Framework</li> </ul> <p><u>Extract of bio:</u></p>  |
| <b>Organization:</b> Shift   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Caroline has particularly focused on corporate reporting as a catalyst for improved human rights risk management and the development of the UN Guiding Principles Reporting Framework.</li> <li>She was deeply involved in the drafting of the UN Guiding Principles, and she led research and analysis on respect for human rights in the context of global supply chains, as well as consultations and field testing on different types of non-judicial grievance mechanisms for victims of corporate human rights impacts.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Region:</b> North America (United States)   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More recently she has been a leading voice on the need to change our understanding of how the UN Guiding Principles and corporate respect for human rights should contribute to achieving the global Sustainable Development Goals.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Candidate 10: Lene Wendland</b>   |   |
| <b>Job title:</b> Chief, Human Rights and Economic and Social Issues Section – Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division | <p><u>Key viewpoints / experience:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lene has vast experience in the business and human rights field and was directly involved in the development and drafting of the UN Guiding Principles</li> </ul> <p><u>Extract of bio:</u></p>   |
| <b>Organization:</b> Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lene has been leading the work on Business and Human Rights and CSR in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) for the past 15 years.</li> <li>In that capacity, she was a key member of the team of the former United Nations Special Representative on Business and Human Rights, John Ruggie, and a drafter of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.</li> <li>Lene heads the team implementing OHCHR's strategic and policy work related to business and human rights at the international, regional and national levels; leads OHCHR's involvement in the UN Global Compact, including on issues relating to policy development and development of tools and guidance material; and leads OHCHR's engagement with the business sector on human rights, including through providing strategic guidance and advice to companies on managing human rights risks throughout their operations.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Region:</b> Europe (Switzerland)  | <p><b>Please note</b> that due to an already very full schedule for the coming six months, Lene has asked to be joined by her colleague Adrienne Gardaz who will support her in contributing to the discussions of the Technical Committee.</p>   |

## 55 4. Next steps

Following GSSB approval, the Standards Division will confirm membership with proposed candidates. The Technical Committee is scheduled to start their work in late 2017, as per the timeline included in the Terms of Reference (See *Item 04* provided separately).