



Summary 29 June 2017 meeting
Meeting summary: Approved on 19 July

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Participants

Present:

Name	Constituency
Atilla Yerlikaya	Business Enterprise
Daniel Taillant	Civil Society Organization
Evan Harvey	Investment Institution
Judy Kuszewski	Chair
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
Vadakepatth Nandkumar	Mediating Institution

Apologies:

Name	Designation
Daniel Ingram	Investment Institution
Dwight Justice	Labor
Julia Wilson	Business Enterprise
Sulema Pioli	Mediating Institution

In attendance:

Name	Designation
Bastian Buck	Director, Standards Division
Chelsea Reinhardt	Deputy Director, Standards Division
Helen Miller	Assistant Governance Relations
Laura Espinach	Manager, Standards Division
Pamela Carpio	Senior Coordinator, Governance Relations

List of abbreviations

AOB	Any other business	SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
GRI	Global Reporting Initiative		
GSSB	Global Sustainability Standards Board		
OHS	Occupational health and safety		
PWG	Project working group		



1 Meeting summary

2 Please see a list of action and decision items deriving from the meeting on p. 5.

3 Session 1: Welcome and approval of meeting summar- 4 ies

5 The GSSB and attending GRI Secretariat staff were welcomed to the meeting and presented with
6 an overview of the [meeting agenda](#).

7 The GSSB unanimously approved the meeting summaries from the [24 May virtual meeting](#) with no
8 changes.

9 Session 2: Discuss rough draft of revised GRI 303: 10 Water and Effluents

11 The GSSB was presented with the most recent changes of the draft [GRI 303: Water and Efflu-](#)
12 [ents](#) based on the latest PWG calls as well as GSSB comments received prior the meeting.

13 The GSSB was invited to raise any fundamental content issues before the submission of the final
14 draft, which will go out to the GSSB on 5th July for approval before the public comment period.

15 The GSSB discussed:

- 16 • The definition of water consumption, and specifically whether consumption should in-
17 clude water returned to another source (but not the original source)
- 18 • The importance of including a specific requirement around agricultural runoff and related
19 impacts
- 20 • The importance of reporting on impacts in water-stressed areas
- 21 • The importance of water recycling/ reuse
- 22 • Including a more prominent reference to the UN resolution on human right to water

23
24 The Standards Division acknowledged the discussion points and agreed to pass on all points
25 to the PWG for consideration. The GSSB members were asked to provide any additional in-
26 put or concerns with the draft by 30 June 2017.



28 Session 3: Discuss rough draft of revised GRI 403: 29 Occupational Health and Safety

30 The GSSB was presented with the most recent changes of the draft [GRI 403: Occupational](#)
31 [Health and Safety](#) based on the latest PWG calls as well as GSSB comments received.

32 The GSSB was then invited to raise any fundamental content issues before the submission of the
33 final draft, which will go out to the GSSB on 5th July for approval before the public comment pe-
34 riod.

35 The GSSB raised the following points:

- 36 • A definition of “formal committees” should be developed, to clarify the meaning of the
37 reporting requirement. The Standards Division will work with the PWG to develop this
38 definition.
- 39 • The importance of stressing the right to privacy, in the context of workers’ health pro-
40 motion programs. The Standards Division clarified that the draft includes a reference to
41 the right to privacy (lines 173-176), and two reporting recommendations (lines 473-476)
42 on how the organization ensures the confidentiality of personal information related to
43 workers’ health and that this information is not used for discriminatory purposes. This
44 will be stressed even more in the next iteration of the draft, which will also include a ref-
45 erence to the ILO Code of practice on Protection of workers’ personal data.
- 46 • Either the number or the rate of work-related injuries should be requested, but not
47 both. The Standards Division clarified that new guidance has been developed explaining
48 the value of reporting both the absolute data and the rate.
- 49 • The number of work-related illnesses for workers who are not employees should not be
50 required, since this information is too difficult to obtain. The Standards Division clarified
51 that organizations are required to explain whether any workers have been excluded, and
52 why, if this information is not available for workers who are not employees.
- 53 • Cross-referencing the draft disclosures with the SDGs, in particular SDG 3.

54 The Standards Division acknowledged the comments and will share the input with the PWG. The
55 GSSB members were asked to provide additional comments offline by 30 June 2017, after which
56 the Standards Division will proceed to consolidate the feedback.

57 Session 4: Update on second set of review projects: 58 Tax, Economic Topics, and Human Rights Standards

59 The GSSB was presented with an update on planning and processes of project introduced during
60 the last call on 24 May 2017. There were no comments or questions from the GSSB.



61 Session 5: AOB

62 The GSSB was presented with [Item 04 – Summary of technical questions on the GRI Standards](#).
63 No concerns were raised at this moment. Item 04 was recognized as a standing working item
64 and the GSSB would come back to the summary during its working process.

65 An enquiry was received from the Taiwanese stock exchange on whether there are any reserva-
66 tions on postponing the required adoption of the GRI G4 in Taiwan to beginning of 2019. The
67 Standards Division anticipates that enquiries from regulators will be received more frequently go-
68 ing forward.

69 The Standards Division together with the Chair recommends to draft individual responses to
70 these enquiries, recognizing that regulatory schedules are often different to the effective date of
71 the Standard itself determined by the GSSB. The responding letter would thereby be reflective of
72 this reality and propose regulators to determine themselves the schedule by when the Standards
73 become effective. The Standards Division will provide a draft responding letter to the Chair for
74 review and sign-off. The letter will be shared with the GSSB for reference. The GSSB was sup-
75 portive of this approach.

76 The GSSB was reminded of the date change of the GSSB in-person meeting from the 19-20 Sep-
77 tember to 20-21 September.

78 Session 6: Private session – update on GRI activities 79 and administrative issues

80 The Chair led the closed GSSB session. No resolutions were made during this session which re-
81 quired recorded minutes.

82 Decisions and Action Items

83 DECISIONS

84 Session 1:

85 **GSSB Decision 2017.16** The GSSB approved the summary of the in-person meeting held 24
86 May 2017

87 ACTIONS

88 Standards Division:

89 Session 2 and 3:

- 90 • The Standards Division to pass on comments and discussion points from the GSSB to the
91 respective PWGs for consideration

92 Session 5:



- 93 - Consider for future Standards releases to proactively correspond with regulators on ef-
94 fective dates and invite their feedback
95 - Share draft responding letter with Chair for review and sign-off
96 - Share final letter with GSSB for reference

97 **GSSB members:**

98 Session 2:

- 99 • GSSB members were asked to provide additional comments to the Standards Division by
100 30 June 2017

101 Session 3:

- 102 • GSSB members were asked to provide additional comments to the Standards Division by
103 30 June 2017