



Summary 4 August 2016 meeting
Meeting summary – Approved by GSSB on 30 August 2016

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Participants

Present:

Name	Constituency
Daniel Ingram	Investment Institution
Daniel Taillant	Civil Society Organization
David Russell	Business
Dwight Justice	Labor
Judy Kuszewski	Mediating Institution
Jürgen Buxbaum	Labor
Kirsten Margrethe Hovi	Business
Michael Nugent (Vice-Chair)	(Mediating Institution)
Simeon Cheng	Business
Stiaan Wandrag	Business
Sulema Pioli	Mediating Institution
Vadakepatth Nandkumar	Mediating Institution

Apologies:

Name	Designation
Hidemi Tomita	Business
Robin Edme	Mediating Institution

In attendance:

Name	Designation
Bastian Buck	Director, Standards Division
Chelsea Reinhardt	Deputy Director, Standards Division
Laura Espinach	Manager, Standards Division
Pamela Carpio	Senior Coordinator, Governance Relations
Tina Nybo Jensen	Senior Coordinator, Governance Relations

List of abbreviations

GRI	Global Reporting Initiative	OH&S	Occupational Health and Safety
GSSB	Global Sustainability Standards Board		

1 Meeting summary

2 Please see a list of decision and action items deriving from the meeting on pp. 4-5.

3 Session 1: Welcome and approval of previous meeting 4 summary

5 The GSSB Vice-Chair (henceforth, “the Vice-Chair”) welcomed everyone to the meeting. An over-
6 view of the meeting was presented and the Vice-Chair moved for the approval of [Item 01 – Sum-
7 mary 23 June 2016 virtual meeting](#).

8 The GSSB provided following comments

- 9 • Revise the text in line 10 “The GSSB moved and unanimously and supported this decision”
- 10 • Update “circulated” in line 17 to “circulate”
- 11 • Amend lines 39-40 to: “The timeline for the upcoming activities related to the Transition
12 to Standards Project was noted by the GSSB”
- 13 • Amend lines 47 and 58 to: “The GSSB supported the decision by consensus”

14 The GSSB approved the meeting summary by consensus with the amendments noted in this meet-
15 ing summary.

16 Session 2: Follow-up Discussion on Public Consulta- 17 tion Feedback

18 Based on the consultation feedback and the comments provided by the GSSB members, the
19 GSSB was presented with an update on: recommendations from the Employee/Worker Technical
20 Committee, definition of “Impacts”, merging the universal Standards and mock-up of combined
21 GRI 101 and 201, and guidance text around Core and Comprehensive claims.

22 The GSSB discussed:

- 23 • Reverting to the G4 definition of ‘young worker’. The GSSB discussed comments re-
24 ceived during the public comment period suggesting to revert back to the G4 definition
25 of young worker as a worker under the age of 18 years.
- 26 • The suggested use of the generic term ‘worker’ in OH&S-related terms in the Glossary
- 27 • Options to simplify the phrase: *workers performing work that is controlled by the organization*
28 *or that is being performed in workplaces that the organization controls* in GRI 603: Occupa-
29 tional Health and Safety. The GSSB was requested to provide specific feedback through
30 the A.nnotate platform.
- 31 • The suggested revised definition of ‘impacts’ in the Glossary and the Foundation Stand-
32 ard. The GSSB agreed that the primary focus should be on impacts on the economy, en-
33 vironment, or society; however, this should acknowledge the relationship with conse-
34 quences for the organization. The GSSB felt the proposed definition from the Standards
35 Division is moving in the right direction and suggested that further comments from GSSB
36 members can be made via the A.nnotate platform.

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- After reviewing the mock-up version of GRI 101 and 201 combined into one Standard the GSSB agreed to maintain the three universal Standards as separate documents. The Standards Division agreed to explore options for renumbering them into one series (e.g. the “GRI 100 series”) and to send a follow-up email to the GSSB with further considerations of what this would entail.
 - The format and content of the “Basis for conclusions” document. The Standards Division will develop an updated version of [Agenda Item 2 – Draft Summary of Consultation Feedback](#), taking into account comments from GSSB members. This document will eventually form the foundation for the published “Basis for Conclusions” document.

46 Session 3: Latest Version of Topic Boundary Disclosure and Guidance

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48 The GSSB was presented with [Agenda Item 3 – Revised Topic Boundary](#) in order to continue the discussion on this subject from the 21 July GSSB virtual meeting. The GSSB was briefed on the main findings from the Public Consultation Feedback and the internal research findings.

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51 The GSSB discussed:

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- Whether it is necessary to keep the term ‘topic Boundary’ to describe this disclosure
 - The inclusion of the ‘value chain’ concept in the topic Boundary disclosures
 - How best to clarify that this disclosure covers impacts the organization *contributes to* or is *directly linked to*, in addition to those it causes
 - Alternative terms for the word ‘entity’ in the disclosure and guidance

57 The GSSB was asked to provide feedback on whether the examples on how to report on topic boundary and the explanation of how to group entities together by their attributes in the guidance, [Agenda Item 3 – Revised Topic Boundary](#) line 7-41, are fit for purpose. Any language specific suggestions are welcomed.

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61 Session 4: Next Steps and AOB

62 The Standards Division and the Vice-Chair encouraged the GSSB to provide comments on the Draft Standards via the online A.nnotate platform at their earliest convenient and no later than 10 August 2016.

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65 Decisions and Action Items

66 DECISIONS

67 Session 1

68 **GSSB Decision 2016.022** The GSSB approved the summary of the meeting held 21 July 2016 with the amendments noted in this summary.

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70 Session 2

71 **GSSB Decision 2016.023** The GSSB agreed to keep the Foundation Standard, General Disclo-
72 sures, and Management Approach as separate Standards, while investigating the option to renum-
73 ber them into one series.

74 **GSSB Decision 2016.024** The GSSB agreed to revert to the G4 definition of young worker.

75 Session 3

76 **GSSB Decision 2016.025** The GSSB agreed to keep the term “Topic boundary”, while contin-
77 uing to work on simplifying the disclosure and guidance.

78 *The GSSB supported the decisions by consensus.*

79 **ACTIONS**

80 **Secretariat**

- 81 • Update the 21 July meeting summary based on the comments noted in this meeting sum-
82 mary.

83 **Standards Division**

- 84 • Send out a follow-up email to the GSSB with further considerations for re-numbering the
85 Foundation Standard, General Disclosures, and Management Approach as all part of the
86 same series
- 87 • Revise the definition of ‘Impacts’ based on the comments received during this meeting
88 and the feedback received through the A.nnotate platform.
- 89 • Revise [Agenda Item 2 – Draft Summary of Consultation Feedback](#) with input from individual
90 GSSB members where this has been provided
- 91 • Revise topic Boundary disclosure and guidance based on GSSB comments during this
92 meeting and on the A.nnotate platform.

93 **GSSB members**

- 94 • Review their assigned draft Standards, and give any additional comments on the issues
95 discussed in the 4 August meeting via the A.nnotate platform by 10 August 2016