

Participants

Steering Committee Members

- Patrick Moriarty, Steering Committee Chair (PM)
- Catarina de Albuquerque, SWA CEO (CTA)

Civil Society Organizations

- John Sparks, Millenium Water Alliance (JS)
- Mohammed Zobair Hasan, DORP (MZH)
- Nathalie Seguin, FAN Mex (NS)
- Sareen Malik, ANEW (SM)

External Support Agencies

- Guy Hutton, UNICEF (GH)
- Kelly Ann Naylor, UNICEF (KN)
- Lisa Schechtman, USAID (LS)
- Sue Coates, WSSCC (SC)

Governments

- André Patindé Nonguierna, Burkina Faso (AN)
- Diana Carlos, Portugal (DC)
- Djoouro Bocoum, Mali (DB)
- Do Manh Cuong, Viet Nam (DMC)
- Fousseni Palenfo, Burkina Faso (FP)
- Khalid Massa, Tanzania (KM)
- Makhosini Khoza, Eswatini (MK)
- Maria Bethania Tellechea López, Paraguay (MBT)
- Pie Djivo, Benin (PD)
- Rabab Hassan Abbas, Egypt (RHA)
- Ramakanta Duwadi, Nepal (RD)
- Yamileth Astorga Espeleta, Costa Rica (YA)

Private Sector

- Neil Dhot, Aquafed (ND)
- Nicholas Igwe, Zenith Water Projects (NI)

Research and Learning

- Anna Virginia Machado, LabGea (AM)
- Erma Uytewaal, IRC (EU)

Observers

- Bruce Gordon, WHO (BC)
- Canisius Kanangire, AMCOW (CK)
- Federico Properzi, UN-Water (FP)
- Fiona Gore, WHO (FG)
- Kitchinme Bawa, AMCOW (KB)

Guests

- Paul Deverill – Chair High-Level-Political-Dialogue WG (PD)

Secretariat

- Angie Saleh, Governance and Partnerships (AS) (for agenda item 2 only)
- Catarina Fonseca, Consultant (CF) (for agenda item 4 only)
- Cesarina Quintana, Regional Coordinator - Latin America (CQ) (for agenda item 3 only)
- Heloise Chicou, CSO Adviser (HC)
- Joost Kooijmans, COO (JK) (for agenda item 3 only)
- Ludovica Bartoli, Programme Officer (LB)
- Marissa Streyle, Technical Advisor – Africa and Asia (MS) (for agenda item 3 only)
- Muyatwa Sitali, Country Engagement (MS) (for agenda item 3 only)
- Nompumelelo Ntshalintshali-Motsa, Regional Coordinator - Africa (NNM) (for agenda item 3 only)
- Siddhartha Das, Regional Coordinator – Asia and Pacific (SD) (for agenda item 3 only)
- Soumaya Benbouchta, Executive Officer (SB)

SC Member and Observers who did not attend:

- Parameswaran Iyer, World Bank
- Keph Ombacho, Kenya
- Pim Van Der Male, The Netherlands
- Sumaira Gul, AHKMT

Summary of Decisions

Decision 1: Agenda

The Steering Committee approves the agenda for the meeting.

Decision 2: Minutes

The Steering Committee approves the minutes of its June 2020 meeting.

Decision 3: Handbook for Finance Ministers

The Steering Committee asks the Secretariat to organize a webinar on the Handbook for the governance bodies including SC members, constituency leads and WG members to ensure full understanding and adequate dissemination of the Handbook.

Decision 4: Regional Roadmaps

The SC a) acknowledges the hard work of the regional roadmap development committees, thanks them for their proposals and provisionally approves them. b) requests the PSSC to refine them with the addition of indicators, make sure they are aligned with the Strategic framework 2020-2030, bring them into a common format and address expectations about roles.

Decision 5: Systems and Finance Work Group (SFWG)

The SC a) acknowledges the proposals by the interim Chair of the SFWG, thanks them for their work and requests them to continue with their proposed actions. b) requests the SFWG to appoint their Chair and Co-Chair, one of them being from the Global South.

Decision 6: New Constituency

The SC a) accepts the proposal to create a new constituency for Utilities and Regulators; b) requests partners to recruit new partners for this new constituency and c) requests the Governance and Finance Sub-Committee to make recommendations to the SC on any possible governance implications of this decision.

Decision 7: Next SC meeting

The Steering Committee agrees that the next SC meeting shall take place on 16 and 17 December 2020 in a virtual format.

Summary of Actions

Actions	Responsible	Deadline
Action 1: The Secretariat to do a targeted lobbying as part of the FMMs preparatory process.	Secretariat	During FMMs preparatory process
Action 2: The Secretariat to reach out to Finance Ministers from countries of which the national leader has signed the Global Call to Action.	Secretariat	Ahead of the FMMs
Action 3: The Secretariat to proceed with the development of the Global Roadmap as planned, ensuring alignment with the reviewed Regional Roadmaps.	Secretariat	Ahead of December SC Meeting
Action 4: The Secretariat to support the Prog&Strat-SC to set-up the calls needed to discuss the Regional Roadmaps with SC members who presented them at this meeting.	Secretariat	Ahead of December SC Meeting
Action 5: To agree on a common list of minimum support that Sub-Committees and WGs can expect from the Secretariat	Secretariat	Ahead of December SC Meeting
Action 6: The Gov&Fin-SC co-chair to further develop the proposal for submission in December 2020 and to keep the new constituency as a standing agenda point for next SC meetings until further notice.	GFSC co-chair	For December SC Meeting
Action 7: The Private-Sector election to be held as planned.	PS Constituency	After December SC Meeting, as approved by EOC

Note: all decisions were taken during the Executive Session, but for clarity they are included in the minutes in sessions where the main discussion happened.

Session 1: Introductions and Overview

PM welcomed the Steering Committee (SC) and asked its members to declare any potential conflicts of interest. No conflicts were declared. He then gave an overview of the agenda, which was approved. PM drew attention to the Minutes of the June SC meeting particularly to the addendum made to decision #6 on CSO New Partner applications. The minutes were approved, with the inclusion of the addendum.

CTA guided the group through the list of pending decisions and actions from previous SC meetings and corresponding progress and status.

Secretariat Activities: CTA first explained that the Secretariat is still working in COVID mode to protect the health of all colleagues. She pointed out that during the reopening phase, the return to the office is voluntary until further notice. CTA expressed her satisfaction with how the Secretariat has been working as a team in the current context and with its engagement and productivity all throughout this challenging period.

Resource Mobilization Activities: CTA updated the SC members on: a) the signature of a 4-year partnership with FCDO (former DFID) for total of 3 million British pounds; b) submission of proposals to the Netherlands and Sweden for multi-year partnerships; c) current discussion on a longer-term partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation; d) current cultivation of new potential donors and e) the acquisition of long-term services of an experienced resource mobilization company (DevSmart).

Regional Roadmaps: CTA gave an overview of progress the following the December 2019 approval by the SC of the Strategic Framework for 2020-2030 and of the timeline for the development of the remaining elements of the Framework during 2020.

Call to Action, follow up: CTA then outlined planned follow-up with a focus on: (a) communications through recurring social media coverage, Op-Eds and new content development; (b) follow-up with leaders and partners through the transmission of physical copies of the Financial Times to signatories, the elaboration of a matrix inventory of activities and initiatives and offering support on how to use the Call to Action at national level; (c) contributing to, and triggering of, the Mutual Accountability Mechanism (MAM) through partners' review of commitments tabled under the MAM; and (d) expanding the Call to Action by identifying additional signatories.

Call to Action, impact: CTA underlined the impact including Spain and Germany's reference to it in the HRC HRTWS draft resolution; the joint op-ed with the ILO DG; USAID's organization of a Handwashing Day event; the unprecedented interest by signatories from ESA agencies in the FMM; increased visibility particularly among "non-WASH" leaders; as well as other, more intangible impact that has reverberated in day to day work.

Webinars: CTA also briefed the SC on webinars held since the last meeting. A recent example is the webinar on 3 September to launch the Handbook for Finance Ministers and the 2020 Finance Ministers' Meetings Preparatory Process. On September 24 SWA will host a second webinar on the preparatory process for the upcoming FMMs on the theme "*Build Forward Better - economic opportunities offered by WASH*" with the aim of providing participants with the latest analysis and messaging on the benefits of investing in WASH and preparing sector leaders to engage with their finance ministers, other decision makers and agencies in their countries on the need for increased investments for the sector.

Finance Ministers Handbook: CTA noted that it was developed with key experts and launched with Kevin Rudd and the Nigerian Finance and Sector Ministers on 3 September. The Handbook has been

designed to empower ministers deliver universal access to water and sanitation by providing concrete examples of how investments in water and sanitation can help achieve broader economic and social objectives; how governments can help de-risk and incentivize improved performance in the sector to attract greater market finance; as well as, how this additional finance can then be applied. It has been made available in e-format with hardcopies being transmitted to Finance and Sector Ministers, and Permanent Missions to the UN.

Human Resources: The Secretariat has been working on ensuring a competitive process in recruiting that meets the standards set forth by the partnership and the hosting organisation of each of the positions. Recruitment has been finalized for LNEC hosted colleagues (Constituency Engagement Specialist and Country Liaison Officer), IRC hosted colleagues (Monitoring & Evaluation and Knowledge Management Specialist and Mutual Accountability Mechanism Coordinator) as well as the Recruitment of TA P3 Digital Officer and P5 Senior Strategy and Policy Adviser.

Decision 1: Agenda

The Steering Committee approves the agenda for the meeting.

Decision 2: Minutes

The Steering Committee approves the minutes of the June 2020 meeting.

Session 2: 2020 Finance Ministers' Meetings Update

Paul Deverill (PD) presented an update on the upcoming FMMs, on behalf of the High-Level-Political-Dialogue-WG. He reminded SC members that there will be three regional virtual FMMs covering Africa; Latin American and the Caribbean as well as the Asia-Pacific regions, convened by two global partners (UNICEF and the World Bank Water Global Practice), as well as by regional development banks. In the case of Africa, AMCOW is also a regional co-convenor.

PD explained that the meetings will be held virtually drawing on the extensive work undertaken for the original event and material from the Handbook for Finance Ministers, with a strong COVID focus. The objective, PD emphasized, is to strengthen workable partnerships with Finance Ministers for SMART investments in water, sanitation and hygiene given the central role of WASH in COVID-19 recovery and response plans. He stressed opportunities to showcase (a) the key role of WASH in response and recovery efforts; (b) employment opportunities arising from extending services to the underserved; and (c) practical actions that Finance Ministers can take to mobilize additional domestic finance for WASH, drawing on case studies and the Finance Ministers Handbook.

In terms of positioning, PD clarified that the FMMs will be promoted as the “go to” events for the sector in support of the SDGs. The meetings will provide a compelling vision for the sector drawing on High-level participation from UNICEF, the World Bank and Regional Development Banks.

On the expected outcomes, Finance Ministers will be persuaded of the need to do business better using WASH as an integral part of a national COVID recovery strategy; and of the advantages of collaborating with national WASH stakeholders and supranational partners. Each meeting will be approximately 2 hours long. The meetings' dates will be 4 November (Africa), 18 November (LAC) and 2 December (Asia) 2020. The events will include interventions from select water and health Ministers, but the overriding focus will be on FM. FMMs will not be a technical masterclass in WASH but rather provide examples that illustrate key challenges, opportunities, and responsibilities.

Meetings will feature (a) an opening session; (b) framing session focusing on WASH in national COVID-19 response plans, and (c) a main session with panel discussion among Ministers of Finance on case study material, alongside SWA partners from different constituencies that will transition into a dialogue with additional inputs from water and health ministers and leaders from SWA constituencies.

PM thanked PD and congratulated all involved on the Handbook, he encouraged SC members to become familiar with it and use it. CTA specified that speakers will be invited to the FMMs, which will be live streamed to a general audience. PD explained that on communications, the goal is to maximize the number of people watching the meetings. A communications strategy led by Alexandra Reis to publicize the event in advance is in place using digital media.

ND noted the need for a resolution that calls on constituency leads to ensure that the Handbook is communicated, and the expertise contained therein is taught to the rest of the partners and non-partners. PD agreed on the need to fully utilize the Handbook's significant potential.

MS explained that the FMMs preparation process was launched at the beginning of September, the invited country partners have been requested to join bilateral conversations with SWA Regional Coordinators. Some of the activities requested are for partners to use the multi-stakeholder process at country level, to analyze WASH finance in relation to the topics of the FMM and support minister's preparations. WASH finance week, the week before each FMM, to strengthen visibility and put WASH financing on the map.

In response to JS's question on lobbying at country level, PD emphasized that well targeted and structured lobbying for Ministerial participation would be useful. There was also agreement on the usefulness of reaching out to the signatories of the Global Call to Action. If a national leader has signed up, SWA will have additional gravitas to persuade the FM to join.

Decision 3: Handbook for Finance Ministers

The Steering Committee asks the Secretariat to organize a webinar on the Handbook for the governance bodies including SC members, constituency leads and WG members to ensure full understanding and adequate dissemination of the Handbook.

Action 1: The Secretariat to do a well targeted structured and planned lobbying as part of the FMMs preparatory process.

Action 2: The Secretariat to reach out to Finance Ministers from countries of which the national leader has signed the Global Call to Action.

Session 3: Strategy Process Update and Regional Roadmaps Consideration

JK introduced the Regional Roadmaps process. The process included several consultative sessions, overseen by the Regional Roadmap Development Committees in the four regions and supported by the Secretariat and TPI team. JK presented government responses and results on the familiarity with SWA by constituency.

SC members, who are members of the Regional Roadmaps Development Committees gave brief presentations on the Roadmaps by region. MZH presented the roadmap for Asia Pacific, illustrating the region's gaps and challenges including funding, partnerships, shared learning and accountability issues and providing recommendations and potential solutions. These included ideas for SWA to (a) convene regional fora; (b) foster cross-sector dialogue; (c) design mechanisms to align and support work of regional platforms; (d) invest in a private sector engagement strategy and (e) design a regional activation dashboard for its MAM.

NS presented the roadmap for Latin America and the Caribbean introducing challenges, including the lack of (a) reliable, updated and disaggregated data; (b) financial, technical and social capacity at subnational level, (c) articulation among national agencies and counterparts and (d) stakeholder participation in decision making platforms. As opportunities and SWA contributions, she named the strength of a multi-stakeholder regional platform on WASH to foster collaboration of different sectors,

support countries and stakeholders to participate and collaborate in the multi-stakeholder platform and to develop an SWA added-value strategy for LAC.

SM presented the roadmap for MENA noting SWA's limited traction in the region. Primary activities include (a) work with existing partners to strengthen engagement and adoption of SWA Framework, as well as promote the investment case in the region; (b) the extension of SWA reach; and (c) localizing the SDGs.

NI presented the roadmap for Sub-Saharan Africa. It features (a) building political will to eliminate inequalities in WASH; (b) championing multi-stakeholder approaches to achieve universal access; and (c) rallying stakeholders for system performance and new investments.

LS congratulated everyone on the regional roadmaps and asked for a mapping of the roadmaps against the Global Strategy and Results Framework. She called for a provisional approval of these documents while allowing for a Sub-Committee discussion with the leads who wrote and presented the roadmaps. PM echoed Lisa and proposed to acknowledge the work done and next steps. JK noted the framing questions outlined in the development process. The SC agreed to LS's proposals.

LS asked to give Prog&Strat-SC members time to convene and discuss the roadmaps. SC members emphasized the need for the roadmaps to have SMART indicators and to be context specific. CTA emphasized the importance for the Secretariat of having the roadmaps to develop the Global Roadmap by December 2020 as requested by the SC. PM suggested that both processes can be conducted in parallel to ensure alignment.

CTA explained that as the Secretariat will be preparing for the FMMs, hence there will be limited support available from the Country Engagement Team and the TPI colleagues will not be available anymore. The Secretariat can help to set up the Prog&Strat-SC meetings, JK and CTA can support, but the partners should lead on this process. EU echoed CTA's point on the fact that a lot of the responsibility is put on the shoulders of the RA and the Secretariat. She highlighted the importance for SWA partners to take ownership and drive the RR for meaningful impact. PM noted the need for clarity on plans and roadmaps and the associated responsibilities for SWA and partners.

KAN noted the link between SWA roadmaps and regional community initiatives like the African Sanitation Policy Guidelines (ASPG) in Africa, and processes like AfricaSan and SACOSAN.

Decision 4: Regional Roadmaps

The SC a) acknowledges the hard work of the regional roadmap development committees, thanks them for their proposals and provisionally approves them b) requests the Prog&Strat-SC to refine them with the addition of indicators, make sure they are aligned with the Strategic framework 2020-2030, bring them into a common format and address expectations about roles.

Action 3: The Secretariat to proceed with the development of the Global Roadmap as planned, ensuring alignment with the reviewed Regional Roadmaps.

Action 4: The Secretariat to support the PSSC to set-up the calls needed to discuss the Regional Roadmaps with SC members who presented them at this meeting.

Session 4: Objective 3 WG Update

Guy Hutton (GH), Systems and Finance Work Group's Interim Chair, reported on the progress of the Group. He walked the SC members through a brief introduction, explaining that the WG was set up in response to the new SWA Objective 3 and to the ambitious expectations of the SC to move beyond

periodic FMMs to a more continuous engagement and partnership-building on finance. GH emphasized the need for strong systems for financing.

GH presented the objectives of the WG, the two proposed major roles, the related work streams and the three main pillars. He explained that the WG will look for additional members, to leverage skills and engage organizations working in the three areas of (a) systems strengthening; (b) public; and (c) private finance. He also summarized feedback from the first WG meeting with governments, WB/UN agencies, PS, CSO and R&L. He concluded by giving an overview of the WG budget and resources and outlined support from WG members and budgets for activities provided by partners.

DB welcomed the decision of creating this WG and emphasized the great value of this initiative, offering opportunities for exchange with partners and for mutual learning opportunities for African countries. He recommended the WG to have a co-chair from the global South. GH emphasized the need for SWA to be better connected and gain a foothold on the SDG 6 financing agenda. PM acknowledged the background paper and stressed the need to link and align this work to leverage SWA expertise and voice on finance. GH pointed to the need to explore evidence on financing flows from household and community up to national and donors.

GH echoed DB recommendation of having a co-chair from the South. PM commended this WG to broaden its membership. DB, supported by LS, expressed the need for this WG to address the difficult context and provide support where it is most needed with guidance from relevant SWA partners. He also commended the interim chair for the WG's work.

CTA noted that the secretariat is currently planning activities for both 2021 and 2022 on the basis of the WG's decisions, recommendations and priorities. Patrick underlined the importance for the WG to be clear about needs for support from the secretariat and called on all WG's to think about this to enable the most effective support.

Decision 5: SFWG

The SC a) acknowledges the proposals by the interim Chair of the Systems&Finance-WG, thanks them for their work and requests them to continue with their proposed actions. b) requests the SFWG to appoint its Chair and Co-Chair, one of them being from the Global South.

Action 5: To agree on a common list of minimum support that Sub-Committees and WGs can expect from the Secretariat

Session 5: GFSC: New Constituency for utilities and regulators

ND presented progress on the new constituency for utilities and regulators proposal, which was agreed in principle by the SC who asked the Gov&Fin-SC to submit a proposal in more details in September. He reiterated the June SC decision to explore the possibility of a new SWA constituency and to have a plan to enable the creation of a constituency by December 2020. The constituency is to engage a) individual public utility operator organizations, b) regional, national or international association of public utility operators, c) private water operators, d) regulatory bodies and e) regulatory associations.

On governance and logistics, SC members raised several questions about the number of seats that should be attributed to the new constituency. CTA reminded members of the decision to have an equal number of governments and non-governments on the SC. DB supported ND proposal and mentioned that utilities play a vital role in the sector which should translate into a minimum number of seats on the SC. ND noted that of the 24 members of the PS constituency, only 3 are in the utility business and

that the rest is engaged in other areas.

PM noted a) the broad agreement of SC members to create a constituency for regulators and utilities and b) that this should be separate from those questions raised that related to governance issues which should be further discussed and decided in the Gov&Fin-SC.

ND reiterated that there is a need for a safe place for regulators to come and talk to each other and work together in the partnership as well as for utilities to engage in a dialogue with Ministers. PM supported this notion.

PM noted the consensus on moving ahead with the creation of the new constituency requiring addressing questions on how to balance the role of government as owner of public utilities and how to avoid replicating existing utility networks. In moving forward a concrete proposal should be developed. PM acknowledged a common desire not to expand the SC substantially.

Decision 6: New Constituency

The SC a) accepts the proposal to create a new constituency for Utilities and Regulators; b) requests partners to recruit new partners for this new constituency and c) requests the Governance and Finance Sub-Committee to make recommendations to the SC on any possible governance implications of this decision.

Action 6: The GFSC co-chair to further develop the proposal for submission in December 2020 and to keep the new constituency as a standing agenda point for next SC meetings until further notice.

Action 7: The PS election to be held as planned.

Session 6: Decisions

SC members agreed on all decisions summarized on page 2 of these minutes.

Session 7: AOB

PM confirmed the dates of the next virtual SC, which will take place on December 16 and 17, 2020. PM greeted SC members, including those whose mandates will end after the ongoing elections and emphasized the importance of the contribution of SC members to SWA's work. He thanked the Secretariat for an excellent meeting and asked to share the PPT a day in advance for future SC meetings.

PM adjourned the meeting.

Decision 7: Next SC meeting

The Steering Committee decides that the next SC meeting shall take place on 16 and 17 December 2020 in a virtual format.