



Minutes Steering Committee Meeting 21-22 June 2022

Sanitation and Water for All Steering Committee meeting – 21 & 22 June 2022

Minutes

Participants

- Mr. Patrick Moriarty, Steering Committee Chair
- Ms. Catarina de Albuquerque, SWA CEO

Governments

Eastern and Southern Africa

- Mr. Dhoba Lovemore, Zimbabwe
- Mr. Makhosini Khoza, Eswatini
- Mr. Abiy Girma Woledeselassie, Ethiopia
- Mr. Abera Endeshaw Abebe, Ethiopia

East Asia and the Pacific

- H.E. Mr. Oak Rabun, Cambodia

Latin American and Caribbean

- Ms. Alba Heredia Sena, Dominican Republic

South Asia

- Ms. Meena Shrestha, Nepal

West and Central Africa

- Mr. Djoouro Bocoum, Mali
- Ms. Oluyemisi Akpa, Nigeria
- Ms. Bragori Adjoua Helene Epse Yocolly, Côte d'Ivoire

Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States

- Ms. Diana Carlos, Portugal

Civil Society Organizations

- Ms. Barbara Schreiner, Water Integrity Network
- Ms. Nathalie Seguin, FANMex
- Ms. Sareen Malik, ANEW
- Mr. Seetharam M.R., VILD foundation
- Mr. Mohammed Zobair Hasan, Development Organisation of the Rural Poor (DORP)

External Support Agencies

- Ms. Kelly Ann Naylor, UNICEF
- Mr. Guy Hutton, UNICEF
- Ms. Joke Baak, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands
- Ms. Rekiya Adamu, UNICEF (FSO)
- Ms. Sue Coates, Sanitation and Hygiene Fund (SHF)
- Mr. Paul Deverill, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO)

Private Sector

- Ms. Alex Knezovich, Toilet Board Coalition
- Mr. Nicholas Igwe, Zenith Water Projects

Research and Learning

- Ms. Madeleine Fodge, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)
- Russel Chidya, Mzuzu University

Utilities and Regulators

- Mr. Oscar Pintos - ADERASA

Observers

- Mr. Federico Properzi, UN-Water
- Mr. Bruce Gordon, WHO
- Ms. Comfort Kanshio, AMCOW

Secretariat

- Ms. Alexandra Reis, Communications
- Ms. Angie Saleh, Governance and Partnerships
- Mr. Christophe Pasquier, Resource Mobilization
- Ms. Lucinda O'Hanlon, Policy and Strategy
- Ms. Lucia Vidal, Administrative Support
- Ms. Ludovica Bartoli, Governance and Partnerships
- Mr. Muyatwa Sitali, Country Engagement

SC Members and Observers who did not attend:

- Ms. Majeda Alawneh, Palestine
- Mr. Oscar Izquierdo Sandí, Costa Rica

Summary of Decisions

Decision 1: Agenda

The Steering Committee approves the agenda for the meeting.

Decision 2: Updated Budget and Workplan

The Steering Committee approves the updated budget and workplan and asks the Secretariat to start implementing it as necessary.

Decision 3: Steering Committee Meetings

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The Steering Committee approves the Secretariat's recommendation to postpone the next in-person Steering Committee meeting to March 2023 to coincide with the UN 2023 conference. The December 2022 Steering Committee meeting will be held virtually on 6-7 December 2022.

Decision 4: PSSC Leadership

The Steering Committee approves the recommendation of the Programme and Strategy Sub-Committee (PSSC) to appoint Mr. Nicolas Igwe as Chair of the Sub-Committee.

Decision 5: Risk Mitigation Matrix

The Steering Committee asks the Secretariat to report on risks, and actions taken to mitigate such risks, twice every year. This should be aligned with the Steering Committee meeting where the mid-year review of the workplan and budget occurs, as well as the meeting where the end of year review and approval of the work plan and budget for the forthcoming year occurs.

Decision 6: New Partners

1. After reviewing the CSO applications, the Steering Committee **accepts the following applicants from the CSO constituency**:
 - Action Des Volontaires Pour le Developpement Integre, AVODI
 - Amref Flying Doctors (Stichting Amref Flying Doctors Nederland)
 - Associação para a Defesa do Ambiente e Desenvolvimento (ADAD)
 - Dig Deep
 - Human Environmental Relief Organization for Africa
 - Jandran Welfare Foundation Balochistan
 - OneShared World
 - Organização da Química Ambiental de São Tomé e Príncipe (OQUIMAMB-STP)
 - Palestinian Environmental NGOs Network (PENGON)
 - Santé et Education pour Tous
2. After reviewing the applications against the due diligence criteria, the Steering Committee **accepts the following applicant from the Private Sector constituency**:
 - ENEL
3. After reviewing the applications against the due diligence criteria, the Steering Committee **accepts the following applicants from the Research and Learning constituency**:
 - Duke University Center for WaSH-AID
 - Institute for Frontier Studies
4. After reviewing the applications against the due diligence criteria, the Steering Committee **accepts the following applicants from the Utilities and Regulators constituency**:
 - Eswatini Water Services Corporation
 - ERSARA
5. After reviewing the applications against the due diligence criteria, the Steering Committee **requests for additional information from the following CSOs applicants**:
 - Fundación Aguas
 - Groupe d'Action pour la Paix et le Développement Intégré « GAPDI »
 - Saher Arts for Peace & Sustainable Development (S.A.P.S.D)
 - Somaliland Relief & Research Organization (SOMRAR)
 - Women for Environment (WOMEV)
6. After reviewing the applications against the due diligence criteria the Steering Committee **requests for additional information from the following Private Sector applicants**:
 - Releaf
 - WES Management
7. After reviewing the applications against the due diligence criteria, the Steering Committee **requests for additional information from the following Research and Learning applicant**:
 - Universidad Centroamericana

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8. After reviewing the applications against the due diligence criteria, Steering Committee **rejects the following Private Sector applicant, which does not comply with the admission criteria:**
 - Watsan Envirotech Private Limited

The Steering Committee asks the Secretariat to take the necessary steps to inform these applicants of its decision.

Decision 7: Steering Committee Chair and Vice-Chair

The Steering Committee elects Mr. Patrick Moriarty as Steering Committee Chair for a second three-year term that ends in June 2025.

The Steering Committee also elects Ms. Sareen Malik as Steering Committee Vice-Chair for a second three -year term that ends in June 2025.

The Steering Committee asks the Chair and Vice Chair to assume their responsibilities immediately in accordance with the Governance Document.

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Day One

Session 1: Introductions and Overview

Mr. Moriarty welcomed the Steering Committee (SC) members and observers. He gave a special welcome to newly elected SC members joining the SC for the first time, and asked everyone to introduce themselves, mentioning their names, organizations, and what inspires them about SWA.

After the round of introductions, Mr. Moriarty gave an overview of the agenda which was then approved. He then gave the floor to Ms. de Albuquerque to update the SC about the status of pending decisions.

Ms. de Albuquerque mentioned that there were no pending decisions. She guided the SC members through the feedback received from SC members on their activities during the past 6 months. She noted that the Secretariat has received 9 Feedback Forms. She referred to the reported time dedicated by SC members to SWA, and the ways in which SC members reported their contributions to each of the three strategic objectives, with most members reporting activities relating to the Sector Ministers' Meeting (SMM) and its preparatory process.

Mr. Moriarty commented on the low number of Feedback Forms received. In urging SC members to share such feedback in the future, he stressed that these are important for helping the SC to reflect on how to continually improve its work.

Mr. Moriarty's reported on the activities of the Executive Oversight Committee (EOC)¹; giving a short summary of its standing agenda items, and the other main issues it has deliberated on at its April and May 2022 meetings. He explained that with the SMM taking place only a couple of weeks away from the April meeting and a week before the May meeting, most of the discussions revolved around the SMM, in terms of last-minute preparations, as well as initial feedback.

Session Two: Budget and Workplan Updates

Ms. de Albuquerque then gave an overview of the implementation of the 2022 workplan during the first half of the year.

Ms. de Albuquerque started her presentation with an update on the SMM and its results. She mentioned that the 2022 SMM had the highest ministerial confirmation rate ever. In the end, fifty-four ministers attended – about half of which were water and sanitation ministers, and the other half were

¹ Mr. Moriarty's report on the activities of the Executive Oversight Committee (EOC) was postponed to the following day due to a technical problem, but to guarantee the flow of the minutes in accordance with the agenda, it is included here.

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from health, environment and economy. She added that we had statements from 3 Vice Presidents – two in person, and one via video message. She remarked that this was an impressive ratio for SWA's first attempt at an intersectoral SMM and the first in-person meeting since the COVID pandemic.

She then went on to present the results of the SMM feedback survey. She mentioned that “excellent” was the most word used to describe the meeting, and that 96 % of respondents gave an overall score of 4 or 5 stars, with 58% giving 5 stars. She added that in terms of visibility and communications, the numbers were the most positive of any High-level Meeting to date. More detailed analysis of the evaluation forms was presented in the subsequent session dedicated to the SMM.

Ms. de Albuquerque reported on the extensive work to prepare the SMM, noting its multi-stakeholder and cross-sectoral nature including:

- Workshops and preparatory meetings in more than 40 countries, plus region- and constituency-specific workshops
- More than 350 hours of bilateral calls between government and non-government partners and the SWA Secretariat
- 26 Country Overviews received, mostly prepared through a multi-stakeholder process.

She also mentioned the work of the High-Level Political Dialogue Working Group (HLPDWG) to prepare the agenda and the ministerial dialogues. She highlighted the role of SWA's youth organizations.

For the first time, the partnership sought cost sharing arrangements to help support the organization of the SMM, and she particularly thanked Water Aid, the Asian Development Bank, and the Government of Indonesia, in this regard. She also expressed thanks to the co-convenor of the Meeting, UNICEF.

She then mentioned the [Outcome Document](#) adopted at the Meeting, indicating that it can inform the advocacy efforts of the entire partnership to elevate prioritization of water and sanitation. She also mentioned that the discussions from the SMM will be taken forward in the partnership's engagement at COP27, the 2023 Water Conference, and the next Finance Ministers' Meeting.

Ms. de Albuquerque then shared updates on other aspects of work that contribute to progress towards the achievement of SWA's three Strategic Framework objectives.

On Objective One – she mentioned strategic missions including to Brazil, Japan, and the upcoming participation at the UN Oceans Conference in Lisbon with the intention to connect with ministers who will be in attendance. She noted the launch of the Parliamentarians Handbook, with a foreword co-signed by the President of the inter-Parliamentary Union and which highlights the critical role of parliamentarians as representatives, legislators, providing oversight to the executive, and setting and monitoring budgets. She also summarized some of the key work being done on climate action as a key priority for SWA, including coordinating partner inputs to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Water Security Guidelines and associated tools. She mentioned that efforts to reach other sectors continue as we commence work on humanitarian settings in the second half of the year and maintain the focus on gender and human rights as constants in the work of the partnership.

Under Objective Two –support to multistakeholder processes and mutual accountability also advanced this year. Ms. de Albuquerque stressed that the SMM was an important driver for multi-stakeholder discussions, resulting in the country overviews, as well as 65 new commitments tabled, and 50 reviewed, under the Mutual Accountability Mechanism (MAM). She gave examples from Sierra Leone, Congo, Indonesia, Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, Paraguay and Senegal where partners have been hard at work in convening multistakeholder platforms, some with support from the Mutual Accountability Mechanism catalytic funding from 2021.

Under Objective three – some important work has moved forward. Ms. de Albuquerque mentioned that the partnership has been engaging with GWP-Africa and the Africa Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) on the Continental Africa Water Investment Programme to support ministries of finance and water to access investments on climate and sanitation. She also explained that SWA was able to provide modest technical assistance to Mali, Nigeria, and Zimbabwe, to enable them to identify solutions to bottlenecks identified during SWA facilitated discussions between their finance and sector



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ministries. She stressed that in the second half of the year, this Objective will receive enhanced attention and energy as we build towards the next high-level meeting, which is a Finance Ministers' Meeting (FMM). Working closely with the Systems and Finance Working Group (SFWG), the Secretariat wants to continue to support dedicated country level exchanges, to ensure that partners have the resources and examples they need to establish stronger systems which attract finance, and to deepen their understanding of critical issues such as integrity and transparency.

Ms. de Albuquerque then referred to efforts around the Youth Strategy, the expected launch of the Communications Campaign at Stockholm World Water Week, and the publishing of the Audience Research's results.

Ms. de Albuquerque next presented the budget update. She mentioned that the estimated actual spending at end of May 2022 is 50% of utilization. She said that this rate of spending is appropriate for this time of the year, and that it is anticipated that by the end of this year, at least 90% of our budget will have been spent. As for the SMM, she said that its cost was about 90K more than budgeted, but that because of cost sharing, it is estimated that there will be savings of about 250K on the SMM overall budget. She then also presented the available funding against the planned budget by donor as well as the funding outlook until 2025. She explained that this funding outlook is not enough to deliver on the partnership's strategic objectives and that the Senior Management Team is currently working on these projections, to determine the concrete funding needs of the partnership by 2025, in order to achieve our 2030 ambition. Ms. de Albuquerque also presented an update on resource mobilization efforts. She said that while the funding situation is positive, efforts must be sustained in order to reduce the gap and have secure funding for the future.

On governance, Ms. de Albuquerque said that the Secretariat is regularly examining how it can support governance bodies more effectively and efficiently. Since the Governance Document was revised and adopted last year, its implementation is being monitored. She also referred to other efforts deployed to assist SWA governance bodies in carrying out their work more efficiently.

She then drew attention to the SC decision to have an in-person Steering Committee meeting on 7-8 December 2022. She explained that important meetings are taking place in Paris during the same week – including UN Water (5-6 December) and UNESCO Groundwater Summit (7-8 December). She therefore proposed that the in-person SC meeting be postponed until March 2023 – either immediately before or after the UN Water Conference and keep the December 2022 meeting virtual. This will enable the Secretariat to focus more on implementing the workplan especially in areas that need more attention such as the work on climate, on strategic objective 3, and with priority countries. It would also mean a stronger SWA presence and influence at the UN Water 2023 Conference.

To close, Ms. de Albuquerque said that SWA is already starting to gear up the partnership for COP27, and the UN 2023 Conference. She stressed that as another SWA High-level Meeting approaches (the 2023 FMM), much thought is already going into assuring results. She emphasized that the momentum provided by the SMM must be seized, in order to position water and sanitation as matters of social justice, and to insist on accountability of all stakeholders to do their part.

During the discussion, many remarks focused on the way forward especially towards the 2023 Conference. Ms. Baak expressed her thanks to SWA on behalf of the 2023 co-hosts and stressed that the SMM was an important steppingstone for cross-sectoral collaboration and action-oriented discussions.

Decision 1: Agenda

The Steering Committee approves the agenda for the meeting.

Decision 2: Updated Budget and Workplan

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Decision 3: Steering Committee Meetings

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Session Three: Updates from the Programme and Strategy Sub-Committee (PSSC)

Mr. Nicholas Igwe, as Vice-Chair of the PSSC started the session by giving an **update on the Sub-Committee workplan**. All three areas of the workplan (supporting SWA outreach, ensuring continuity of high-level meetings, and organizing and guiding PSSC Working Groups and Task Teams) are progressing according to the workplan with the PSSC regularly meeting and following up on relevant work areas. He mentioned that it is planned to work in collaboration with the HLPDWG and other Working Groups in the second half of the year to plan for the FMM and ensure the continuity of High-level Meetings and the integration of their themes.

Mr. Igwe then shared **highlights of each of the three Working Groups' workplans**. All three Working Groups (the HLPDWG, the SFWG, and the Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration Working Group (MSCWG)) have recorded good progress on their workplans so far in 2022. All Working Groups have been meeting regularly and have been focusing on achieving the goals set out at the end of 2021 and approved by the Steering Committee.

At the end of the presentation, Mr. Moriarty reminded SC members that they can join any of the Working Groups or Sub-Committees and encouraged them to do so.

He then gave the floor to Ms. Alexandra Reis to present an **update on the SWA Communications Campaign, "Justice Begins Here"**. Ms. Reis started by reminding the SC members of the Campaign objectives which are:

1. Increase visibility around how water, sanitation, and hygiene are essential for other goals and sectors
2. Recruit new champions for WASH outside the sector
3. Harness the energy of these new champions to pressure Heads of State/Government and other high-level decision makers

She stressed that there is two types of water, sanitation, and hygiene champions we especially want to recruit through the campaign:

- 'Elders' – meaning former or current political and thought leaders who can act at global and national level, and
- youth organizations and individuals.

She said that these two groups working together will jointly increase visibility of water, sanitation and hygiene among Heads of State/ Government and parliamentarians in particular.

Ms. Reis said that the campaign will be launched during SWWW, and then, throughout 2022/2023 SWA will ask its partners to identify the moments where the campaign can have a bigger impact. She mentioned that the Secretariat is finalizing the Campaign toolkit in three languages initially. Ms. Reis also mentioned that UN-Water saw potential in using the campaign around the 2023 Conference, and that the Secretariat is in discussions about this which might reflect in a need to adjust or create new campaign materials to connect it to the Conference's big asks.

During the discussions there were questions about the focus of the campaign and if it would also include sanitation and hygiene or only water, as well as the role of youth and ensuring that youth perspectives are genuinely heard. Ms. Reis stressed that the campaign materials include messages on both water, sanitation, and hygiene. She also stressed that SWA is insisting on youth ownership and is in touch with the World Youth Movement and other youth organizations to develop materials especially for them and with their input.

Mr. Moriarty then gave the floor to Mr. Paul Deverill to give **an update on the SMM**. Mr. Deverill presented the details of the SMM feedback surveys. He mentioned that the majority of respondents were from Africa. Mr. Deverill also mentioned that in terms of which elements were most appreciated,

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the venue and the organization were particularly appreciated. He said that there were a number of issues we still need to work on such as striking the right balance between plenaries and ministerial dialogues and assuring high quality interpretation. He mentioned that the ratings are consistently better than the ratings in 2019 – particularly in the feedback on the plenaries, the ministerial dialogues, and the relevance of the themes and that when asked what they found most useful during the preparatory process, respondents from the government constituency overwhelmingly mention the concrete support and communication from the Secretariat.

Mr. Deverill also mentioned that 86% of respondents indicated that the 2022 SMM will have a high to very high impact on their country's ability to achieve SDG6 and 95% indicate that the 2022 SMM impacted favourably their opinion of SWA's added value to the sector.

Mr. Deverill then asked Ms. Angie Saleh to speak on the Secretariat reflections of the SMM. Ms. Saleh mentioned that the Secretariat, following the SMM, has engaged in a feedback process to reflect on the whole experience and the lessons learned. She mentioned that this was the first SMM with the new Secretariat structure and that the teams managed to work well together but that the work can also be improved. She mentioned a few lessons learned, including on roles and responsibilities within the Secretariat and the partnership as a whole, as well as with the co-convenors and Meeting host. Ms. Saleh also referred to cost sharing and said that the Secretariat hoped to build on this experience for the future.

There were additional reflections from the Steering Committee on the road to 2023, and how SWA can capitalize on learnings.

Mr. Moriarty gave the floor to Ms. Lucinda O'Hanlon who presented an update on the discussions relating to the PSSC leadership. Ms. O'Hanlon mentioned that the current Chair of the PSSC, Ms. Lisa Schechtman is no longer on the Steering Committee. She offered sincere thanks to Ms. Schechtman for her leadership of the Sub-Committee. Ms. O'Hanlon then mentioned that there was a discussion during the last PSSC meeting (chaired by Ms. Schechtman) which ended with a recommendation that the current Vice-Chair, Mr. Nicholas Igwe, would become the new PSSC Chair due to his qualifications, and also to guarantee some continuity in the Sub-Committee leadership. Ms. O'Hanlon stressed that this recommendation still needs to be approved by the SC according to the Governance Document.

Mr. Moriarty then closed the meeting for the day, and asked SC members to join again the following day, emphasizing that the Executive Session would include important decisions to be taken.

Day Two

Session Four: Updates from the Governance and Finance Sub-Committee (GFSC)

Mr. Moriarty opened the second day of the Steering Committee meeting and welcomed the SC members back. He then gave the floor to Ms. de Albuquerque to give **an update on the SC leadership elections**. Ms. de Albuquerque said that as of that day, the Secretariat had only received one nomination for the SC Chair position, which is for Mr. Patrick Moriarty who wishes to run for another term. As for the position of SC Vice-Chair, she mentioned that the Secretariat has received two nominations, one for Ms. Sareen Malik, the current SC Vice-Chair who is also eligible to run for another term, and the other for the Honourable Abida Sidik Mia, the Minister for Water and Sanitation in Malawi. Ms. de Albuquerque said the election will take place in the Executive Session, after the regular decisions are taken, where the Hon. Minister who is not part of the SC, will be given a chance to join and address the SC. She also informed the SC that its members will have a chance to ask the nominees questions as well.

Mr. Moriarty then gave the floor to Ms. Kelly Ann Naylor (in representation of the GFSC Chair, Ms. Barbara Schreiner, who was absent from the meeting at this moment) to present **an update on the work of the GFSC**. Ms. Naylor gave a summary on all six areas of the GFSC's work, mentioning the good progress achieved in most of them. She also referred to the fact that the GFSC is constantly engaged in some areas, such as the review of the budget and workplan, the review of the governance

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structures and how they work in practice, as well as the financial stability of the partnership including resource mobilization.

Mr. Moriarty then gave the floor to Mr. Christophe Pasquier to present the **Risk Mitigation Matrix**. Mr. Pasquier mentioned that the current Matrix includes chapters on:

- Mission & strategy
- Communications
- Governance & accountability
- Fundraising
- Safeguarding, fraud & theft
- Staff & management
- Operations: finance, procurement, legal, IT...

He also mentioned that the Matrix is currently under review by the GFSC and will be shared more widely with the rest of the SC once approved.

During the discussion there was a suggestion to add a decision regarding the Risk Matrix that would request the Secretariat to report on risks twice every year. There was also another comment suggesting looking at an overall assurance framework for SWA to ensure oversight of results. There was also a question relating to the rationale for the risk rating and scoring. Mr. Pasquier and Ms. de Albuquerque agreed with the suggestion to report on risks twice a year and assured the SC that it is important for the Secretariat to work on foreseeing risk and mitigating it on all levels including linking this assessment to the SWA Results Framework and the ability of the partnership to deliver its Objectives and achieve its vision and mission. Mr. Pasquier also added that guidance on risk rating and scoring was obtained from UNICEF.

Mr. Moriarty then closed the discussion and gave the floor to Ms. Lucinda O'Hanlon to present a brief update on the Grants Review Committee (GRC). Ms. O'Hanlon mentioned the ongoing process to establish the GRC. The first meeting of the GRC will be in July, and the first order of business will be to consider the new host for the Secretariat CSO support positions. She mentioned that the Secretariat has already received five applications for this hosting arrangement that the GRC will need to review. Ms. O'Hanlon also mentioned that the GRC will examine the CSO catalytic funding proposals which the Secretariat hopes to announce shortly.

Decision 4: PSSC Leadership

The Steering Committee approves the recommendation of the Programme and Strategy Sub-Committee (PSSC) to appoint Mr. Nicolas Igwe as Chair of the Sub-Committee.

Decision 5: Risk Mitigation Matrix

The Steering Committee asks the Secretariat to report on risks, and actions taken to mitigate such risks, twice every year. This should be aligned with the Steering Committee meeting where the mid-year review of the workplan and budget occurs, as well as the meeting where the end of year review and approval of the work plan and budget for the forthcoming year occurs.

Session Five - Decisions

After confirming quorum, Mr. Moriarty guided the SC members through the first six decisions which were all adopted by consensus. He then handed the floor to Ms. Catarina de Albuquerque to **introduce the session for SC leadership elections**.

Ms. de Albuquerque explained that according to the Governance Document, since both the Chair and Vice-Chair are nominees in this election, the SC must choose an 'Election-Chair' to preside over this process. She suggested that Ms. Barbara Schreiner in her capacity as GFSC Chair would be most suitable for this task, and the SC members agreed.

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Session Six: Steering Committee Leadership Elections

Ms. Barbara Schreiner started the session. She asked the Secretariat to ensure one more time that there was quorum. She then explained the election process and that it should start with the election of the SC Chair position. She mentioned that since there were no other candidates nominated for this position, the election would proceed by acclamation according to the Governance Document. She then congratulated Mr. Patrick Moriarty for his re-election for another three-year term as the SWA Steering Committee Chair.

Ms. Schreiner then proceeded to conduct the election of the Vice Chair position. She mentioned that there were two candidates, and that each of them would get a chance to present themselves to the SC, and that there would be a chance to ask them questions. Both nominees were given three minutes each to present why they would be best suited for the position of SWA Steering Committee Vice-Chair. Following the presentation there were a number of questions directed towards each candidate and they responded accordingly.

After all questions were addressed, the SC then proceeded to vote. The result was 11 votes for the Honorable Minister Abida Sidik Mia (48%), and 12 votes for Ms. Sareen Malik (52%) resulting in Ms. Malik's confirmation as SC Vice-Chair for another three-year term.

Ms. Schreiner and Ms. de Albuquerque both thanked the Honorable Minister for her participation and willingness to contribute to SWA's mission and vision. Both candidates expressed appreciation for the process, and Ms. Malik was congratulated on her successful election to the Vice Chair position.

Decision 7: Steering Committee Chair and Vice-Chair

The Steering Committee elects Mr. Patrick Moriarty as Steering Committee Chair for a second three-year term that ends in June 2025.

The Steering Committee also elects Ms. Sareen Malik as Steering Committee Vice-Chair for a second three-year term that ends in June 2025.

The Steering Committee asks the Chair and Vice Chair to assume their responsibilities immediately in accordance with the Governance Document.

Ending

Mr. Moriarty thanked SC members and the Secretariat and closed the meeting.