

VIII (Extraordinary) General Assembly of the ICCA Consortium

Wednesday 25 March 2015 – Churchill College, Cambridge (UK)

Minutes (prepared by Sarah Ryder and Emma Courtine)

Present: Taghi Farvar, Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend, Harry Jonas (Skype), Giovanni Reyes, Sergio Couto, Sarah Ryder (Skype), Emma Courtine (Skype)

The meeting opens at 17:30 with a welcome by the President and the reading and adoption of the agenda.

Iniciativa Comunales (Spain) has sent a letter asking to become a member and they are now in the two-month waiting period according to the normal procedure. The President proposes admitting them immediately by virtue of the powers of the General Assembly. He is seconded by Giovanni Reyes. This is **approved unanimously**. The President declares Iniciativas Comunales a new member of the ICCA Consortium Association

Round of introductions by participants

Taghi Farvar representing UNINOMAD, UNICAMEL, Abolhassani Tribal Confederacy and Earth Supporters Association

Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend representing Cenesta

Harry Jonas representing Natural Justice

Giovanni Reyes representing Philippine ICCA Consortium, KASAPI and PAFID

Sergio Couto representing Vilar Woods Commons Community and Iniciativa Comunales

Emma Courtine – Consortium Programme Assistant

Sarah Ryder – Consortium Programme Manager

Together, the participants are in representation – directly or by proxy -- of 11 members of the ICCA Consortium Association.

Statutes: proposed revisions, discussion and approval of changes

A copy of the proposed revisions was circulated prior to the meeting, by the Chair of the Statutes Committee. The suggested changes are highlighted in red and are discussed item by item by the meeting. Many of the changes are introduced to fit the profile of non-profit tax-exempt associations according to the Swiss authorities. The changes to Article 7 – General Assembly are proposed to facilitate the process of calling for an Extraordinary General Assembly.

Whole document – Grazia proposes using the name ‘Association ICCA Consortium’ throughout the document to refer to the ICCA Consortium. This is **unanimously approved**.

Article 3, 4, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15 – The proposed changes are read, explained, discussed and **unanimously approved.**

The President declares that the new Statutes -- including all the proposed changes -- are approved. The Statutes will be signed by all the people physically present at the meeting as soon as the revised version is finalised and printed. The changes are effective immediately.

Discussion of Operational Guidelines document.

The document was circulated prior to the meeting by the Chair of the Statutes Committee, requesting comments/recommendations/proposed changes. The only comment received came from Dario Novellino (honorary member and rep. member ALDAW) regarding clause 3.3 for Partners of the ICCA Consortium Association. A detailed discussion of this clause ensues. Giovanni proposes establishing a working group to review the Operational Guidelines in their entirety prior to them being discussed and approved at the next General Assembly. This is agreed and Harry, Taghi and Giovanni volunteer to be involved. Harry to call for further members of the group.

Harry Jonas leaves the meeting at this point (02:30 a.m. for him in Malaysia).

Update on Consortium Work Programme for 2015, with regard to the setting up and work of the Consortium Committees

A report from Holly Jonas (International Policy Coordinator) is read out by Sarah.

Working Groups on Law & Policy has been established with Teams dedicated to seven specific areas:

1. indigenous peoples' rights and human rights
2. food and agriculture (including fishing, farming, and pastoralism)
3. land and water
4. climate change and energy
5. conservation of nature (including biodiversity, forests and combating desertification)
6. sustainable development
7. standards and safeguards for finance and business

An open call for members was circulated by Holly and 28 individuals (and counting) have volunteered for the different teams, more are being approached individually (see list attached below as Annex 1).

Each team will: develop a clear strategy; identify key international laws, policies and related meetings; carry out preparatory work such as written submissions and guidance notes; as needed, assist with fundraising; compile and share reports on negotiations and outcomes; identify and engage with other policy-related initiatives in between the "milestone" events. Holly is currently developing guidance and suggested next steps for each team. Key questions that could be discussed are: a) criteria for deciding which fora to engage or not and why (and what to do when some Consortium members disagree); b) criteria for deciding when to endorse / sign a statement or submission drafted by others; c) to what extent this WG can or should engage with regional and domestic law and policy (e.g. in collaboration with GSI WP2).

The list of participants for each group is discussed:

Indigenous peoples' rights and human rights – participation so far is regionally unbalanced and the team contains no indigenous people. **Action:** suggest to Holly to invite as members: Giovanni Reyes, Dominique Bikaba, José Aylwin, Emma Lee (Australia) and a nomadic person.

Food and agriculture (including fishing, farming and pastoralism) – there are no Africans and no indigenous people. **Action:** suggest to Holly that we need more members for the group.

Land and water – all northerners, no indigenous people. **Action:** suggest to Holly to invite as members: Fernanda Almeida, Dave de Vera, Liz Alden Wily.

Climate change and energy – Giovanni Reyes proposes himself for this group. **Action:** inform Holly

Conservation of nature (including biodiversity, forests and combatting desertification) – **Action:** suggest to Holly that this group needs more members who are indigenous people, Africans, representatives of nomadic peoples and organisations engaged in marine conservation. Kim Wright and Jackie Sunde should be invited for both the Conservation Team and Food Teams.

Sustainable development – this group is ok.

Standards and safeguards for finance and business – this is a very new undertaking for the Consortium and naturally the group is small.

There are linkages between many of these groups, particularly between Food & Agriculture and Conservation of Nature.

The meeting discusses other working groups which have been formed recently:

Communication Strategy Group – must work very closely with the Long-term Strategy Group

Long-term Strategy Group – unclear who is to chair this (Eli Enns or Fred Nelson). **Action:** Sergio agrees to resolve this and ensure this group works with the Communication Strategy Group.

Alert Mechanism Group – current members are Carmen, Maurizio, Harry and Giovanni. **Action:** Sarah and Emma to be added to the group.

Fundraising Group – current members are Maurizio, Sarah and Terence. **Action:** Taghi to be added.

Facilitation of Meetings Group – current members are Jessica Brown, Thora Amend, Eli Enns, Sarah and Sergio (chair). Various opinions on the running of meetings are exchanged. The discussion ends with an agreement that new member proposals should be made at the beginning of the General Assembly (to allow time for discussion). The General Assembly also should last two days— the first day should be dedicated to information sharing and renewal of the bonds within the association. The second day should be dedicated to efficient and business-like decision-making. The end of each General Assembly should allow for an assessment of how the meeting was conducted. **Action:** Emma to be added

Any other matters

Normally the UNEP WCMC meeting, scheduled for 26th & 27th March 2015, should now be discussed... but it is quite late and the discussion can be adjourned during dinner.

The president closes the meeting at 19:36.

Annex 1

ICCA Working Group on Law and Policy

Team	Interested Members	Alternate / Observer
Indigenous peoples' rights and human rights	Elaine Hsiao Mrinalini (Tina) Rai (GFC) Stan Stevens Sudeep Jana Jessica Campese Ro Hill Nonette Royo	Aili Pyhälä
Food and agriculture	Lorena Arce Concha Salguero (esp. re: EU) Hugh Govan (esp. re: marine) Vivienne Solis Rivera (esp. re: SSF) Carolina Amaya	Mike Jones Andrey Laletin (GFC) Mary Lou Malig (GFC) Iris Benes Pernilla Malmer
Land and water	Fred Nelson (esp. land in Africa) Concha Salguero (esp. re: EU) Michelle Stevens (esp. water) Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend	Mike Jones
Climate change and energy	Kanyinke Sena Claudia Ituarte-Lima	Andrey Laletin (GFC) Isis Alvarez (GFC) Mary Lou Malig (GFC)
Conservation of nature	Elaine Hsiao (esp. PAs) Andrey Laletin (esp. UNFF and forests) (GFC) Stan Stevens (esp. PAs and OECMs) Fred Nelson (esp. African wildlife and forests) Barbara Lassen Armando Ismalej (<i>Spanish</i>) Ro Hill Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend (esp. biod. and PAs) Nonette Royo (esp. communities and forests)	Mike Jones Isis Alvarez (GFC) Mrinalini (Tina) Rai (GFC) Aili Pyhälä Iris Benes Pernilla Malmer
Sustainable development	Isis Alvarez (GFC) Mrinalini (Tina) Rai (GFC) Abdallah Herzenni (<i>French</i>) Vivienne Solis Rivera Ashish Kothari (esp. re: alternatives)	Mike Jones
Finance and business	Kanyinke Sena Claudia Ituarte-Lima	Mrinalini (Tina) Rai (GFC)