

## Minutes of Videoconference Meeting held on - 7 February 2017

### Members Present

1. Toby McIntosh
2. Toby Mendel
3. Carol Excell
4. Aleksander Kashumov
5. Adam Foldes
6. Gilbert Sendugwa
7. Sarah Faguet

### Agenda

1. Matters arising from and adoption of previous minutes
2. Update from AFIC secretariat
3. Fundraising
4. Brainstorming on (non-funded) activities
5. A.O.B

	Remarks	Action
Minute 1 <b>Matters arising from and adoption of previous minutes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No comments were made</li> <li>Minutes were approved as true record. Toby McIntosh proposed, Gilbert Sendugwa seconded.</li> </ul>	All to note
Minute 2 <b>Update from AFIC secretariat</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change of FOIAnet Coordinator: Sarah Faguet has taken this responsibility and was trained on management of the website and discussion list in January 2017.</li> </ul>	All to note

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AFIC has approached Oak Foundation with a proposal and is waiting for feedback.</li> <li>• RTKD 2016 activities were mapped and published on FOIANet website as well as shared with UNESCO.</li> <li>• Metrics regarding the website were shared orally. Steering committee members requested AFIC to share this information by e-mail.</li> <li>• Archives of the discussion list were shared with Adam who then engaged an organisation to analyse the content of the discussions since 2008 to date.</li> <li>• There is need to strategise the website content.</li> <li>• FOIANet Secretariat should have administrative access to tweeter and facebook account.</li> <li>• AFIC Secretariat requested further guidance in approving individual subscription to the list. The list does not accept officials but any other individual interested in FOI. A background check is required before approval.</li> <li>• Communication to UNESCO regarding the RTKD 2017 plan shouldn't be sent to much in advance as they are currently focused on WPF 2017.</li> <li>• FOIANet was asked by UNESCO to develop questions that would guide the reporting on SDG 16.10. Toby Me. consulted FOIANet members on the matter but didn't obtain many feedbacks.</li> </ul>	<p>AFIC Secretariat to send metrics report of FOIANet website to the Steering Committee.</p> <p>A working group comprised of Adam, Toby Mc and Sarah to elaborate a low-cost option and a fully capacitated option for the website strategy.</p> <p>Toby Mendel to ask AIE for tweeter and facebook accounts' access.</p> <p>Sarah to apply these principles for approval of individuals' subscription.</p> <p>Toby Mendel to finalise the questions.</p>
Minute 3 <b>Fundraising</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FOIANet received a negative answer from Hewlett and is waiting for feedback from Oak Foundation regarding submitted proposal.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AFIC is currently elaborating a proposal for support of Sida and will include activities allowing to support the day to day management of FOIANet.</li> <li>• There is need to approach bigger donors or target bigger grants. The idea to reach out to members for contribution was discarded.</li> <li>• Adam requested Toby Mendel to share the two pages brief to support fundraising.</li> <li>• Knight Foundation could be approached. Though they have a media-focused strategy, they do some work around ATI.</li> <li>• Hivos is also a potential donor with kin interest on open data. Toby Mc and Gilbert have both contacts at HQ level.</li> <li>• DFI is also a donor to consider. AFIC has already approached them some years back for another project without success as they only support national initiatives. There is need of further information on DFI scope of support. An African core program could be considered with trainings for CSOs and coordinating side activities.</li> </ul>	<p>Toby Mendel to share the two pages brief. Adam will approach German funders as agreed earlier.</p> <p>Toby Mc and Gilbert to engage their contact respectively in identifying the right contact at Hivos.</p> <p>Sarah to search on DFI website to identify the right angle to approach them.</p>
Minute 4 <b>Brainstorming on (non-funded) activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FOIANet could elaborate a simple set of metrics and related methodology to assess country implementation of ATI law. This could be used by CSOs.</li> </ul>	A working group comprised of Toby Mendel, Adam, Gilbert and Carroll to elaborate the methodology.
<b>AOB</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Question raised regarding the position of FOIANet towards recent developments on Environmental Democracy in the United States that were shared on the list. FOIANet being a membership organisation cannot and never did make a statement. The best option would be for a member to engage FOIANet community on the matter.</li> </ul>	<p>Carroll will share the information on the mentioned issues again and invite members to share their position and actions taken in that regard.</p> <p>Toby Mc to contribute to the take-off of the discussion.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taranath Dahal has not responded to the invitation to the Steering Committee meeting and not attended previous ones.</li> <li>• Toby Mendel thank all the participants for attendance and encourage each one to fulfil the assigned tasks.</li> </ul>	<p>Toby Mendel to reach to him and find more about Taranath low participation in the Steering Committee.</p>
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