



162nd COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION MEETING
16 June 2021 – 10:00am- 12:30pm
DFAT Diplomatic Academy, Walter Turnbull Building, Barton

Participants

- Ms Selvi Vikan (Chair, DFAT)
- Mr Tim Church (DFAT)
- Ms Christina Munzer (DFAT)
- Mr John Morley (Plan International Australia)
- Mr Andrew Hartwich (The Fred Hollows Foundation) (remote)
- Ms Jessica Waite (International Women’s Development Agency) (remote)

CDC Secretariat and Observers

- Ms Emily Moreton (ACFID)
- Ms Jane Alver (ACFID) (left meeting at 11am) (remote)
- Ms Rebecca Lysaght (DFAT)
- Ms Robyne Leven (DFAT)

Agenda

1. Welcome, Introduction, Apologies and conflict check- Chair

Welcome to Country

- The Chair opened the meeting with the Welcome to Country as follows *“I would like to pay my respect and acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which this meeting takes place, and also pay respect to Elders both past and present. I extend this respect to any Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people here today.”*

Welcome

- The Chair welcomed everyone to 162nd CDC meeting.
 - Noted that Selvi Vikan was Chairing the meeting as Ms Rachael Moore, Acting Assistant Secretary Humanitarian, Refugee and NGO Branch (HUB) had departed and Ms Caitlin Wilson would be joining HUB as the new Assistant Secretary from next week.
 - Noted apology from Ms Shipley (Uniting World).

**Note the observers, and Secretariat:**

- Ms Moreton (ACFID)
- Ms Alver (ACFID)
- Ms Lysaght (DFAT)
- Ms Leven (DFAT)
- Mr Daniel Wells (Australian Sanctions Office)
- Mr Nathan Means (Australian Sanctions Office)

Conflict Check

- The Chair asked all meeting participants to declare any conflicts of interest.

2. Endorsement of the 161st CDC Minutes-Chair (5 Minutes)

The minutes of 161st CDC have been circulated.

- The Chair moved that the CDC accept the 161st Minutes.
 - The 161st Minutes were accepted by the CDC.
- Out of session Minutes on Code of Conduct/Accreditation Mapping Tool presentation.
 - Mr Morley endorsed, seconded by Ms Munzer.

3. LinkMatchLite

Mr Wells presented an overview of the Sanctions Office and Link Match Lite.

- The Australian Sanctions Office (SO) was established in January 2020. SO administers Australian sanctions laws and international sanctions for DFAT. There are two streams to note:
 - UN sanctions established under the UN Security Council that set out international obligations; and
 - Autonomous sanction which are a matter of foreign policy and enable targeted sanctions on financial entities.
- Specifically, it is a crime for an Australian individual or entity to engage with entities that have imposed autonomous sanctions. However, sanctions can be subject to the Minister's discretion.
- In terms of how the SO operates, the Machinery of Government sits with the SO, whereas the sanctions policy ie listings and country regimes sit with geographic desks.
- LinkMatchLite (LML) is the system relied upon to do risk assessments for ANCP applications. SO is aware the LML needs work and that there are legacy software issues. There is no timeframe for upgrading LML and SO will keep ANCP abreast of progress. In the interim, NGOs are advised to use the Consolidated List on the DFAT website. They can also subscribe to a mailing list for update notifications. SO encourages inquiries to Pax@dfat.gov.au for the Sanctions portal.
- The updated LML will also be shared through the mailing list.



- Mr Church stated that both the LML and consolidated list are owned by DFAT. The Consolidated List includes any sanctions implemented by Australian law and does not include World Bank and Asian Development Bank sanctions lists. The Global Watch commercial risk assessment database uses the Consolidated List to feed into their systems. Therefore, the LML when working properly, will still not cover the multilateral banks lists.
- Mr Morley queried the need for multibank lists to be checked separately given Australia's formal relationships with the Banks.
- Mr Means advised that LML would need to be checked, but it's likely that the SO doesn't combine the Consolidated List with others, by design, as they are different datasets. SO could explore that with Multilateral teams in DFAT.
- Ms Waite asked what data cleaning and consistency checking is done for the consolidated lists. Mr Means responded that it is rigorous and thorough and addresses aliases. UN sanctions terminology comes from the UN, whilst the geographic sanction terms come from desks.
- Ms Lysaght asked what happens when an NGO finds a match or potential match. Mr Means advised the NGO should have a clear policy of what constitutes a match as part of their due diligence process. If the NGO detects a match, they can choose to go to SO and request an indicative assessment.
- Mr Morley asked whether NGOs should be reporting discrepancies. Mr Means advised that the SO should be approached if a 'reasonable match' is detected.
- Mr Church queried whether the obligation on the organisation or individual is to report to DFAT only or also the police? Mr Means clarified the organisation should report to DFAT in the first instance.
- Mr Church: Asked what if you have already entered into an arrangement? Mr Means advised the concerned organisation (DFAT or NGO) should cease the contractual relationship and let SO know (general advice).
- Mr Church suggested that the SO should reach out to ACFID as representative body and share sanctions information with ACFID members.
- The Chair summarised by stating NGOs should check Consolidated Lists and multilateral lists, and channel inquiries to the DFAT email PAX@dfat.gov.au NGOs should have a clear policy on what a match looks like and the SO can provide guidance on this.

Action: Ms Alver to share this info with ACFID members and to reach out to SO if further advice is needed.

Action: Mr Means suggested the SO advice should also go to accreditation assessors.



4. Update from DFAT - Ms Selvi Vikan

ANCP Staffing Update

Ms Vikan noted:

- Ms Heather Fitt has taken long service leave, replaced by Ms Gina De Pretto.
- Ms Katharina Dollmann after 10 years with ANCP has also moved on, replaced by Ms Robyne Leven.
- Ms Rebecca Lysaght has been undertaking both the accreditation and operations manager role. She is job sharing on the operations manager role with Ms Rosemary Welsh.
- Ms Marilyn Yue will take on accreditation manager role from August.
- CDC noted thanks to Ms Fitt and Ms Dollmann.

ANCP Evaluation

Ms Vikan advised the ANCP Evaluation TORs will be available in Sept – October 2021.

ANCP Spot Checks

Ms Vikan advised the CDC that DFAT had completed a pilot spot check with a contractor and the close-out meeting has occurred. The key findings of the pilot were:

- The ANCP team will hold a more comprehensive meeting with the contractor to enable a greater shared understanding on what is expected.
- DFAT plans to do four new spot checks in the next financial year (2021-22).
- DFAT sees this as a good addition to the overall ANCP Assurance Framework but needs more evidence before deciding whether there is value continuing beyond the pilot framework.

DFAT Safeguarding policy review

Ms Vikan advised the CDC that DFAT appreciates the continued interest and ongoing support from ACFID and its members on the independent review of DFAT's safeguard policies.

- A final report is due on 15 June 2021 (to the DFAT safeguards team in the first instance) and DFAT will consider the recommendations and findings.
- We look forward to engaging with key external stakeholders, including ACFID, to update our safeguard policies.

Assessors Workshop

Ms Vikan advised that DFAT is planning on holding the Assessor workshop in either August or September once the new accreditation manager commences.

- DFAT would welcome the attendance of CDC member(s) for relevant sessions and will share the agenda closer to the date.
- It may be useful at the workshop to have a presentation from the CDC members on their experiences/observations of the OR reports.

Action: will keep the CDC updated on the proposed Assessor Workshop agenda.



5. Organisation Review Reports

Ms Lysaght outlined the ANCP accreditation remote Organisational Review (OR) process.

6. Other issues for NGO Representatives to Table – Chair (10 Minutes)

- The Chair asked CDC members if there are any other issues/business to table.
- Ms Moreton: CT terrorism discussions ongoing with DFAT regarding LML. ACFID is thinking about doing a short survey with ACFID members to identify the issues before the CT webinar.

Action: ACFID M&E and DFAT will be in touch with CDC members on the content for the CT webinar.

Action: Assessors workshop in August / September – face-to-face or virtual dependant on COVID-19 restrictions.

7. Next CDC Dates and Meeting close - Chair (5 minutes)

- The Chair advised CDC members that the next CDC will be held in the last quarter of the year. September or October.

Recommendation: DFAT to consider holding the Assessors workshop at the same time as the last CDC meeting for the year.

Action: DFAT proposed to come back to the CDC at a later date with possible times.

Action: DFAT will come back to the CDC on arrangement for an out of session CDC meeting on the Cufa item via Webex.

12:25pm Meeting Close.