



DFAT / NGO COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

A Joint Committee of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Australian Non-Government Organisations

164th COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION MEETING

16 February 1.30pm – 3.30pm

Meeting held online via Webex

Participants

- Ms Selvi Vikan (Chair, DFAT)
- Ms Christina Munzer (DFAT) (left meeting at 1.35pm and re-joined meeting at 2.00pm)
- Ms Ellen Shipley (UnitingWorld)
- Mr John Morley (Plan International Australia, left meeting at 2.30pm and did not rejoin)
- Mr Andrew Hartwich (The Fred Hollows Foundation)
- Ms Jessica Waite (International Women’s Development Agency, left meeting at 2.53pm following discussion on OR report)
- Ms Gina De Pretto (DFAT, in part for agenda item 4)

CDC Secretariat and Observers

- Ms Emily Moreton (ACFID)
- Dr Jane Alver (ACFID) (left meeting at 3.00pm following discussion for agenda item 5(8))
- Ms Marilyn Yue (DFAT)
- Ms Tina Angel (DFAT) – minute taker for this meeting

Apologies

- Mr Aedan Whyatt (DFAT)
- Mr Tim Church (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 164th CDC meeting.
 - Acknowledged Caitlin Wilson for her leadership and valued contribution in her role as CDC Chair since last year (June 2021).



DFAT / NGO COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

A Joint Committee of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Australian Non-Government Organisations

Noted the apology from A/g AS Global Partnerships Branch (GPB), Mr Aedan Whyatt, due to Senate Estimates schedule being brought forward.

Note the observers, and Secretariat:

- Ms Moreton (ACFID)
- Dr Alver (ACFID)
- Ms Yue (DFAT)
- Ms Angel (DFAT), minute taker.

Conflict Check

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

2. Endorsement of the 163rd CDC Minutes - Chair

The minutes of 163rd CDC have been circulated.

- The Chair moved that the CDC accept the 163rd Minutes.
 - The 163rd Minutes were accepted by the CDC.
 - Ms Waite endorsed, seconded by Mr Morley.

3. Update on Action Items

Action Log - Reflections

- The Chair proposed a more focussed discussion on how to manage the action log and updated the CDC key action items completed.

Assessor Workshop

- The Chair reported the assessor workshop was held via Webex on 7 December 2021 and thanked the CDC NGO representatives, in particular Ms Waite for the engaging presentation.
- Ms Waite thanked the CDC for the opportunity to share insights on the CDC's perspective and noted the Assessors had an interest in exploring subject to recommendations.
- Ms Shipley stated it was useful for CDC members to participate in relevant assessor workshop sessions to share perspectives.
- The Chair agreed to discuss the proposal for CDC participation internally (DFAT) prior to the next assessor's workshop and thanked the CDC for the suggestion.

Counter-terrorism financing (CTF) webinar

- The Chair advised the CTF webinar was held on 15 December 2021 via Webex.
 - Feedback from participants noted it was well run, pragmatic and a tailored webinar.
 - Presenters were able to provide clarity on how NGOs can operationalise their CTF policies.



DFAT / NGO COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

A Joint Committee of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Australian Non-Government Organisations

4. Update from DFAT

ANCP Evaluation – Ms De Pretto

- Ms De Pretto noted that:
 - The first deliverable, the evaluation plan with accompanying key issues paper, has been completed.
 - The evaluation plan and key issues paper was developed with input from DFAT, ACFID Development Practice Committee (DPC) and ANCP NGOs.
 - The evaluation is now in the desktop and literature review and primary data collection and analysis phase (February – May)
 - Key deliverables (TBC) going forward include an aid memoire (6 May 2022), findings workshop (20 May 2022), strategy testing workshops (26-27 May 2022), draft report (10 June 2022) and final report (14 August 2022).
- Mr Morley noted the evaluation update was comprehensive.
 - Asked whether the cross-cutting issues between the ANCP evaluation and accreditation review will be included or ruled out of scope?
 - Requested the CDC be provided with a list of areas to be reviewed (such as localisation) to help inform the accreditation review.
- Ms De Pretto advised the evaluation team will look at intersecting issues, but only in the context of the evaluation and noting the accreditation review will commence later this year.
 - Suggested the draft evaluation reports could form the basis to start the accreditation review.
- The Chair agreed with Mr Morley's point to start working on the review scope but noted there will be opportunity to dive deeper into the details after the evaluation is completed.

ANCP Spot Checks – Ms Vikan

- The Chair stated as part of DFAT's requirement to strengthen the ANCP Assurance Framework the ANCP piloted spot checks in 2020 to review ongoing compliance of ANCP partners with grant requirements during the five-year accreditation period.
 - Following the pilot, DFAT decided to conduct another round of spot-checks in 2021-22.
 - DFAT has received the Draft reports and is currently working through these.
 - Once these reports are reviewed, DFAT will make a decision on whether to continue spot checks in future years.
 - Noted these spot checks are not part of the re-accreditation process and are conducted between the five-year accreditation period.
- Ms Shipley asked if the spot check process will be considered as part of the ANCP evaluation or accreditation review?
- The Chair agreed to consider if DFAT should include spot checks as part of the ANCP evaluation or accreditation review. Will take note of this point.

5. Organisation Review Reports



DFAT / NGO COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

A Joint Committee of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Australian Non-Government Organisations

6. Other issues for NGO Representatives to table – Chair

- The Chair asked CDC members if there are any other issues/business to table.

NGO roundtable - Myanmar

- Mr Morley requested DFAT brief the sector on changes to the aid program investment in Myanmar. Suggested it could be similar to the NGO roundtable on the Rohingya crisis in 2021.

DFAT restructure

- Ms Shipley asked what are the implications of caretaker mode on decisions by the delegate on recommendations from the CDC?
- The Chair advised if it is business as usual then decisions should not be impacted. Will be guided by FAS DPD.
- Ms Shipley noted the change in divisions and asked how the transition has been.
- The Chair stated the focus in HPD was the nexus between humanitarian versus development. In the current division (DPD) there is a focus on more joined up development policy and practice.
 - FAS DPD has provided constructive insights on the ANCP evaluation and interest in the Indo Pacific region.

Recognition of best practice

- The Chair noted the CDC's suggestion to consider CA as an example of good practice.
- The Chair agreed and noted AOA also as a good example to showcase good practice on counter-terrorism measures and would like to integrate some of these as part of the ANCP's learning agenda.
- CDC members discussed the possibility of promoting good practice, including localisation and risk management.
- Ms Waite suggested good and bad ORs could be included at the next Assessors' Workshop and/or annual reflections.

Action: The Chair agreed to explore these options and internally discuss with M&E team how best to take this forward.

7. Next CDC Dates and Meeting close - Chair

- The Chair advised CDC members that the next CDC is planned for 2 March 2022 (1.30pm to 5.00pm) via Webex.
- Ms Waite and Mr Hartwich requested DFAT provide reasonable notice if upcoming CDC meetings are returning face-to-face.

4.00pm Meeting Close.