

# MINUTES OF THE CHS ALLIANCE AD HOC BOARD MEETING 09 February 2021 Virtual Meeting via Zoom

#### **PRESENT:**

Mohamed Almasri (MA), John Beverley (JB, treasurer), Allan Calma (AC), Matthew Carter (MC), Yegana Guliyeva (YG), Coleen Heemskerk (CH), Rehema Kajungu (RK), Jacqueline Koster (JK), Shama Mall (SM, Vice Chair), Anne Cathrine Seland (ACS), Marina Skuric Prodanovic (MSP), Robert Sweatman (RS, interim Chair)

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Tanya Wood (TW, Executive Director/ED), Hélène Maillet (HM, minutes only)

ABSENT: Thea Hilhorst (TH)

## 1. Apologies, welcome, declarations of interest and agenda

No apologies.

SM chaired the meeting. The meeting was guorate.

It is noted that AC, SM and MC are attending the meeting and are also candidates for the upcoming elections – should there be any discussion about their nomination, they will leave the meeting.

## The agenda was approved by consensus.

## 2. Board nominations

RS presented the list of candidates and explained that all candidates met the criteria required by the MNC. The MNC is therefore recommending all nominees for elections.

# The list of Board nominees was approved by the Board to be submitted to the General Assembly vote in March 2021.

There was some discussion on how to present candidates to the membership and in particular how to bring diversity to the Board and how to show diversity of candidates.

This question has already been raised in the past and there is a need to move forward on this (diversity, what it means – regional groups/skills/organisational diversity, etc. – and how to increase diversity among Board members).

## MA left the meeting - meeting still quorate

It was highlighted to the Board that the current nominees do not include a candidate with sufficient finance expertise to take over the Treasurer position – JB explained that a FRAC member (Pierre-Henri Pingeon) is open to take over until we find the right fit for the position, noting that JB's tenure has been extended until 31 December 2022.

## Action:

• discussion on representativeness in the Board referred back to MNC to come with proposal.

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# 3. Update on Chair recruitment

RS explained that the CHS Alliance received a total of five applications for this position. Two were not shortlisted and three were interviewed. The Committee was composed of RS, JB, SM, AC and YG. While no decision has been taken yet by the Committee it seems that we may need more time and maybe more applications, so the Committee is not recommending any candidate for the elections in March.

RS reminded that he will take on the Chair role ad interim until May 2021 which leaves some time.

suggestions from Board members are the following:

- share with full Board names of those approached
- Board to take the responsibility to approach potential candidates rather than the ED
- be clearer on the ideal background of a CHS Alliance Chair

The discussion on going through a recruitment firm made clear that there would be some advantage (neutrality, defining the profile), but not for the whole process and not for interviewing.

#### Action:

 RS and TW to rethink the approach and come back to the Board with suggestions on the way forward.

## 4. next steps (no paper)

Reminder: the voting period – online vote – will be from 22-26 March 2021 and announcement of results on Friday 26 March. *Note: the dates for the announcement of results has been revised after the meeting and the webinar will take place on Monday 29 March afternoon.* 

To promote candidates, there will be no video this year, but pictures will be displayed on the CHS Alliance dedicated webpage and the Secretariat is organizing informal "coffee with..." sessions for members to meet the candidates.

## 5. AOB

SM thanked everyone for their attendance.

End of the meeting

Robert Sweatman, interim Chair of the Board

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Matthew Carter, member of the Board

Hélène Maillet, minutes' taker